

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
February 11, 2010

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, the Press of Atlantic City, and WSNJ on January 15, 2010. Notices were placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board on the same date.

Officials Present: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Ritter, Shoemaker. Others: Sol. T. Henry Ritter, Asst. Sol. Matthew Ritter, A. Clerk E. Daddario. Others: Bruce Cobb, Tom Tedesco and Planning Board Member Alfred Caggiano, Jr.

Facemyer, seconded by Shoemaker, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 1/28/10 Regular Meeting. (Including Resolutions and Ordinance Passed). Approved (5-0).

Facemyer, seconded by Ritter, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 1/28/10 Closed Executive Session Meeting. Approved (5-0).

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrator reported on the February 5th snow storm with reference to initial estimated costs to the township, priorities established by the Public Works Department and sub-contractor used for supplemental road clearing. Also reported, was a February 10th break-in at the Hopewell/Greenwich Convenience Center. The State Police immediately responded and are preparing a report. **Assessor** supplied copies of Senate Bill #458, which proposes a statewide referendum for county assumption of tax assessment and collection services along with animal control, etc. The Committee agreed to review the bill and address it at their next meeting.

Construction Department submitted the January 2010 Permit Report (\$1,060). **Dog Registrar** noted that 2010 Dog Licenses are now available. 175 Licenses have been issued as of 2/10/10.

Convenience Center has issued 1197 Permits as of 2/10/10. **Tax & Sewer Collector** submitted the 2009 Annual Tax Collector's Report.

A bill list dated 02/11/10 prepared by Treasurer Buttner was provided. Ritter, seconded by Facemyer, motion for **Approval of bills** totaling \$1,043,342.73 on the prepared list (Including Payroll/Less Hankins Bill) was approved 5-0.

Ritter, seconded by Facemyer, moved for **Approval of Hankins Bill** (\$470.60). Approved (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 7:22pm, Facemyer, seconded by Freitag, moved the meeting to **OLD BUSINESS**.

OLD BUSINESS:

COAH: A packet of NJLM advisories and updates along with newspaper articles were distributed in regard to recent COAH related issues including the Governor's executive order implementing a 90 day period of "no action" for the Council on Affordable Housing.

Comcast Franchise Renewal Update: Facemyer distributed, for review, the first draft of a letter to Michael J. Darcy, Assistant Executive Director of the New Jersey League of Municipalities, outlining the need for increased availability of high speed internet access in rural municipalities. Mr. Darcy will forward the concerns of Hopewell Township as well as concerns from other NJ Municipalities to the Board of Public Utilities.

Township solicitors reviewed the bids previously received for the proposed **Sewer Upgrade Project** and recommended that all bids be rejected. They advised that the lowest bidder did not adhere to bid specifications and that other bids received were well above the budgeted amount for the project. Shoemaker, seconded by Facemyer, moved to **revise the bid specifications** as recommended by the township engineer and to **re-advertise for new bids** on the project. (Approved 5-0)

Bostwick Lake Commission: 2009/2010 Meeting Minutes and Budgets were distributed as requested at the January 28th Township Committee meeting. Hankins reported that a meeting of the respective Mayors will take place for further discussion and recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Ritter, seconded by Freitag, motion to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by the **Hopewell Crest 8th Grade Class Committee** for one Clean-up Date was approved by all.

Ritter, seconded by Freitag, motion to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by the **West Cumberland Junior Girls** for one Clean-up Date was approved by all.

Ritter, seconded by Freitag, motion to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by the **West Cumberland Senior Girls** for one Clean-up Date was approved by all.

Ritter, seconded by Freitag, motion to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by the **West Cumberland Big League Girls** for one Clean-up Date was approved by all.

