

NOVEMBER 9, 2015

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 was Ted Rodman, Township Engineer, and Mary Pat Quinn, Municipal Clerk.

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.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the work meeting on September 23, 2015 were approved as circulated on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-abstain.

The minutes of the business meeting on October 14, 2015 were approved as circulated on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by McDonough. Committee polled: Beatty-abstain; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

The minutes of the work meeting on October 28, 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 October, 2015 were referred to by Koonz. The total receipts were \$290,104.96.

#### BILLS

The bill list was referred to by Beatty. A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty authorizing the payment of the bills, totaling \$862,692.77. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

#### REPORTS

The following reports were submitted:

##### Township Engineer

Rodman reported that he researched the cost of the 2 X 2 X 6 blocks that may be used for the new salt shed foundation. An architect would need to put together a plan for the roof/cover, which would then go out for bids. The Public Works Foreman, Donald Whitmore, was present, and he obtained a quote for the blocks as well. His quote came from SCC Block in Pennsylvania (\$55.00 per block, delivery is \$285 per truckload, which would hold 14 blocks per load). Rodman determined that 80 blocks would be required.

Also discussed were the specifications for the new truck. A local dealer prepared the specifications for Whitmore; however, the Township Engineer, Chief Financial Officer, and the Township Attorney previously determined that they were too specific. The local dealer is unwilling to provide the specifications in a format that can be modified by Hope Township to remove the items that make the document too specific. The Township Committee decided that the pages that contain the items in question will be retyped. Also noted was a change in the size of the plow from 11 feet to 10 feet.

Rodman has the catch basin specifications/bid documents prepared and will forward them to the Township Attorney for his review and recommendation.

McDonough asked Rodman to follow up with Debbie Hirt from NJDOT regarding the need for a stop sign at the Route 80 off ramp going North on CR 521. There is concern about the potential increase in traffic in that area when Dunkin Donuts opens (formerly The Mediterranean).

Rodman and Whitmore left the meeting at this time.

#### Chief Financial Officer

A report of the available balances in the line item appropriations was provided by the CFO.

#### Zoning Officer

No report submitted.

#### Warren County Health Department

The following complaint was 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 October.

Food Establishment:

Hope Township Elementary School and Long Meadow Farm were inspected and received satisfactory ratings.

No activity for kennels, rabies, childcare centers, recreational bathing, youth camps, septic/wells or campgrounds.

#### Fire Department

No report submitted.

#### Blairstown Ambulance Corp

No report submitted.

Tax Assessor

No report submitted.

Tax Collector

October, 2015 Collections:

Current Year Taxes	\$265,219.13	\$4,680,183.63 Y-T-D
Prepaid 2016 Taxes	4,123.44	23,585.45
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>1,201.91</u>	<u>6,554.13</u>
Total Receipts	\$270,544.48	\$ 4,761,984.50

Remarks:

Current Year Tax Collection Comparison:

October 2015 to October 2014	-\$ 27,154.29
Year to Date 2015 to Year to Date 2014	-\$ 38,676.84
October 2015 to October 2013	-\$ 105,628.29
Year to Date 2014 to Year to Date 2013	+\$114,820.86

Construction Code Official

The following permits were issued during October, 2015: 11-Building, 3-Plumbing, 9-Electrical, 5-Fire for a total income of \$2,261.00.

Mayor McDonough

Nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Beatty

Beatty reported that the Annual Halloween Party and Parade was terrific. The residents complimented the Township for a wonderful event.

Committeeman Koonz

Nothing to report.

### Use of Facility Request – Robert Merle, Jr.

A Use of Facility Request from Robert Merle, Jr. was acknowledged and discussed. He would like to use the Community Center on Saturdays from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon in November, December, January, and February to practice pitching to his daughter. He provided a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming Hope Township as additional insured. The use was approved on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

### CORRESPONDENCE

The following communications were received during the month:

1. N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection, Division of Land Use Regulation to Herman M. Rohsler/Winteret Farm, LLC. Re: Letter of Interpretation, Footprint of Disturbance for Block 1200, Lot 2300.
2. N.J. State League of Municipalities. Re: September, 2015 Legislative Bulletin.
3. Frelinghuysen Township. Re: Notice that Ordinance #2015-15, providing for the administrative assessment and collection of fees and costs incurred in connection with fire department and emergency medical services was adopted by the Frelinghuysen Township Committee on October 21, 2015.
4. Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope. Re: September, 2015 Municipal Court Disbursements. A copy was given to the Chief Financial Officer.
5. Knowlton Township. Re: Notice that Land Development Ordinance #15-09 was adopted by the Knowlton Township Committee on October 22, 2015. A copy was given to the Hope Planning Board.
6. Borough of Wanaque. Re: Resolution urging the Governor and the State Legislature to implement a Study Commission to look at the reduction or abolishment of County Government in the State of New Jersey.
7. N.J. Department of Transportation Field Office. Re: Speed limit reduction during the Route 80 resurfacing project. A copy was also sent to the Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope.
8. Michele Adamaitis, Technical Assistant to the Construction Official. Re: Notice of impending retirement effective December 31, 2015.

### APPOINTMENTS

There are two vacancies on the Agriculture Advisory Committee.

### OLD BUSINESS

Public Hearing/Adoption of Ordinance #15-08, Renew Franchise w/SECATV

McDonough recommended that the public hearing on Ordinance #15-08 be tabled until the December 9, 2015 meeting pending discussions with Comcast. A motion to table the public hearing was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

Status of Sanitary Landfill

No change in status.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduce Capital Ordinance #2015-09 – Catch Basin Repair/Replacement Project

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 #2015-09

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF \$50,000.00 FOR 'CATCH BASIN IMPROVEMENTS' FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

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

1. The sum of \$50,000.00 shall be appropriated for the following items, from the Capital Improvements Budget for the year 2015:

CATCH BASIN IMPROVEMENTS	\$50,000.00
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2. The sum of \$50,000.00 is available in the Capital Improvement Fund
3. This appropriation of funds and the financing of same as is provided in this Ordinance shall represent an amendment to the Capital Budget of the Township of Hope, as included in the 2015 Local Municipal Budget of the Township of Hope.
4. The appropriation herewith does not authorize any debt of the Township of Hope.
5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately on final passage and publication as provided by law.

Introduce Capital Ordinance #2015-10 – DPW Truck

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 #2015-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000.00 FOR 'DPW TRUCK' FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

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

1. The sum of \$150,000.00 shall be appropriated for the following items, from the Capital Improvements Budget for the year 2015:

DPW TRUCK     \$150,000.00

6. The sum of \$150,000.00 is available in the Capital Improvement Fund
7. This appropriation of funds and the financing of same as is provided in this Ordinance shall represent an amendment to the Capital Budget of the Township of Hope, as included in the 2015 Local Municipal Budget of the Township of Hope.
8. The appropriation herewith does not authorize any debt of the Township of Hope.
9. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately on final passage and publication as provided by law.

PTA Raffle Applications, #RA-229, #RA-230 & #RA-231

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to approve the raffle applications (3) submitted by the Hope Parent Teacher Association to conduct a Tricky Tray, 50/50 Raffle and a Cash Raffle on March 11, 2016 from 6:00 to 11:00 P.M. at the Hope Township School. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

PUBLIC

There were no questions or comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M. on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn  
Municipal Clerk

