

June 14, 2017

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 George Beatty, and Committeeman Christopher John Kruk. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC; Don Whitmore, DPW Supervisor.

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

**Payment of Bills:**

Mr. Kruk reviewed the receipts - Total: \$11,296.76

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to pay the bills, \$345,742.74, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

Approved and under further review: Dolan & Dolan - Affordable Housing \$185.00 and Master Plan - \$810.00; Lavery & Selvaggi – COAH \$769.05

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, yes, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**7:00 p.m. Gary Whyte – FOP Awareness Initiative**

**Resolution 2017-40 In Support of the (FOP) Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva Awareness Initiative**

Mr. Whyte provided a brief presentation on the disease. FOP turns normal muscle, tendon or ligament to bone resulting in an overall second skeleton within the confines of the normal skeleton, usually affecting children in the first or second decade of life. This is his personal mission and he is visiting each County for support.

**2017-40 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE (F.O.P) FIBRODYSPLASIA OSSIFICANS PROGRESSIVA AWARENESS OF INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (F.O.P.) is a rare genetic condition in which the body makes additional bone in locations where bone should not form, such as within muscles, tendons, ligaments and other connective tissues, which in time produces a "second skeleton" that immobilizes the joints of the body; and,

**WHEREAS**, one in every seven Americans suffer from musculoskeletal impairment causing physical disability and severe long-term pain; and,

**WHEREAS**, the symptoms of F.O.P usually begin in the first or second decade of life, with the majority of patients diagnosed by the age of 10 depriving children of normal development; and,

**WHEREAS**, FOP is considered an orphan disease whereby it affects so few people and there are less than 12 diagnosed cases in New Jersey and approximately 200 in the nation; and,

**WHEREAS**, musculoskeletal research is close to achieving major breakthroughs that likely will change and simplify the way bone and joint disorders are treated and prevented throughout the world; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for greater awareness of this disorder, its symptoms and the obstacles faced by persons and families affected by this disorder.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt 2017-40, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, yes, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**Reports:**

**REPORTS:**

**Chief Financial Officer:** No report.

**Tax Assessor:** No report.

**Tax Collector:**

April 2017 - \$325,051.63; \$1,943,872.29 year to date

May 2017 - \$1,042,680.57; \$2,986,552.86 year to date

-Former Sosnovik property will be auctioned on June 27<sup>th</sup>; it appears property taxes will be paid as a result of the sale.

**Construction Code Official:** No report.

**Zoning Officer:** Memo received from Zoning Officer, dated June 7, 2017, regarding his review of parking concerns on Walnut Street. Striping delineating parking and no parking areas is necessary.

**Fire Department:** Month of April 2017

Total number of calls: 12 including – MVA 2; brush fire 1; wire fire 1; vehicle fire 3; stand-by 1; LZ 1; chimney fire 1; odor investigation 1; alarm 1; average attendance 8 – man hours 124.40 – four work nights – average attendance 8; work night man hours 96; special details 3; hall rental 2; opening day baseball parade – total man hours 14.

Total man hours for April 2017: 234.40

**Health Department:** Annual food and beverage licenses were renewed for Westbrook Park fieldhouse and Swayze Mill Park fieldhouse.

**Warren County Board of Health:** May 4, 2017

458 Delaware Road – bad odor complaint –no call in May.

119 Nightingale – well drilled without permit; no change in status

329 High Street – expansion of use beyond the approved septic capacity; no change in status

8 Locust Lake South –leaking septic tank; re-inspection scheduled

34 Ridgeway – truckloads of fill being brought to property; joint inspection is scheduled with Hope Township Construction Official and Engineer. Documentation that the fill is suitable for residential use was received and forwarded to the NJDEP and Township Engineer.

252 Shiloh Road – home demolition; well status pending

Rabies – one dog bit reported; dog was quarantined for 10 days and released.

Food Establishment – Hope Township Elementary School was inspected and received satisfactory rating.

Septic – 1 septic repair application approved, 1 repair installed

Kennels, Recreation Bathing, Youth Camps and Campgrounds: all no activity.

