

August 8, 2018

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 Christopher John Kruk and Committeeman Terry Urfer, Don Whitmore and Ted Rodman. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC.

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by publishing notice in The Star Gazette and The New Jersey Herald and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards.

Reports:

Tax Collector: No report available at this time.

Warren County Health Department: 119 Nightingale – no change; 329 High Street – expansion of use beyond the approved septic capacity. Plan to alter the septic was reviewed. Permit issued; 252 Shiloh Road – well decommissioning was received, file closed. 32 Lakeview Avenue – complaint received re: high grass, animals and feral cats. Violation notice issued. Reinspection conducted and grass was mowed. A reinspection is scheduled. Between 406-402 Main Street – complaint received concerning flooding due to possible broken water line, complaint currently under investigation. Hope Crest Farms was inspected and received satisfactory rating. Hope Kennels inspected and received satisfactory rating; rabies – one dog was reported. Dog quarantined and released after 10 days. Hope Conference Center Pool, Land of Make Believe Pools (3) and Silver Lake Property Association Beach were inspected and received satisfactory ratings. Soldier Hill Youth LDS was inspected. Septics/Wells – 1 septic alteration installed; one septic repair was installed and two septic alteration applications were approved.

Mayor Tim McDonough: Mayor McDonough presented Alyssa Carpenter with a Proclamation for her part in saving the life of a young child at the Land of Make Believe. CenturyLink nodes are in the process. Service Electric meeting scheduled.

Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk: Small animal ordinance – a quick fix needs to be done with this. A quantification factor needs to be determined (i.e., chickens per acre). A list of animals should be drawn up. Mr. Urfer suggested that Mr. Kruk meet with the Zoning Official about this.

Committeeman Urfer: Ag Board discussion took place regarding Land Conservancy. Three strong candidates in the running. We have about \$100,000 in account. Discussion took place regarding properties on the Township books that need to be put out to bid to land owners that are contiguous that are on our books. Prospect Ave, property on Walnut and property on Birch Ridge.

Donald Whitmore: Zoning issues (garden on corner of Hissim and Lake-Just It). Railroad ties are in the right-of-way. Just doesn't want the Township to be held responsible for any damage that occurs during plowing. North Locust Lake Road issue needs to be dealt with (Contis). Items in the yard that need to be put on MuniBid. JCP&L meeting scheduled as far as the Ash trees are concerned in order to be pre-emptive about damage from them dying. Mr. Urfer and Don came up with a list of roads that need to be taken care of. Issue with 90 Locust Lake Road (water run off) discussed. Resident complaining about water runoff in front of her driveway. Water is coming from her driveway.

Patti Whitmore: Discussed final details for the Hope Township Picnic.

Fire Department Report: Number of calls – 22; Man hours 215.50. Special detail 4; Man hours 96.

Township Engineer Report: Osmun Road and Birch Ridge Road pre-construction meeting is set. Grange generator – ballards are going in. Mr. Urfer motioned for extension on generator. Mr. Kruk seconded. All in favor. Drug Free Zone Map discussed. Map was missing out of Code Book. Ted provided her with a new map. DOT applications for State Aid due in October. Start thinking about next roads on the radar. Soil is being brought in on Ridgeway Avenue with George Boesze's OK.

Interviews New Members – Historic Preservation Commission: Frank Pavese interviewed and appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Urfer motioned; Mr. Kruk seconded. Motion carried and a voice vote was unanimous.

Old Business:

Verizon Nodes: No change in status.

Benbrook & Stevens: Easement at the Distillery – no change.

New Business:

Ross James, Terry Urfer, Don Whitmore and Ted Rodman spoke about Lot 39.01 and the flooding problems on Smith Street. Drain was installed on lot across street (Lot 200) from Mr. Ross' property which is draining onto Mr. Ross' property. County puts drains in all the time that drain onto people's properties and there is nothing the Township can do about it. However, this water issue is coming from an artesian well issue. All the land, including the road, is private property which the town does not have jurisdiction over and the Township does not have the right to go onto the property owner's property to take the pipe he installed into the Township's pipe out. Mr. James was told that it is not a Township matter but rather a private matter that he will need to remedy himself as it is a fight between neighbors. Mayor McDonough suggest that Mr. James' attorney (Keiling) reach out to Attorney Selvaggi, the Township attorney, for some guidance/input.

Renewal of agreement to July 2019 with Land Conservancy of NJ for \$10,000. Mr. Urfer motioned; Mr. Kruk seconded. Motion carried followed by a Roll call vote: Mr. Urfer – yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes.

Use of Grange for children's activities. Reach out to Attorney Selvaggi for guidance.

Payment of Bills:

Receipts \$21,139.60; Bills \$340,727.42. Motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to pay the bills presented. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Urfer, yes. Mr. Kruk, yes. Mayor McDonough, yes.

**PROCLAMATION
ALYSSA CARPENTER**

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2018, Alyssa Carpenter was in Hope Township with her young daughter enjoying a meal, and

WHEREAS, Alyssa noticed several individuals crowd around a young boy around 10 years of age, and

WHEREAS, Alyssa notices a woman looking panicked and saw that this young boy was turning blue, and

WHEREAS, Alyssa has just received her CPR certification from Hackettstown Regional Medical Center only months before, and she sprang into action, and

WHEREAS, Alyssa quickly performed the Heimlich maneuver and after several attempts the food was dislodged from the young boy's mouth. The young boy, covered in vomit, then hugged Alyssa while the Mother profusely thanked her. Alyssa urged the family to have him checked out by Medical Personnel before moving along.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Hope Township Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk and Committeeman Terry Urfer a very heart felt thank you to Alyssa Carpenter for stepping up and taking action. We applaud her quick thinking and willingness to help others in times of a crisis in our small Community.

