

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

October 9, 2014

Flag Salute

Sunshine Statement:

In compliance with the 'Open Public Meetings Act' this meeting was duly advertised by a notice to the South Jersey Times and The Press, sent on January 7, 2014. A notice was placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board as of the same date.

Officials Present: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Shoemaker. Others Present: Solicitor T. Henry Ritter, Solicitor Matt Ritter, Acting Clerk/Administrator Susan Quinones, Treasurer Lois Buttner. Others: Kenneth Freitag Hopewell Crest School Board President, Stephanie Kuntz, School Business Administrator, Jeff Shimp, Al Caggiano, and State Trooper Jim Myers

The Mayor made the following **Announcement**: Trick or Treat for Hopewell Township has been set for Friday, October 31, 2014 from 4 – 7 pm. “Trick or treaters are asked to obey all safety rules and motorists are reminded to drive with extra care during these hours”.

The Mayor **Welcomed** Hopewell Crest School Board President Kenneth Freitag and School Business Administrator Stephanie Kuntz to provide information and hold discussion regarding School Bond Referendum set for November 4, 2014 Election. School Board President Freitag expressed thanks to the Township for their cooperation through the years. The referendum amount of \$375,000 includes \$250,000 in purchase expense of existing church and residence and \$125,000 in estimated demolition fees. Benefit of this parcel of land is location, since it is a corner lot with accessibility to water and electric service. Potential future use could be a preschool building, special needs programs, and/or athletic fields which the district currently is lacking. Cost to the taxpayers would be 1 ½ cent per \$100 of assessed value for Hopewell and 1 cent per \$100 of assessed value for Shiloh residents. Existing debt service of the school district will be paid off in the next three years. Shiloh was not included in that since they were not part of the district at the time. Since the property is currently listed as a church non-profit, there will be no loss of value in tax base. Another benefit of the location is that it is a safe and accessible location for any potential need for student and faculty evacuation of the existing school. Mayor Hankins asked if consideration was made to the Township owned land behind the school. Although the property would be less expensive initially; the existing terrain, distance from sewer and electric service, and distance from the roadway reduces the value of the property for the schools anticipated needs. Informational bulletins will be circulated to residents via public meeting with Hopewell and Shiloh Committees, sent home with all students, and bulletin board postings in public places. Another item mentioned by Township Committee was ability of school district to possibly offer existing house for relocation instead of demolition in order to minimize cost.

\*Facemyer, seconded by Shoemaker, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 9/25/14 Regular Meeting. Approved 4-0, Ritter Absent.

**DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administrator:** Benches and Picnic table ordered and delivered for Sidewalk project; installation to be completed by Township staff. Per Phil Caton, Municipal Planner, due to no activity in recent years and date of original grant award; no need to keep Township on “active” status for 2006 TDR Grant. On-site review of existing electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems for ADA compliance Municipal Building Renovation project to take place Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. **Assessor:** \*Accumulative Usable and Non-Usable Sales Reports. **Construction Dept.:** \* September 2014 Permit Report. **Economic Development:** Sign for Business Park should be installed by beginning of next week. **Insurance:** (Facemyer/Ritter): Colson and Gosweiler has qualified to act as direct broker on behalf of Township, this will save \$3,000 in broker fees for 2015. **Public Works/Road: (Shoemaker):** Utilizing existing Salt Shed capital funding-2<sup>nd</sup> course of concrete block delivered and stacked 10/09/2014. This will alleviate additional corrosion of salt shed building due to any spill over. Road salt to be ordered within the next month. **Senior Center:** (Freitag) Weekly Update (9/29-10/2).

