

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
October 10, 2013

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, 2013. A notice was placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board as of the same date.

Officials Present: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Shoemaker, Ritter. Others Present: Sol. T. Henry Ritter, Solicitor Matthew Ritter, Clerk Eugene Daddario. Others: Spencer Kent, Lonnie Wiggins, Jeff Cassidy, Anthony Peterson, David Young and Planning Board Member Alfred Caggiano, Jr.

Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 9/19/13 Regular Meeting. Approved 5-0

Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 9/19/13 Closed Executive Session Meeting. Approved 5-0

Mayor Hankins Welcomed Sergeant Gregory Leach of the **New Jersey State Police**. Sgt. Leach discussed a recent rash of burglaries from outbuildings and pole barns throughout the Township. He recommended that residents secure all unattended buildings and equipment. Notice of such will be added to the Township website. Sergeant Leach also informed the Committee that 6 new officers have been added to the Bridgeton Barracks, increasing their patrolling capabilities.

**DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administrator** received projected energy savings for those participating in the Cumberland County electric purchasing contract awarded to World Energy. Free shots will be offered, through Cumberland County, at the WC Senior Center on Oct. 28, from 1:00-2:00 PM. Kinder Kids Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>. Committee Members received a copy of the revised Township Personnel Policies Booklet. **Clerk** received an Answer of Defendant (*Garrison vs. Hopewell Township Board of Adjustment, et al.*) from Zoning Board Solicitor, Robert J. Pryor. **Construction Department** submitted the September 2013 Permit Report (\$3,027.00). **Economic Development Committee** will review the third draft of Strategic Plan on October 15. **Engineer:** The Sidewalk Project utility mark outs have been completed and work should begin soon. **Zoning Board** submitted the September 2013 Permit Report. **Tax & Sewer Collector** submitted the September 2013 Cash Book Report (\$97,661.52 incl. interest and sewer, \$13,058.76). **Senior Center Director:** The September 16<sup>th</sup>, September 21<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> Weekly Reports and the October 2013 Calendar were submitted.

A bill list dated 10/10/13 prepared by Treasurer Buttner was provided. Ritter, seconded by Facemyer, motion for **Approval of bills** totaling **\$446,499.82** on the prepared list (Including Payroll/Less Hankins Bill) was approved 5-0.

Ritter, seconded by Facemyer, moved for **Approval of Hankins Bill** (\$236.12). Approved 4-0 (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 7:13pm, Facemyer, seconded by Ritter, moved the meeting to **Old Business**.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Telecommunications Infrastructure:** Facemyer received communication from Senator Van Drew's office regarding their talks with Verizon. They are requesting a meeting to further discuss Hopewell Township's telecommunication infrastructure deficiencies.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The following resolutions were approved:

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION No. 13-56  
Resolution to refund overpayment of taxes to property owner**

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

**WHEREAS**, property owner, Jason Cramer, Block 32/Lot 8 residing at 58 Lakeside Drive was approved by the State of New Jersey Veteran’s Administration for a yearly Veterans tax deduction of \$250.00 in 2011.

**WHEREAS**, payments without this deduction were collected in 2011 and 2012 resulting in an overpayment of \$250.00 for both 2011 and 2012.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Hopewell Township refund the total Veteran’s deduction for 2011 and 2012 of \$500.00 to Jason Cramer, Block 32/Lot8 at 58 Lakeside Drive in Hopewell Township.

Motion: Shoemaker

Second: Ritter

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Ritter, Shoemaker

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION No. 13-57  
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE CUMBERLAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO EXTEND MODERN TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
INFRASTRUCTURE TO AREA MUNICIPALITIES  
FOR CELL PHONE SERVICE, HIGH-SPEED INTERNET, AND CABLE TELEVISION**

**Whereas**, a modern telecommunications infrastructure network is necessary for communities to thrive and prosper into the Twenty First Century; and

**Whereas**, it is almost inconceivable that in New Jersey, the most developed state in the nation, there are still communities that do not have access to cell phone service, high-speed internet and cable television; and

