

MARCH 22, 2017

The monthly work 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 Don Whitmore, DPW Supervisor

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

**Payment of Bills:**

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to pay the bills as read, \$338,775.88, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.

**PROCLAMATION: National Poison Prevention Week - March 19-25, 2017**

**Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Congress designated the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) in 1961 and since then this week has helped to raise national awareness of the dangers of potentially poisonous medicines, household chemicals, and other substances; and

WHEREAS, poison centers across the country will focus the public's attention on identifying poisoning hazards at home as well as learning ways to prevent poisoning emergencies; and

WHEREAS, unintentional poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths including prescription pain medicine and heroin remain at epidemic proportions for both New Jersey and the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the majority of drug overdose deaths (more than six out of ten) involve an opioid; and

WHEREAS, a poison is defined as anything that is taken in the wrong amount, in the wrong way or by the wrong person; and

WHEREAS, every poisoning is preventable! From the youngest to the oldest, all people and even pets are at risk; and

WHEREAS, although the majority of reported poison exposures involve children five (5) years old and younger; the majority of poisoning deaths occur in adults aged 20 to 59; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES), a division of the Department of Emergency Medicine of the New Jersey Medical School of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, provides expert advice, drug information, and poison prevention education to NJ residents through the 800-222-1222 Poison Help Hotline; and

WHEREAS, all services are free, confidential, multilingual and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year even during bouts of Mother Nature; and

WHEREAS, the public can contact a poison expert by calling (1-800-222-1222), chatting ([www.njpies.org](http://www.njpies.org)), or texting ([8002221222@njpies.org](mailto:8002221222@njpies.org)); and

WHEREAS, consumers must be aware that e-cigarette devices, hookah pipes and liquid nicotine may contain very high doses of nicotine in enticing colors, aromas, and flavors – increasing the likelihood that small children and pets will focus their attention on them. These products pose serious risk of poisoning; and

WHEREAS, poison experts urge residents to use our services as a resource for poison and drug information instead of consulting the internet for information that may not be accurate; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all residents to program the Poison Help Line 800-222-1222 into home, office, and cell phones because a rapid response can make a difference in preventing serious injury and saving lives; and

WHEREAS, the use of poison centers services saves residents both time and money. Most cases are managed in the convenience of the caller's home, requiring no hospital visit; and

WHEREAS, NJPIES is also involved with the state's efforts in homeland defense, counter-terrorism, emergency preparedness and response, bio surveillance, and surveillance for clusters of poisonings and their sources (products, food and beverages, chemicals in the workplace and at home, environmental toxins, drugs and medicine, and animal and insect bites and stings);

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Timothy McDonough, Mayor of the Township of Hope, do hereby proclaim the week of March 19-25, 2017 as National Poison Prevention Week in New Jersey and encourage all citizens to pledge their commitment to ensuring the safety of themselves, their families, and their community.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to proclaim the week of March 19-25, 2017 as National Poison Prevention Week, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**2017-28 Verizon Wireless Network Nodes**

**RESOLUTION No. 2017-28**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF  
WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**WHEREAS**, New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, (“Verizon Wireless”), is a provider of commercial mobile service subject to regulation by the Federal Communications Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, Verizon Wireless has entered into agreements with parties that have the lawful right to maintain poles in the public right-of-way pursuant to which Verizon Wireless may jointly use such poles erected within the public right-of-way in the Township of Hope; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey law permits such joint use provided that there is the consent of the relevant municipality; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey, that:

1. Permission and authority are hereby granted to Verizon Wireless and its successors and assigns, to jointly use poles erected by parties that have the lawful right to maintain poles within the public right-of-way in the Township of Hope, subject to the following:
  - A. Verizon Wireless, and its successors and assigns, shall adhere to all applicable Federal, State, and Local laws regarding safety requirements related to the use of the public right-of -way.
  - B. Verizon Wireless, and its successors and assigns, shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and Local laws requiring permits prior to beginning construction, and shall obtain any applicable permits that may be required by the Township of Hope.
  - C. Such permission be and is hereby given upon the condition and provision that Verizon Wireless, and its successors and assigns, shall provide to the Township of Hope a written plan, including a drawing, identifying the location of the utility poles that apparatus will be attached to. No permits shall be issued unless and until the Township Committee receives input from the Township Engineer, Construction Code Official, and Zoning Officer and subsequently approves said plan.
  - D. Such permission be and is hereby given upon the condition and provision that Verizon Wireless, and its successors and assigns, shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Township of Hope, its officers, agents, and servants, from any claim of liability or loss or bodily injury or property damage resulting from or arising out of the acts or omissions of Verizon Wireless or its agents in connection with the use and occupancy poles located within the public right-of-way, except to the extent resulting from the acts or omissions of the Township of Hope.

