

OCTOBER 12, 2016

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 John Koonz. Also present were Acting Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC and Township Engineer, Ted Rodman, P.E.

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by publishing notice in The Express Times and The Star Gazette and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards all on January 11, 2016 and January 15, 2016.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: Motion made by Committeeman Beatty, seconded by Committeeman McDonough and carried authorized the bill presented before them tonight in the amount of \$323,441.54 be paid.

Roll Call: Committeeman Beatty-yes; Mayor McDonough-yes; Committeeman Koonz - yes

RECEIPTS: The total receipts for September, 2016 were \$56,619.58.

Township Engineer's Report

Mr. Rodman reported he was working on the plans for the salt shed. He noted the importance of having a Qualified Purchasing Agent; this would raise the threshold for constructing the shed to \$40,000. Since the Township does not have this position in their Code Book, there would be a need to introduce and adopt an Ordinance to create the position, then appointed the person and do a salary Ordinance. The QPA when Appointed could request architectural plans and three quotes for this structure. Without this appointment, the Township will have to go out to bid. Noted, the drawings were reviewed tonight did not include the demo of the old shed. Rodman left the meeting at this time.

REPORTS

Chief Financial Officer: Report submitted and reviewed

Zoning Officer : No report submitted at this time

Warren County Health Department Report on file in Clerk's Office

Road Department : The Public Works Foreman submits weekly reports which are available for review in the Clerk's office during normal business hours.

Fire Department: Monthly report submitted for September. There were a total of 14 calls for the month with a total of 170.27 man hours.

Blairstown Ambulance Corp: No report submitted.

Tax Assessor: No report submitted.

Tax Collector: Report was submitted noting a year to date amount of \$4,673,747.11

Construction Code Official No report submitted

Mayor McDonough: Reported Exit 12 on Route 80 will be paved at night but as of right now, there is no starting date. A DOT study for a "Stop" sign on the west bound side Route 80 showed that at this time it does not warrant it. The yearly "Truck N Treat" for Halloween October 31 is growing and the preparations are under way. The water issue at the Community Center was discussed. The Committee is hoping that the well at the house that the

Township just foreclosed on will prove useful for a source of water. The Clerk will contact the Construction Official, Mr. Price, to start the process for getting a "Cut card" to turn the power back on to check the well.

Deputy Mayor Beatty: Reminded everyone support the Car Show is October 16 at Swayze Mill Park. Proceeds will fund the 8th grade class.

Committeeman Koonz: No report at this time

CORRESPONDENCE: On file in the Clerk's Office

Mrs. Marilyn Walsh spoke before the Committee about Pancreatic Cancer, a disease that unfortunately took her husband, Trooper Walsh. This disease is #3 on the cancer list with an 8% survivor rate. It is a vicious disease with no testing to dictate it. November 13 is a scheduled Pancreatic Cancer walk in Morris Plains that they will proudly be a part of.

Mayor Tim McDonough read the following Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION: November 17th as World Pancreatic Cancer Day

WHEREAS, in 2016, an estimated 53,070 people in the United States will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, one of the deadliest cancers, and 41,780 will die from the disease; and,

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer surpassed breast cancer this year to become the third leading cause of cancer death in the United States and it is projected to become the second leading cause by 2020; and,

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits at just eight (8) percent; and,

WHEREAS, when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally in the later stages and 71 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 1,260 deaths will occur in New Jersey in 2016; and,

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is the seventh most common cause of cancer-related death in men and women across the world; and,

WHEREAS, there will be an estimated 418,451 new pancreatic cancer cases diagnosed worldwide in 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the good health and well-being of the residents of the Township of Hope are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes and effective treatments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor designate November 17th as "World Pancreatic Cancer Day" in the Township of Hope.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion was made by Committeeman Koonz, seconded by Committeeman Beatty to approve Resolution 2016-63.

Motion carried

2016-63 Support of Senate Bill S-2254 and Assembly Bill A-3821 which Affirms the Language and Legislative Intent of the Fair Housing Act.

