

**DECEMBER 22, 2021
YEAR-END MEETING**

The Work Meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 4:00 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. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Robin Keggan, RMC; Don Whitmore, DPW Foreman; Patti Whitmore, Assistant Public Events Coordinator and Ted Rodman, Township Engineer. Also in attendance was George Boesze, the Zoning Official.

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 the Express Times NJ 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

Moment of Silence Observed in honor of what everyone has endured in the Year 2021.

Payment of Bills: Bills totaling \$15,201.36 for the year-end December 2021. On a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll called as follows: Mr. Kruk – yes; Mr. Urfer – yes; Mayor McDonough, bills were authorized to be paid.

Reports:

Mayor McDonough: Reported that a County meeting took place regarding the Truck Traffic going through Hope with the Mayors of Hope, White and Knowlton, as well as Commissioner Sarnoski and Alex Lazorisak, County Administrator. Discussion took place regarding the 11 items in the DOT letter received. The County agreed with the recommendations and Mayor McDonough reported back to the NJDOT on how the meeting went. Commissioner Sarnoski is requesting a meeting with the NJDOT and the Mayors of White, Hope and Knowlton hopefully in the beginning of 2022. The County is also addressing the speed limits outside of the center of town and heading south on CR 519. An ordinance is also being worked on by the County that will prohibit tractor trailers from turning left off of CR 521 or right off of CR 519 and heading down the bridge towards Johnsonburg Road. The County will also take care of the signage so that the State Police can enforce this.

Deputy Mayor John Kruk: Gave an update regarding the Fire Marshall's list of projects that the Township needs to undertake in various township-owned buildings. Everything has been accomplished except for the sheetrock in the furnace room of the Community Center.

Committeeman Urfer: Made note that he hopes a smooth transition ensues with Mr. Rodman retiring and moving on to a new engineering firm. The Community Center grant money has been held up due to Covid and more research has been ongoing where the Community Center is concerned.

Township Engineer Report: Mr. Rodman reported that the guiderail will be installed on Ridgeway Avenue on January 3, 2022. South State hasn't yet stated if they will be re-coring Ridgeway due to the 45% penalty the core tests came back with. South State will be raising all catchbasins on December 23, 2021. Mayor McDonough reached out to the DOT regarding the penalty and they will look into it and report back on how they will handle the township's concerns.

Stormwater management – Hope Township has received all the points required. Also discussed the soil erosion on Shiloh Road and reported to the Committee that a second letter has been sent out to the

resident regarding same, stating that their application is denied. No response from the applicant yet. the sides of Shiloh Road need to be filled, the Township attorney may need to get involved regarding whose expense it is.

DPW/Road Dept: Mr. Whitmore gave his report of all projects undertaken by his department in the past couple of weeks. He reported that brush cutting has taken place on Heller Hill and Old Union Brick Roads. The new backhoe was delivered. The furnace in the shop has been fixed and a sump pump for the distillery was purchased.

Zoning Official: Mr. Boesze sought clarification regarding soil importation Ordinances in the municipality as the pertain to rock quarrying/mining. The Township Committee stated that they wanted things to remain as they have been with them being the approving body on issuing those permits with the Township Engineer's input.

RESOLUTIONS

HOPE TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WARREN COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN RESOLUTION NO. 2021-59

WHEREAS, the **Township of Hope**, NJ, has experienced natural hazards that result in public safety hazards and damages to private and public property and;

WHEREAS, the hazard mitigation planning process set forth by the State of New Jersey and the Federal Emergency Management Agency offer the opportunity to consider natural hazards and risks, and to identify mitigation actions to reduce future risks and;

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management has provided federal mitigation funds to support development of an updated mitigation plan and;

Whereas, a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the County Department of Public Safety and Mitigation Planning Committee and;

Whereas, the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan includes a prioritized list of mitigation actions including activities that, over time will help minimize and reduce safety threats and damage to private and public property and;

WHEREAS, the draft plan was provided to each participating jurisdiction through a website hosted by Michael Baker International, Inc. (Michael Baker), the contracted vendor assisting with the planning process. Links were links also posted on the Department of Public Safety website so as to introduce the planning concept and to solicit questions and comments and to present the Plan and request comments, as required by law and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the **Township of Hope:**

1. The Warren County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as submitted on September 14, 2021 by the Warren County Department of Public Safety to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and submitted on October 13, 2021 to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and subsequently approved by both agencies on November 5, 2021, be and is hereby adopted as an official plan of the County of Warren; with the required yearly updates and minor revisions

recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and/or the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management may be incorporated without further action.

2. The **Township of Hope** departments identified in the Plan are hereby directed to further pursue potential or suggested implementation of the recommended high priority activities that are assigned to their departments.
3. Any action proposed by the Plan shall be subject to and contingent upon budget approval, if required, which shall be at the discretion of the **Township of Hope** and this resolution shall not be interpreted so as to mandate any such appropriation.
4. The **Hope Township** Emergency Management Coordinator is designated to coordinate with other offices and shall periodically report on the activities, accomplishments, and progress, and shall prepare an annual progress report to be submitted to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. The status reports shall be submitted on a yearly basis by a predetermined date agreed upon by all stakeholders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Municipal Clerk** forward a certified true copy of this resolution to the Warren County Department of Public Safety PASSED by the **Hope Township Committee** of the **Township of Hope**, on this 22nd day of **December**, 2021.

Motion: Mr. Urfer
Second: Mr. Kruk
All in favor of approval

RESOLUTION 2021-60 TABLED

HOPE TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY TRANSFER RESOLUTION RESOLUTION 2021-61

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that there are insufficient funds to meet the demands necessary for the 2021 balances in the Current Fund Budget. Includes General Administration O/E, Mayor & Council S/W, Revenue Administration (Tax Collector) S/W, Historical Sites Office S/W, Road Maintenance O/E, Buildings & Grounds O/E, Animal Control Services S/W; and,

WHEREAS, the following accounts have sufficient excess funds to meet such demands:
Recreation O/E.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40A:4-58 the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the following transfers:

TO:	Includes General Administration O/E	600.00
	Mayor & Council S/W	4.00
	Revenue Administration (Tax Collector) S/W	1.00
	Historical Sites Office S/W	30.00
	Road Maintenance O/E	8,000.00
	Buildings & Grounds O/E	800.00
	Animal Control Services S/W	<u>720.00</u>

10,155.00

FROM: Recreation O/E 10,155.00

Motion: Mr. Urfer

Second: Mr. Kruk

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

Old Business:

Internet: Altice/Optimum have still been working on running internet throughout the municipality. We will be receiving information on what roads are still needing to be addressed. Plant Networks can come in and give a proposal as to what they can do for Hope Township, but the Committee is unsure about spending the ARP Covid Relief Funds there. The Township attorney is still working on the franchise agreement.

New Business:

Use of Facilities Request: A Township resident requested the use of the Grange or Community Center for softball pitching. The Township Committee approved same seeing that the paperwork was in order on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and all in favor. It was noted that once the Community Center begins being worked on with the grant the Township obtained, there will no longer be any sport related activities allowed in that building.

Land of Make Believe: Proclamation table for the time being as the County is also working on something recognizing the Land of Make Believe. Will be done in coordination with the County.

Approval of Minutes: The December 8, 2021 minutes were approved with one minor correction needing to be made to Mayor McDonough's report regarding the roundabouts discussed in the DOT letter received and the traffic control measures being looked into on CR 519. On a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. All in favor.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 4:59 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Keggan, RMC
Municipal Clerk