

**DECEMBER 8, 2021  
BUSINESS MEETING**

The 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 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. Denis Keenan, French & Parrello, was also present.

**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**

**Payment of Bills:** Receipts received for November 2021 \$4,559.00

Bills totaling \$387,962.27 for the month of December. 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:**

**Tax Collector:** \$1,103,204.06 November 2021 collections \$6,317,727.13 Y-T-D collections.

**NW Municipal Court:** October 2021 financial report was provided by the Court Administrator. On file in the clerk's office.

**Committeeman Urfer:**

**Deputy Mayor John Kruk:** .

**Township Engineer Report:** Mr. Rodman reported that the paving and striping as well as the 25 MPH painting on Ridgeway is complete. Guiderail is ordered. Manholes need to be done. 5 core tests for thickness and density were done. Density came back with a 45% penalty (paving costs). Southern State will be exercising (at their own cost) to re-core test Ridgeway. Mr. Rodman also noted that he needs 4 volunteers to do Stormwater education permit points. Mayor McDonough, Betsy Peterson, Matt Koski and Terry Urfer will do so. Soil importation was applied for by the Santos on Shiloh Road. On August 11, 2021, Mr. Rodman requested an LSRP summary letter for safe fill standards. Mr. Rodman sent another letter stating that the application is denied due to the fact that this letter was never received by his office. Stormwater runoff is a huge issue with this application.

**Events Coordinator:** Mrs. Whitmore stated that the money at the doors from the Christmas Craft Market was \$9,586. Money from sale of vendor tables was \$11,329.00 Total of \$20,915 before all bills are paid out for this event. All positive reviews from the Township Committee. Only issue noted was the internet in the school.

**DPW/Road Dept:** Mr. Whitmore gave his report of all projects undertaken by his department in the past month, some of which include draining issue on Old Union Brick Road; fire inspector work at the Grange and Community Center (exception of fire doors and sheet rock above the furnace); worked at the Craft Market; helped with Moravian Lantern Tour preparation; fixed the shoulder of the road on Smith & Green due to mail carrier complaint. Also noted that a letter from a resident was received regarding a drainage

issue on Ridgeway. This is a very old drain and was installed back when Ridgeway was a dirt road. Uncertain what can be done at this point with this drain.

**Ordinances – Public Session and Adoption:**

**Ordinance No. 2021-08a**

Motion made to open to the public for comment by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. All in favor. Public was given an opportunity for input. None given.

Motion made to close to the public on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. All in favor.

Motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll called as follows: Mr. Urfer – yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-08a.

**2021-08a**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND FIXING AND DETERMINING THE SALARIES, WAGES OR COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021**

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

**SECTION 1.** The salaries, wages or compensation of the following officers and employees of the Township of Hope are hereby fixed and determined for the calendar year 2021, retroactive to January 1, 2021 at the amounts set forth herein below:

A. Mayor	\$ 3,115.00 per annum
B. Committeeman (not serving as Mayor)	\$ 2,750.00 per annum
C. Municipal Clerk/Registrar	\$65,025.00 per annum
D. Deputy Municipal Clerk/Registrar	\$ 19.58 per hour
E. Chief Financial Officer	\$13,330.00 per annum
F. Treasurer	\$ 5,917.00 per annum
G. Qualified Purchasing Agent	\$ 1.00 per annum
H. Collector of Taxes	\$25,875.00 per annum
I. Deputy Tax Collector	\$ 2,481.00 per annum
J. Tax Search Officer	\$ 3,404.00 per annum
K. Assessor of Taxes	\$19,363.00 per annum
L. Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator	\$ 1,725.00 per annum
M. Public Works Foreman	\$ 30.89 per hour
N. DPW Laborer	\$ 20.01 per hour
O. Equipment Operator PT/Seasonal	\$ 19.72 per hour
P. Code Enforcement Officer	\$10,404.00 per annum
Q. Christmas Market/Public Events Coordinator	\$ 9,276.00 per annum
R. Assistant Public Events Coordinator	\$ 14.50 per hour
S. Animal Control Officer	\$ 7,205.00 per annum
	\$ 24.03 per hour/court
T. Dog Licensing Clerk	\$ 721.00 per annum
U. Temporary Clerical Assistant	\$ 15.92 per hour

