

HOPWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
March 22, 2012

Flag Salute

Sunshine Statement:

In compliance with the 'Open Public Meetings Law' the Regular Meeting was duly advertised by an annual notice sent to the News of Cumberland County and the Press of Atlantic City, on January 6, 2012. Notices were placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board on the same date.

Officials Present: Hankins, Freitag, Shoemaker, Facemyer, Ritter. Others Present: Sol. T. Henry Ritter, Sol. Matthew Ritter, Treasurer Lois Buttner, Clerk Eugene Daddario. Others: Ken Freitag, Terry Van Zoeren, Zoning Officer Burt Doremus, and Planning Board Member Alfred Caggiano, Jr.

Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 3/08/12 Regular Meeting. Approved (5-0).

Shoemaker, seconded by Ritter, moved to approve the **Treasurers Report** of 3/22/12 as submitted. Approved (5-0).

Mayor Hankins welcomed Board President, Ken Freitag, and Superintendent, Terry Van Zoeren, of the **Hopewell Township Board of Education**, who gave a presentation of the proposed 2012-2013 school district budget. Cost increases for the budget year included health benefits, dental benefits, supplies, and computers. Cost savings were realized in shared services, staff reductions, SRECS revenue, and special education tuition decreases. The budget, as proposed, reflects a 6.8 cents decrease for Hopewell Township.

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrator noted letters to the NJ Green Acres Program in support of the Barretts Run Corridor Application submitted by Senator Jeff Van Drew, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Deputy Speaker John J. Burzichelli, and Assemblywoman Celeste M. Riley. **Clerk** reported that the proposed Interlocal Agreement for Hopewell/Stow Creek Fire Company has been approved by the Stow Creek Township Committee.

Shoemaker, seconded by Ritter, moved to execute the revised **Interlocal Agreement for Hopewell/Stow Creek Fire Company**. (Approved 5-0)

Economic Development: CDC/BACC *Business to Business* meetings are being scheduled for this spring. Tentative plans are to coordinate a Hopewell Township meeting with the opening of the Bridgeton Area Amish Market. **Environmental Commission** submitted the January meeting minutes. **Fire Department** has arranged a meeting with Amish Market owners on Monday, March 26, to review building details. Fire Chief Dilks submitted maintenance/testing cost estimates for approval. The Stow Creek Township Committee has approved these expenses.

Ritter, seconded by Shoemaker, moved to approve expenses (\$2,333.00) for **pump maintenance, air-flow pack testing, and Jaws of Life maintenance** as submitted. (Approved 5-0)

Public Works/Road: Specs for sewer pump stations maintenance contracts are being drafted for further consideration. **Tax & Sewer Collector** submitted the February 2012 Cash Book Report (\$1,159,360.90 incl. interest and \$65,103.58 sewer).

A bill list dated 3/22/12 prepared by Treasurer Buttner was provided. Ritter, seconded by Facemyer, motion for **Approval of bills** totaling **\$486,836.53** on the prepared list (Including Payroll) was approved 5-0.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments and opened the meeting to **PUBLIC COMMENTS**. There being no public comment, at 7:45pm, Shoemaker, seconded by Freitag, moved the meeting to **Old Business**.

OLD BUSINESS:

COAH: Shoemaker mentioned a NJLM notice explaining Assembly bill A-2717, extending the time period for municipalities to commit to expend collected development fees. Solicitor, T. Henry Ritter, noted that according to the Appellate Division, "*doing nothing is not an option*" in regard to affordable housing planning.

reported that demolition has been completed and septic/well through the Cumberland County Health Department.

Telecommunications/Cable Concerns: Facemyer and Clerk Daddario attended the Upper Pittsgrove Township public hearing, on March 13, regarding the Comcast franchise renewal. As done in Upper Pittsgrove Township, Hopewell Township will draft a cable/internet interest form which will be posted on the township website and circulated through the schools and at the convenience center.

NEW BUSINESS

The following resolution was approved:

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 12-27
County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CASH MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS
CLOSURE AND TRANSFERENCE OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Township CFO has determined that the Municipal Funds deposited and amount of interest earned in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund are very minimal; and

WHEREAS, the total balance of the four Hopewell Township Municipal Accounts on deposit with the New Jersey Cash Management Fund on December 31, 2011 was \$1,450.67 ;and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer, Lois R. Buttner, states that there is no financial benefit to keeping these accounts open and as such has requested to close all four accounts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of Hopewell Township that the Governing Body of Hopewell Township gives the Treasurer , Lois R. Buttner, the authority to close four New Jersey Cash Management Fund accounts with Hopewell Township Municipal funds deposited ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of Hopewell Township that the total amount deposited as of the date of closure be deposited in the Hopewell Township Treasurers Current Fund Account at Colonial Bank in Bridgeton NJ.