The following resolutions were approved:

Resolution No. 10-21 To Permit the Temporary Placement of a Mobile Home

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell does allow the temporary placement of a Mobile Home in the event of an emergency need; and

WHEREAS, Margie Levick, Hopewell Township resident at 429 Greenwich Road has experienced damage to her house that renders her premises un-inhabitable, has requested the permits to place a temporary mobile home on the property while repairs are being made and has been appraised of the necessary requirements, including permits, fees, and all approvals; and

WHEREAS, approval will be given by the Construction Official of the Township prior to placement of the before mentioned Mobile Home; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Cumberland, does hereby approve a 180 day permit to have a mobile home temporarily installed on the property, Block 67, Lot 36 while repairs are proceeding on the damaged house; and that this permit may be extended for one consecutive renewal of 30 days upon the written request of the homeowner and approval being granted by the Township Administrator.

Motion: Shoemaker

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Ritter, Shoemaker

Absent: None

Second: Freitag

Nay: None

Abstain: None

TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL RESOLUTION NO.10-22

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF THE
DANIEL C. & DIANE F. CRUZAN APPLICATION TO SELL DEVELOPMENT EASEMENT**

WHEREAS, the County of Cumberland submitted a Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) Application to the State Agriculture Development Committee pursuant to the State Agriculture Retention and Development Act, N.J.S.A. 4:1C-11 *et seq.*, the Planning Incentive Grant Program, N.J.S.A. 4:1C-43.1 *et seq.*, and the regulations there under; and

WHEREAS, the application provided for the proposed acquisition of a Development Easement on property owned by Daniel C. and Diane F. Cruzan on Harmony Road, and known as Hopewell Township block 11, lot 6; and

WHEREAS, the State Agriculture Development Committee certified the fair market value of the aforementioned development easement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-7.14 at \$6,300.00 per acre; and

WHEREAS, Daniel C. and Diane F. Cruzan have submitted an asking price of \$6,300.00 per acre; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost sharing breakdown for the acquisition of the development easement is as follows (based on an estimated 93 net acres), subject to the actual acreage to be covered by the development easement per the final survey which conforms to the farmland preservation program requirements:

State Agriculture Development Committee	\$376,650.00
(\$4,050.00/per acre: 64.29%)	
County of Cumberland	\$209,250.00
(\$2,250.00/per acre: 35.71%)	

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell in the County of Cumberland that the Township Committee gives final approval to the proposed acquisition of a development easement to be held by the County of Cumberland on the Cruzan Farm, block 11, lot 6 in the Township of Hopewell, County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey, on approximately 93 acres pursuant to the County's Planning Incentive Grant application subject to the following:

1. The conveyance of a development easement which shall provide for the following:
 - a. One (1) severable exception;
 - b. No non-agricultural uses;
 - c. One (1) dwelling unit on area under easement;
 - d. No Residual Dwelling Site Opportunities;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board and to the State Agriculture Development Committee for their final approval;

FINAL APPROVAL and ACCEPTANCE of this application is contingent upon the approval and acceptance of the County of Cumberland and the State Agriculture Development Committee.

Motion: Shoemaker

Aye: Hankins, Facemyer, Freitag, Ritter, Shoemaker

Absent: None

Second: Ritter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: **Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce** Mayors Talk Luncheon (Tuesday, February 16), **CCUA** schedule of rates for 2010, **The Ritter Law Office** cc of email to Ron Morgan, cc of letter to ABS Electric, **Cozen/O'Connor** Notice of Filing of Petitions for South Jersey Gas Company, **CES Consulting Engineer Services** notice of bridge replacement on Deerfield Road (CR540) over the Cohansey River, **CDC** Mayor's Partnership contact information, **Intelligrants** request for stratus submission, **GovConnect** New Items, New Jersey Transportation Conference & Expo information packet, **NJLM** Statewide Conference *Social Media for Public Officials*, Sample resolution urging the elimination of 4% cap on local tax levy, 18th Annual Mayor's Legislative Day Agenda, S-458(Collection, assessment, health and animal control bill), Changes to the DLGS website, Proposed Pension Reform Bills S-2, S-3, S-4 and SCR-1.

Solicitor's Report: T. Henry Ritter presented a request that the township pay for the setting of concrete corner markers for the Crestridge Drive drainage easement. After discussion, the consensus of the Committee was that the existing iron rod markers were sufficient and there was no need to spend township funds to replace them. He also distributed copies of a February 10th email from Jeff Surenian containing updates on the proposed S-1 Bill, Governor Christie's executive order pertaining to COAH, and the filing of an emergent application to challenge the legality of the executive order.