PROCLAMATION

MARIA MAIER, COO LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE

WHEREAS, Maria Maier spent her summers as an International student at the Land of Make Believe, and

WHEREAS, Maria Maier then fell in love with the USA and in 2014 she became a United States Citizen and has been working to make the USA better, and

WHEREAS, Maria Maier was selected to serve on Warren County Community College Board of Trustees at Warren County Community College and also a member of the President's Advisory Council at Centenary University, and

WHEREAS, Maria Maier later received her MBA in 2006 from Centenary University, and

WHEREAS, Maria Maier has dedicated her life to Civic Involvement to her Community where she was recently elected to the Hope Township Second District Republican County Committeewoman, and

WHEREAS, Maria Maier is very active in the Hope Chamber of Commerce and is also their Official Photographer, and

WHEREAS, Maria Maier is the integral part of the management of the Land of Make Believe. Land of Make Believe is dedicated to the environment and is the economic engine that keeps 450 acres in Open Space.

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk, Committeeman Terry Urfer and all the Residents of Hope Township, congratulations to Maria Maier, COO of the Land of Make Believe for receiving the Citizenship Award on July 24, 2018.

PROCLAMATION

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY, AUGUST 31, 2018

WHEREAS, addiction is a disease and International Overdose Awareness Day aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of drug-related death; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose; and

WHEREAS, this day provides an opportunity for people to publicly mourn for loved ones, some for the first time, without feeling guilt or shame; and

WHEREAS, this day seeks to send a strong message to current and former drug users that they are valued; and

WHEREAS, this day should stimulate discussion about overdose prevention and drug policy, and provide basic information on the range of support services that exist in local communities; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse remains committed to raising awareness in order to combat stigma and educate New Jersey’s communities about overdose prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes August 31, 2018 as “Overdose Awareness Day” in New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Philip Murphy, the New Jersey Legislature, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services; County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors, and County Alliance Coordinators.

RESOLUTION 2018-44:

**RESOLUTION 2018-44
RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THIRD QUARTER 2018
PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT GRACE PERIOD**

WHEREAS, the Warren County Board of Taxation did not strike the 2018 Hope Township property tax rate until July 24th resulting in late billing of Hope Township taxpayers for the last half of 2018 and first half of 2019 property taxes; and

WHEREAS, NJSA 54:4-64, Delivery of Tax Bills, provides that bills must be mailed or delivered no less than 25 days prior to the end of the grace period and Hope Township tax bills were mailed to taxpayers on July 25th;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hope on this 8th day of August 2018 that the Tax Collector be authorized to set the deadline of the extended third quarter 2018 tax payment grace period to August 21, 2018.

Motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to adopt Resolution 2018-44.
Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes Mr. Kruk – yes Mayor McDonough – yes

RESOLUTION 2018-45:

**RESOLUTION 2018-45
MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SUPPORT OF EXPANSION
OF NEW JERSEY COMPASSIONATE USE MEDICAL MARIJUANA ACT**

WHEREAS, the “New Jersey Compassionate Use Marijuana Act” (the Act) (N.J.S.A. 24:61-1 et seq.) provides legal protection for the cultivation, processing, dispensing and use of marijuana for medical purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has determined pursuant to the Act that it is necessary to expand New Jersey’s Medical Marijuana Program in order to meet the needs of qualified patients by announcing its acceptance of applications for the issuance of six (6) additional alternative treatment centers; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee support the expansion of New Jersey’s Medical Marijuana Program and welcome certain medical marijuana activities within the Township of Hope; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee are committed to take the necessary actions to permit medical marijuana activities in the Township of Hope; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee wish to allow medical marijuana businesses that intend to operate within the Township of Hope to begin the application process with the New Jersey Department of Health while the Township of Hope is considering the actions necessary to permit medical marijuana activities in the Township of Hope; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hope on this 8th day of August as follows:

1. That the Mayor and Township Committee shall immediately initiate the necessary to proceedings to permit medical marijuana activities in the Township of Hope pursuant to the Act.
2. The Mayor and Township Committee direct that medical marijuana businesses that intend to operate within the Township of Hope may begin the application process for a permit with the New Jersey Department of Health while the Township of Hope is considering the actions necessary to permit medical marijuana activities in the Township of Hope.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution will be sent to Governor Murphy, New Jersey Legislature, New Jersey League of Municipalities and surrounding townships.

Mayor McDonough asked that 1 and 3 be removed from the Resolution.

Motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to adopt Resolution 2018-45

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes Mr. Kruk – yes Mayor McDonough – yes

Public Participation:

Nancy spoke about cell tower notification being earlier rather than later. Also spoke about Federal law being disregarded as far as peanut vendor being in handicapped parking space by the post office. Speed limits need to be enforced in center of town and Hope-Great Meadows Road. Mayor McDonough spoke about the Township's efforts to budget the County on speed limits and the number of trucks going through town. Don Whitmore spoke about County pre-construction meeting and bringing up reduction of speed limits at that time. Nancy spoke about the leadership (Mayoral) role rotating through the Committee. The Township Committee spoke about their roles and the changes that have taken place. The Mayoral role will change on an as-needed basis, Mayor McDonough does not have a "lock" on the position, it is just what the Committee feels is right for the town.

Warren County Communications – Incident at Land of Make Believe involving the resuscitation of a child on July 2, 2018. Alyssa Carpenter received a proclamation from the town.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC
Municipal Clerk