

January 11, 2017

The monthly business meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 7:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor George Beatty, and Committeeman Christopher John Kruk. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC; Township Engineer, Ted Rodman, P.E. and CPWM Don Whitmore.

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by publishing notice in The Express Times and The New Jersey Herald and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards.

Payment of the Bills: Bills will be paid at the January 25, 2017 Work Meeting

Receipts: December 2016 Total \$180,455.34

Reports

Chief Financial Officer

Tax Assessor

Tax Collector: December 2016 - \$167,448.64 Year to Date \$6,340,212.23

Construction Code Official

Zoning Officer: Year-End Report for 2016 Permit Applications: 26 a 73% increase from 2015

Township Engineer: Reported that the discussion on the salt shed will be at the Work Meeting. State Aid for Jenny Jump was awarded, \$180,000. The application submitted was for \$182,650. The work will be done through the Coop for Sections 1 & 3. There might be enough funds to complete the proposed work. The following roads were discussion, Osborn, Birch Ridge and Cemetery. For 2018, Mr. Rodman talked about the education program for Stormwater. Presently the League is working on this with recommendation. Right now, Mr. Rodman recommended doing nothing yet until these come out.

Fire Department

Blairstown Ambulance Corp

Warren County Health Department: Report with respect to investigation of complaints filed. No Rabies or Kennel activity. Food Establishments Inspected – 3 Septic/Wells approved and installed - 5

Agriculture Advisory Committee

Environmental Commission:

Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope

Community Police Officer

Use of Township Facility Request:

Committee Reports:

Mayor Tim McDonough:

Deputy Mayor George Beatty:

Committeeman Kruk

Municipal Clerk: Correspondence on file in the Clerk's Office

Warren County Health Department: Discussion, Community Center Water Source.

This portion of the meeting was taped

In Attendance:

Christine Compton – Warren County Health Department

John Kenarchuck – Millbrook Water Company

Benbrook & Partner

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Benbrook Building, Community Center, Fred Stevens building, Millbrook Building

Let's find out where the various parties think we are at this point:

John Kenarchuck – Millbrook Water Company's perspective – Formed 40 some years ago. Consists of 6 units Long House; Skip's old building and 3 houses (6 owners incorporated). Independent – took

care of own maintenance, etc. and then crisis management was one person would go on someone else's well. One well had a problem – because of the agreement they jumped on the well with them. There are 11 units on the well now. 32 gallons per minute at last checking. It got to be where the CC - of the opinion they had to go public and they don't want to be. That's why they opposed. County came in due to problem well and bothered them to go public. We resisted. They told Bob and Fred they had to be off the well by February 1. Trying to work on a way for everyone to have water. County said you are still under the radar – need 15 connections to be a public water supplier – still under County jurisdiction. 15 and over is State jurisdiction. Benbrook, CC and Fred's building all still on Millbrook well.

Fred brings up to date about intentions of water – problem started with Sandy when it contaminated the wells. Because CC on same well, Township said try to drill a new well. Tried to do that and there was no water. Went to County and approached them about how to save/salvage the contaminated well. Don went to State with hardship situation. Originally wanted to go inside original casing. Couldn't do that, tried to throw another casing inside of that but couldn't do that either – wouldn't be up to State code. Our intentions are to have Don come in and put 50' casing inside, pump well out, see how fast it recovers and find out quality of the water; other than drilling well, no other options and least expensive.

Bob – asks how deep well is – roughly 160 feet. Believes all contamination is coming from the surface area. Can't understand why someone had to go that deep with well unless they had to go that deep to find water. They are ready to go for trying to fix problem at their expense.

Christine speaks about where the Township is. 13 connections. 6 houses, antique store, cc, Benbrook building. Might be 12. 15 would make it a community water system. You're not at that yet. Public non-community water system. Intransient population. Not 25 or more people there full time. Only 21 people there now. Every 4 years County falls under the CHAL Act works for DEP doing inspections. Original inspector went out and said that they totally changed it – last time they were there was in 2012. Unaware that Benbrook jumped onto the well. At that time we thought possibly you would go from transient to nontransient which changes the testing protocols – a lot more regulations. Nothing would change from you still - need 4 chloroform and 1 nitrate test per year. Even if Benbrook stays on the reason the County involved is bc Realtor office is a public building – concerned because it is vacant. If you rented realtor building to someone with more than 4 full-time employees it will push you into the nontransient side. If Benbrook's plan works, there will be no worries. Town could stay with Millbrook and Fred and Benbrook could expand at their leisure with personnel with their own well.

John asks do we need a full-time employee (licensed operator if you are nontransient). If 25 or more full time employees you would need a licensed operator. Reason why county and DEP is involved is because it is a public building (restroom). Hope CC, hair salon and realtor office are public buildings. If you limit restroom usage to tenants only (not to the public) County wouldn't be involved. As a landlord you're responsible for testing water every 5 years. Millbrook does it every quarter even though it's not required. 4 chloroforms and 1 nitrate per year – County supersedes the Landlord situation. If well can be fixed, then figure out if you stay 2 companies or join as 1.

If town was to buy in what extra pressure are we putting on the residents that are already in the Millbrook Water Company as far as testing, oversight, etc. If the Township is there will it make it more restrictive? Township doesn't want to impede on Millbrook. If Township is allowed to stay there, Township will pick up extra testing costs. If Township pays for testing, Millbrook won't have to test water every quarter. It would save them money (PNC public non-community water system). If you do all stay on and a tenant comes along with 4 or more full time people, you now are nontransient system. If Bob's well fix plan doesn't work, they will limit their occupancy because they will never put Millbrook where they don't want to go.

