

APRIL 13, 2016

The monthly business meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough and Deputy Mayor George Beatty. Committeeman John Koonz advised of his absence prior to the meeting. The Municipal Clerk, Mary Pat Quinn, and the Township Engineer, Ted Rodman, were also present.

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by publishing notice in The Express Times and The Star Gazette and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards all on January 11, 2016 and January 15, 2016.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the budget meeting on March 9, 2016, the business meeting on March 9, 2016, and the work meeting on March 23, 2016 were approved as circulated on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

#### RECEIPTS

The receipts were noted by Beatty. The total receipts during March, 2016 were \$85,539.44. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

#### BILLS

The bills were noted by Beatty. A motion was made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough ordering the bills, in the amount of \$376,974.11, to be paid. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

#### REPORTS

##### Chief Financial Officer

The governing body is still working with a Temporary Budget.

##### Zoning Officer

No report submitted.

##### Warren County Health Department

##### Complaints:

The following complaints were investigated:

458 Delaware Road – Bread used for feed attracting rats and birds. Complainant affected is to call when the nuisance is occurring. No calls were received in March.

1185 Hope-Bridgeville Road – Horse manure not being removed from the property which is in a flood plain. It was reported that the manure was an issue again. A reinspection was conducted. No piles of manure or odor were detected at that time. The manure appeared to have been spread around the property. When contacted, the municipal zoning officer said that one horse is allowed at the property. A reinspection is scheduled.

425 Johnsonburg Road – A complaint was received concerning contaminated soil (septic spoils) being dumped on the property. A joint inspection was conducted with the complainant. No evidence of dumping was observed. File closed.

Smith Street Apartments – A complaint was received concerning septic alarms going off for three weeks. Upon investigation, it was determined that the responsible party contacted an electrician to resolve the issue. The complainant was advised to contact the NJDEP if there is an issue in the future, as they have jurisdiction in this matter (NJPDES). File closed.

119 Nightingale Road – A complaint was received concerning a well being drilled without a permit. Upon investigation it was determined to be valid. A violation notice was issued. The unfinished well was determined to be too close to the septic system. NJDEP ordered that it be sealed and a new well drilled.

Food Establishment – No activity.

Rabies – No activity.

Kennels – No activity.

Recreational Bathing – No activity.

Youth Camps – No activity.

Campgrounds – No activity.

Septics/Wells: One septic repair application was approved.

#### Township Engineer

Rodman reported that all of the catch basins are complete with the exception of one. The contractor has done a good job so far. The paving will be done around the catch basins, and that will finish the project.

Information from Van Cleef Engineering Associates regarding a proposal to prepare a Wastewater Management Plan was given to the governing body by Rodman. Blairstown Township has hired the firm to prepare its plan, and Hope and Hardwick have the option of using the firm for the preparation of a plan and a reduced fee. The matter is under advisement until Koonz is present for a discussion.

McDonough asked Rodman to contact the Mt. Arlington District Office of the N.J. Department of Transportation concerning the need for a stop sign at the off ramp of Route 80 which approaches CR 521 North.

Road Department

Weekly reports are submitted by the Public Works Foreman, and they are available for review in the Clerk's office.

Fire Department

No report submitted.

Blairstown Ambulance Corp

No report submitted.

Tax Assessor

No report submitted.

Tax Collector

March, 2016 Tax Collection:

Current Year Taxes	\$63,064.83	\$1,514,895.24 Y-T-D
Delinquent Taxes:		
Taxes-2015	4,753.53	41,458.63
Municipal Tax Lien Redemption	.00	34,698.33
Attorney Fees	.00	594.18
Cost of Sale Fees	.00	477.67
Tax Sale Premiums	.00	15,000.00
Bounced Check Fees	.00	25.00
Interest and Costs	<u>680.45</u>	<u>17,544.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 68,498.81	\$ 1,624,693.05

Remarks:

Current Year Tax Collection Comparison:

March 2016 to March 2015	-\$ 6,559.34
Year to Date 2016 to Year to Date 2015	+\$64,990.85
March 2016 to March 2014	+\$ 5,147.00
Year to Date 2016 to Year to Date 2014	+\$94,840.51

### Construction Code Official

The following permits were issued during March, 2016: 5-Building, 5-Plumbing, 7-Electrical, 5-Fire, 1-Certificate for a total income of \$2,656.00.

### Mayor McDonough

McDonough advised that there is a retired resident who lives near Swayze Mill Park who has expressed an interest in looking after the park. Although the individual has not asked for any compensation, McDonough would like the governing body to consider some form of compensation. The matter was tabled until Koonz is present for the discussion.

### Deputy Mayor Beatty

Beatty discussed the ballfield improvements that are going on in preparation for baseball/softball season.

