

SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

A special meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 6:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough and Committeeman John Koonz. Also present was the Municipal Clerk, Mary Pat Quinn. Deputy Mayor George Beatty arrived at 6:20 P.M.

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 by posting notice in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards all on August 25, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, RE: PERSONNEL (INTERVIEWS FOR ZONING OFFICER & PLUMBING INSPECTOR)

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

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-yes.

The special meeting was concluded at 6:40 P.M. on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

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 Township Engineer Ted Rodman and 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 January 14, 2015 and January 23, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, RE: CONTRACT NEGOTIATION (FARMLAND PRESERVATION)

Sandy Urgo, Farmland Preservation Specialist with the Land Conservancy of New Jersey was present for this discussion.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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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: Contract negotiation.

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

Urgo reviewed the draft letter to Warren County Department of Land Preservation regarding the Township's annual submission of the Municipal Planning Incentive Grant Application for FY2017. A motion was made by Koonz, seconded Beatty to authorize the submission of the letter to Warren County. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes. Urgo left the meeting at this time.

HOPE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – REVENUE STATUS

Present from the Hope Volunteer Fire Department were: Michael Marino, Fire Chief; Chris Kruk, Assistant Fire Chief, Chad Koonz, and Robert Mohr. Koonz advised the governing body that the HVFD has been trying to obtain additional financial support from Frelinghuysen to cover its fair share of their expenses. The Department used to get an annual contribution from Frelinghuysen between \$10,000.00 and \$12,000.00; however in the last couple of years, they are only getting \$4,000.00. Frelinghuysen has been resistant to contributing more.

The next meeting of the Frelinghuysen Township Committee is October 16, 2015, and the members of the HVFD would like to present them with the yearly costs that Hope Township bears for the support of the Department, i.e.: auto insurance for two fire trucks, workers' compensation insurance for the firefighters, diesel fuel, debt service payment on the Pierce Velocity fire truck, and the Township's annual contribution to the HVFD. The Clerk will get that information for them.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER'S REPORT

Rodman reported that he spoke with Tilcon earlier in the day about the timeframe for paving Smith Street and Green Street; Tilcon will do the work in the beginning of October.

There has been no change in the status of the salt shed project. Rodman provided the bid specs and bid documents from Dutchman Contracting, LLC. to the adjuster from Selective Insurance. He has not gotten any feedback since then.

Rodman was contacted by Schaffer Civil Engineering, LLC. on behalf of Hope Conference and Renewal Center regarding their application to the NJDEP for a Treatment Works Application. The application requires a Statement of Consent from Hope Township acknowledging the application.

Beatty advised that the DPW does not have time to do all of the catch basin replacements, so he asked the foreman to make a list of the ones that need to be replaced or repaired. Rodman was given the list so that he can prepare specifications. The work will need to go out for formal bids.

Resolution #15-52, Statement of Consent – Hope Conference & Renewal NJDEP Treatment Works Appl.

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

RESOLUTION #15-52  
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE  
IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY  
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO  
EXECUTE A "STATEMENT OF CONSENT"  
FOR BLOCK 4000, LOT 1300

WHEREAS, Schaffer Civil Engineering, LLC., on behalf of Hope Conference and Renewal Center, NJPDES Permit #NJ0130281, is in the process of submitting a Treatment Works Approval application to the Department of Environmental Protection, State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is known as Block 4000, Lot 1300, which encompasses 15 Ridgeway Avenue in the Township of Hope; and

WHEREAS, said application requires the consent of the Hope Township Committee by Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren, New Jersey that the Committee consents to the submission of the Treatment Works Approval application by Hope Conference and Renewal Center, the applicant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hope Township Committee accepts no responsibility or liability for the installation or operation of the proposed system and that this resolution is to acknowledge the submission of said application only.