- E. Verizon Wireless shall, at its own cost and expense, maintain commercial general liability insurance with limits not less than \$1,000,000 for injury to or death of one or more persons in any one occurrence and \$500,000 for damage or destruction to property in any one occurrence. Verizon Wireless shall include the Township of Hope as an additional insured.
- F. Verizon Wireless shall be responsible for the repair of any damage to paving, existing utility lines, or any surface or subsurface installations, arising from its construction, installation or maintenance of its facilities.
- G. Notwithstanding any provision contained herein, neither the Township of Hope nor Verizon Wireless shall be liable to the other for consequential, incidental, exemplary, or punitive damages on account of any activity pursuant to this instrument.
- H. This instrument shall be adopted on behalf of the Township of Hope by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope and attested to by the Township of Hope Clerk who shall affix the Township of Hope Seal thereto.
- I. The permission and authority hereby granted shall continue for the same period of time as the grant to parties whose poles Verizon Wireless is jointly using.

Following a brief discussion noting the pros and cons of the project, Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-28, including an amendment that a map will be provided depicting the location of the nodes, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

#### **2017-33 Cancel Tax Certificate 2017-008, Block 4600, Lot 900**

##### **RESOLUTION 2017-33**

##### **RESOLUTION CANCELING TAX SALE CERTIFICATE 2017-008**

WHEREAS, the property of Lucienne Moyer Estate known as block 4600 lot 900, located at 46 Lakeview Avenue, had unpaid 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 property taxes and was sold at Tax Sale on 02 February 2017 by the Hope Township Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, as there were no outside bidders for the abovementioned property, the Hope Township Tax Collector struck off the property to the Township of Hope for the amount of \$17,531.58. The amount consists of unpaid 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 property taxes, interest, and other costs, and is represented by Tax Sale Certificate 2017-008; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth C Krause, Esquire, representing the buyers, paid \$19,875.28 on 17 March 2017 to redeem the said Lien 2017-008 together with accrued interest, other charges, and delinquent taxes:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2017 that the Mayor of the Township of Hope be authorized to sign Tax Sale Certificate 2017-008 as being satisfied; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Collector return the executed satisfied Tax Sale Certificate to Kenneth C Krause, Esquire located at PO Box 366 in Hope, NJ 07844.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-33, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

#### **2017-34 Transfer Resolution**

##### **RESOLUTION 2017-34**

##### **RESERVE TRANSFER RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that there are insufficient funds to meet the demands necessary for the 2016 Reserve Balances in Planning Board O/E, Zoning Board of Adjustment O/E, Buildings & Grounds O/E, and Telephone O/E.

**WHEREAS**, the following accounts have sufficient excess funds to meet such demands: Road Maintenance S/W.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40A:4-59 the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the following transfers:

To:	Planning Board O/E	888.00
	Zoning Board of Adjustment O/E	68.00
	Buildings & Grounds O/E	292.00
	Telephone O/E	775.00
From:	Road Maintenance S/W	2,023.00

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-34, pending written clarification from the CFO, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS: Introduction of the 2017 Municipal Budget  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Public Hearing will be held on April 26, 2017)  
2017-29 Late Introduction of the 2017 Municipal Budget**

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION-#2017-29**

**WHEREAS**, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 17 of the fiscal year; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hope has delayed the introduction of the 2017 Municipal Budget past the statutory deadline; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to allow a delayed introduction of the 2017 Hope Township Municipal Budget; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-29, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**2017-30 2017 Municipal Budget**

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION-#2017-30**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hope is holding a meeting on March 22, 2017, for the purpose of introducing the 2017 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2017 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on March 22, 2017.