**Whereas**, the lack of those basic services places those communities and their residents at a great disadvantage for public safety, economic prosperity, and social welfare; and

**Whereas**, these municipalities host or are located near high-security facilities serving state and national needs such as state and federal prisons and nuclear power plants which could require immediate communication to the local population for public emergencies; and

**Whereas**, these municipalities are rural, and even rural activities such as agriculture, agri-tourism, eco-tourism, resource extraction and commercial fishing need modern telecommunications infrastructure to remain competitive; and

**Whereas**, the lack of modern telecommunications infrastructure depresses property values and reduces opportunities for residential, business, industrial and educational activities; and

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Hopewell Township Committee supports efforts to extend modern telecommunications infrastructure to Western Cumberland County Municipalities for cell phone service, high-speed internet, and cable television.

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Mayor and Township Committee, ask the Governing Bodies of City of Bridgeton, Townships of Deerfield, Lawrence, Maurice River, Stow Creek and Upper Deerfield and the Borough of Shiloh to support this effort by passing similar resolutions and direct that this Resolution be submitted to local municipal governments, the Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders, elected State Representatives, and other interested parties.

Motion: Freitag

Second: Facemyer

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Ritter, Shoemaker

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Shoemaker, seconded by Ritter, moved to approve the following Shared Service Agreement for singing by the Mayor and Township Clerk. (Approved 5-0)

**HOPEWELL/STOW CREEK FIRE PROTECTION  
INTERLOCAL SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH  
THE BOROUGH OF SHILOH**

**WITNESSETH THAT:**

This Agreement, made this \_\_\_\_ day of October, 2013 by and between the **THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL**, (hereafter “**HOPEWELL**”), **THE TOWNSHIP OF STOW CREEK** (hereafter “**STOW CREEK**”) and **THE BOROUGH OF SHILOH** (hereafter “**SHILOH**”) all located in Cumberland County, New Jersey is as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Hopewell and Stow Creek have incorporated the Hopewell-Stow Creek Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. (hereafter “the Fire Company”) for the purpose of protection of life and property in Hopewell and Stow Creek Townships in Cumberland County, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hopewell-Stow Creek Fire Company has, for many years, provided support firefighting services to the Borough of Shiloh Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Shiloh’s own Fire Department has recently disbanded; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Shiloh is desirous of the Hopewell-Stow Creek Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., take over all firefighting services in the Borough of Shiloh; and

**WHEREAS**, Hopewell and Stow Creek have consulted with the Fire Company and all three are agreeable to providing the aforementioned services to the Borough of Shiloh,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is agreed, by and between the Borough of Shiloh, the Township of Hopewell and the Township of Stow Creek as follows:

1. The Fire Company, effective January 1, 2014, and continuing thereafter, shall provide fire protection services to the Borough of Shiloh, 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

2. In consideration for the foregoing services mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the Borough of Shiloh shall pay its proportionate share of the Fire Department operating budget annually.

3. Hopewell and Stow Creek agree to provide the foregoing services and capital equipment at the sole cost and expense of Hopewell and Stow Creek pursuant to the 2012 Hopewell-Stow Creek Shared Services Agreement regarding operations of the Fire Company.

4. Based upon the 2010 population census figures, the percentages of the total yearly operating budget to be paid by the three municipalities will be:

Hopewell	70.12 percent
Stow Creek	21.96 percent and
Shiloh	7.92 percent.

5. The aforesaid percentages will be adjusted upon publication of the 2020 census data and every ten years thereafter.

6. Hopewell and Stow Creek agree to acquire fire department equipment, from Shiloh, having a total present value of \$23,400.00. Payment to Shiloh, by Hopewell and Stow Creek, for the equipment, shall be spread evenly over six years. Shiloh will be credited the amount of \$3,900.00 per year, starting January 1, 2014, as against Shiloh’s percentage share of the Fire Company yearly operating budget.