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope supports the provision of affordable housing in a reasonable, rational and achievable way, consistent with economic realities and sound planning; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the March 2015 New Jersey Supreme Court order which transferred oversight of the Fair Housing Act (FHA) to the courts, hundreds of municipalities filed declaratory judgment actions to voluntarily comply with their State imposed affordable housing requirements; and

WHEREAS, in February, the Ocean County Superior Court included a distinct "gap period" analysis retroactively over an additional 16 year period, separate and apart from the normal 10 year present and prospective need; and

WHEREAS, the Appellate Division recently in a unanimous decision overturned the February Ocean County Superior Court Decision and held that municipalities are only responsible to address the ten year present and prospective need, not any gap period” number; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Supreme Court has, for the stated purposes of, “judicial economy and efficiency based on the large number of actions involved. The Court makes no findings as to the reasonable probability of success on the merits, irreparable harm or the relative hardship to the parties,” agreed to hear an appeal of the Appellate Division ruling in late November; and

WHEREAS the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and existing case law, requires that “present and prospective fair share of the housing need in a given region shall be computed for a 10 year period.” [N.J.S.A. 52:27D-307 (c)]; and

WHEREAS, the “gap Issue” arises out of the inability of the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing to promulgate third round regulations from 1999 to the present or make any final determination as to state and regional housing need, as well as constant litigation by certain groups; and

WHEREAS, any retroactive “gap” obligations could have significant and unfunded impact on municipalities, may double count households under both present and prospective need, and will likely result in forcing municipalities and their property taxpayers to subsidize development; and

WHEREAS, this issue needs a resolution which provides both certainty and an achievable path forward so municipalities can proceed with planning for implementing their affordable housing obligations;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-2254, sponsored by Senators Greenstein and Bateman, and Assembly Bill A-3821, sponsored by Assemblymen DeAngelo and Benson, re-affirm the language and legislative intent of the Fair Housing Act, so as to preclude significant unfair impact and instead further progress toward a more rational statewide housing policy, including reasonable and achievable obligations for municipalities, facilitate municipal compliance and the actual provision of affordable housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on the 12th day of October, 2016 by the Township of Hope, County of Warren, that:

1. Township of Hope strongly urges New Jersey Legislators to immediately reaffirm the language and legislative intent of the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and expressly clarify that the municipal affordable housing share is the sum of present and prospective need for the enumerated ten year period.
2. Township of Hope supports Senate Bill S-2254 and Assembly Bill A-3821
3. Copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the President of the New Jersey Senate, the Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly, the Legislative Sponsors, Senator Steven V. Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, Assemblywoman Gayle Phoebus, Senator Jeff VanDrew, Senator Ronald Rice, Assemblyman Jerry Green, and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey, the New Jersey League of Municipalities and the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

Dated: October 12, 2016

ORDINANCE 1st Reading

A motion made by Committeeman Koonz, seconded by Committeeman Beatty and carried to introduce Ordinance 2016-08.

2016-08 ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND AND REVISE CHAPTER XX TITLED “ZONING” ORDINANCE 20-26.1(i) TITLED “ZONING PERMITS” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, has determined that Chapter 20, “Zoning,” Ordinance 20-26.1(i), “Zoning Permits” of the Code of the Township of Hope must be amended and revised to simplify the zoning permit fees.

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, believes that the amendment and revision of the aforesaid ordinance is in the best interests of the Township and will protect the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that that Chapter 20, "Zoning," Ordinance 20-26.1(i), "Zoning Permits" of the Code of the Township of Hope shall be amended and revised to read as follows:

Chapter XX
Section 20-26.1
Zoning Permits

- i. Each application for a zoning permit shall be accompanied by a fee in accordance with the following schedule:

Residential renovations/additions and accessory structures/ building	\$ 50.00
New residential construction	\$100.00
Commercial – New business or change of use	\$ 50.00
Commercial renovations/additions and accessory structures/buildings	\$100.00

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 October 12, 2016, at 7:00PM 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 November 9, 2016, at 7:00PM, 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.

