

MINUTES
 HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
 March 5, 2020

Approved
 04/16/2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Flag Salute

Sunshine Statement:

In compliance with the 'Open Public Meetings Act' this meeting was duly advertised by a notice to The Daily Journal on January 9, 2020 and the South Jersey Times on January 10, 2020. A notice was placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board as of January 3, 2020.

Roll Call: Township Committee: Facemyer, Freitag, Ritter, Shoemaker, Hankins;

Others: John Hitchner (Acting Clerk), Matthew Ritter (Solicitor), Theodore Ritter (Deputy Solicitor), Leo Selb (Administrator), Ken Mayhew (Fire Chief).

***Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Shoemaker to approve the minutes of 2/20/2020 Regular Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Facemyer and approved 5-0.

***Approval of bills: Total Bills \$497,043.33 on the Treasurers March 5, 2020 prepared list**

A motion was made by Mr. Ritter to pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Facemyer and approved 5-0.

***Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report was submitted by the CFO for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Facemyer and seconded by Mr. Ritter to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carries 5-0.

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)*

Mr. Facemyer makes a motion to open for public comment. Mr. Ritter seconds the motion and motion carries 5-0.

Being as no members of the public wish to speak, a motion is made by Mr. Facemyer to close the public portion. Motion is seconded by Mr. Ritter and approved 5-0.

New Business:

Resolutions-

RESOLUTION 20-37: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING HIRING PRACTICES COMPLY WITH CIVIL RIGHTS

Mr. Ritter makes a motion to approve Resolution 20-37. Motion is seconded by Mr. Shoemaker and approved 5-0.

	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Greg Facemyer			X				
Robin Freitag			X				
Paul Ritter III	X		X				
Joe Shoemaker		X	X				
Bruce R. Hankins			X				

RESOLUTION 20-38: RESOLUTION HONORING 2020 CRHS WALL OF FAME NOMINEES

Mr. Ritter makes a motion to approve Resolution 20-38. Motion is seconded by Mr. Facemyer and approved unanimously.

	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Greg Facemyer		X	X				
Robin Freitag			X				
Paul Ritter III	X		X				
Joe Shoemaker			X				
Bruce R. Hankins			X				

RESOLUTION 20-39: RESOLUTION GRANTING PERMISSION FOR SEPERS FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Mr. Shoemaker makes a motion to approve Resolution 20-39. Motion is seconded by Mr. Ritter and approved without opposition.

	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Greg Facemyer			X				
Robin Freitag			X				
Paul Ritter III		X	X				
Joe Shoemaker	X		X				
Bruce R. Hankins			X				

Discussions-

Item #1 – Discussion about Fire Department Incorporation

Chief Mayhew states that the Fire Company needs to file the appropriate paperwork to reinstate their incorporation. Solicitor Matt Ritter says he will assist with the paperwork. This will allow the Fire Company to keep their fundraising money separate and accept direct donations.

Item #2 – Approval of a roadside cleanup for the Girl Scouts and Hopewell Crest Safety Patrol

A motion was made by Mrs. Freitag and seconded by Mr. Shoemaker to approve the cleanups. Motion carries 5-0.

Item #3 – Discussion about historical map to be placed in the municipal building

The Committee evaluates the historical maps of Hopewell Township. There is discussion about getting one or two maps for the building. There is discussion about if the large or medium is better. The Committee directs Mr. Selb and Mr. Hitchner to look into pricing and they will discuss further.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Matt Ritter provided an update regarding the Amish Market tax appeal. He is working with the assessor Lois Mazza on determining how to resolve the issue best. Solicitor Matt Ritter discussed the need to deem Bostwick Lake "surplus property" before it can be transferred. He is looking into the legality of this and determining how best to move forward. The Solicitor distributes a rough draft of the fee/escrow ordinance to bring our fees schedule up to date and in line with surrounding municipalities.

Administrator Selb states there is an abandoned property workshop he believes the Township should attend. There is discussion about shifting personnel in order to staff the building during the workshop. Administrator Selb discusses with the Committee if they want to approve a 2% raise for employees or a 2.5% raise. He also explains that a Public Works employee is being given a \$1 an hour raise in order to get his rate of pay in line with his peers. The Personnel Committee has evaluated the current raise rates in the private sector and feel a 2.5% raise is advisable.

Mrs. Freitag makes a motion to raise employee salaries by 2.5% and the Public Works employee by \$1. The motion is seconded by Mr. Facemyer and approved 5-0.

Mr. Facemyer states that the FFO has provided two options for the Township Mutual Fund. The CFO and he advise to select option #1.

Mr. Facemyer makes a motion to select option #1 as provided by the CFO. Motion is seconded by Mrs. Freitag and approved 5-0.

Mr. Hitchner asks if the Township Committee would be interested in having more consent agenda provided. The Committee discusses this idea and agree that the current format is preferred.

ADJOURN

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm on a motion by Mrs. Freitag and seconded by Mr. Shoemaker. Motion passes 5-0.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: March 19, 2020 @ 6:30 pm.

John Hitchner, Acting Clerk
cc: Committee,
Township Bulletin Bd.,
Sol. Matthew Ritter
Sol. T. H. Ritter
Admin Leo Selb