**2017 HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 100,000.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	489,872.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	25,000.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>842,226.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$1,457,098.00</u>
Salaries and Wages	\$ 325,153.00

Total Operations	672,582.00
Debt Service	138,900.00
Capital Improvements	180,000.00
Deferred Charges	1,844.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>138,619.00</u>
Total 2017 Municipal Budget	<u>\$1,457,098.00</u>
Municipal Tax Rate (Estimated)	\$0.3352

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-30, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**2017-31 Special Items of Revenue – North Warren Municipal Court  
TOWNSHIP OF HOPE  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION #2017-31**

**WHEREAS**, the 2017 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 22nd day of March, 2017; and,  
**WHEREAS**, during the fiscal year 2017 the Township of Hope will receive revenue for Inter Local Agreements in the amount of \$76,172.00

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2017 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Interlocal Municipal Service Agreements Offset With Appropriations:**  
**North Warren Municipal Court Revenue** \$ 76,172.00

\$ 76,172.00

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-31, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**2017-32 Special Items of Revenue – Grants**

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPE  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION #2017-32**

**WHEREAS**, the 2017 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 22nd day of March, 2017; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the fiscal year 2017 the Township of Hope has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$194,690.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2017 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:**"

<b>Clean Communities Program</b>	<b>\$ 8,321.00</b>
<b>Clean Communities Program-Prior Year Unapprop.</b>	<b>1,046.00</b>
<b>Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant-Prior Year Unapprop.</b>	<b>544.00</b>
<b>Municipal Alliance Grant</b>	<b>3,342.00</b>
<b>Recycling Tonnage Grant</b>	<b>1,437.00</b>
<b>NJDOT Grant-Jenny Jump Road Sec 1 &amp; 3</b>	<b><u>180,000.00</u></b>

**\$ 194,690.00**

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2017-32, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes  
Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Status of Sanitary Landfill:** No report.

**Status of Wastewater Management Plan – Grant Search:** No report,

**Status of the Draft Housing Element and Fair Share Plan:**

Mayor McDonough spoke with Township Attorney Michael Selvaggi today. Fred Hyer is currently drafting the plan and Mr. Selvaggi will be contacting Fair Share Housing to set up a meeting.

**Status of Replacement Windows at Community Center:**

Currently in the process of researching grant opportunities for the project.

**Status of Empire Telecom: Possible Cell Tower on Municipal Property:**

The Committee is still waiting to hear from Empire Telecom regarding the Township's counter offer for the proposal.

**Status of Salt Shed: Discussion**

Mr. Rodman reported the specifications have been completed; the advertisement was provided to the Clerk and the project will go to bid next week. Only a maintenance bond will be required. The exact location behind the Municipal Building is still to be determined. The shed will be a pole building with a concrete floor. The location will be staked and setbacks for the cell tower will be taken into consideration.

**Ridgeway Avenue Fill Issue:** No report; no new information at this point and no permit has been issued.

**Union Brick Road Issue:** Mr. & Mrs. Erich Rennspies involved was present at the meeting and had received a letter from the Township Attorney indicating it was a private matter between property owners and should there be road flooding due to the issue, it would be the responsibility of the property owners involved. The residents described the drainage on the properties and its natural flow, which has been obstructed by the neighbor. Mr. Beatty suggested contacting the NJDEP, Warren County and NJ Dam Commission and Warren County Mosquito Control for a resolution.

**Status of Stormwater Management:**

Mr. Rodman and his office will work on meeting the stormwater regulation point requirements. His office will charge by the hour to do so as this item was not included in his annual contract. Mrs. Fisher suggested contacting the Green Team as their Green Fair will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> and it may be an opportunity to obtain additional points. Providing a packet of information on stormwater management at the fair would also qualify.

**Status of Warren County Mosquito Extermination Commission – Aerial Spraying:**

Mr. Beatty reported the Mosquito Commission provided a very impressive and informative presentation at the Environmental Commission meeting. They discussed surface spraying and the pesticides to be used, noting aerial spraying is done only when absolutely necessary.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** authorizing the Warren County Mosquito Extermination Commission to perform aerial applications of pesticides for mosquito control over certain areas of the Township, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor. Motion passed.