At 7:53pm Ritter, seconded by Shoemaker, moved the meeting into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** for the purpose of discussing real estate.

At 8:19pm the meeting was returned to **Open Session**.

There being no further business Freitag, seconded by Shoemaker, motion to **ADJOURN** was approved by all. Mayor Hankins adjourned the meeting at 8:20pm.

Eugene Daddario, A. Clerk

cc:

Committee,

Township Bulletin Bd.,

The Ritter Law Office

AGENDA
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
February 11, 2010

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, the Press of Atlantic City, and WSNJ on January 15, 2010. Notices were placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board on the same date.

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

***Approval of Minutes** of 1/28/10 Regular Meeting (Including Resolutions and Ordinance Passed)

***Approval of Minutes** of 1/28/10 Closed Executive Session Meeting

Treasurers Report:

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrator: Snow Storm Reports

Assessor: *Senate Bill #458 (Statewide referendum for county assumption of tax assessment and collection services along with animal control etc.)

Clerk:

Construction Dept.: *January 2010 Permit Report (\$1,060)

Dog Registrar: 2010 Dog Licenses are now available. 175 Licenses issued as of 2/10/10.

Convenience Center: (Hankins) 1197 Permits issued as of 2/10/10

Economic Development:

Engineer:

Environmental Commission:

Fire Department: (Hankins)

Insurance: (Facemyer/Ritter)

Public Works/Road: (Shoemaker)

Planning and Zoning Boards: (Shoemaker/Ritter)

Tax & Sewer Collector: *2009 Annual Tax Collector's Report

Senior Center: (Freitag)

***Approval of bills:** Total Bills **\$1,043,342.73** on Treasurers 02/11/10 prepared list (Including Payroll/Less Hankins Bill).

***Approval of Hankins Bill** (\$470.60)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

OLD BUSINESS:

COAH: (Shoemaker) *Newspaper Articles

TDR Project: (Shoemaker/Ritter)

Comcast Franchise Renewal Update (Facemyer)

Township Email Policy

Sewer Upgrade Project (Motion to re-bid project)

Bostwick Lake Commission: *2009/2010 Meeting Minutes, Budget

NEW BUSINESS

Clean Communities trash pick-up request for **Hopewell Crest** 8th Grade Class Committee.

Clean Communities trash pick-up request for **West Cumberland Junior Girls.**

Clean Communities trash pick-up request for **West Cumberland Senior Girls.**

Clean Communities trash pick-up request for **West Cumberland Big League Girls.**

***Resolution No. 10-21:** Resolution to permit temporary placement of a mobile home

***Resolution No. 10-22:** Resolution Supporting Farmland Easement Application

CDC: (Mayor)

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: **Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce** Mayors Talk Luncheon (Tuesday, February 16), **CCUA** schedule of rates for 2010, **The Ritter Law Office** cc of email to Ron Morgan, cc of letter to ABS Electric, **Cozen/O'Connor** Notice of Filing of Petitions for South Jersey Gas Company, **CES Consulting Engineer Services** notice of bridge replacement on Deerfield Road (CR540) over the Cohansey River, **CDC** Mayor's Partnership contact information, **Intelligrants** request for stratus submission, **GovConnect** New Items, New Jersey Transportation Conference & Expo information packet, **NJLM** Statewide Conference *Social Media for Public Officials*, Sample resolution urging the elimination of 4% cap on local tax levy, 18th Annual Mayor's Legislative Day Agenda, S-458(Collection,assessment, health and animal control bill), Changes to the DLGS website, Proposed Pension Reform Bills S-2, S-3, S-4 and SCR-1.

Solicitor's Report: Lovell Suit

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (If Needed)

ADJOURN

Eugene Daddario, A. Clerk

cc:

**Committee,
Township Bulletin Bd.,
Sol. T. H. Ritter**