7. Billing by Hopewell to Shiloh shall be quarterly and will be based upon the previous year’s Fire Company operating expenses except that the 2014 billing cycle shall be based on 2012 Fire Company operating expenses. Yearly expenses will be adjusted on the first quarter billing of the next calendar year.

8. Hopewell and Stow Creek will ask the Fire Company to submit to its membership proposed amendments to its Constitution and By-Laws to allow admittance into the active membership of the Fire Company of residents of municipalities that are contiguous to Hopewell or Stow Creek Townships in Cumberland County, New Jersey.

9. All facilities and equipment shall remain the property of Hopewell and Stow Creek Townships, respectively. Shiloh will not be acquiring ownership interests in any facilities or equipment under the terms of this Interlocal Shared Services Agreement. Shiloh is only contracting for fire protection services.

10. This Agreement shall continue in effect upon the same terms and conditions set forth herein and shall renew automatically, year-to-year, unless otherwise modified or rescinded by the parties hereto as set forth in this Agreement.

11. This Agreement may be terminated by Shiloh or by Hopewell/Stow Creek upon 60 days’ written notice to the other.

12. This document constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties. It may not be modified except by a writing between the parties hereto duly signed and authorized by the governing bodies of Hopewell Township, Stow Creek Township and the Borough of Shiloh, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:8A-1 *et seq.*

13. Hopewell, Stow Creek and Shiloh each represent that this Agreement has been duly authorized by a Resolution passed by its respective governing body.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have set their hands and seals on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

Shoemaker, seconded by Ritter, moved to approve the **RH Excavating LLC** quotation of \$2,000.00 to repair two sink holes on Mary Elmer Drive. (Approved 5-0)

Ritter, seconded by Facemyer, moved to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by The American Littoral Society for one Clean-up Date. (Approved 5-0).

Shoemaker, seconded by Freitag, moved to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by St. Augustine Prep School Ice Hockey Team for one Clean-up Date. (Approved 5-0).

**CDC:** Hankins noted that the main point of discussion at the last meeting was focused on improvement of telecommunication services in Western Cumberland County. He reminded the Committee of the October 25<sup>th</sup> Annual State of Cumberland County Breakfast featuring Guest Speaker, Chris Gheysens, CEO of WaWa Inc. There was also brief discussion of a possible Shared Service Agreement for a CFO in the municipalities where current CFO, Terry Delp, is scheduled to retire.

**CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS** include: **Hopewell Amish Market**, LLC Notice of Planning Board Hearing (October 16), **Inspira Health Network** designated as Magnet Facility, **Cumberland County Improvement Authority** Amendment No. 22 to the Solid Waste Management Plan, **NJLM** October 2013 Mayor's Newslite Newsletter, Supreme Court Affordable Housing Decision, Notice of Proposed Membership Dues (2% increase).

**Solicitor's Report:** Matthew Ritter and T. Henry Ritter discussed the Township's position after the Stipulation of Dismissal without Prejudice regarding *J. S. Hovnanian & Sons, LLC vs. Hopewell Township, et al.*). Hopewell will no longer have immunity from builder's remedy suits. Discussions are ongoing regarding further action and suggestions on repealing the growth share ordinance and the COAH fee ordinance.

Township Planner, Phil Caton will be meeting with the Planning Board to discuss clustering ordinances. Matthew Ritter has prepared the first draft of the revised Bostwick Lake Commission Agreement and will forward it to the Clerk. Deeds for the Barretts Run Acquisition Project have been recorded and received and will be forwarded to the clerk for filing.

At 7:45 pm Ritter, seconded by Freitag,, moved the meeting into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** for the purpose of discussing real estate and personnel issues.

At 8:47 pm the meeting was returned to **Open Session**.

Facemyer, seconded by Shoemaker, moved to place Public Works Manager, David Young on paid administrative leave until October 24, 2013. (Approved 5-0)

There being no further business, Freitag, seconded by Shoemaker, motion to **ADJOURN** was approved by all. Mayor Hankins adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** October 24, 2013

**Eugene Daddario, Municipal Clerk**

**cc:**

**Committee,**

**Township Bulletin Bd.,**

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