**Animal Control:** No report.

**Road Department:** No report.

**Blairstown Ambulance Corp:** No report.

**Use of Township Facility:** Hope Middle School, Swayze Mill Park – October 8, 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Swayze Mill Park Car Show

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to approve the facility use request, fee to be waived, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

All were in favor. Motion passed. Final approval is under jurisdiction of the Board of Education.

**Engineer Report:**

Mr. Rodman had a meeting conflict and was not in attendance. Mr. Beatty provided a brief background on Resolution 2017-42 - Jenny Jump voucher to be hand-delivered 6/15/17.

2017-42 RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD STATE AID PROJECT

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Hope Township hereby recommends to the New Jersey Department of Transportation that the contract for Overlay of Jenny Jump Road, Sections 1 and 3, in the Township of Hope, County of Warren, be awarded through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (MCCPC), to: Tilcon in the amount of \$122,000.00 and to Denville Line Striping in the amount of \$7,575.00 subject to the approval of the Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the presiding officer of this body be and is hereby directed to sign for and on its behalf the contract in the prescribed form for said construction; and the clerk of this body be and is hereby directed to seal said contract with the corporate seal of this body and attest to the same.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-042, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, yes, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.

Chris Maier expressed concerns with the process to this point and the length of time it has taken to have the road paved. He questioned the NJDOT rejection of the application. Mayor McDonough explained the rating system for funding. Mr. Beatty reviewed the process for determining road maintenance and application for grant funding, and the five-year plan that is updated annually.

**Community Police Officer:** State Police Trooper Wojack

Mr. Kruk discussed a speeding issue on Swayze Mill Road just passed Hope Delaware Road and asked for an increased police presence in that area. Trooper class of 146 will graduate next week, hopefully adding to the Hope Barracks.

The trooper indicated there is police presence in the area of the Land of Make Believe due to the increased summer activity and traffic.

**Environmental Commission/Green Team:**

Monica Soban thanked the Committee, the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and DPW Supervisor for their support and assistance with the Green Fair.

**Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI):**

Grant funding of \$5,000 was received to update the ERI and it will be available in PDF format on the website for public review.

**Agriculture Advisory Committee:** No report.

**Municipal Clerk:** Correspondence on file in Clerk's Office

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

### **2017-38 Refunding Property Taxes of a Disabled Serviceman, Block 3200, Lot 5602**

**WHEREAS**, Stephan J Stein, the owner of 96 Ridgeway Avenue, also known as block 3200 lot 5602 was declared to be totally disabled by the US Department of Veterans Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 54:4-3.30 et seq provides that when a veteran or surviving spouse of a disabled veteran or serviceman is declared to be permanently disabled caused by a wartime service connected injury, that the applicant be granted a property tax exemption on their primary residence; and

**WHEREAS**, the date of the US Department of Veterans Affairs determination letter is 28 June 2016 after which his primary residence is considered tax exempt :

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hope on this 14th day of June 2017 that the Chief Financial Officer be hereby authorized to draw a check payable to Stephan J Stein of 96 Ridgeway Avenue located in Blairstown, NJ 07825 to refund previously paid 2016 property taxes in the amount of \$927.93 and the homestead benefit applied to second quarter 2017 in the amount of \$511.79, for a total refund of \$1,439.72.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-38, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, yes, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.

### **2017-39 Renewal Liquor License for the Hope Volunteer Fire Department Social Club**

**WHEREAS**, the Hope Township Volunteer Fire Department Social Club holds a Club License #2111-31-005-001; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hope Township Volunteer Fire Department has filed an application to renew said license for the 2017/2018 license term; and

WHEREAS, the application, fees and New Jersey Division of Taxation Clearance Certificate has been filed with the Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the Club License be renewed for the Hope Township Volunteer Fire Department for the 2017/2018 license term.

Mr. Beatty made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-39, seconded by Mayor McDonough.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, abstain, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

#### **2017-41 Chapter 159 REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION NJS 40A:4-87**

**WHEREAS**, NJS 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2017 in the sum of \$10,000.00 which is now available from the PSEG Foundation “Sustainable Jersey Small Grant” in the amount of \$10,000.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the like sum of \$10,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption “Sustainable Jersey Small Grant O/E”; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the above is the result of funds from PSEG Foundation in the amount of 10,000.00.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-36, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, yes, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Status of Sanitary Landfill:** Waiting on the NJDEP.