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

**ORDINANCE: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Public Hearing**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
REPEALING, AMENDING, AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 8 “UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION**

**CODE” SECTION 8-2, SECTION 8-4.2(D), AND SECTION 8-5.7(C) TO TRANSFER JURISDICTION FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee wishes to transfer jurisdiction for the enforcement of the Uniform Construction Code from the Township Construction Official to the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the governing body of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the Code of the Township of Hope is hereby amended and supplemented so as to delete Chapter 8, Section 8-2, entitled “Definitions,” and replacing in with new section 8-2, entitled “State Uniform Construction Code Enforcing Agency,” and amending references to a “construction official” in sections 8-3, 8-4.2(d), and 8-5.7(b).

**SECTION I**

Section 8-2 entitled “Definitions” of the Township of Hope is deleted and replaced with Section 8.2 entitled “State Uniform Construction Code Enforcing Agency” which shall read as follows:

**§8-2. STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY.**

**Relinquishment of Jurisdiction.** The Township of Hope, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 51:27D et seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.3, hereby relinquishes its jurisdiction of the administration and enforcement of the Uniform Construction Code and hereby transfers jurisdiction for the administration and enforcement of the Uniform Construction Code to the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. The transfer of jurisdiction pursuant to this section shall not take effect until the expiration of 120 calendar days from the date a certified copy of this section is forwarded to the Department of Community Affairs or until the Department of Community Affairs shall exercise its jurisdiction to enforce the Uniform Construction Code, whichever is sooner.

**Records and Files.** The Township of Hope shall deliver or make available to the Department of Community Affairs any and all records and files of the municipality necessary for the Department to carry out its function, and the Department is hereby authorized to transfer such records and files to a location designated by the Department.

**SECTION II**

Section 8-3 entitled “Appeals” of the Township of Hope shall be modified as follows:

**§8-3 APPEALS.**

All appeals from any action taken by the Department of Community Affairs or any agent including, but not limited to, decisions relating to the issuance of a construction permit, a certificate of occupancy, a certificate of approval, and/or the establishment of any fee shall be made to the Warren County Construction Board of Appeals pursuant to applicable rules and regulations pertaining to such appeals.

**SECTION III**

Section 8-4.2 entitled “Definitions” subsection (d) of the Township of Hope shall be modified as follows:

- d. Public Officer shall mean the Department of Community Affairs or its agent.

**SECTION IV**

Section 8-5.7 entitled “Review Permit: Inspection Procedures; Enforcement” subsection (c) of the Township of Hope shall be modified as follows:

c. Upon review and approval of the design of the driveway construction plans, including approval by the Public Works Foreman/Director, the Driveway Official will issue the permit. The Driveway Official shall periodically inspect the premises during construction to insure compliance with the terms of the permit and shall endorse the road permit when all construction is completed in accordance with the approved plans. The Driveway Official shall notify the Township Road Supervisor of all driveways and other road openings that have been approved and provide a copy of the application, map and conditions of approval. The applicant shall provide a performance bond or cash in an amount required by this section to ensure that the improvements will be constructed in accordance with the plan approved by the Driveway Official. The cash or bond will be released upon the satisfactory completion of the improvements and after approval and recommendation by the Township Engineer or Driveway Official. No certificate of occupancy shall be issued until the Driveway Official and/or County Engineer's office has notified the Department of Community Affairs in writing that all improvements have been satisfactorily completed.

**SECTION V**

The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competence jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

**SECTION VI**

Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

### **SECTION VII**

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to open the meeting for public comment on Ordinance 2017-02, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no public comment on Ordinance 2017-02, a **motion** was made by Mr. Kruk, seconded by Beatty to close the meeting.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Ordinance 2017-02, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **ORDINANCE: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Public Hearing 2017-03**

#### **ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND AND REVISE CHAPTER XXVI TITLED “EMERGENCY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL FEE EXEMPTION” SECTION 26-1.2 TITLED “LICENSE AND PERMIT FEE EXEMPTIONS” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE 2017-03**

**WHEREAS**, the Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, has determined that Chapter 26, “Emergency Service Volunteers and Military Personnel Fee Exemption,” Section 26-1.2 “License and Permit Fee Exemption” of the Code of the Township of Hope must be amended and revised to include additional exemptions.

