

MAY 12, 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; Deputy Clerk, Zondra Belstra and Ted Rodman, Township Engineer (Zoom).

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 Star Gazette and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township Web and Bulletin Boards.

ELECTRONIC MEETING STATEMENT

In addition, as a result of the State of Emergency issued by Governor Murphy, the Township has provided the pertinent information for residents to participate in, or listen to, this meeting via Zoom if they do not participate in person. The public will be muted for the meeting but will be able to participate meeting by raising their hand with the use of the appropriate button to do so on their electronic device during the public session portion of the meeting. Questions may also be submitted to the Municipal Clerk by 4 PM up to one day **PRIOR** to the meeting to be read into the record. The public is obligated to disclose their full name, residence address and email address in any question/statement sent to the Municipal Clerk. Any question not meeting the above-described timeframe will be handled at the next available Township Committee meeting.

Roll call: Mr. Urfer- present

Mr. Kruk – present

Mayor McDonough- present

Payment of Bills: Receipts received for April 2021 \$10,093.72

Bills totaling \$791,469.66 for the month of May. On a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll called as follows: Mr. Urfer – yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes the bills were approved for payment.

Reports:

Tax Collector: \$401,398.11 April 2021 collections \$2,028,424.18 Y-T-D collections.

Mayor Tim McDonough:

Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk: Discussion took place regarding the current Fire Marshall in place for our territory through the DCA. Due to several ongoing issues, Mr. Kruk and Mayor McDonough will both research the Township having their own Fire Marshall instead of using the DCA.

Mr. Kruk also spoke about the upcoming May 18, 2021 public hearing on marijuana legislation. A “guideline” will be put in place for the manner in which the public is to conduct themselves regarding questions; timeframe the meeting will run for; limits on per-person speaking, etc.

Committeeman Urfer: Mr. Urfer spoke about the Community Center grant. By the end of May, a cost estimate and bidding package should be available from our architect.

Township Engineer Report: Mr. Rodman advised he is waiting for the CFO’s certification in order to close out the Hope Town Center DOT grant. He has also re-worked the engineer’s estimates for the cost of Ridgeway Avenue DOT grant. The cost is \$168,065. We were awarded \$151,000. Mr. Urfer asked Mr. Rodman to set up a meeting for the Heller Hill Road paving that was done in order to ascertain how we will handle the inferior pavement on one side of the road. Also, discussion took place regarding

paving Hissim with the 2022 DOT grant instead of Foundry. Foundry and Union Brick will be paved using monies from the COVID relief bill.

Ordinances - Public Comment and Adoption:

Ordinance 2021-04

Mayor McDonough asked for a motion to open up to the public for comment: 1st Mr. Urfer; 2nd Mr. Kruk – all in favor. No public comments were received.

Mayor McDonough asked for a motion to close to the public. 1st Mr. Urfer; 2nd Mr. Kruk – all in favor.

Mayor McDonough asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-04. 1st Mr. Urfer; 2nd Mr. Kruk. Roll Call: Mr. Kruk – yes; Mr. Urfer – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes.

ORDINANCE # 2021-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING THE HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 20, SUB PART 8 ENTITLED “PRETEEN AND FAMILY AMUSEMENT PARK ZONE”

WHEREAS, the Township Committee for the Township of Hope, County of Warren, in the State of New Jersey has determined that the Township’s Preteen and Family Amusement Park Zone is too narrow and does not reflect the reality of the uses within that zoning district which are not limited to preteens; and

WHEREAS, the Hope Township Committee believes that the ordinance should be amended to properly describe the type of uses in the zoning district and to further modify a particular aspect of the ordinance to afford flexibility in the use and development of family amusement parks in the zone district.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1

Chapter 20, subsection 8 of the Hope Township Municipal Code entitled “Preteen and Family Amusement Park Zone” be amended to read “Family Amusement Park Zone.”

Section 2

Chapter 20-8, subparts (a), (b), (c)(5) are amended to delete any reference to “Preteen” and otherwise to identify amusement parks as being “Family Amusement Parks.”

Section 3

Chapter 20-8 (c)(3) is amended to reflect that maximum permitted height for amusement rides shall be no more than 100 feet.

Section 4

This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage.

