

APRIL 22, 2015

The monthly work meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 7:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Deputy Mayor George Beatty and Committeeman John Koonz. Mayor Timothy McDonough advised of his absence prior to the meeting. The Municipal Clerk, Mary Pat Quinn, was 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 14, 2015 and January 23, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL (Interview for Electrical Subcode Official)

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to go into closed session during a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public,

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Committee will reconvene.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Hope will go into closed session for the following reason as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, disciplinary action unless individual in right requests a public meeting.

The executive session was concluded on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-absent.

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to appoint Patrick J. Murphy of Newton, New Jersey as the Electrical Subcode Official at an annual salary of \$4,683.00. He will have office hours on Wednesday from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-absent.

DISCUSS 2015 FISHING DERBY W/BUD KLAUDER

Bud Klauder will organize the Annual Fishing Derby for Hope Township children again this year. It will be held on Sunday, May 31, 2015 from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 P.M. at Swayze Mill Park. The Park will be closed to the public that day for all other activities. He will coordinate the event with the help of the Over Fifty-Five Club, the Public Works Foreman, and the Municipal Clerk's office. The budget for the event is \$700.00 plus the cost of food, which will be provided by the recreation program.

RESOLUTION #15-27, LATE BUDGET INTRODUCTION

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

RESOLUTION #15-27

WHEREAS, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 13 of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope has delayed the introduction of the 2015 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 2015 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 #15-28, SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE

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

RESOLUTION #15-28

WHEREAS, the 2015 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 22nd day of March, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2015 the Township of Hope has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$50,335.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2015 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	\$ 5,988.00
Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant-Prior Year Unapprop.	1,899.00
Recycling Tonnage Grant-Prior Year Unapprop.	1,001.00
NJ DOT Grant - LAIF - Fairview Road	31,000.00
Municipal Alliance Grant-DEDR 2013 Hope	1,713.00
Municipal Alliance Grant-DEDR 2015/15 Hope/White	<u>8,734.00</u>
	\$ <u>50,335.00</u>

RESOLUTION #15-29, DEFERRED SCHOOL TAX

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

RESOLUTION #15-29

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 (The Supplemental Municipal Property Tax Relief Act) under Section 13 required municipalities whose school tax year is on a fiscal basis to defer twenty-five (25) per cent of the maximum allowable amount and anticipate it into their budget over a four (4) year period beginning in budget year 1991, and ending in budget year 1994 as additional Municipal surplus to offset the local property tax levy for local purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 were amended in calendar year 1993 that changed the mandatory provision of the use of this deferred school tax to a permissive provision; and,

WHEREAS, the revised provisions for electing to utilize the deferred school tax require the governing body to make such election by introduction of the municipal budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope that election be made to defer school taxes as of December 31, 2013, and be reflected in the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2013 as follows:

	<u>FY 14-15 SCHOOL LEVY</u>	<u>MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF DEFER TAX</u>
Local School Tax	\$3,732,509.00	\$1,866,254.50
TOTAL MAXIMUM DEFER TAX 12/31/14		1,866,254.50
LESS – DEFER TAX 12/31/13		1,828,106.50
INCREASE IN MAXIMUM DEFER TAX ALLOWABLE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014		\$38,148.00
AMOUNT DEFERRED AT 12/31/14		\$38,148.00

RESOLUTION #15-30, INTRODUCE 2015 LOCAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET

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

RESOLUTION #15-30

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope is holding a meeting on April 22, 2015, for the purpose of introducing the 2015 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 2015 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on April 22, 2015.

2015 HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 141,304.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	528,228.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	24,141.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>829,693.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$1,523,366.00</u>
Salaries and Wages	\$ 321,493.00
Total Operations	694,442.00
Debt Service	140,189.00
Capital Improvements	231,000.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>136,242.00</u>
Total 2015 Municipal Budget	<u>\$1,523,366.00</u>
Municipal Tax Rate (Estimated)	\$0.3246

REVIEW FEE SCHEDULE FOR RENTAL OF HOPE TOWNSHIP PROPERTY

The governing body reviewed the estimated annual costs of operating the Hope Community Center (\$16,473.00) and the Hope Moravian Grange (\$16,086.17). An aerobics/Zumba class rents the Community Center each month for several classes during the week, and the NJ Fits Chicks rent the Moravian Grange Hall each month for several classes during the week. There is no standard monthly rental fee in the Use of Facilities Application Packet; therefore, a decision was reached that \$400.00 per month for the use of either the Community Center or the Moravian Grange would be an appropriate rental fee. The Clerk was directed to make this addition to the application packet and inform the exercise groups of the decision.

USE OF FACILITY REQUEST FROM ELLEN SAGAN

Ellen Sagan, the aerobics instructor and a resident of Knowlton Township, requested the use of the Community Center on May 30, 2015 from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for a fitness class to raise funds for Relay for Life of North Warren Team "All Night for the Fight". She provided the Certificate of Liability Insurance naming Hope Township as additional insured. Six to fifteen participants are anticipated. A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to approve the use and to waive the rental fee. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-absent.

STATUS OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

The Township Engineer is still working on the bid specifications for the Salt Shed repair/replacement.

A quote was received from RAM Trenching, LLC. in the amount of \$27,300.00 to repair seven catch basins. The governing body will be required to go out to bid for this work as it exceeds the bid threshold of \$17,500.00.

The Clerk advised that she has received numerous complaints about potholes throughout the Township. Koonz suggested to Beatty that the Department of Public Works should repair the potholes on one road and then move to another road. Beatty will pass that on.

The tile floor on the lower level of the Community Center, which was damaged during Hurricane Sandy, needs to be replaced. FEMA funds have been received to cover the cost. Beatty will reach out to a flooring company he has worked with to get a quotation.

Koonz asked the Clerk to have the Township Engineer contact Warren County about installing a catch basin on CR 609 on the opposite side of the twin ponds but on the low side of the road. There is a catch basin on the high side, but it does not address the constant pooling of water. A catch basin on the corner of CR 521 and Cedar Street (next to the handicap parking spot) needs to be cleaned out by the County Road Department.

PUBLIC

There were no questions or comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M. on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn
Municipal Clerk