Rodman reviewed the draft specifications for a truck and agreed with the Chief Financial Officer that some of the items were too specific. The Township Attorney will be asked for his recommendation. Rodman noted that Blairstown Township is purchasing a piece of equipment from National Joint Powers Alliance (National Cooperative Contract Solutions). He will send the link to the Clerk for the governing body's consideration.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, RE: PERSONNEL (INTERVIEWS FOR ZONING OFFICER & PLUMBING INSPECTOR)

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

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 Beatty, seconded by Koonz.  
Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the special meeting, business meeting, and executive session on August 12, 2015 were approved as circulated on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

RECEIPTS

The receipts for August, 2015 were read by Koonz, who noted those amounts over \$100.00. The total receipts were \$1,076,436.24.

BILLS

The bill list was read by Beatty, who also noted those amounts over \$100.00. A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to authorize the payment of the bills totaling \$349,030.22.  
Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

HOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION/ GREEN TEAM

Monica Sobon, Chairwoman of the Hope Environmental Commission and Green Team was present to ask for direction regarding the ribbon cutting for the Swayze Mill Park pathway restoration,

which will be held at the Annual Hope Family Picnic on September 12, 2015. The governing body asked if the Commission would set up the ribbon cutting. She also asked for approval to allow the Warren County Sheriff's Office to conduct a controlled medicine drop during the picnic. The governing body approved it; however, the table for the drop off must be set up outside of the gate next to the tent where wristbands will be given out.

Public Hearing/ Adoption of Ordinance #15-07, Regulate Livestock Running at Large

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to open the hearing to the public for the following Ordinance. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

ORDINANCE #15-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REGULATE THE RUNNING AT LARGE OF LIVESTOCK WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP

Tim Matthews, a member of the Warren County Board of Agriculture, was present and expressed concern about Section 2.2, particularly the reference to "including the property of the livestock owner". He did not see a concern with an animal outside of a fenced area if the animal remains on the owner's property. The governing body struck that verbiage from the Ordinance.

Matthews also asked if the governing body would strike the reference to a four foot high fence in Section 3.2 and replace it with verbiage that would coincide with State agriculture management practices. The governing body also made that change.

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

Ordinance #15-07 was adopted on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REGULATE THE RUNNING AT LARGE OF LIVESTOCK WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope has found that the running of livestock in the Township of Hope jeopardizes the public health, safety and welfare by exposing injury to persons and other animals and causing damage to personal property such as lawns, shrubs, flowers, grounds, and other vegetation; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope has determined that N.J.S.A. 40:48-1 expressly permits municipalities to adopt ordinances that will regulate the running at large of livestock; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope believes that the adoption of such an ordinance is appropriate and would be a reasonable exercise of the municipality's police powers.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, as follows:

## Section 1 – Purpose

1.1 Purpose. This Code shall be constructed to secure its expressed intent, which is to ensure public health, safety and welfare insofar as residents are affected by injury to any persons or other animals, or cause damage to personal property including lawn, shrubbery, flowers, grounds, trees or any property of persons other than the owner or person having the care, custody or control of such unrestrained livestock running at large within the Township of Hope and to assess violations and penalties accordingly.

## Section 2 - Definitions

2.1 Livestock – All horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, miniature breeds and all other equine; all domestic and exotic pigs, hogs, and other swine; all cattle, goats, sheep, and all other bovine; all llamas, alpacas, camels, and all other camelids; all chickens, ducks, geese, guinea hens, peacocks, turkeys, emus, rheas, and all other poultry and fowl; domestic rabbits, and all other animals traditionally raised for food, fiber, fur, or production means; as well as any exotic animals or reptiles.

2.2 Running at Large – Any livestock situated upon any public street, park, or any other public place while unrestrained or situated upon any private property, while not restrained by a sufficient fence, enclosure or tether and which is not attended by the owner or his or her representative.

## Section 3- General Requirements

3.1 Any person or persons, firm, partnership or corporation having the care, control, custody or management of any livestock as defined above shall prohibit the animals to stray or run at large within the limits of the Township of Hope.

3.2 Fencing Requirements – A fence shall comply with the standards of the New Jersey State Department of Agriculture Management Practices and shall be sufficiently enclosed and strong enough to prevent livestock from escaping going through or under it is hereby required wherever livestock is kept. If any livestock escapes from within the confines of any fence it shall be presumed that such fence has not met the provisions of this chapter. Any owner or lessee of the land on which such fence is located is subject to the requirements of this section.

