

JULY 9, 2014

The monthly business meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 7:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor George Beatty, and Committeeman John Koonz. Also present were the Township Engineer, Ted Rodman, and the Municipal Clerk, Mary Pat Quinn.

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 February 14, 2014 and February 21, 2014.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the business meeting on June 11, 2014 were approved as circulated on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

The minutes of the special meeting on June 30, 2014 were approved as circulated on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-abstain; McDonough-yes.

RECEIPTS

The receipts were read by Beatty, who noted those amounts over \$100.00. The total receipts during June, 2014 were \$79,369.80.

BILLS

The bill list was read by Koonz, who also noted those amounts over \$100.00. The total bills were \$455,584.54. A motion was made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough to approve a voucher payable to the Hope Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$10,000.00. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-abstain; McDonough-yes. The remaining vouchers were ordered paid on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER'S REPORT

Rodman reported that the Osmun Road guiderail project was completed on June 17, 2014. The work was done by Road Safety Systems. The project was funded by FEMA as a result of damage during Superstorm Sandy.

The Shiloh Road overlayment and guiderail project is complete, and the final paperwork is being mailed to the NJDOT District Office.

The final paperwork was sent to the NJDOT District Office for the completion of the Moravian Distillery Rehabilitation Project. The total grant was \$315,000.00 of which \$314,880.43 was spent on the rehabilitation.

Rodman's office is working on the preliminary paperwork for NJDOT approval for the Honey Run Road Overlayment and Guiderail Project. He hopes to have the paperwork submitted next week. Once this approval is received, Rodman will work on the preliminary paperwork for the Far View Road Overlayment Project.

There was a discussion about the surplus guiderail that has been stacked in the DPW yard since 2006. Road Safety Systems, LLC. has offered \$1,200.00 for the material because it has significant corrosion in areas where moisture was trapped. Rodman checked on the scrap value, which would be \$799.20. A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to accept \$1,200.00 from Road Safety Systems, LLC. for 46 guiderails and 50 posts. Hope Township DPW personnel will load the material on to a truck provided by RSS, LLC. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

There was a discussion about a letter dated June 25, 2014 from Linda J. Read, P.E., the Principal Bridge Engineer of the Warren County Road Department. Ms. Read advised that the bridge, #11023, over Buckaloo Creek on County Route 521 will be replaced. The County is opening bids on June 15, 2014, and a tentative award will be made on July 23, 2014. McDonough advised that he spoke with Ms. Read about his concerns regarding the detour and how it will impact the traffic through the village, particularly the traffic going to and from the Land of Make Believe. He followed that discussion with a letter to Freeholder Director Edward Smith.

Rodman also spoke with Ms. Read. Since the bids will be opened on July 15, there was no time to revise the bid specifications. The bridge replacement will be a four month project beginning August 25, 2014 and ending on December 12, 2014. The County Engineer's Office will discuss the Mayor's traffic concerns with the contractor.

Rodman left the meeting at this time to attend a meeting in Blairstown Township.

DISCUSS PLANNING BOARD VACANCY WITH THOMAS TOOHEY

Thomas Toohey, a resident of Hope, was present to discuss his interest in being appointed as a member of the Hope Township Planning Board. Koonz introduced him and advised that his background would be a good fit for the Planning Board. After a brief discussion, Toohey was appointed as Alternate #2 of the Hope Planning Board with a term expiring December 31, 2014 on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

DISCUSS 2014 ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC PLANS

Present for this discussion were Patty Whitmore, Events Coordinator, and Don Whitmore, Public Works Foreman. A proposal was submitted by Ron Raphael to supply food, event staffing, and music for the picnic. The total price will be \$4,232.50 (\$1,030.00 less than the cost in CY 2013). The organizational list was reviewed. The theme this year will be a tribute to past and present service members. Mrs. Whitmore will reach out to the Belvidere High School Band to see if a few of their members would participate in the ceremony. McDonough suggested that she ask Hackettstown Hospital to take a more active role this year. Some new attractions this year will be the New Jersey Hall of Fame and Dunkin Donuts. Letters went out to businesses and other potential sponsors for donations toward the picnic.

REPORTS

Chief Financial Officer

A report of the available balances in the line item appropriations was submitted by the Chief Financial Officer.

Zoning Officer

No report submitted.

Warren County Health Department

Complaints:

416 Main Street – Garbage on the lawn and in the storage shed at the bank-owned property. The Court Clerk reported that a warrant has been issued for the responsible party. No change in status.