**Status of Wastewater Management Plan – Grant Search:** The Mayor spoke to the DCA, grant funding may be available.

**Status of Repairs to Rock Wall Historic District:** Mr. Beatty reported that Mr. Rodman has been in contact with the County Engineer and is waiting to hear back from him. Mr. Rodman will be present at the June 28<sup>th</sup> work meeting. The County will be paving Route 609 and will look at replacing the rock wall.

**Status of Empire Telecom - Possible Cell Tower on Municipal Property:** Three bid packets have been requested and sent out. The bid opening will be held on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Status of Stormwater Management Update:** To be addressed by Mr. Rodman.

**Review Personnel Policy:** This item will be discussed at the next work meeting. Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to advertise a Work Meeting to be scheduled on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 p. m., seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

**Salt Shed:** Mr. Whitmore reviewed the plans from O’Brien Architects, Inc., and had no issues.

**Cell Tower:** Bid opening – June 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**ORDINANCE: 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

**2017-05 Salary Ordinance 2017**

**The Committee called for an executive session tonight at the end of the meeting before having first reading.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Municipal Building Summer Hours:**

The office will be officially closed on Friday; the Clerk will be in and out of the office on that day and when present she will be open for the public. This information will be posted on the door and website.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to approve the summer hours, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Quote from MSI: (2) Computers for the Municipal Office**

Mrs. Fisher stated a computer is needed for the Deputy Clerk and Township Clerk. She will also obtain a quote from Dell.

**Recording System: Quote from Gramco Business Communications**

The Committee discussed obtaining an improved system. The current system has not been working properly.

**Minutes:**

May 10, 2017 – Business Meeting

May 24, 2017 – Work Meeting

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to approve the minutes as listed, as amended, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Kruk, yes, Mr. Beatty, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.

**Clean Communities:** Grant funding in the amount of \$7069.20 was received.

**2017 League of Municipalities: November 14, 15, 16**

Those interested in attending please let the Clerk know as soon as possible so hotel reservations can be made.

**Mr. Don Whitmore:**

Mr. Whitmore and Mr. Boesze visited the property on Lakeview as a result of a trash complaint. The house has cats and air conditioning running and an extension cord on the ground that might be plugged into the house. Discussion was that this property might be township owned. The Committee was concerned with possible liability issues and will contact Mr. Selvaggi to address the matter.

**Public Participation:** This portion of the meeting was opened to the public for any questions or concerns. Chris Maier expressed concern with individuals that should be grandfathered from an ordinance that was passed and they are still required to appear before the Zoning Board for variance approval. He urged the Committee to repeal and replace the ordinance, or at least suspend enforcement until the ordinance is reviewed. Mr. Beatty stated the ordinance was reviewed for over a year by several boards before being approved. The ordinance was complaint generated and to assist the Animal Control Officer in addressing those complaints. A summons was issued by the ACO and violation by the Zoning Officer. There is also an adjoining property owner who as recently as last week had an issue. Mr. Beatty stated the ordinance will be reviewed further by the boards. Mr. Kruk felt the public needed to be included in the review process. He noted property owners had one year to be grandfathered from the adoption of the ordinance, and he questioned how many residents were aware of that.

There being no further public comment, this portion of the meeting was closed.

**Executive Session:**

A **motion** was made by Committeeman Beatty, seconded by Committeeman Kruk and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 9:16 p.m.

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public 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 Hardwick, 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:

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:** 9:16 p.m.

Present: Committeeman Beatty, Committeeman Kruk and Mayor McDonough

**Time Out:** 9:31 p.m.

A **motion** made by Committeeman Beatty, seconded by Committeeman Kruk and carried to return to regular session.

No official action was taken by the Committee at this time. Copies of the minutes will be made available at such time as the Committee determines that there is no harm to the public interest.