## Section 4 - Distrained Livestock; Impounding

4.1 When any livestock are taken up and distrained by any person for running at large, they shall be forthwith impounded by the Animal Control Officer and shall be furnished with suitable food and water, so long as they are detained.

4.2 The owner of livestock in the custody or possession of the Animal Control Officer pursuant to this act may claim and be entitled to the possession of the livestock. Upon payment to the Animal Control Officer of reasonable compensation for the care and keeping of the livestock, upon satisfactory proof of

ownership of the livestock, and upon making reparation as provided in Section 5, the livestock shall be returned to its owner.

#### Section 5 - Violations and Penalties

5.1 Any person or persons, firm, partnership or corporation violating or failing to comply with any provision of this Code shall be guilty of an offense punishable as follows:

- (a) A fine for a first violation in the amount of \$100.00
- (b) A fine for a second violation in the amount of \$250.00
- (c) A fine for a third violation in the amount of \$500.00
- (d) A fine for subsequent offenses in the amount of \$1,000 each

Each day for which a violation of this ordinance occurs shall be considered a separate offense.

#### Section 6 - Notices and Orders

6.1 Notice. The Township, or any duly authorized Code or Animal Control Official, shall cause a notice to be issued to the applicable person or persons, firm, partnership or corporation when a violation of this Code occurs.

6.2 Form. Such notice prescribed in Section 5.1 shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. Be in writing.
2. Include the identity or description of the animal.
3. A statement of when, where, what damage was done if known.
4. Include a correction order allowing a reasonable time for restitution of penalties and damages to be made.
5. Inform the property owner of the right to appeal.

6.3 Method of Service. Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is sent by first-class mail, express mail, overnight carrier or certified mail addressed to the last known address.

#### Section 7

7.1 All ordinances of the Township of Hope which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

#### Section 8

8.1 If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

#### Section 9

9.1 This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

## 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

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 August.

Inn at Millrace Pond – Noise from music during events at the Inn. No complaints were received in August. File closed.

551 Hope-Blairstown Road – Collapsed structure in Beaver Brook. A reinspection was conducted. The material was removed from the stream and stream bank. File closed.

134 North Locust Lake Road – A complaint was received concerning no running water and waste from toilet being dumped outside. An inspection was conducted. A foul odor was detected at the front of the property and mosquito breeding was observed in an above-ground pool which was not being maintained. Due to a leak, the owner is hauling water from a working fixture to where it is needed in other parts of the house. The responsible party agreed to abate the nuisances. A reinspection was conducted. The pool had been pumped and covered. The garbage cans had been moved, no odor was detected. It was also confirmed that the toilet was operating properly. File closed.

Food Establishment – No activity.

Kennels – No activity.

Rabies – No activity.

Childcare Centers – No activity.

Recreational Bathing – Silver Lake Property Association Beach was inspected again and received a satisfactory rating.

Youth Camps – Caldwell NJ Stake and Royal Family (Hope Conference Center) were inspected.

Septics/Wells – One septic repair application was approved. One septic repair was installed.



Road Department

The DPW Foreman submits weekly reports which are available for inspection in the Clerk's office.

Fire Department

No report submitted.

Blairstown Ambulance Corp

No report submitted.

Tax Assessor

No report submitted.

Tax Collector

August, 2015 Tax Collection:

Current Year Taxes	\$1,048,850.91	\$4,358,674.74 Y-T-D
Prepaid 2016 Taxes	7,321.38	19,249.19
Delinquent Taxes:		
Taxes-2014	.00	31,682.80
Municipal Tax Lien Redemption	.00	7,013.27
Outside Tax Lien Redemption	.00	8,464.54
Cost of Sale fees	.00	500.68
Tax Sale Premiums	.00	4,000.00
Interest and Costs	<u>399.71</u>	<u>4,617.48</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 1,056,572.00	\$ 4,434,202.70

Remarks:

Current Year Tax Collection Comparison:

August 2015 to August 2014	+\$ 84,458.34
Year to Date 2015 to Year to Date 2014	-\$ 38,477.27
August 2015 to August 2013	-\$ 36,989.93
Year to Date 2014 to Year to Date 2013	+\$219,975.28

Construction Code Official

The following permits were issued during August, 2015: 5-Building, 7-Plumbing, 4-Electrical, 2-Fire for a total income of \$1,581.00.

