

**JANUARY 26, 2022  
WORK 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 DPW Foreman Donald Whitmore; Municipal Clerk, Robin Keggan, RMC; Deputy Clerk, Zondra Belstra; Denis Keenan, Township Engineer and Brielle Whitmore, Events Coordinator.

**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 Express Times New Jersey edition and the New Jersey Herald 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**

**Reports:**

**Tax Collector: Month Ending December 2021 - \$154,075.15. Y-T-D for 2021 \$6,471,802.28.**

**Mayor Tim McDonough:** Mayor McDonough invited Margo Biblin to speak on behalf of the Truck Traffic Sub-Committee regarding the information that they compiled and that they would like to see sent to the DOT. Mayor McDonough stated he had left a message for the DOT Commissioner in order to ascertain where all of this information will be sent. The Committee will be doing a cover letter to accompany this project. Mayor McDonough also noted that he spoke with Commissioner Sarnoski and was made aware of the fact that \$200,000 has been set aside in the County budget for studying the list of traffic calming measures that was sent to the County by the DOT last year.

**Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk:** Mr. Kruk briefly updated the public in attendance and the Committee about the internet cable being run in the Township. There is a pause in the work due to the need for Optimum to receive permission from the telephone company to run the line on their poles. Also, the supply and demand of certain products is causing a delay in having cable run. Planet Networks is still interested in running fiber in the Township. Mr. Kruk stated that those residents interested in hearing more about what Planet Networks has to offer get in touch with Planet Networks via the link that he has posted several times in order to be put on the list. Planet Networks will begin running fiber in the areas that are showing the highest interest level.

**Committeeman Urfer:** Discussed the projects he'd like to see the American Rescue Plan money the municipality received used for. Some of these projects include drainage remediation on Union Brick Road, Smith Street and North Locust Lake Road. He also made mention of a township business that is transferring ownership and thought it would be nice of the Committee to take part in the opening of the business by the new owner as well as a thoughtful good bye to the current owner. A Proclamation will be typed up for presentation to the owner who is selling.

**Township Engineer:** Mr. Keenan was present to have a meet and greet with the Chairmen of the Zoning and Planning Boards as well as the Boards' secretary in order to assure that all are on the same page with what is expected from one another.

**Events Coordinator:** Mrs. Whitmore requested the Committee to pick dates for the Township Picnic and the Appreciation Dinner so that she could secure the facilities/caterer. The Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2022 and the Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at the Firehouse.

**DPW:** Mr. Whitmore reported on the various activities he has been performing, a key one being salting and plowing as we have received snow every weekend. He also reported that the new DPW pick-up truck delivery has been pushed back until May 2022. He has been working on his 2022 budget and also found a hot box for rent at \$1,000 per week through Seal Master in order to repair a section on Ridgeway Avenue (thinking of doing this mid-April).

**Resolutions:**

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LICENSES FOR  
ARCADE AND AMUSEMENT GAMES FOR  
THE LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE  
RESOLUTION 2022-18**

**WHEREAS,** Christopher Maier, t/a Land of Make Believe has filed applications for the following arcade and amusement games licenses:

2021-001 Top Glo Game, Certificate #4023  
2021-002 Stop and Go, Certificate #5001  
2021-003 Duck Pond, Certificate #3001  
2021-004 Dog Pounder Certificate #4044  
2021-005 Basketball, Certificate # 1003  
2021-006 Arcade, Certificate # 2000  
2021-007 Gobble Up Game, Certificate #1016

**WHEREAS,** the foregoing applications are complete and in conformance with the provisions of Chapter 21 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Hope.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Township Committee, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the foregoing applications be approved and that the appropriate licenses be issued by the Legalized games of Chance Control Commission in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs.

Motion: Mr. Urfer

Second: Mr. Kruk

Roll Call:

Mr. Urfer: Yes

Mr. Kruk: Yes

Mayor McDonough: Yes

**Old Business:**

**Internet** – See report from Deputy Mayor Kruk above.

**Traffic Study** – See report from Mayor McDonough above.

**New Business:**

Warren County Mosquito Commission – On a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk, all in favor, the Mayor was given permission to sign the agreement to allow for the yearly aerial spraying in Hope Township.

The Zoning Official submitted his year-end report for 2021 to the Committee. He was also on hand to give a brief update on the situation at 525 Blairstown Road for several interested members of the public. The Committee commended Mr. Boesze for an outstanding report and all of his hard work during the 2021 year.

The Environmental Commission submitted their year-end report for 2021. The Committee commended the Commissioner Chairperson for all of the excellent work done by that Commission.

RK Environmental – The Committee, on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll called as follows: Kruk – yes; Urfer – yes; McDonough – yes accepted the proposal from RK Environmental for the yearly Right-to-Know work to be performed. The proposal was for \$685.00, a rate which has held steady for the past several years.

### **Public Participation:**

Monica Sobon, Environmental Chairperson, requested the support of the Township Committee on several projects. Those projects include the Hope Township Green Fair, scheduled for April 30, 2022. Ms. Sobon requested the use of the Community Center and Grange in conjunction with a drive-through Green Fair if the school denies the request for it to be held in the auditorium due to Covid. She also requested the Committee's support for littercams to be purchased through Clean Communities monies and to be installed on Foundry Road. Problem with enforcement of those cameras may be an issue, but she will look into further information on that from the manufacturer of the cameras. Also requested the Committee's permission to order 500 tree seedings. No idling signs were discussed and their placement around the municipality, particularly on Route 80 at Exit 12 as that seems to be a popular place for tractor trailers to pull over and idle. Mayor McDonough will speak to DOT regarding that as well. A letter to Commissioner Kern will be drafted stating that the municipality is interested in an EV Charging station.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 5:41 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Keggan, RMC  
Municipal Clerk