Mr. Beatty noted that the salary for the Court Administrator effective May 22, 2017 will be \$23.00 per hour and this will be noted in the following salary ordinance for 2017.

**2017-05 Salary Ordinance 2017 FIRST READING**

Mr. Kruk motioned to approve Ordinance 2017-05 on first reading, seconded by Mr. Beatty. Motion carried and a voice vote was unanimous. Second Reading and public hearing will be on July 12, 2017.

2017-05 AN ORDINANCE FIXING AND DETERMINING THE SALARIES, WAGES OR COMPENSATION TO BE PAID AND BENEFITS TO BE PROVIDED TO THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2017

**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 2017, retroactive to January 1, 2017 at the amounts set forth herein below:

A. Mayor	\$ 2,935.00 per annum
B. Committeeman (not serving as Mayor)	\$ 2,590.00 per annum
C. Municipal Clerk/Registrar	\$46,125.00 per annum
D. Deputy Municipal Clerk/Registrar	\$ 18.00 per hour
E. Chief Financial Officer	\$12,256.00 per annum
F. Treasurer	\$ 5,439.00 per annum
G. Qualified Purchasing Agent	\$ 1.00 per annum
H. Collector of Taxes	\$23,787.00 per annum
I. Deputy Tax Collector	\$ 2,280.00 per annum
J. Tax Search Officer	\$ 3,130.00 per annum
K. Assessor of Taxes	\$17,801.00 per annum
L. Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator	\$ 610.00 per annum
M. Public Works Foreman	\$ 28.39 per hour
N. Equipment Operator, Level I	\$ 22.67 per hour
Level II (Temporary)	\$ 20.81 per hour

O. Laborer	Level I	\$ 18.49 per hour
	Level II (Summer Help)	\$ 12.50 per hour
P. Code Enforcement Officer		\$ 6,942.00 per annum
Q. Christmas Market/Public Relations Coordinator		\$ 8,528.00 per annum
R. Animal Control Officer		\$ 6,623.00 per annum
		\$ 22.10 per hour/court
S. Dog Licensing Clerk(s)		\$ 662.00 per annum
T. Temporary Clerical Assistant		\$ 25.00 per hour
U. Custodian		\$ 13.33 per hour
V. Secretary to the Planning Board		\$ 11,950.50 per annum (base)
		\$ 160.00 per meeting
W. Secretary to the Zoning Board of Adjustment		\$ 4,367.00 per annum (base)
		\$ 160.00 per meeting
X. Secretary to the Historic Preservation Commission		\$ 1,440.00 per annum
Y. Secretary to the Environmental Commission		\$ 1,413.00 per annum
Z. Sports Director		
	(a) Soccer Director	\$ 2,981.00 per annum
	(b) Basketball Director	\$ 3,617.00 per annum
	(c) Baseball/Softball Director	\$ 4,342.00 per annum
AA. Joint Municipal Alliance Coordinator		\$ 1,376.00 per annum
	(detail: Joint Alliance Coord. 1/1-6/30/17 = \$ ; Hope Alliance Coord. 7/1-12/31/17 = \$ )	
BB. Acting Court Administrator		\$ 18.80 per hour
	Court Administrator, Effective May 24, 2017	\$ 23.00 per hour
		\$ 58.43 per call out
CC. Deputy Court Administrator/Violations Clerk		\$ 17.16 per hour
DD. Municipal Court Prosecutor		\$ 470.00 per session
EE. Municipal Court Judge		\$27,500.00 per annum
FF. Municipal Court Treasurer		\$ 3,831.00 per annum
GG. Municipal Court Officer – Level I		\$ 124.00 per session
HH. Municipal Court Officer – Level II		\$ 26.01 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 to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hope held on June 14, 2017, and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on July 12, 2017 at 7:00p.m. or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, 407 County Route 611, P.O. Box 284, Hope, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Judith Fisher, RMC  
Township Clerk

**Personnel Policy Liaison:** Christopher Kruk

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 9:33 p.m. on a **motion** made by Committeeman Kruk, seconded by Committeeman Beatty. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC  
Municipal Clerk