Mayor Hankins welcomed **NJSP Bridgeton Station Commander James Meyers**, who shared August 14 through September, 2014 station statistics. Of the 1143 calls, 92 were from Hopewell ranking the Township 5<sup>th</sup> overall; of the 529 motor vehicle violations, 12 were in Hopewell, of the 51 accidents, 4 were in Hopewell; of the 184 criminal investigations, 12 were in Hopewell. Additional activities include capture of individual who escaped from Juvenile Detention facility on September 14, an arrest was made in regards to arson at Rt 49 and W.Park Drive (press release will follow at future date and security cameras were key in investigation) and of six (6) burglaries, three (3) were of copper pipes. Resident requested information regarding keeping dirt bikes and ATV's off of private property. Illegal to chase, they rarely stop when asked, best defense is to invest in good deer camera for photographic evidence and post all property as No Trespassing to limit liability.

A bill list dated 10/08/2014 prepared by Treasurer Buttner was provided. Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, motion for **Approval of bills** totaling **\$447,705.43** on the prepared list (Including Payroll/Less Hankins Bill) was approved 4-0.

Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, moved for **Approval of Hankins bill ( \$175.62)**. Approved 3-0 (Hankins Abstain).

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments and opened the meeting to **PUBLIC COMMENTS**. There being no public comment, at 7:47pm, Facemyer, seconded by Shoemaker, moved the meeting to **Old Business**.

Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, moved to approve the **Treasurer Report** of October 8, 2014 as submitted. Approved 4-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The following resolutions were approved:

### **HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 14-54**

#### **Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Public Property On-Line Through a New Jersey State Contract Auction Service.**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hopewell has certain surplus property, as set forth in Attachment A, which is no longer needed for public use; and

**WHEREAS**, said surplus property shall be sold at an On-Line auction through New Jersey State Contract vendor GovDeals, Incorporated, posted on the GovDeals website at [www.govdeals.com](http://www.govdeals.com); and

**WHEREAS**, the On-Line auction shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36, New Jersey State Contract A-83453 and New Jersey Local Finance Notice 2008-9; and

**WHEREAS**, said surplus property has a value believed in excess of \$500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms and conditions of the Agreement entered into by and between the Township of Hopewell and GovDeals, Incorporated, are available on the GovDeals website and available with the Township Clerk.

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

1. That the items listed in Attachment A are hereby declared surplus property, to be forthwith advertised for public sale pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 and New Jersey Local Finance Notice 2008-9.
2. That said items shall be sold at an On-Line auction to the highest bidder through New Jersey State Contract vendor GovDeals, Incorporated, in accordance with New Jersey State Contract A-83453 and New Jersey Local Finance Notice 2008-9.

Motion: Facemyer

Second: Shoemaker

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Shoemaker

Nay: None

Absent: Ritter

Abstain: None

#### **Surplus Property for Auction Fall 2014**

- 1 – 1993 GMC Suburban Fire/Rescue Command Vehicle VIN#1GKFK16K2PJ726664
- 8 – 2.5 HP Pumps
- 2 – Highway Plows (Sterling)
- 2 – Misc. small plows
- 5 – Light Bars
  - 3 – Code 3 Rotator (2 red, 1 blue)
  - 2 – Strobe
- 2 – Bus Style Mirrors
- 1 – 4 1/2" Floating Strainer
- 10 Rolls – 3" hose (1985 & older)
- 10 Rolls – 1 3/4" hose (1985 & older)

### **HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION NO. 14-55**

#### **NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION, APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT FOR STATE AID TO COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that application is hereby made to the Commissioner of Transportation for an allotment of aid for the Resurfacing of:

### River Road – Section 1

In the Municipality of the Township of Hopewell, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey; and  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that any aid received as a result of this application will only be used for eligible costs for the project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic application identified as ID #MA-2015-Hopewell Township-00068 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Hopewell; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Hopewell and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Motion: Shoemaker

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Shoemaker

Absent: Ritter

Second: Facemyer

Nay: None

Abstain: None

### **HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP** **RESOLUTION NO. 14-56**

#### **A RESOLUTION CHANGING PETTY CASH CUSTODIAN**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-21 authorizes the establishment of a Petty Cash Fund and the appointment of a custodian for the same; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of The Township of Hopewell, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey that the Hopewell Township petty cash custodian is hereby named to be the current Hopewell Township Administrator and Acting Clerk, Susan A. Quinones.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of Hopewell Township, County of Cumberland hereby authorizes such action and two copies of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approval.