458 Delaware Road – Hole being dug for animal waste. The Warren County Soil Conservation Office confirmed that the project was exempt from permitting due to being less than 5,000 square feet of disturbance and being assessed as farmland. A complaint was received concerning rats being attracted to bread being fed to the livestock. It was also reported that the N.J. Department of Agriculture will be inspecting.

Route 521 (exit 12 from Rt. 80) – A complaint was received concerning solid waste trucks going through Hope. The complainant was advised of the current status of this issue.

Food Establishment – No activity.

Rabies – One dog bite was reported. The dog was quarantined and will be released after the required 10-day period. One bat exposure was reported. The bat was unavailable for testing. The exposed people are getting rabies post-exposure shots.

Kennels – No activity.

Childcare Centers – No activity.

Recreational Bathing – Land of Make Believe Pool and Wade, Land of Make Believe Blackbeard's River, and Land of Make Believe Pirate's Peak and Splash Down were inspected and received satisfactory ratings.

Youth Camps – No activity.

Campgrounds – No activity.

Septics/Wells – No activity.

Road Department

A weekly report is submitted by the Public Works Foreman and is 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

June, 2014 Tax Collection:

Current Year Taxes	\$48,878.46	\$2,875,528.67 Y-T-D
Delinquent Taxes:		
Taxes – 2013	.00	19,581.57
Outside Tax Sale Redemption	13,015.12	30,835.87
Cost of Sale Fees	.00	337.41
NSF Check Fees	.00	50.00
Interest and Costs	<u>943.85</u>	<u>3,820.13</u>
Total Receipts	\$62,837.43	\$ 2,930,153.65

Remarks:

Current Year Tax Collection Comparison:

June 2014 to June 2013	+\$ 7,465.76
Year to Date 2014 to Year to Date 2013	+\$101,030.79
June 2014 to June 2012	+\$ 10,063.83
Year to Date 2014 to Year to Date 2012	+\$238,278.97

Construction Code Official

The following permits were issued during June, 2014: 7-Building, 1-Plumbing, 4-Electrical, 2-Fire for a total income of \$851.00.

Mayor McDonough

McDonough announced that the Land of Make Believe will celebrate 60 years in business on August 8, 2014. He made the following Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Land of Make Believe is New Jersey's Premier Family Water and Amusement Park; and

WHEREAS, Hermann and Marie Maier opened the Land of Make Believe on August 6th, 1954; and

WHEREAS, the Land of Make Believe was the first children's amusement park in the United States designed specifically for parents to participate with their children; and

WHEREAS, the Land of Make Believe has for the past 60 years created enchanted family memories for millions of smiling children and their parents;

WHEREAS, the Land of Make Believe is dedicated to the environment and is the economic engine that keeps 450 acres in open space, saving 200 acres from a Levittown developer by buying the land; and

WHEREAS, the Land of Make Believe has been designated numerous times as an asset to Economic Development and Tourism to the State of New Jersey, Skylands region, Warren County and the Township of Hope; and

WHEREAS, the Land of Make Believe has received the Platinum National Safety Award designating the Water Park as one of the safest in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIMOTHY C. MCDONOUGH, MAYOR OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY proclaim August 6, 2014 as Land of Make Believe Day in Hope Township and extend congratulations to the Maier family on their 60 years of success.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following communications were received during the month:

CORRESPONDENCE LIST – JULY 9, 2014

1. Municipal Clerk of North Warren at Hope. Re: May, 2014 Municipal Court Disbursements. A copy was given to the Chief Financial Officer.
2. N.J. Department of Transportation. Re: Pavement preservation contract for Route I-80 East bound from MP 12.80 to 28.10. A copy was given to the Township Engineer.

