

February 20, 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. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC; 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 New Jersey Herald by posting notice in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards and the Township Web Site.

Mrs. Fisher noted that the Business Meeting scheduled for February 14, 2018 was cancelled and rescheduled for tonight, February 20, 2018.

Payment of the Bills:

Mr. Urfer reviewed the December, 2017 receipts - Total: \$33,857.66; January 2018 receipts - total \$25,210.10 Motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk to paid the February bill in the amount of \$801,742.00. Motion carried followed by a Roll Call.

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

Reports

Chief Financial Officer

Tax Assessor

Tax Collector: Month of December collected \$331,412.00; January 2018, \$1,102,104.55

Mr. Lance noted that a piece of Township Property has been closed on and that the Township should be being reimbursed \$164,000 in back taxes.

Construction Code Official

Zoning Officer: Mr. Boesze submitted his yearly report for 2017 indicating that there were a total of 25 applications or a decrease of 4% from 2016. In a memo there is one inspection of a potential violation, 153 N. Locust Lake Road. He is scheduled at the end of the month to come in and speak about it with the Committee. There is also another issue that he has recently been informed about regarding 4 Prospect, a private Lane.

Township Engineer

Fire Department: December 2017 and January 2018 reports were reviewed

Blairstown Ambulance Corp

Warren County Health Department: Mrs. Fisher reviewed the report with respect to investigation of complaints filed, Food Establishment and approved Septic/Well applications.

Agriculture Advisory Committee

Board of Adjustment: Vacant Seats, Alternates #1 and #2

Environmental Commission: Annual Report of accomplishments for 2016

Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope: Mary Pat Pfeil is attending Principles of Municipal Court Administration Introduction Program. She has successfully completed the second part. Level II of this program.

Community Police Officer

Use of Township Facility Request: Easter Egg Hunt, March 24, 2018 at Swayze Mill Park. This event is being held by the Moravian Grange.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk to approve the use of Swayze Mill Park for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 24, 2108. Fee was waived. Motion carried. All in favor.

Historic Preservation Commission

Peddler's License: Mr. Kessler, who was not present tonight, submitted an application to the Township to distribute hand out literature door-to-door. The Committee briefly discussed this request. Suggestions were to possibly the renting of a Township facility if he wants to get the information out to the residents. Further discussion was table until Mr. Kessler shows up at a Township meeting.

Township Engineer Report: Mr. Rodman was present for the following updates:

Salt Shed: Mr. Urfer noted that eh met with the Mayor in Frelinghuysen, Frank Desiderio about the shed. He believes that Hope should do the block and then get a permit for a dome. The Block would cost about \$100 delivered. Another suggestion, was to speak with the CFO, Kathleen Reinalda about grants.

Ridgeway, Fill material: Mr. Rodman has been talking with the NJDEP on this matter. The DEP stated that if the fill was taken from a site already signed off on, they do not require it to be signed off again. The letter should already state this. IT was stated that there were 43 truckloads delivered to this site already. Mr. Rodman will be following up, with an update at the next meeting.

Stormwater Management: Mr. Rodman's bill for 2017 was \$1625.00 which is under his estimated of \$2500 for doing this program.

Osman Road Overlay: The Township was awarded \$115,000, Discretionary funds for this project. The original application submitted was for \$139,000. The Township will need to make up the difference.

Grange Generator: The Township presently has a 100-gallon propane tank there that will not met the needs of the generator. They will need to go with a 500-gallon tank that would be located behind the building. Mr. Rodman did a comparative cost pricing between AmeriGas and Suburban, which the Committee reviewed. The Clerk reminded the Committee that August is the deadline for the FEMA funds.

Committee Reports: Will be done later in the meeting

Mayor Tim McDonough:

Deputy Mayor Christopher Kruk:

Committeeman Terry Urfer

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

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

ORDINANCE: 2nd Reading and Public Hearing

2018-01 CALENDAR YEAR 2018 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK 2018-01 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope in the County of Warren finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2018 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hope hereby determines that a 3.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$9,074.13 in excess of the increase in final

appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Township Committee of the Township of Hope hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, in the County of Warren, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2018 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Hope shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$31,759.46, and that the CY 2018 municipal budget for the Township of Hope be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced for first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hope held on January 9, 2018 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a meeting of the Township Committee to be held on February 14, 2018 at 7:00P.M., 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.

A motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to open this portion of the meeting to the public for any comments on Ordinance 2018-01.

There were no comments from the public.

A motion was then made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to closed the portion of the meeting to the public.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to adopt Ordinance 2018-01.

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

2018-02 An Ordinance Amending Chapter XX of the Revised General Ordinance of the Township of Hope to Address the Requirements of the Fair Housing Act and the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (UHAC) Regarding Compliance with the Township's Affordable Housing Obligations.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that Chapter XX of the Code of the Township of Hope is hereby amended to include provisions addressing Hope's constitutional obligation to provide for its fair share of low- and moderate-income housing, as directed by the Superior Court and consistent with N.J.A.C. 5:93-1, et seq., as amended and supplemented, N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1, et seq., as amended and supplemented, and the New Jersey Fair Housing Act of 1985. This Ordinance is intended to provide assurances that low- and moderate-income units ("affordable units") are created with controls on affordability over time and that low- and moderate-income households shall occupy those units. This Ordinance shall apply except where inconsistent with applicable law.

The Hope Township Planning Board has adopted a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law at N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1, et seq. The Committee has endorsed the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. This Ordinance implements and incorporates the adopted and endorsed Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and addresses the requirements of N.J.A.C. 5:93-1, et seq., as amended and supplemented, N.J.A.C.5:80-26.1, et seq. as amended and supplemented, and the New Jersey Fair Housing Act of 1985.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the above Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the Regular Business Meeting of the Governing Body of the Township of Hope held in the Municipal Building on the 31 day of January, 2018, and the same shall come up for public hearing at the Regular Business Meeting of the Governing Body to be held on the 20 day of February 2018, at 7:00 P.M., at which times any persons interested shall be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said Ordinance. Copies of Ordinance 2018-02 are available to the Public by contacting the Municipal Clerk. Following the public hearing, said Ordinance shall be considered for final adoption.

A motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to open this portion of the meeting to the public for any comments on Ordinance 2018-2.

Public Comment: Mr. McDonough noted that the Planning Board has been involved with the Ordinance as well as the Committee. Mr. Chris Maier asked questions about the COAH requirements. A motion was then made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to closed the portion of the meeting to the public.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to adopt Ordinance 2018-02.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Status: Sanitary Landfill – No change in Status

Status: Wastewater Management Plan – Grant Search – No report.

Status: Stormwater Management – Discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recycling Coordinator, Linda Gabel: Agreement for submitting the 2017 Tonnage Grant

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to pay \$500 to Linda Gabel in her role as Recycling Coordinator and to file the Tonnage Grant for 2017. Motion carried followed by a Roll call vote:

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes Mr. Kruk – yes Mayor McDonough - yes

Environmental Commission – Green Fair on April 14th, NJ Tree Recovery Campaign Free Seedlings Mrs. Sobon, Chairwoman for the Environmental Commission is asking the Township’s blessing to receive 2,000 free tree seedlings.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer; seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried giving the Environmental Commission their blessing to obtain the 2,000 free seedlings for the Green Fair. A voice vote was unanimous.

Hope Volunteer Fire Company – Raffle application for May 1, 2018. Mrs. Fisher noted that their application and fees were in order and sent to the Games of Chance for their review.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. McDonough and carried to approve their Raffle application number 2018-008.

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes, Mr. Kruk – ABSTAINED Mayor McDonough - yes

Budget Meetings – The next Budget Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 4:00PM
The Committee scheduled another tentative date of March 8, 2018 for the Budget at 4:00pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Kruk: Spoke about trucks going through the center of town. Chris Smith submitted an OPRA request to the County that has been denied due to the manner in which he is asking the question. Mayor McDonough spoke about the Environmental Commission wanting to take this on as well. There was a discussion about the Township signing on as well for informational purposes if Smith continues to get stonewalled. There was a suggestion from Mr. Whitmore about dropping the speed limits on 519 heading out of town.

Mr. Urfer: Talked about the Township joining the Farm Bureau for \$150. There was a brief discussion on the benefits of the Township joining.
A motion was then made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to join the Farm Bureau for \$150.00 per year.

