APRIL 4, 2024 BUDGET WORK MEETING

The Work Meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 2:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Committeeman Christopher John Kruk, and Deputy Mayor Terry Urfer. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Robin Keggan, RMC; Donald Whitmore, DPW Foreman, Anthony Arditor, Auditor and Kathleen Reinalda, CFO.

FLAG SALUTE AND SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing notice in the New Jersey Herald and Express Times New Jersey Edition and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township Web and Bulletin Boards.

Roll call: Mr. Urfer- present Mr. Kruk – present Mayor McDonough- present

2024 Budget Work:

Budget work was undertaken in order to try to hold the municipal portion of the budget flat this year due to an expected rise in the school taxes. Several areas were targeted for cuts including: reducing the amount we are putting into the capital fund to \$70,000 this year (originally \$75,000); taking \$10,000 out of streets o/e (\$5,000 from tree trimming and \$5,000 from cold patch); reducing legal services to \$15,000 and using \$272,662 from surplus. With cuts in these areas, we will be able to hold the tax rate flat this year.

The committee will finish the budget discussion up at an upcoming meeting with the hope of introducing the budget at the April work meeting.

Public Participation:

No comments from the public.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 3:51 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Robin L. Keggan, RMC Municipal Clerk