3. Stacey Brown, Principal of Hope Township School to Hope Township families. Re: June 27 and June 27, 2014 school safety exercises conducted by N.J. State Police.
4. Blairstown Township. Re: Official notice that Blairstown Township will withdraw as a member of the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope effective December 31, 2014. A copy was given to the Township Attorney, Liberty Township and Hardwick Township.
5. Michael Taylor, a resident of Hope. Re: Letter of resignation from the Hope Environmental Commission due to relocation. A copy was given to the Hope Environmental Commission.
6. N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Mobile Sources, Mandatory Diesel Retrofit Program. Re: Inventory/Cost Estimate Submittal Approval. A copy was given to the DPW Forman and Deputy Mayor Beatty.
7. Liberty Township. Re: Official notice that Liberty Township will withdraw as a member of the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope effective December 31, 2014. A copy was given to the Township Attorney, Blairstown Township, and Hardwick Township.
8. Liberty Township. Re: Notice of adoption of Liberty Township Ordinance #2014-007. A copy was given to the Hope Planning Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of Water Supply at Community Center

No change in status.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduce Ordinance #14-07, Create New Joint Municipal Court w/White Township

The following Ordinance was introduced and passed first reading on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DELETING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 2-6 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT, IN ORDER TO CREATE A NEW JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT

BE IT ORDAINED as follows:

Chapter 2-6 of the Code of the Township of Hope, Joint Municipal court, is hereby deleted in its entirety, and in its place, instead, replaced as follows:

Section 1.

12-1 Joint Municipal Court

Creation of Court; Name; Jurisdiction

A. Creation of Court

There has been created a Joint Municipal Court consisting of the following members: The Township of Hope, The Township of Liberty, the Township of Hardwick, the Township of Blairstown, and the Township of White, all located in Warren County. The Court was created by the Shared Services Agreement between the aforesaid municipalities, subject to the terms thereof, and shall have an effective date of September 1, 2014.

B. Name of Court

The name of the Joint Municipal Court shall be the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope.

C. Effective Date

The effective date for the creation of the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope shall remain September 1, 2014.

D. Jurisdiction

The Joint Municipal Court will have such jurisdiction as is now, or will hereafter be conferred upon it by the laws and court rules of the State of New Jersey, and the practice and procedure of the Court shall be governed by the laws in such case made and provided in such rules as the Supreme Court will promulgate and make applicable to the Court.

12-2 Municipal Judge; Powers; Duties and Qualifications

- (a) There shall be a municipal judge appointed as provided by law in the case of a joint municipal court. A municipal judge shall serve for a term of three (3) years from the date of appointment and until a successor shall be appointed and qualified.
- (b) The municipal judge shall have and possess the qualifications and shall have, possess and exercise all of the functions, duties, powers and jurisdiction conferred by law or ordinance. He/she shall be an attorney at law of the State of New Jersey. The municipal

judge shall comply with the Vicinage XIII Municipal Judge Rotation Protocol as per the Vicinage Assignment Judge for all times the municipal judge is unable to sit as such. Any such designation shall be in writing and filed with the court, and any person so designated, while sitting temporarily, shall possess all of the powers of the municipal judge.

(c) The municipal judge shall faithfully carry out all of the duties and responsibilities of a municipal judge and shall abide by all rules and regulations established for municipal court judges by the Judiciary.

(d) The municipal court judge shall have full management and authority of court operations excluding the hiring and termination of all court personnel, and for the establishment, pursuant to New Jersey Court Rule 1:30-3, the municipal court sessions and violations bureau hours.

12-3 Prosecutor; Administrator; Public Defender; Other Personnel

(a) Municipal Prosecutor

There shall be a municipal prosecutor of the municipal court who shall prosecute cases in the municipal court, except each member, at its discretion, may appoint its own prosecutor for municipal or board of health ordinance violation cases at the sole cost of that member. The municipal prosecutor shall be appointed for a one (1) year term by the Township of Hope. The compensation of the municipal prosecutor shall be determined by the Township of Hope.

(b) Municipal Court Administrator

There shall be an administrator of the municipal court who shall perform the functions and duties prescribed for the administrator by law, by the rules applicable to municipal courts and by the municipal judge. The administrator shall be appointed in accordance with New Jersey Court Rule 1:34-3 by the Township of Hope for a term of one (1) year, subject however, to the tenure provisions as set forth in New Jersey Statute 2A:8-13.3, and considered an employee of the Township of Hope. The compensation of the administrator shall be determined by the Township of Hope. The municipal court administrator shall have the authority granted by law and the Rules of Court to administrators and clerks of courts of record. The administrator's duty shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Carrying out the rules, regulations, policies and procedures relating to the operation of the court.

2. Interviewing and speaking to persons wishing to file criminal or quasi-criminal complaints or wishing information in this regard.
3. Receiving complaints and dispensing information relating to court matters.
4. Maintaining the financial records of the court, including receiving an accounting for fines and costs.
5. Attending court; recording pleas, judgments and dispositions; arranging trial calendars; signing court documents; preparing and issuing warrants and commitments and other court-related documents.
6. Maintaining and classifying records and files of the court.
7. Maintaining, forwarding, receiving and reporting such records, reports and files as required by the appropriate agencies.
8. Carrying out such additional duties as may be required in order to fulfill the duties of court administrator.

