

MINUTES
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
May 16, 2017

Approved
6/15/17

Flag Salute

Sunshine Statement:

In compliance with the 'Open Public Meetings Act' this meeting was duly advertised by a notice to The Daily Journal, sent on April 15, 2017. A notice was placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board as of the same date.

Roll Call: Township Committee: Hankins, Freitag, Ritter, Facemyer, Shoemaker; Others: Dylan Wulderk, Deputy Admin, Matt Ritter & T. Henry Ritter, Solicitors, Ken Freitag, School Board President

A motion was made by Mrs. Freitag to approve the minutes from the 4/27/17 Regular Meeting and Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ritter and approved 3-0. Mr. Facemyer and Mr. Shoemaker abstain. A motion was made by Mrs. Freitag to approve the minutes for 5/5/17 Special Meeting. The meeting was seconded by Mr. Ritter and approved 5-0.

***DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrator/Clerk:

- Lois has been out since May 2 and should be returning by the end of the month

Bostwick Lake Commission (Facemyer):

- Next Meeting 5/22 at 6:30

Code Enforcement:

- Discussion of rental inspections.

Construction:

- 6 permits processed for a total of \$1,360.00

Dog Registrar:

- 389 licenses have been issued as of May 16, 2017
- Additional \$15.00 late fee is now in effect, for \$25.00 total late fee per dog

Economic Development Committee:

- New marketing study and approach
- Utilizing Facebook to create greater reach
- Hopewell Advertisement in the South Jersey Business Journal
- May meeting was cancelled, working on a June meeting date

Environmental Commission:

- Next meeting June 7, 2017

Land Use Board (Planning/ Zoning): (Shoemaker/Ritter):

- Next Meeting May 17, 2017

Tax & Sewer Collector:

- Electronic Tax Sale was held on April 18th.
- Tax Sale summary included in packet.

Senior Center: (Freitag):

- Anniversary celebration set for June 7th at Shiloh Seventh Day Adventist Church and tickets are available now at the senior center
- Public Works will be cleaning the Senior Center every Friday morning before they open

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Ritter to accept the Treasurer's Report dated 5/14/2017 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Facemyer and approved 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:

The public portion of the meeting was opened with a motion by Mr. Shoemaker and seconded by Mr. Ritter.

Mr. Ken Freitag, President of the Hopewell Township School Board, presented the school board budget for the upcoming year. He discussed how the budget increase stayed below the 2% cap. He also discussed the impact of the recent revaluation and the county technical school, as well as the potential for putting school board meetings on the Township website.

There being no other public present, a motion was made by Mr. Shoemaker to close the public portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ritter.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **COAH:** (Shoemaker)
 - 7/11/2016 Decision of Superior Court Appellate Division Overturms Affordable Housing Ruling Meaning "Gap Years" Won't Count in Requirements.
 - 1/18/17 Supreme Court Decision

- Pending legislation for a moratorium on Affordable Housing and forming a commission
- **Verizon/Telecom:**
 - FCC Petition to move away from municipal regulation

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion Item #1- Code Enforcement and Rental Report. *Mr. Ritter asked that code enforcement submit a rental report monthly. The possibility of sending rental registration reminders in tax bills was discussed.*

Discussion Item #2- Construction Shared Services Update. *There have been no concerns or issues reported to the Township staff or Committee.*

Discussion Item #3- Redevelopment Zone Land Uses. *Mr. Ritter noted that the approval of the Redevelopment Plan would increase the possible uses for the land in the Business Park. Mr. Ritter also discussed the potential for phasing construction. Impacts of town ownership of the land and the RFP process were discussed.*

A motion was made by Mr. Shoemaker to formally refer the land use options to the Land Use Board, seconded by Mr. Ritter and approved 5-0.

Discussion Item #4- Reader Board and Electronic Sign. *Mr. Facemyer suggested a sign similar in size to the one at the Shiloh Borough building. Pricing and obtaining quotes were discussed. Mayor Hankins discussed the fixed roof.*

Discussion Item #5- Inspection Report for Mining Pit. *The Committee received a report from the Township Engineer and had concerns about remediation. Retaining outside legal assistance was discussed.*

Discussion Item #6- State Announces Funding for Parks. *Mr. Ritter discussed the Bridgeton partnership and the county's suggestion to develop a recreation plan for the park's design through grant funding. Woolwich Township was cited as an example of a successful plan. The first recreation committee meeting will be held on May 23, 2017.*

CDC: (Hankins)

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: Cumberland County Utilities Authority Agenda for May 18; PSEG briefing May 17 at 9AM

Solicitor's Report: A party was held at the rental in the Dutch Neck Village area. The landlord has been given notice, and the rental property has been registered. Inspection is scheduled for this week. There has been no response from the farmland tenants, and the recommendation is that the township look for new tenants.

A motion was made by Mr. Facemyer to direct the solicitor to draft a notice for bids for the farmland properties. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shoemaker and approved 5-0.

The business promotion policy was presented to the Committee. Discussion of adding festivals was held, and suggested to be included.

A motion was made by Mr. Ritter to adopt the business promotion policy as modified, seconded by Mrs. Freitag and approved 5-0.

Executive Session-Resolution 17-41: Real Property-Vacant Space Tenancy @ 8:26pm

**Hopewell Township
Executive Session
Resolution 17-41**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b) (1-9), Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell is of the opinion that such circumstances do exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, in the County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.

2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is **Real Property-Vacant Space Tenancy**;
3. The Township Committee may take official action on the items discussed in Executive Session upon competition of the executive session.
4. The minutes of the discussion shall be made available to the public as soon as the matters under discussion are no longer of a confidential or sensitive nature.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

	MOVED	SECONDED	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Bruce R. Hankins			X			
Paul Ritter III			X			
Greg Facemyer	X		X			
Robin Freitag		X	X			
Joseph Shoemaker			X			

A motion was made by Mr. Facemyer to return to open session at 8:37pm.

ADJOURN

There being no additional business, a motion was made by Mr. Facemyer to adjourn at 8:38 pm. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Freitag and approved by a unanimous vote of the Committee members present.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: THURSDAY June 15, 2017 @ 6:30 pm

Dylan Wulderk, Deputy Administrator
cc: Committee, Township Bulletin Bd.,
Sol. T. H. Ritter, Sol. Matthew Ritter