

**March 28, 2018**

The monthly work and Budget meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 7:01 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor Christopher Kruk, and Committeeman Christopher Terry Urfer. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC CFO Kathleen Reinalda and Auditor Anthony Ardito.

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.

**Verizon Wireless:** A Site Access Agreement has been sent to the Township requesting access to the property in order to do a Phase 11 test for the location of the Tower. This request is from NJDEP to complete the testing. Attorney Mike Selvaggi has reviewed this agreement and found it to be in order. A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to authorize Mayor McDonough to sign.  
Roll Call: Mr. Urfer – yes, Mr. Kruk – yes, Mayor McDonough – yes

**Salt Shed:** Mr. Urfer discussed various options with the Committee. No decision has been made yet. Target date to start this project is September, 2018.

**Grange Generator:** Mr. Rodman was able to get prices on a propane tank. The Township reviewed the spread sheet that Ted had prepared for them at the March meeting. They are in agreement that the tank being purchased by the Township and that we could can the CO-OP prices to fill. After a brief discussion, the decision was made to purchase the 500-gallon propane tank from Fairclough for \$1700.00 as long as the Township does not have to use Fairclough for the propane.

	<b>Amerigas</b>	<b>Suburban</b>	<b>Fairclough</b>
In MCCPC?	Yes	No	No
Township Owns the Existing 100 gallon Tank – current service provider:	No	Yes	No
Cost of 500 Gallon New Tank (Township Owned)	\$1685.40	Lease 3 years @ \$75/yr – then purchase	\$1700.00
Install tank*	\$500.00	\$375 if within 20 feet of generator	\$4/foot line \$80/regulator
Cost - Monitor	\$425 \$11-15/month	No cost	Not included
Propane cost - current	\$1.40/Gallon	\$2.99/Gallon	\$1.99/Gallon

\* none of these prices include trenching

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to purchase the 500-gallon propane tank from Fairclough for \$1700.00.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Status: 34 Ridgeway Ave.** The Mayor requested that this be removed from the agenda

**Status: Bob Benbrook & Fred Stevens: Easement at the Distillery** No status change. Mr. Benbrook is preparing the Easement paperwork.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**FoodShed Alliance: Raffles License 2018-009,** Drawing April 20, 2018, Inn @ Millrace Pond

Mrs. Fisher noted that their application is in order and has been forward to Games of Chance along with the fee. A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to approve Raffle Application for FoodShed Alliance, 2018-009.

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

**Recreation/Booster Club:** The Committee requested that this discussion be held to a future date. At this time, the Committee met with the Township Auditor, Anthony Ardito and CFO Kathleen Reinalda to work on finalizing the figures for the 2018 Budget. The Committee talked about Debt Service, Capital Improvement, Road Department Wish list and Salaries/Wages. The recommendation from the Committee was a flat 3% raise for the employees for 2018. The Auditor gave them a breakdown of 2%, 2.5% and 3% as to what the increases to the Budget would be. At that time, there was a request to go into closed session to discuss a Personnel Issue.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk and carried to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded Mr. Kruk and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 8:27PM.

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Pubic 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 Hope, 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

Salary Ordinance

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:** 8:27PM

Present: Mr. Urfer, Mr. Kruk, Mayor McDonough and Township Clerk Judith Fisher

Also Present:

**Time Out:** 8:31PM

A motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. 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.

The Committee agreed to hold future discussion on salaries until they get a clarification from the Township Attorney; other items also needed before introducing the 2018 Budget is the Open Space Tax amount and the Capital Improvement funding.

Once the Auditor get those amount, the Budget could be introduced at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Business meeting and adopted by the May 9<sup>th</sup> Business meeting.

Mr. Urfer requested that a letter be sent to Hope Chamber of Commerce letting them know when the date in July that the Township will be meeting.

There was also a discussion on the Handicap sign at the Post Office and Street Signs on Hickory and Cedar. Don will check with Nancy Treibel on the location.

**Public Participation: This portion of the meeting was opened to the public for any questions or concerns. There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.**

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:45p.m. on a **motion** made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted: Judith M. Fisher RMC, Municipal Clerk