(c) Public Defender

There shall be a municipal public defender who shall represent those defendants assigned by the municipal court judge. The municipal public defender shall be appointed for a one (1) year term by the Township of Hope. Compensation of the public defender shall be determined by the Township of Hope.

(d) Deputy Municipal Court Administrator

There may be one or more deputy administrators of the municipal court who shall be appointed by the Township of Hope, provided that funds are provided for such purpose in the municipal court budget. Deputy municipal court administrator shall perform the functions assigned to them by the municipal judge and the municipal court administrator. Any appointment pursuant to this section shall be made in accordance with New Jersey Court Rule 1:34-3.

(e) Necessary Clerical and Other Assistants

There may be appointed such other necessary clerical and other assistants for the municipal court as is necessary for the efficient operation of the municipal court. The Township of Hope shall appoint such clerical and other assistants.

(f) Auditor

The auditor for the Township of Hope shall act as the auditor for the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope. The auditor shall perform a yearly audit of the municipal court, which audit shall be prepared generally in accordance with the requirements of the Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 4A:5-1 et seq. A copy of the complete audit shall be supplied to each participating municipality by September 1 of each year.

12-4 Withdrawal by Member; Expansion of Membership

(a) Withdrawal by Member

Any member of the joint municipal court may withdraw at the end of a next calendar year; provided, however, that on or before July 1 the member has given the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope and each member thereof six (6) months' written notice of its intention to withdraw. The withdrawing member shall remain responsible for its share (based upon the format established in the Shared Services Agreement) of all court expenses through the date of withdrawing member's actual physical departure from the Joint Court's facility.

(b) Inclusion of Members

The members of the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope may be expanded by the admission of new members. The admission of new members will take place after the Mayor and Municipal Clerk of Hope Township interview the municipality seeking admission and present to the then existing members of the Joint Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope their recommendations, along with an audit of the three most recent years of the applying municipality's existing court expenses and revenues, and any other information they feel relevant to the admission application. Admission shall be granted upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the then existing members of the Joint Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope. (By way of example: if there are three members of the municipal court, two must vote in favor of the admission). The municipality granted admission to the Joint Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope must adopt a resolution accepting membership and authorizing the execution of the Interlocal Services Agreement. The Interlocal Services Agreement shall be amended as necessary to revise the formula for the allocation of the court's budget between the members.

12-5 Budget and Appointments

The municipal judge shall prepare or have prepared a budget for the municipal court which shall be submitted to the governing body of the Township of Hope by November 1 of each year. The budget shall set forth, based on income and expenses for the prior twelve-month period ending September 30th, an estimate of all expenses and revenues for the upcoming calendar year, and shall be in a form that is consistent with municipal budgets. The proposed budget shall be circulated by the Township of Hope to the governing body of every other participating municipality.

12-6 Insurance

Insurance coverage and/or bond shall be obtained that protects the joint municipal court and its personnel from claims against them arising out of worker's compensation, bodily injury, property damage, personal injury, civil rights violations or defalcations by court personnel and such coverage as may be necessary, which claims arise in whole or in part from participating members' cases. The coverage may be provided through policies issued to the members and/or through separate policies issues to the joint municipal court.

12-7 Contribution Requirement; Revenue Distribution

Improvements to the existing court facility that are required to render the court facility in compliance with state and/or assignment judge mandates shall be undertaken as soon as possible, and the cost for said improvement shall be shared equally by all five municipalities. All other expenses for administering the joint municipal court, including salaries for the judge and court personnel, and costs of materials and equipment for the court, will be shared by all four municipalities in accordance with § 12-7 of the enabling ordinance:

- (a) The legally permitted municipal share of all fines, assessments, costs or other charges collected by the court (hereinafter "Municipal Income") shall be forwarded monthly to Hope Township and credited to the court account and applied to the expenses of maintaining and operating the court. The court administration shall simultaneously submit a monthly summary of all income and disbursements to each municipality.
- (b) All other received fines, assessments, court costs and other charges, shall be distributed as required by law.
- (c) To the extent that the annual expenses necessary to maintain and operate the court are the greater or lesser than the Municipal Income received, they shall be allocated among these members pursuant to the following formula: The percentage share of each municipality shall be a total of the fines divided by the amount of the fine generated by that municipality.