Problem caused because one well cap was lower than another. That's why they are trying to fix by drilling casing to 50 feet and putting sleeve in.

George – took possession of house across from CC. Well was dry. They discussed an option of drilling well for Community Center. Town can go with its own gutter system. Only need to flush toilets. Don't need water for kitchen, etc. If we hook up with Millbrook Water company we pay for testing and our water problem is fixed. If Benbrook and Fred drill their well then they are under no constraints and can expand.; trying to find a comfort level. Trying to solve the problem for all involved. Benbrook feels that it is important we have 2 sources with an agreement that each can use the other in times of emergency. That's why he's opted to do what he's doing than negotiate an in with Millbrook. Benbrook needs flexibility to expand his building occupancy at some point – another reason they are trying to drill own well. Wants to get back to the historical use of “trading” water (Benbrook/Fred well and Millbrook well would trade in times of emergency).

From Christine's professional point of view she spoke to well driller (he obtained a variance for casing). Wil bring it to code. Sounds promising. No worry of water getting contaminated. Chances are water is fine but found E.coli which is expensive to treat (due to public use). Chances are the water could be good again. She thinks it's probably the way to go (drilling another well) due to potential issues in the future with tenant numbers.

Tim states that there will be discussion between Millbrook Water Co and the town. There is a plan in place and it seems like we know where we are going.

Benbrook has already retained the well driller... timing is his issue and not Bob's.

County will keep everything the same paperwork wise until things change/resolve as the well being drilled proceeds.

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion made by Mr. Kruk, seconded by Mr. Beatty and carried to approve and adopted Resolution 2017-18
Resolution 2017—18 Hope/White Municipal Alliance Grant for Fiscal Year 2018

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Hope/White Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2018 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 3,342.00
Cash Match	\$ 1,003.00
In-Kind	\$ 2,507.00

The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Roll Call Vote:

Committeeman Kruk - yes, Committeeman Beatty, Mayor McDonough - yes

OLD BUSINESS:

Status: Sanitary Landfill – No report.

Status: Wastewater Management Plan – Grant Search – No report.

Status: Draft Housing Element and Fair Share Plan – No Report

Status: Replacement Windows – Community Center – No Report.

Status: Repairs to the Rock Wall in the Historic District – Discussed.

Status: Empire Telecom: Proposed Cell Tower on Municipal Property, Discussed, waiting for report

Status: Salt Shed Discussion – Discussed.

Status: Stormwater Management – Discussed.

Status: Repairs to Rock Wall Historic District - Discussed

Referendum to change use of Open Space Funds - Attorney is working on ordinance

Review Personnel Policy: Update/Special Meeting in 2017 (After Budget Adoption)

NEW BUSINESS:

Liaison Appointments: Held over from Reorganization Meeting, January 4, 2017

The attached list was reviewed and approved.

<u>DEPARTMENT/BOARD/COMMISSION</u>	<u>TOWNSHIP LIAISON 2017</u>
Planning Board	Tim McDonough, Mayor
Zoning Board of Adjustment	George Beatty
Environmental Commission	George Beatty
Sports Directors	George Beatty
Agriculture Advisory Board	George Beatty
Hope Board of Education	Christopher John Kruk
Hope Volunteer Fire Department	Christopher John Kruk
Blairstown Ambulance Corp	Christopher John Kruk
N.J. State Police	Tim McDonough
Over 55 Club	Tim McDonough
Help Our Preservation Effort (H.O.P.E.)	Christopher John Kruk
Hope Historical Society	Christopher John Kruk
Historic Preservation Commission	Tim McDonough
Moravian Grange	Tim McDonough
Hope Food Bank/Pantry	Christopher John Kruk
Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope	George Beatty
Department of Public Works	George Beatty
Animal Control	George Beatty
Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders	Christopher John Kruk
Local Board of Health	Timothy McDonough

Verizon Wireless: Request for consent to use public right-of-way for small network nodes

Discussed and waiting for response from Township Attorney, Michael Selvaggi

Warren County Mosquito Control Commission: Authorization to perform aerial application of pesticides

The Clerk will forward this information on to the Environmental Commission for their response.

Professional Services Contract for 2017: Municipal Engineer, Ted Rodman Executive Session

Public Participation: This portion of the meeting was opened to the public for any questions or concerns.

There being none, this portion of the meeting was closed.

Approval of Minutes: None

Executive Session: Personnel

A motion was made by Committeeman Kruk, seconded by Committeeman Beatty and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 8:33PM.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P. L 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel

As nearly as can be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

Time In: 8:33PM

Present: Committeeman Kruk, Committeeman Beatty and Committeeman McDonough

Also Present: Township Clerk Judith Fisher

Time Out: 8:39PM

A motion made by Committeeman Beatty, seconded by Committeeman Kruk and carried to return to regular session.

No official action was taken by the Committee at this time. Copies of the minutes will be made available at such time as the Committee determines that there is no harm to the public interest.

Budget Meeting: The following dates were tentatively set for the budget work session, pending the availability of the CFO, Kathleen Reinalda and Auditor Anthony Ardito:

Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 2:00PM

Thursdays, February 2, 2017 at 7:00PM pending availability of the Court

Mrs. Fisher will check with the CFO, Auditor and Judge Mennen on their availability on these dates.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. on a **motion** made by Committeeman Kruk, seconded by Committeeman Beatty. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher, RMC
Municipal Clerk