

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2021**

The following statement was read by the Mayor

“In compliance with the 'Open Public Meetings Act' this meeting was duly advertised by a notice to The Daily Journal on January 9, 2021 and the South Jersey Times on January 8, 2021. A notice was placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board as of January 5, 2021.”

- **Roll Call – Kelsey Bayzick, Greg Facemyer, Robin Freitag, Joe Shoemaker, Mayor Paul Ritter all were present as was the Solicitor, Administrator, and the Municipal Clerk**

***Approval of Minutes: Motion to Approve** the 12/17/2020 Regular Meeting minutes and 12/17/2020 Executive Session by Shoemaker and seconded by Freitag - Roll Call Vote 4-0 with Bayzick abstaining

***Department and Committee Reports – motion made by**

***Approval of bills:** Total Bills on the Treasurer’s January 21, 2021 prepared bill list motion made by Facemyer and seconded by Bayzick to approve the bills. Voice vote all voted yes.

***Treasurer’s Report:** Approve the Treasurer’s report for January 2021. Motion made by Facemyer and second by Shoemaker, Voice Vote all yes

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *Please stand, state your name and the municipality in which you live for the record, and in five (5) minutes or less briefly state your comments to the Township Committee. The Township Committee will allow for a total of 30 minutes for all public comments. (Ord. 18-01 Adopted 1/18/18)*

Motion to open to the public by Bayzick and seconded by Shoemaker. Voice Vote all yes.

Motion to close to the public by Facemyer and second by Bayzick. Voice Vote all yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinances: Second Reading: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinances: First Reading:

ORDINANCE 21-01: AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING A NO PARKING AREA ON SEWALL ROAD

Motion to Introduce by Facemyer and Second by Shoemaker - Roll Call Vote 5-0

ORDINANCE 21-02: AN ORDINANCE CREATING STANDARDS FOR STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Discussion occurred regarding ordinance and deadline date. Concern over impact on land owners due to retroactive date. Suggestion to have Engineer at next meeting to discuss and answer questions. Do we have a choice. Motion to Introduce by Shoemaker and second by Freitag; Roll Call Vote 5-0

ORDINANCE 21-03: AMENDING THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP SEWER ORDINANCE CODIFIED AS 7.04 SECTION 7 RULE AND REGULATIONS

Discussion why this was needed due to costs being incurred by Township regarding a private sale of house and requirement for hookup to sewer. Motion to introduce by Shoemaker Second Facemyer; Roll Call Vote 5-0.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 21-23: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SHARED SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

Motion to approve Shoemaker and Second by Freitag; Voice Vote 5-0

RESOLUTION 21-24: RESOLUTION AMENDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Discussion regarding amendment for any amount over \$6000.00 must be approved by Mayor; Motion to approve with amendment by Shoemaker and Second by Facemyer; Voice Vote 5-0

RESOLUTION 21-25 RESOLUTION APPOINTING REGISTERED MUNICIPAL CLERK AND REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

Discussion; Motion to approve by Facemyer and Second by Shoemaker; Voice Vote 5-0

RESOLUTION 21-26 RESOLUTION RELEASING THE ESCROW FOR THE LAND USE BOARD APPLICATION 2020-02 BY IAN WILLIS

No Discussion; Motion to approve by Shoemaker and Second by Bayzick; Voice Vote 5-0

RESOLUTION 21-27 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SIGNING OF THE BARRETTS RUN LAND LEASE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER (THE 3RD TIMES A CHARM FARM)

Discussion per acre amount is more than last year, short discussion for 3 year agreement or 5 year agreement, Solicitor will reach out to All and form a consensus; Motion to approve Shoemaker and Second by Freitag; Voice Vote 5-0

RESOLUTION 21-28 – Approval of Lessee to sublease property with the approval by Township Committee of sublease. Motion by Ritter to approve and second by Freitag, Voice vote 5-0

Discussions –

Item #1 – Approval of the sub-lease for Jeff Shimp. Advised approval given in Resolution

Item #2 – Approval of the Planner contract for 2021 after LUB review. Discussion about 2 RFP's submitted. Motion made by Shoemaker and second by Freitag to have Mayor Ritter carry back to Land Use Board Mr. Schule had support of the Committee.

Item#3 – Suggestion by Mayor to go to PDA's and explore digital signature. Administrator advise he would get some prices and work with the clerk to explore digital signature requirements for Municipal government.

Solicitor's Report

1. Bostwick Lake is at a dead-end regarding anyone taking it over. Discussion ensued regarding abandonment, what needs to be done to establish a baseline date for abandonment. What is official term of abandonment and what doe original deed from Stewart Estate to Townships say.
2. Codification is in process and Solicitor is nearing the finish on review. Administrator explained issue regarding amending present codes formally adopted in the past and new ones if needed. One example is the Ordinance# 21-03 introduced tonight.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Shoemaker and second by Freitag. Voice vote 5-0

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: February 18, 2021 @ 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

John H. Hitchner III, Municipal Clerk