V. Custodian	\$ 14.50 per hour
W. Secretary to the Planning Board	\$13,000.00 per annum
	\$ 173.00 per meeting
X. Secretary to the Zoning Board of Adjustment	\$ 4,750.00 per annum
	\$ 173.00 per meeting
Y. Secretary to the Historic Preservation Commission	\$ 1,567.00 per annum
Z. Secretary to the Environmental Commission	\$ 1,537.00 per annum
AA. Sports Director	
(a) Soccer Director	\$ 3,243.00 per annum
(b) Basketball Director	\$ 3,934.00 per annum
(c) Baseball/Softball Director	\$ 4,724.00 per annum
BB. Court Administrator	\$50,000.00 per annum (eff. 3/24/2021)
	\$ 63.25 per call out
CC. Deputy Court Administrator/Violations Clerk	\$ 25.00 per hour
DD. Court Reporter	\$ 24.52 per hour
EE. Violations Clerk:	\$ 18.30 per hour
FF. Municipal Court Prosecutor	\$ 511.00 per session
GG. Municipal Court Judge	\$29,822.00 per annum
HH. Municipal Court Treasurer	\$ 4,186.00 per annum
II. Municipal Court Officer – Level I	\$ 136.00 per session
JJ. Municipal Court Officer – Level II	\$ 28.28 per hour

**SECTION II:** If any selection, clause, sentence, or other part of this Ordinance shall, for any reason, be adjudged by the Court of Competent Jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance.

**SECTION III.** All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency, only.

**SECTION IV.** This Ordinance shall take effect and shall become operative twenty (20) days after publication thereof, after final adoption; unless within said twenty (20) days a petition signed by voters of the Township equal in number to at least five (5) percent of the registered voters of said Hope Township, protesting against the adoption of this Ordinance be presented to the Hope Township Committee, in which case the provisions of Section I of this Ordinance, which provides for increased salaries, wages or compensations of the elected officials, shall remain inoperative unless and until a proposition for the ratification of such portions of this Ordinance shall be adopted at an election by a majority of voters voting on said proposition.

#### NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced for first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hope held on November 8, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a meeting of the Township Committee to be held on December 8, 2021 at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, 407 Hope-Great Meadows Road, Hope, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and all in favor to introduce this Ordinance amendment.

**Ordinance No. 2021-09**

On a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk, all in favor, this Ordinance was opened to the public for comment.

Motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk – all in favor, to close this Ordinance to input from the public.

Motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll called as follows: Mr. Kruk – yes; Mr. Urfer – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes to adopt Ordinance 2021-09.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 4-1 ENTITLED “PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND TRANSIENT MERCHANTS” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE TO AUTHORIZE THE SOLICITATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS ON ROADWAYS**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hope wishes to authorize the solicitation of contributions by charitable organizations on Township roadways, as permitted by N.J.S.A. 39:4-60; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township shall not be liable in any civil action for damages for property damage or personal injury resulting from a motor vehicle accident arising out of or in the course of roadway solicitation by charitable organizations, as provided by N.J.S.A. 59:20-1.1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee believes such authorization to be in the Township’s best interest;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that Section 4-1 is hereby amended and supplemented to include Section 4-1-13 entitled “Solicitations by Charitable Organizations” allowing the solicitation of contributions by charitable donations on Township roadways as follows:

1. The solicitation of contributions by charitable organizations on Township roadways is permitted.
2. Any article, section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or other provision of the Code of the Township of Hope inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.
3. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section,

paragraph, subsection, clause, or provision so adjudged, and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

4. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication and filing with the Warren County Planning Board, and as otherwise provided for by law.