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes Mr. Kruk – yes Mayor McDonough - yes

He then talked about a speed light for use on Shiloh Road/Ridgeway Avenue/Mt. Hermon. Discussed the tax assessments and why they were done. Town had a lot of tax appeals (60 the year before). We were over-assessed. So the township did a reassessment to bring the whole town back in line. When looking at the 2017 total assessment of the town, and then the 2018 total assessment – town's assessed value went down 9%.

Mayor McDonough: Spoke about township-owned property in Silver Lake and getting a court officer to evict the squatter. McDonough has been trying to help the resident squatter secure living quarters, but the issue of him being there is becoming a liability for the Township. Property needs to be auctioned off. Urfer spoke about getting a list of all Township owned properties and how to get them off our books.

CORRESPONDENCE: Spoke about the file in the office and the fact that most correspondence is forwarded via email to the Township Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

This portion of the meeting was opened to the public for any questions or concerns.

Patti Whitmore/Brielle Walsh – Asked to for Township's support for Operation Paperback for the troops (due to storage purposes) and also putting the money obtained through the Township. No cost to the Township. Brielle collects book donations and any monetary donations go strictly towards shipping.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to give the Township's support for Operation Paperback at no cost to the Township. A voice vote was unanimous.

Kim Tighe – spoke about holding off on outfield fencing for now. She does need a storage shed at Swayze. Mr. Kruk spoke about the space available in the current shed. Until we get fencing holding off on new shed. Financial report was discussed. The previous Township Clerk was the person who used to do the report. Last one was done July 2016. Work ongoing with trying to ascertain monies in fundraising since it is all lumped into a "recreation" fund. Mr. Kruk also spoke about each director

coming up with a how to manual for their sport. Ms. Tighe spoke about possibility of using credit cards to register. It was suggested that someone speak to Ms. Reinalda, CFO about this. Tighe spoke about sponsorship banners for fencing that is already in place.

Ms. Tickner brought up School security. The Committee noted that the School is responsible for their own protocols, it is not the Township's jurisdiction. Township and school are separate entities. Mayor McDonough stated they do not get involved in what goes on in the school, although the Township is concerned. OEM and State Police have plans in place. High school liaison is involved in Belvidere High School and their plan. Community Policing Officer has a presence at the school now.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: 2007

OCTOBER 24, 2007 – not approved for public view (Personnel)

DECEMBER 27, 2007

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: 2008

JANUARY 14, 2008 – not approved for public view (Personnel)

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 2009

FEBRUARY 4, 2009 – NO MEETING

AUGUST 8, 2009 – NO MEETING

DECEMBER 28, 2009 - NO MEETING

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 2010

OCTOBER 13, 2010

OCTOBER 27, 2010

NOVEMBER 3, 2010 – NO MEETING

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 2011

FEBRUARY 9, 2011

FEBRUARY 16, 2011

MARCH 3, 2011

MARCH 15, 2011 – NO MEETING

MAY 11, 2011

JUNE 8, 2011

JUNE 22, 2011

The above Executive Session were approved on a motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried, except for October 24, 2007 (Personnel) and January 14, 2008 (Personnel) Not to be released.

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – ABSTAINED Mr. Kruk – ABSTAINED Mayor McDonough - yes

BUSINESS MEETING: DECEMBER 13, 2017

YEAR END MEETING: DECEMBER 27, 2017

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to approved the above minutes. Motion carried

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – ABSTAINED Mr. Kruk – yes Mayor McDonough - yes

REORGANIZATION: JANUARY 9, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to approve the above minutes. Motion carried

Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes Mr. Kruk – yes Mayor McDonough - yes

Mrs. Fisher noted that she received information from the Energy Aggregate's: Savings of almost \$40,000 and a list of opted out residents as well in the Committee's mailbox.

Mrs. Fisher asked about the Contract for Verizon Cell Tower. Copies of the Lease agreement was also put in packets for review and approval tonight. There is a 2% annual increase and the collateral split is 25% to the Township and 75% to the Tower; noting that this is a normal split. Mrs. Fisher noted that the Township Attorney has also reviewed this agreement and found it to be in order.

A motion was then made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to approve the Lease agreement for Verizon Cell Tower. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Urfer brought up that he spoke with the Township attorney regarding that he and Kruk both being on Fire Department and voting implications. The Attorney noted that there will be no problem with them voting on items pertaining to the Fire Company.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. on a **motion** made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC
Municipal Clerk