

OCTOBER 23, 2013

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: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor George Beatty, and Committeeman John Koonz. Also present were Mary Pat Quinn, Municipal Clerk; Richard Wenner, Esq. (representing the Township Attorney, Michael Selvaggi) of Courter, Kobert and Cohen; and Donald Whitmore, Public Works Foreman.

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, 2013 and January 18, 2013.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, RE: PERSONNEL

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

Whitmore was asked to leave the meeting at this time. Shortly thereafter, the executive session was concluded on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes. The Township Committee discussed Mr. Koonz's participation during the executive session and the history of the matters involved.

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes. Whitmore was asked to return to the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

A motion was made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough to approve the discipline discussed during the second executive session. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

Whitmore left the meeting but returned a few minutes later to advise that he would need texting on his phone plan for emergency management purposes. A motion was made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough to amend the discipline discussed; the phone plan will be monitored monthly. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

Haven of Hope, RA: 207 & 208 (Tricky Tray and 50/50)

A motion was made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough to authorize the issuance of raffle licenses RA:207 and RA: 208 to Haven of Hope for Kids. The Tricky Tray will be held on November 15, 2013 from 6:00-9:00 P.M. at the Hope Township School in conjunction with a 50/50 raffle. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

Review Best Practices Inventory

The CY 2013/SFY 2014 Best Practices Worksheet was reviewed by the governing body. There were no questions or comments

Use of Facilities Form – Silver Lake Property Owners’ Association

The Silver Lake Property Owners’ Association requested the use of the Moravian Grange Hall on Saturday, November 23, 2013 from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M. for a meeting and pizza party. The use was approved on a motion made by Beatty, seconded by McDonough. There is no use fee. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-absent; McDonough-yes.

PEG Bandwidth – Review Township Attorney Recommendation

The Township Attorney has received no response from PEG Bandwidth in connection with his letter of October 14, 2013. The matter was tabled to the November 13, 2013 meeting.

Review Municipal Court Analysis

An analysis was prepared by the Municipal Auditor, Anthony Ardito, to project the annual savings/expenses of the court if White Township and Hardwick Township were to join as member municipalities. The Clerk was directed to find out the types of tickets that are processed in White Township by percentages. It was also suggested that Ardito and the Judge, Craig Dana, attend a meeting to discuss the analysis.

Historic Preservation Commission Memo re: Sandwich Board Signs in the Village

A memo dated October 22, 2013 from the Historic Preservation Commission to the Zoning Officer regarding sandwich board signs in the village was discussed. The governing body asked the Township Attorney to prepare an ordinance that would mirror the ordinance in Blairstown Township regarding the business directory signs. McDonough will attend a future meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to discuss the ordinance with them and to ask for their assistance with implementing the procedures.

Moravian Distillery Project – Status

The Township Engineer prepared a draft Change Order #8 (the last for the project) and forwarded it to the District Office of the NJDOT. The governing body reviewed the information and confirmed that all of the tasks were discussed and approved at a prior meeting.

PUBLIC

There were no questions or comments from the public.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn
Municipal Clerk