### **NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced and passed by the Township Committee on the first reading at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, held October 13, 2021, and will be considered for a second reading and final passage at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on December 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at the Municipal Building, located at 407 Hope-Great Meadows Road, Hope, New Jersey, at which time and place any persons desiring to be heard upon the same will be given the opportunity to be so heard.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **HOPE TOWNSHP, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

#### **RESOLUTION 2021-57**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

**WHEREAS**, The Town Council of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Town Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Hope Township Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$1,252.00
Cash Match	\$ 313.00
In-Kind	\$ 939.00

2. The Town Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Motion: Mr. Urfer

Second: Mr. Kruk

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

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL SNOW PLOWING OF  
TOWNSHIP ROADS AS MAY BE REQUIRED UPON REQUEST**

**RESOLUTION 2021-58**

**WHEREAS**, Hope Township requires supplemental snow plowing to support the DPW as may occasionally be required upon request by the Department of Public Works Supervisor for the winter months of the 2021-2022 season.

**WHEREAS**, two (2) quotes were solicited and one was received. A list of who the DPW foreman requested quotes from is attached to this Resolution; and,

**WHEREAS**, the following quotation was received for the 2021-2022 season from one (1) contractor:

Drake’s Excavating

\$125.00/hr. truck with plow

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope that the contract for supplemental snow plowing for the Township roads be and hereby is awarded to Drake’s Excavating for its lowest responsible, responsive quotation as per company estimate dated September 27, 2021.

Motion: Mr. Urfer

Second: Mr. Kruk

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

**Old Business:**

**Traffic Study:** Letter received from County listing various traffic calming measures. Mayor McDonough thinks that all of them are a possibility. A meeting is scheduled with Mayor McDonough, Mayor Jeff Herb, Mayor Adele Starrs and Commissioner Sarnoski to discuss this issue. The DOT Commissioner is convinced that things have a good chance at moving forward in favor of Hope Township. The push continues.

**Internet:** Altice/Optimum has been rapidly running line throughout the municipality. The 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in January 2022 for residents to sign up for their service or discuss problems they are having in obtaining their services. There are still a handful of streets that do not have line run.

**New Business:**

**French & Parrello:** Denis Keenan was in attendance to discuss his company as it relates to the possibility of Hope Township retaining their services as Township Engineer due to Mr. Rodman’s retirement next year. He gave a short synopsis of his work with French & Parrello over the past 16 years. Also noted was the fact that he has worked closely with Mr. Rodman for many years. Road reconstruction and drainage issues are definite project that they deal with for municipalities. Traffic

engineer is also in-house. They also did the core testing for Ridgeway Avenue (see Mr. Rodman's report for the results).

**Township Fire Truck:** Will be listed starting at \$5,000 (reserve). Mr. Kruk will get the clerks all pertinent information and photos so that it can be listed on Municibid. HVFD will get the money with the exception of some money to the municipality for their work in posting the engine.

**PR Policy:** All PR/official notices should go through the clerk's office. The municipality will be publishing their own official Facebook page for notices and official announcements only (no commenting).

**POP Zone:** Discussion took place regarding the re-work of this Ordinance . Hoping to introduce the new language at the first business meeting in January 2022. A list is being compiled to send to the Planner for their input in ensuring that the language is correct and falls in line with the Master Plan.

**Zoning Officer:** Discussion regarding clarification on an Ordinance in question was tabled until Mr. Boesze could be in attendance.

**Tax Collector:** Provided the Committee with information on ACH payments/programs for consideration of implementation in Hope Township.

**Space Farms:** A motion was made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll called as follows: Mr. Urfer -yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes to sign the contract for the year January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 for deer carcass removal at \$31.00 per deer.

### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

A member of the public spoke about the rates of JCP&L since IDT (energy co-op) was ended due to costs.

**Approval of Minutes:** The November 8, 2021 minutes were approved on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 9:03 PM.

### **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Pubic Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P. L 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
  - A. Personnel

As nearly as can be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

**Time In:** 9:05 PM

Present: Committeeman Kruk, Committeeman Urfer, Mayor McDonough, Mr. Rodman.

Also Present: Robin Keggan, Municipal Clerk

**Time Out:** 9:12 PM

A motion made by Committeeman Urfer, seconded by Committeeman Kruk and carried to close Executive Session. No Official Action was taken.

The meeting was re-opened to the public.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 9:12 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Keggan, RMC  
Municipal Clerk