Section 5

All ordinances or parts of ordinances of the Township of Hope inconsistent herewith are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency

Section 6

The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-30

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 2022 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$1,110
Cash Match	\$277.50
In-Kind	\$832.50

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
DELAYED INTRODUCTION OF 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

RESOLUTION-#2021-31

WHEREAS, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 30 of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope has delayed the introduction of the 2021 Municipal Budget past the statutory deadline; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to allow a delayed introduction of the 2021 Hope Township Municipal Budget; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803.

Motion: Committeeman Urfer

Second: Committeeman Kruk

Committee Polled: Kruk – yes

Urfer – yes

McDonough – yes

Date: May 12, 2021

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE – INTERLOCAL MUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS
OFFSET WITH APPROPRIATIONS**

RESOLUTION #2021-32

WHEREAS, the 2021 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 12th day of May, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2021 the Township of Hope will receive revenue for Inter Local Agreements in the amount of \$85,441.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2021 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Interlocal Municipal Service Agreements Offset With Appropriations:**

North Warren Municipal Court Revenue

\$ 85,441.00

\$ 85,441.00

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
SPECIAL ITEMS OF GENERAL REVENUE ANTICIPATED
WITH PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF DIRECTOR, LGS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REVENUES OFFSET WITH APPROPRIATIONS**

RESOLUTION #2021-33

WHEREAS, the 2021 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 13th day of May, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2021 the Township of Hope has been allocated a state and county grant for various programs in the amount of \$276,474.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2021 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:**"

Drunk Driving Enforcement	\$ 2,000.00
NJ DOT Grant – Ridgeway Ave.	151,700.00
Municipal Alliance Grant	2,100.00
Community Center Grant	112,500.00
Clean Communities	6,846.00
Recycling Tonnage Grant	<u>1,328.00</u>
	<u>\$ 276,474.00</u>

Motion: Committeeman Urfer

Second: Committeeman Kruk

Committee Polled: Kruk – yes

Urfer – yes

McDonough – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
2021 HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

RESOLUTION-#2021-34

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope is holding a meeting on May 12, 2021, for the purpose of introducing the 2021 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2021 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on May 12, 2021.

2021 HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 266,242.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	581,425.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	25,000.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>824,243.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$1,696,910.00</u>
Salaries and Wages	\$ 520,452.00
Total Operations	775,946.00
Capital Improvements	256,700.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>143,812.00</u>
Total 2021 Municipal Budget	<u>\$1,696,910.00</u>
Municipal Tax Rate	(Estimated)
\$0.37482	

Motion: Committeeman Urfer

Second: Committeeman Kruk

Committee Polled: Kruk – yes Urfer – yes McDonough – yes

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
HOPE TOWNSHIP 2021 MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE TAX RATE**

RESOLUTION #2021-35

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Township of Hope’s open space ordinance allows the township committee to set the open space tax rate annually within a specified range; and,

WHEREAS, the township committee desires to set municipal open space tax rate at **\$0.0125** per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2021 calendar year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope that election be made to set the municipal open space tax rate at **\$0.0125** per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2021 calendar year.

On Motion by Committeeman Urfer and seconded by Committeeman Kruk, the aforementioned **Resolution 2021-35** be adopted as read.

**Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kruk - yes
Mayor McDonough - yes**

Mr. Urfer - yes

Motion carried

Old Business:

Internet – Mr. Kruk spoke about Optimum and the fact that he was now hooked up to it. Urged residents who have the line run in front of their homes to keep calling and get hooked up.

Traffic Study – Still working on things pertaining to this.

New Business:

The 2021 Agreement with RK Environmental to perform the Township's Right-to-Know work was approved for \$685.00 on a motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and roll call for approval – Mr. Kruk – yes; Mr. Urfer -yes; Mayor McDonough - yes.

Public Participation:

A member of the public spoke about Swayze Mill and the lake and had several questions regarding the cutback of the buffer shrubbery surrounding the lake. This will be looked into to determine the best manner in which to handle keeping the lake cleaned up while maintaining a proper buffer in places, as well as allowing for clear shoreline to fish from.

Approval of Minutes: The April 14, 2021 work; April 28, 2021 Work and April 28, 2021 budget meeting minutes were approved 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 8:07 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Keggan, RMC
Municipal Clerk