Motion: Facemyer

Second: Ritter

Hankins: Aye Facemyer: Aye Freitag: Aye Ritter: Aye Shoemaker: Aye

After further consideration of the December 8, 2011 approved motion to direct the solicitor to **Advertise Block 36, Lot 3, along with Block 37, Lot 2, Block 38, Lots 3 and 8 for Public Sale** as required, Ritter, seconded by Shoemaker, moved to **rescind the motion**. (Approved 5-0)

After many years of service to Hopewell Township, in many different capacities, **Burt Doremus** has submitted a letter of resignation from his most recent job as Zoning Officer.

Facemyer, seconded by Shoemaker, moved to accept, with regret, **the resignation of Burt Doremus**. (Approved 5-0)

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: **Green Olive Properties, LLC** Notice of Hearing on Application for Development, **Cumberland County Utilities Authority** March 15 meeting agenda, **The Ritter Law Office, LLC** notice to A. Steven Fabiotti, Esq. of Adoption of Street Vacation Ordinance No. 12-03, **City of Bridgeton** sponsorship opportunities for *Bridgeton Family Fun Day*, **NJ Department of Education** 2012-2013 Municipal Shares for Tax Levies for Regional School Districts, **NJLM Affordable Housing/Municipal Trust Fund Dollars**.

Solicitor's Report: T. Henry Ritter reported that on Friday March 16th, he received a complaint from attorney, Rocco Tedesco, regarding construction work observed at the Green Olive Restaurant. Mr. Tedesco questioned if proper permits had been issued. Clerk Daddario investigated the construction site immediately to substantiate the complaint. On Tuesday morning, March 20, a Cease and Desist Order was issued by Construction Official, Gordon Gross.

There being no further business, Freitag, seconded by Facemyer, motion to **ADJOURN** was approved by all. Mayor Hankins adjourned the meeting at 8:38pm.

Eugene Daddario, Municipal Clerk

cc:

Committee,

Township Bulletin Bd.,

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

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Final

AGENDA
HOPWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
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Roll Call: Township Committee: Hankins, Freitag, Facemyer, Ritter, Shoemaker; Others:

***Approval of Minutes** of 3/08/12 Regular Meeting

Treasurers Report:

Welcome: Hopewell Township Board of Education

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrator:

Assessor:

Clerk: *Proposed Interlocal Agreement for Hopewell/Stow Creek Fire Company has been approved by the Stow Creek Township Committee.

Construction Dept.:

Dog Registrar:

Convenience Center: (Hankins):

Economic Development: CDC/BACC *Business to Business* Meetings

Engineer:

Environmental Commission: *January Meeting Minutes

Fire Department: (Hankins): Meeting with Amish Market owners Monday, March 26, to review building details, Approve maintenance/testing expenses

Insurance:

Public Works/Road: (Shoemaker): Sewer Pump Stations Maintenance Proposals


Planning and Zoning Boards:

Tax & Sewer Collector: *February 2012 Cash Book Report \$1,159,360.90 incl. interest and \$65,103.58 sewer.

Senior Center: (Freitag)

***Approval of bills:** Total Bills \$486,836.53 on Treasurers 3/22/12 prepared list (Including Payroll)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:



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TDR Project: (Shoemaker/Ritter)

Bostwick Lake Commission: (Facemyer) Update

Telecommunications/Cable Concerns: Upper Pittsgrove Township - March13 public hearing, *AC Press article, *Hopewell cable/internet interest form

NEW BUSINESS

***Resolution No. 12-27:** Authorizing Cash Management Accounts Closure and Transference of Funds

***Discussion:** Sale of Public Land (Downing Street Area)

***Discussion:** Sewer System Preventative Maintenance Plan

Resignation of Burt Doremus (Zoning Officer)

CDC: (Hankins)

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: **Green Olive Properties, LLC** Notice of Hearing on Application for Development, **Cumberland County Utilities Authority** March 15 meeting agenda, **The Ritter Law Office, LLC** notice to A. Steven Fabietti, Esq. of Adoption of Street Vacation Ordinance No. 12-03, **City of Bridgeton** sponsorship opportunities for *Bridgeton Family Fun Day*, **NJ Department of Education** 2012-2013 Municipal Shares for Tax Levies for Regional School Districts, **NJLM** Affordable Housing/Municipal Trust Fund Dollars.

Solicitor's Report:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (If Needed)

ADJOURN

Eugene Daddario, Municipal Clerk
cc:
Committee,
Township Bulletin Bd.,
Sol. T. H. Ritter, Sol. Matthew Ritter