Mayor McDonough

Nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Beatty

Beatty suggested that the governing body get appraisals done this year on the Preservation Easement that the Township has on the Almeida (formerly Scorp) Farm. The Clerk was directed to follow up on that with the Township Attorney and The Land Conservancy of New Jersey.

Committeeman Koonz

Nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following communications were received during the month:

1. N.J. Dept. of Transportation. Re: Notice of availability of 2016 State Aid Programs. A copy of the information was sent to the Township Engineer.
2. Washington Borough. Re: Resolution in support of S-650 and A-2408 designating Route 173 between Clinton and Phillipsburg as "173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Highway".
3. Warren County Planning Department. Re: Public notice and information regarding the proposed amendment to the Warren County Solid Waste Management Plan.
4. Jersey Central Power and Light. Re: Provision of Basic Generation service for period beginning June 1, 2016.
5. N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection, Div. of Water Quality, Municipal Finance & Construction Element. Re: Public notice for the Proposed FY2016 Priority System, Intended Use Plan and Project Priority List Document (Clean Water Financing).
6. Hope Environmental Commission. Re: Request to allow the Warren County Sheriff's Office to participate at the Annual Township Picnic by providing a disposal site for unused medications.
7. Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope. Re: July, 2015 Municipal Court Disbursements. A copy was given to the Chief Financial Officer.

8. Frelinghuysen Township. Re: Notice of public hearing to be held by the Frelinghuysen Township Committee on August 19, 2015 regarding and amendment to Ordinance #2105-14, wood-fired boilers, stoves or furnaces. A copy was given to the Hope Township Planning Board.
9. Peter Jonsson, a resident of Hope. Re: Freshwater Wetlands General permit Authorization Application. A copy was sent to the Construction Code Official, Environmental Commission, and the Planning Board.
10. N.J. Transit. Re: Public hearing notice on Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program.

#### APPOINTMENTS

There are two vacancies on the Agriculture Advisory Committee.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### Status of Sanitary Landfill

No change in status. The Mayor is still waiting for feedback from the NJDEP on a date that he and Rodman can go to Trenton to discuss the matter.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Introduce Ordinance #15-08, Renew CATV Franchise w/Service Electric Cable T.V.

McDonough recommended that this matter be tabled.

##### Resolution #15-49, Renew Liquor License for Country Liquor Store

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

#### RESOLUTION #15-49

WHEREAS, Country Liquor Store, Inc. holds a Plenary Retail Distribution License #2111-44-001-004; and

WHEREAS, Country Liquor Store, Inc. has filed an application to renew said license for the 2015/16 license term; and

WHEREAS, the application, fees and N.J. Division of Taxation Clearance Certificate have been filed with the Municipal Clerk,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the Plenary Retail Distribution License be renewed for Country Liquor Store, Inc. for the term 2015/16.

Resolution #15-51, Renew Club License for Hope Volunteer Fire Department

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

RESOLUTION #15-51

WHEREAS, the Hope Township Volunteer Fire Department Social Club holds a Club License #2111-31-005-001; and

WHEREAS, the Hope Township Volunteer Fire Department has filed applications to renew said license for the 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 license terms; and

WHEREAS, the applications, fees and N.J. Division of Taxation Clearance Certificates have been filed with the Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the Club License be renewed for the Hope Township Volunteer Fire Department for the terms 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.

Raffle Applications from Hope Parent Teacher Association

The following raffle license applications were approved for the Hope Parent Teacher Association: RA-224, 50/50 Raffle on October 18, 2015 from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at Swayze Mill Park and RA:225, 50/50 Raffle on October 10, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. at Oakwood Lanes in Washington. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

PUBLIC

There were no questions or comments from the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, RE: PERSONNEL (INTERVIEWS FOR ZONING OFFICIAL & PLUMBING INSPECTOR)

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M. on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn  
Municipal Clerk