Motion: Freitag

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Shoemaker

Absent: Ritter

Second: Facemyer

Nay: None

Abstain: None

#### **Discussion items:**

- 2014 Best Practices Inventory– Per LFN 2014-16 discussion may take place after Inventory submittal deadline of Friday, October 17, 2014.
  - All approved of report as presented.
- Invitation from The Rowan University GeoLab “who has been contracted to assist three pilot communities in Salem and Cumberland Counties to develop scenarios that meet new water quality standards of the comprehensive Water Quality Management Plan”. They would like to attend November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to present information and answer questions.
  - Additional information is requested by Committee, requesting representative to attend November 20, 2014 Committee meeting along with Township Engineer Steve Nardelli and any interested Planning Board Members.
- South Jersey Gas requesting interest of Township in converting Pump Station on Mary Elmer Drive from propane to natural gas. Township would bear cost of retrofit of equipment. Residents currently petitioning for service extension, conversion of pump station would impact probability of offer of service.
  - More information requested on actual cost to Township and need for conversion since gas is only used for one hour weekly test and any period of electricity outage.

**CDC:** (Hankins) Tri-County discussion was held at meeting held week of September 29, 2014.

**CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS** include: (Forwarded via email 10/2 to Committee **Woolwich Township and Borough of Swedesboro** draft park plan public meeting invitation. **State of NJ Dept. of Human Services** Donations requested for Auxiliary of Ancora Psychiatric Hospital’s Holiday Angle Project 2014. **Atlantic City Electric** Notice of Filing of a Joint Petition for Approval of the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc. **South Jersey Gas** Annual notification “New Residential Construction Off-Site Conditions Disclosure Act”-no additional facilities have been added in municipality since last mailing. **NJ State League of Municipalities** League Executive Board is proposing a 2% dues increase effective CY 2015. **State of NJ Dept. of Treasury/Division of Taxation** 2014 Director’s Table of Equalized Valuations. **State of NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection** Invitation to participate in NJ Resilient Coastal Communities Initiative. **Sustainable Jersey** Invitation to participate in webinar to take place Wednesday, October 15, 2014 from 1-2 PM entitled “Easement Stewardship: Inventorying, Maintaining and Conserving Easements in Your Municipality” (forwarded via email to committee).

**Solicitor's Report:** Arial photograph of Watson's Dike was provided by Ted Ritter, half is located in Hopewell Township. Informational meetings requested with Township Engineer, Greenwich and County to discuss current plans to repair dike and what is the need for the dike in terms of impact. Easement/License agreement regarding Hopewell/Stow Creek Fire Department currently awaiting final signature. Only three (3) meeting dates left in 2014 for Farmland Lease live auction to take place. Notification mailing to be sent to all Q-farms in Township, but anyone is allowed to bid. Draft Farmland Lease documents to be reviewed by Committee at October 23, 2014 meeting.

Motion was made to move into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:20pm in order to hold a discussion regarding the Joint Municipal Court agreement.

At 8:30 pm the meeting was returned to **Open Session**.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

Freitag, seconded by Shoemaker, motioned to **Offer to Include** Commercial and Downe Township in the Cumberland /Salem Regional Municipal Court. (Approved 4-0).

Freitag, seconded by Shoemaker, motioned to **Approve the Draft Budget** (subject to change) presented by Cumberland/Salem Regional Municipal Court. (Approved 4-0).

There being no further business, Freitag, seconded by Shoemaker, motion to **ADJOURN** was approved by all. Mayor Hankins adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** October 23, 2014

**Susan A. Quinones, Acting Municipal Clerk**

**cc:**

**Committee,**

**Township Bulletin Bd.,**

**Sol. T. H. Ritter, Sol. Matthew Ritter**