Mrs. Fisher, Acting Clerk noted that 2nd reading and public hearing will be on November 9, 2016 at 7:00pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of Sanitary Landfill: Waiting to heard from DEP is there are any grant available

Status of Purchase of Development Rights on Almeida (former Scorp) Farm The Committee reviewed a spreadsheet that Land Conservation prepared. The Agriculture Board and Land Conservancy is waiting for a payment schedule from the Township.

Status of Wastewater Management Plan Grant Search discussions with the NJDEP continue to ascertain the availability of grants for the preparation of a Wastewater Management Plan.

Review and update on Personnel Policy The Clerk was requested to keep the October 26 Work meeting light so that they could start working on the Personnel Policy.

Status of Empire Telecom Balloon Test for possible cell tower on Municipal Property Verizon is still interested, waiting for when the balloon testing will be done

NEW BUSINESS:

Best Practices for 2016: Due date is no later than October 21, 2016. Preliminary answers to the work sheet provided to the Committee were reviewed with a few changes that will be provided to the CFO, Kathleen Reinalda. This will be filed on time.

Discussion: Referendum to change use of Open Space Funds: Discussion tabled to the Work Meeting, October 26th meeting.

Application for Blue Light: Terry Urfer, Volunteer Hope Fire Department
Application was reviewed by the Committee

A motion made by Committeeman Koonz, seconded by Committeeman Beatty and carried approved Ms. Urfer's application for the Blue Light and authorized the Mayor to execute.

Application for Catering Permit: Buck Hill Brewery for Christmas Craft Market

A copy of their application was reviewed by the Committee. Their intent is to serve wine (6oz cup) and malt alcoholic beverage (12oz cup); location would be in the parking lot of the Toy Chest. A detailed sketch was submitted of the location. Greg Schmatz, General Manager for the Brewery was present to discuss the proposal. The Committee's concern was the location and security. Mr. Schmatz noted that he would donate a percentage from the sales to a charitable organization. After a brief discussion, the Committee was polled. Committeeman Koonz saw no problem with the application but Committeeman Beatty felt that alcohol did not belong at the Christmas Craft Market and then questioned the Township's liability.

A question was brought up about using the Hope Fire House since they have a Club license. Mr. Kruk, a member of the Fire House and also Committeeman Koonz, a member suggested that the Brewery attend the next Firehouse meeting to make that proposal and then come back to the Committee with their decision.

The meeting was then opened to the public and township liability was their concern.

The Committee asked that Mr. Schmatz come back after they discuss this with the Firehouse.

Discussion: North Warren Court, Information received from the Auditor: the Auditor's letter was explained by the Mayor. Allamuchy Township, who was with the Court before was approached again about joining; their answer was no. White Township will be staying and so will Hardwick Township. Budget meetings for the Court will need to be scheduled soon.

Discussion: Ordinance received from Pohatcong Township, License and Permit Fees Exemption for Veterans. Committeeman Koonz presented this to the Committee. After a brief discussion, the Committee agreed that this would be something to give back to the Veterans. The Clerk was asked to have the Attorney to have draft ordinance for the November Work Meeting. Thanks you Committeeman Koonz for suggesting this ordinance.

Board Vacancies:

Agriculture Advisory Committee: 2 vacancies, terms expire 12/31/2016

Historic Preservation Commission: Alternate #2, Vacancy

Board Secretaries Needed: Environmental Commission & Historic Preservation Commission

Robin Keggan has express interest in being the secretary for these two open positions.

Public Participation: This portion of the meeting was opened to the public for any questions or concerns. Terry asked for an explanation of a Qualified Purchasing Agent and what they do. This was explained by Mayor McDonough.

Approval of the Minutes: None at this time

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:09pm on a motion made by Committeeman Koonz, seconded by Committeeman Beatty. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC
Acting Municipal Clerk