**WHEREAS**, the Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, believes that the amendment and revision of the aforesaid ordinance is in the best interests of the Township and will protect the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that Chapter 26, “Emergency Service Volunteers and Military Personnel Fee Exemption,” Section 26-1.2 “License and Permit Fee Exemption” of the Code of the Township of Hope shall be amended and revised to read as follows:

#### **26-1.2 License and Permit Fee Exemptions.**

Residents who are 1) active emergency service volunteers, as confirmed by the volunteer fire or rescue squad with which they are members, and/or 2) on active duty or were honorably discharged from any of the service branches, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and National Guard, shall be exempt from the municipal fees established in the following subsections of the Code of the Township of Hope:

20-26.1 Zoning Permits

3-29 Garage Sale Permit

4-1.8 Peddlers, Solicitors and Transient Merchants Licenses

2-4.8 Fees and Deposits for Use of Community Center and Municipal Facilities

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to open this portion of the meeting for public comment on Ordinance 2017-03, seconded by Mr. Beatty. All were in favor. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Rusin noted the ordinance did not include members of the Reserves. Mr. Kruk explained the ordinance is for those “active or honorably discharged from any branch of the armed services,” which would include reservists. After further discussion, it was determined that “Merchant Marine” would be added with branch of the armed services.

There being no further public comment, this portion of the meeting was closed.

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to adopt Ordinance 2017-03, as amended, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Environmental Commission Appointment:** Annette Morse (filling the unexpired term of Wallace)

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to appoint Annette Morse to the Environmental Commission, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.



**Public Participation:** This portion of the meeting was opened to the public for any questions or concerns. Ms. Walsh questioned the status of the Albertson property located at the end of Beaver Road. The Committee indicated the property has been rented and approval was granted by the Zoning Board to operate a full service repair shop. It is still under NJDEP control for well monitoring. There being no further public comment, this portion of the meeting was closed.

**Clean Communities:**

Mr. Beatty reported Clean Communities grant funding is available from last year. Volunteer organizations interested in raising funds should contact the Deputy Clerk for an application.

**Mailboxes:**

Mr. Beatty discussed mailboxes that were destroyed during the last storm. He noted only those damaged by the snowplows would be replaced. If a mailbox was damaged by the snow alone, it would be the responsibility of the homeowner. He commended the plowing contractors and DPW on the snow removal during the storm.

**Horse Property:**

A Mr. Whitmore asked about the status of this matter.

Township Attorney Selvaggi has informed the Zoning Officer that he will be overseeing the matter and will proceed according to the ordinance. The length of time the horses have been on the property and whether or not it pre-dates the ordinance will need to be clarified. Mr. Whitmore noted the horses were on the property for a long period of time, left and then returned. He expressed concern with their location within a buffer zone for a trout stream. The Committee felt that issue would fall under the jurisdiction of the NJDEP and would need to be addressed by the Zoning Board.

It was questionable whether or not a violation was issued by the Zoning Officer. The Mr. Whitmore stated the Board of Health has visited the site on several occasions and the horses were not present when the ordinance was passed. Mr. Kruk suggesting having the Agriculture Board review the ordinance and make new recommendations. He noted the property size requirement for livestock is not balanced, and requires the same acreage for cows as for chickens. He felt it needed to be less restrictive for smaller animals. Mr. Beatty stated the ordinance was written as such to prevent numerous chickens or small animals on a small lot, resulting in unsanitary conditions. In cases where it makes sense, the individual could appear before the Zoning Board seeking approval for additional animals. Following further discussion, it was agreed to have the Agriculture Board review the ordinance.

**Spring Clean Up:** Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

**Hope Forum:** Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>; 9 – 11 a.m.

**Minutes:**

**January 4, 2017; March 8, 2017**

Mr. Kruk made a **motion** to approve the minutes of January 4<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, seconded by Mr. Beatty.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Beatty, yes, Mr. Kruk, yes, Mayor McDonough, yes

Motion carried.

**Executive Session:**

A **motion** was made by Committeeman Beatty, seconded by Mayor McDonough and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 8:17 p.m.

**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 Hope, 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.

A **motion** made by Committeeman Kruk, seconded by Committeeman Beatty and carried to return to regular session at 8:28 p.m.

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.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. on a **motion** made by Committeeman Kruk, seconded by Committeeman Beatty. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC  
Municipal Clerk