(d) Each municipality shall pay monthly to Hope Township its estimated share of anticipated deficit as established by the budget described in Article 2-6.5 of the Code of the Township of Hope.

(e) On or about February 1 of each year, Hope Township shall submit to each municipality a final accounting for the prior fiscal/calendar year with any credit due to be applied to future contributions.

12-8 Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act. The governing bodies of the Township of Hope, the Township of Liberty, the Township of Blairstown, the Township of White and the Township of Hardwick are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with each other embodying the provisions of this ordinance pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., in accordance with the terms of the Act. In the event of any discrepancy between this section and said Act, including any amendments thereto, the Act shall take precedence.

Section 2:

Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Repealer.

Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication.

Resolution #14-41, Ch. 159- NJDOT Grant for Far View Road Overlayment

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

RESOLUTION #14-41

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope received a grant from the N.J. Department of Transportation, 2014 Municipal Aid Program for Far View Road in the amount of \$90,000.00; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any County or Municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Hope hereby requests the Director of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2014 in the amount of \$90,000.00 under the caption of "NJDOT Grant-Far View Road"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$90,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of "NJDOT Grant-Far View Road".

Resolution #14-42, Professional Service – The Land Conservancy of New Jersey

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

RESOLUTION #14-42
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RESOLUTION
OPEN SPACE AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope has the need to engage the services of Open Space and Farmland Preservation Advisors; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.) requires that the Resolution Authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey with offices located at 19 Boonton Avenue, Boonton, N.J. 07005 has submitted a proposal to perform this service; and

WHEREAS, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey has agreed to incorporate into this contract the Mandatory Equal Employment Opportunity Language set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., N.J.A.C. 17:27; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this contract agree to incorporate into this contract the Mandatory Equal Employment Opportunity Language set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., N.J.A.C. 17:27;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, as follows:

The Mayor and Clerk of the Township of Hope are hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract, which shall act as the authority and agreement between the Township of Hope and The Land Conservancy of New Jersey.

The services to be rendered by The Land Conservancy of New Jersey shall be for the sole purpose of preparing grant applications as required by the State Agriculture Development Committee for the preservation of farmland, and the amount of the contract for these services is \$10,000.00.

This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to publish a notice of this action in The Star Gazette, the official newspaper of the Township of Hope.

Request from "Pass it Along" for Approval of Bike Tour through Hope Township

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to approve a request from "Pass it Along" to hold a bike tour that will pass through Hope Township on Sunday, September 14, 2014 between 7:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. The group also received approval from the N.J. State Police-Hope Barracks. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

Proposal from Bedell Brothers Cleaning Service, LLC. to Clean the Hope Community Center

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to approve the proposal from Bedell Brothers Cleaning Service, LLC. in the amount of \$85.00 per week to clean the Hope Community Center. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

Memo from Hope Environmental Commission, re: "Book Nook"

A memo dated July 7, 2014 from the Hope Township Environmental Commission regarding a "Book Nook" was acknowledged and discussed. Jennifer Pennucci and her family would like to provide a weather-proof box in which books can be donated, borrowed, read and returned without charge. The Green Team suggested that the box can be placed outside of the Municipal Building under the bulletin board. There will be no cost for the service, no card, and no registration.

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to approve the request on a trial basis. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

NON-HOUSEHOLD ANIMALS

Koonz reviewed the information that was sent to the Township Committee by the Township Attorney in connection with the non-household animal matter. The subcommittee of the Planning Board decided that the reference to "Residential Agriculture" that Blairstown Township is using would more appropriately address the issues in Hope Township. The Clerk was directed to advise the Township Attorney again that this is more favorable and should be used to draft a simple Ordinance for introduction by the governing body. The subcommittee of the Planning Board will also review the Ordinance prior to a public hearing.

MEMO FROM HOPE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, RE: SIGNS, FLOWER POTS & SETBACKS

The Hope Historic Preservation Committee sent a memo dated July 7, 2014 to the Zoning Officer asking if the County of Warren has setback requirements for items placed on sidewalks located on County Routes. In particular, the Commission is concerned about the sandwich board signs and the flower planters impacting the safety of pedestrians and motorists.

PUBLIC

There were no questions or comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M. on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn
Municipal Clerk