

NOVEMBER 8, 2018

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 Christopher John Kruk and Committeeman Terry Urfer, Don Whitmore and Ted Rodman. Also present was Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC.

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

Reports:

Tax Collector: for month ending October 31, 2018 - \$510,232.81; YTD \$5,223,478.15

Warren County Health Department: 119 Nightingale – currently original well being used. Water test pending; Between 406-408 Main Street – complaint received concerning flooding due to possible broken water line, complaint forwarded to Zoning Official – no change in status. No Kennel Activity. Long Meadow Farms was inspected and received a satisfactory rating. Rabies testing requested for one raccoon tested positive. All potentially exposed horses were given rabies boosters. 45 day advisory issued. Recreational bathing – no activity. Septics/Wells – 1 septic repair application approved; 1 septic repair installed; 3 septic alterations installed; 2 septic alteration applications approved.

Mayor Tim McDonough: Service Electric hired a company going at to all streets and counting how many houses on each street. Will get back with us to a house per mile number. Need at least 20 houses per mile, but number many be lowered. Need the franchise agreement signed in full before they will do any work. Hope, Frelinghuysen and Knowlton have signed, Hardwick still has not. Centurylink conference will take place with mayors of surrounding towns. Discussing the nodes. People can now call Centurylink and hook up to them. Maps are supposed to be received showing what areas and what type of service they can expect.

Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk: Animal control officer needs to clarify that they will respond to any animal that is known to carry rabies.

Committeeman Urfer: Ad for the part time DPW person was approved. Going on the website and in the post office. List of contractors that could help plow, salt is being looked into – go out to bid. The pews were sold and are out of the building. Want to start listing plows, truck and generator on Muni-Bid. Zip ties need to be tied to all the courtroom chairs. File cabinets are being put in clerk's office so that Alfia can file everything and clean up the area. Mentioned asking that secretaries of Boards get attendance records so that we can ascertain if alternates/new people need to be moved up/put on Board. Donna spoke about the Farm Bureau business that she has been attending. St. John's is going to be giving up the waffle/chicken dinner. Logistics discussed regarding use of Jenny Jump Road for Christmas Eve barn use at Terry's.

Mrs. Judy Fisher: Generator grange is done. Still needs quote for the ballards that were installed. Needs all paperwork to close file and submit to FEMA. (Semper Fi - \$1130; Drake's Landscaping - \$1,000 and Cousin's Landscaping submitted a quote.)

Motion was made by Mr. Urfer to accept Drake's Landscaping bid for \$1000.00, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes.

Belvidere Wildcat Cheerleading Use Facilities Request was granted for use of the Grange. All the notices to property owners went out for properties being auctioned off by township. All bids need to be in by the 11/26/18.

Don Whitmore: Guardrails were taken out on bridge on Lake-Just It Road. Don called County but asked Ted to follow up as well.

Fire Department Report: Number of calls October – 17; Man hours – 109.14 . Special detail 5; Total man hours - 32 ; Night Man hours 96 . Total man hours for October 237.14.

Township Engineer Report: Osmun got paved, no striping done on that road. Birch Ridge is done. Grants for 2019 submitted for paving Cemetery Road \$61,950.00 and Hope Town Center for \$99,100. Stormwater program was discussed. Salt Shed – need to pay for a set of plans. Don and Terry will try to do some of the work themselves to save money – still talking about \$60,000-\$70,000 to build. Parking Ordinance – proposing that the specs be looked at and action taken at next meeting. Dennis Keenan is Ted’s assistant – he has been Ted’s backup for years (licensed engineer).

Approval of Minutes: June 12, 2018; June 27, 2018; July 11, 2018.

Mr. Urfer made a motion to accept the above noted Minutes, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

Old Business:

Verizon Nodes: No change in status.

Benbrook & Stevens: Easement at the Distillery – no change. Easement being worked on by Selvaggi. Electrician ran lines into basement of distillery.

Jensen Tree quote received and awarded for taking down the tree for H.O.P.E.

New Business:

Sussex Warren Energy Aggregate meeting in Blairstown during January to bring residents up to date on new energy program.

Raffle Applications – PTA and Firehouse. Everything in and complete.

Motion made to approve raffle for Hope PTA by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried followed by a

Roll call: Mr. Urfer –yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes.

Motion made to approve raffle at Hope Township Fire Department by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mayor McDonough.

Motion carried followed by a roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes; Mr. Kruk – abstain.

Best Practices was received by the Township to be filled out. The Committee reviewed the answers that were completed by the Clerk and CFO. Being there were no changes, the Best Practices will be signed off on by Judy Fisher and Kathleen Reinalda and submitted.

Moravian Candle Light Walk – letter received requesting money to front their event (Township sanctioned event).

Motion made to give \$1,000.00 towards their event. Mr. Urfer motioned, Mr. Kruk seconded. Roll call: Mr. Urfer – yes; Mr. Kruk – yes; Mayor McDonough – yes.

Marvin Fish has retired from the Planning Board. Would like to plan something to honor him, perhaps at the Appreciation dinner.

Moravian Grange – discussion re: naming it for the Planer Family and what needs to be written on the sign. First Hope Bank will share cost of project with us. Ceremony will be planned.

Payment of Bills:

Receipts \$42,084.95; Bills \$52,658.44.

Motion was made by Mr. Kruk, seconded by Mr. Urfer and carried.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Urfer, yes. Mr. Kruk, yes. Mayor McDonough, yes.

RESOLUTION 2018-62:

**RESOLUTION 2018-62
GRANTING APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF A DEVELOPMENT
EASEMENT ON THE LABARRE FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP FARM**

**BLOCK 64, LOT 1 IN HOPE TOWNSHIP AND BLOCK 600, LOT 2300 IN KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 100.734 ACRES**

The Committee reviewed this Resolution and agreed to defer adopt. The Clerk was asked to forward this information to the Land Conservancy and Robert May, Chairman of the Agriculture Board for their input. This Resolution will be back on the Agenda for the November 28th meeting of the Committee.

Public Participation:

Friends of Swayze was discussed by Christine Rusin and some of the findings that were turned up.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC
Municipal Clerk