He noted that the Township Committee will need to discuss how it will provide funding for affordable housing planning.

### CORRESPONDENCE

The following communications were received during the month:

1. Jersey Central Power and Light. Re: Notice about verified petition for the Review and Approval of Costs Incurred for Environmental Remediation of Manufactured Gas Plant Sites Pursuant to the Remediation Adjustment Clause of Its Filed Tariff.
2. Warren County Dept. of Land Preservation. Re: Appalachian Trail Community Meeting held on March 23, 2016. A copy was given to the Hope Environmental Commission.
3. Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope. Re: February, 2016 Municipal Court Disbursements. A copy was given to the Chief Financial Officer.
4. Blairstown Rotary Club. Re: Request for \$750.00 donation to July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks celebration. McDonough noted that he would like the Township to contribute something toward the fireworks in Blairstown, but the discussion should take place when Koonz is present. The matter was taken under advisement.
5. N.J. League of Municipalities. Re: March, 2016 Legislative Bulletin.
6. Michael Selvaggi, Esq. to Barbara A. Tanfara, Esq. RE: Status of Beaver Road. A copy was given to the Township Engineer.
7. N.J. Dept. of Transportation. Re: Notice of availability of grants for "Safe Routes to School". A copy was also sent to the Township Engineer.

## APPOINTMENTS

The following vacancies were noted by McDonough: two vacancies on the Agriculture Advisory Committee and Alternates 1 and 2 on the Historic Preservation Commission.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Status of Sanitary Landfill

No change in status.

### Status Purchase Development Rights on Almeida (former Scorp) Farm

No change in status.

### Public Hearing/Adoption of Ordinance #16-02, Abolish Joint Municipal Alliance w/Hope & White

The hearing for the following Ordinance was opened to the public on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

#### ORDINANCE #16-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO REPEAL CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION" OF THE CODE OF THE HOPE  
TOWNSHIP SECTION 19 ENTITLED "MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE AGAINST DRUG AND ALCOHOL  
ABUSE

There were no questions or comments from the public. The public hearing was closed on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

Ordinance #16-02 was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

### Public Hearing/Adoption of Ordinance #16-03, Amend Liquor License Fees

The hearing for the following Ordinance was opened to the public on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

#### ORDINANCE #16-03

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
HOPE CODE REGARDING LIQUOR LICENSE FEES

There were no questions or comments from the public. The public hearing was closed on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

Ordinance #16-03 was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

Status of Recreation Program Policies and Procedure Manual

The Clerk reported that the Soccer Director and the Basketball Director provided their input toward the draft policies and procedures manual for the recreation programs. The Baseball/Softball Director will be providing her input as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #16-26, Approve 2015 Annual Audit Report

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-26

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2015 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey is authorized to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs, as per R.S. 52:27BB-34; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled:

GENERAL COMMENTS  
RECOMMENDATIONS

And

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled:

GENERAL COMMENTS  
RECOMMENDATIONS

As evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, as per the regulations of the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52-to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 – “A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the Director of the Local Government Services, under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Township of Hope hereby states that it has complied with the promulgation of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey dated July 30, 1968 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

Resolution #16-27, Support Anti-Idling Policy

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-27

No-Idling Resolution for Municipalities in New Jersey

WHEREAS, emissions from gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles contribute significantly to air pollution, including greenhouse gases, ozone formation, fine particulates; and

WHEREAS, numerous scientific studies have found links between exposure to fine particles and health effects including premature death, and increased incidents of asthma, allergies, and other breathing disorders; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has classified diesel exhaust as likely to be carcinogenic to humans; and

WHEREAS, vehicle idling occurs in locations (e.g. school grounds, parking lots, distribution centers, strip malls, construction sites, business centers, etc.) where New Jerseyans can be exposed to concentrated sources of air pollutant emissions; and

WHEREAS, asthma is a significant public health concern in New Jersey, especially among children (up to 25% of New Jersey's school-age children are asthmatic) and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of fine-particle emissions from diesel engines could also prevent 16,000 new asthma cases annually and save \$770 million to \$10 billion in health care and related costs in the State; and

WHEREAS, for every gallon of gasoline used, the average car produces about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), the largest contributor to greenhouse climate change, with one-third of greenhouse gas emissions coming from the transportation sector; and

WHEREAS, petroleum-based gasoline and diesel fuel are nonrenewable fuels and should be used wisely and not wasted; and

WHEREAS, idling is not generally beneficial to a vehicle's engine because it wears engine parts; and

WHEREAS, idling more than 10 seconds uses more fuel and emits more pollutants than turning an engine off and on again; and

WHEREAS, current state law prohibits the idling of vehicles for more than three minutes and studies have shown that an anti-idling policy will save fuel, prolong engine life, and improve air quality.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of HOPE TOWNSHIP, County of Warren, State of New Jersey supports the adoption of a strong anti-idling policy by government agencies, schools, businesses, and other organizations by:

1. Encouraging any gasoline or diesel-powered motor vehicle to turn off their engines immediately at schools and off-site school related events to minimize exposure of children to vehicle emissions;
2. Maintaining municipal vehicles to eliminate any visible exhaust and complying with the annual inspection requirement for those vehicles;
3. Promote the widespread use of emission controls in construction contracts (for example, see the "Diesel Emission Controls in Construction Projects: Model Contract Specification" developed by the Northeast Diesel Collaborative); and
4. Supporting broad education of the public about the health, environmental and economic impacts of idling and ways to reduce idling.

Resolution #16-28, Revise 2016/17 Municipal Alliance Grant Application

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.



RESOLUTION #16-28

RESOLUTION OF THE HOPE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY,  
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE  
HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016/17

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren, New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Hope Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of the Strategic Plan for the Hope Township Municipal Alliance Grant for fiscal year 2016/17 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 3,342.00
Cash Match	\$ 1,003.00
In-Kind Match	\$ 2,507.00

2. The Hope Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance Grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Resolution #16-29, Late Budget Introduction

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-29

WHEREAS, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 18 of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope has delayed the introduction of the 2016 Municipal Budget past the statutory deadline; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to allow a delayed introduction of the 2016 Hope Township Municipal Budget; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803.

Resolution #16-30, Introduce 2016 Local Municipal Budget

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-30

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope is holding a meeting on April 13, 2016, for the purpose of introducing the 2016 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2016 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on April 13, 2016.

2016 HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 99,487.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	410,510.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	25,000.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>825,259.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$1,360,256.00</u>
Salaries and Wages	\$ 354,658.00
Total Operations	689,051.00
Debt Service	144,450.00
Deferred Charges	33,839.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>138,258.00</u>
Total 2016 Municipal Budget	<u>\$1,360,256.00</u>
Municipal Tax Rate (Estimated)	\$0.325

Resolution #16-31, Special Items of Revenue-Grants

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-31

WHEREAS, the 2016 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2016 the Township of Hope has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$12,317.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2016 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:"

Clean Communities Program	\$ 7,275.00
Clean Communities Program-Prior Year Unapprop.	1,287.00
Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant-Prior Year Unapprop.	413.00
Municipal Alliance Grant	<u>3,342.00</u>
	\$ <u>12,317.00</u>

Resolution #16-32, Special Items of Revenue-Insurance Reimbursement & Capital Fund

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-32

WHEREAS, the 2016 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2016 the Township of Hope will receive revenue for various items in the amount of \$52,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2016 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Other Special Items:

Insurance Proceeds Reimbursement	\$ 26,000.00
Capital Fund Balance (Cancel Impr. Auth's)	<u>26,000.00</u>
	\$ <u>52,000.00</u>

Resolution #16-33, Special Items of Revenue-Municipal Court Revenue

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-33

WHEREAS, the 2016 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 13th day of April, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2016 the Township of Hope will receive revenue for Inter Local Agreements in the amount of \$115,183.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2016 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Interlocal Municipal Service Agreements Offset With Appropriations:

North Warren Municipal Court Revenue	<u>\$ 115,183.00</u>
	<u>\$ 115,183.00</u>

Resolution #16-34, Restore Municipal Open Space Tax Rate

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #16-34

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Township of Hope's open space ordinance allows the Township Committee to set the open space tax rate annually within a specified range; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee desires to set municipal open space tax rate at \$0.02 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2016 calendar year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope that election be made to set the municipal open space tax rate at \$0.02 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2016 calendar year.

Review Memo from Zoning Officer, re: Revisions to Zoning Permit Application and Fee Schedule

A memo from George Boesze, the Hope Township Zoning Officer, was reviewed and approved for submission to the Hope Planning Board for its review and recommendations. Boesze recommended an adjustment in the fees for Zoning Permits and a new format for the Zoning Permit Application. The Clerk was directed to forward the information to the Planning Board Secretary.

PUBLIC

During the public portion of the meeting, members of the Hope Girl Scout Troop #4980 introduced themselves. In attendance were Rylee Pennucci, Jessica Morse, Ashlyn Ponnwitz, and Hannah Schwinof. Jennifer Pennucci, the Troop Leader, was present with the girls as were their mothers. Christine Rusin, a resident of Hope, encouraged the girls to get involved with their community and spoke about the importance of volunteerism.

Rusin advised the governing body that she received an email from National Geographic approving her submission of the Hope Historic District and the Swayze Cemetery. She offered to submit other entries for the Township such as the Christmas Craft Market.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M. on a motion made by McDonough, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn  
Municipal Clerk