

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
September 9, 2009

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, and WSNJ on January 14, 2009. Notices were placed on the Municipal Office bulletin board on the same date.

Officials Present: Hankins, Cruzan, Ritter, Shoemaker. Absent: Facemyer. Others: Sol. T. Henry Ritter, Assistant Sol. Matthew Ritter, A. Clerk E. Daddario, Treasurer Lois Buttner. Others: Joe Green from The News, NJ State Police Officer Brian Stanker and Planning Board Member Alfred Caggiano, Jr.

Ritter, seconded by Shoemaker, moved for **Approval of Minutes** of 8/26/09 Regular Meeting. (Including Resolutions and Ordinance Passed). Approved (4-0)

The Mayor welcomed **NJ State Police Officer, Brian Stanker**, who updated the committee on recent activity in the township. He was informed of complaints received about recent loitering behind the Hopewell Car Wash located on Shiloh Pike. Officer Stanker assured the committee that the area will be patrolled regularly. When asked if the Bridgeton Station had received any noise complaints regarding the recent rodeo held at Dutch Neck Village, he responded that none were received.

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrator reported that the Cumberland County Child Support Unit has moved into front municipal offices. The anticipated length of stay is 4-6 months. **Construction Dept.** submitted the August Report (\$2,552.00 in Permit Fees). **Convenience Center** reported 1155 Permits issued as of 9/9/09. **Economic Development** meeting held Tuesday, September 8 included CDC Director, Tony Stanzone, who discussed marketing, development, etc. Recommendations included: 1. Developing a list of available commercial and industrial properties, 2. Pool advertising funds with neighboring municipalities, 3. Obtaining quotes for township and business park signage, 4. Invite Cumberland County Planner, Kim Wood, to the next meeting. **Insurance:** Treasurer Lois Buttner is making progress with the township's appeal process of a recent workers compensation insurance audit. Several township employees were placed in wrong rating groups. **Public Works/Road:** Township employment of Jeffrey Cassidy started August 31, 2009 as a part time public works worker (28 hours per week).

Cruzan, seconded by Shoemaker, moved to authorize the township solicitor to prepare and advertise **Bid specifications for a Pick-up Truck** for the Public Works Department. (Approved 4-0)

Planning and Zoning Boards: The August Planning Board Meeting has been cancelled. All matters have been postponed until the September 16th meeting. There will be no September Zoning Board Meeting. **Tax & Sewer** Collector submitted the August Cash Book Report \$1,831,039.08 incl. interest. **Senior Center:** New computers were installed the week of 8/25/2009.

A bill list dated 9/09/09 prepared by Treasurer Buttner was provided. Ritter, seconded by Cruzan, motion for **Approval of bills** totaling **\$37,366.91** on this prepared list (Less Hankins and Cruzan Bill) was approved (4-0).

Ritter, seconded by Cruzan, moved for **Approval of Hankins Bill** (\$26.44). Approved 3-0 (Hankins Abstain).

Ritter, seconded by Shoemaker, moved for **Approval of Cruzan Bill** (\$812.16). Approved 3-0 (Cruzan Abstain).

Ritter, seconded by Cruzan, motion for **Approval of CASA Payroll Expense total** issued for 9/09/09 **\$18,100.38** was approved by all present.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments and opened the meeting to **PUBLIC COMMENTS**. Alfred Caggiano, Jr. added that he did not hear any loud noises coming from the rodeo discussed earlier in the meeting. E. Daddario reported that conversations with the owners of Dutch Neck Village, hosts of the rodeo, produced several ideas to reduce the noise level at future events. There being no further public comment, at 8:00pm, Shoemaker, seconded by Ritter, moved the meeting to **OLD BUSINESS**.

OLD BUSINESS:

COAH: Shoemaker distributed a breakdown of assessments of residential properties in Hopewell Township showing that 80% of existing residences have an assessed value less than \$150,000. He stressed that not having these homes included in the calculations pertaining to COAH requirements produces inequities from municipality to municipality. Solicitor T. Henry Ritter suggested that he draft a letter to local legislators through the Cumberland Development Corporation expressing township concerns in this matter.

TDR Project: A Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant Application was submitted by Clarke Caton Hintz to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on September 3, 2009.

Discussion on the **Route 49 Curve Signage** resulted in a recommendation to send a letter to the New Jersey Department of Transportation Traffic Engineering Bureau requesting that the temporary, flashing, warning signs now in place be replaced with permanent signs of the same nature.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ritter, seconded by Shoemaker, motion to approve a **Clean Communities Application** submitted by the CRHS Football Team for one Clean-up Date was approved by all.

Shoemaker, seconded by Cruzan moved to purchase a banner (\$120.00) honoring the **West Cumberland Senior Girls 13-14 Softball Team** as State Champions and finishing second in the World Series.
Approved (4-0)

The following resolutions were approved:

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP CUMBERLAND COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 09-51
Requesting Change in Title Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-85**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:4-85 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may, at the request of, or with the consent of, the governing body of any county or municipality, make such correction of the title, text, or amount of any appropriation for the purpose of purposes required for the needs of any county or municipality, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of NJSA 40A:4-85, the Hopewell Township Committee, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to make the following text only corrections in the 2009 budget:

Current Fund Appropriations Capital Improvements-Excluded from "CAPS"
From: Dump Truck To: Public Works Equipment

Capital Budget: (Current Year Action);
6 Year Capital Program pgs. 40b, 40c and 40d
From: Dump Truck To: Public Works Equipment

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the foregoing correction is, in the opinion of the governing body, warranted and authorized by the statute referred to above, and is necessary for the orderly operation of Hopewell Township. The purchase of a pickup truck with a snow plow attached instead of a dump truck will enable the public works department to better serve our smaller rural township roads.

Motion by: Ritter
Aye: Hankins, Ritter, Cruzan, Shoemaker
Absent: Facemyer
Second by: Shoemaker
Nay:
Abstain:

TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL RESOLUTION NO. 09-52
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ACQUISITION OF
DEVELOPMENT EASEMENT PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE
TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL

WHEREAS, the following applicant: **Carmen Adamucci, Sr.** (Block 75 Lots 8, 9, 10, 10.01, 10.02); has applied to enroll in the Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board approved Farmland Preservation Program/Easement Purchase Program in conjunction with its application to sell development rights through the New Jersey Agriculture Retention and Development Program; and

WHEREAS, the adopted Master Plan of the Township of Hopewell supports farmland preservation; and

WHEREAS, although the property involved as noted above is located within the Receiving Area for the proposed Hopewell Township Transfer of Development Rights program the Township of Hopewell would prefer preserving the property as farmland, thereby removing it from the Receiving Area; and

WHEREAS, the Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Agriculture Development Board have established the Farmland Preservation Program/Easement Purchase Program which will utilize County funding and State bond funds to cover the cost of said acquisition; and

WHEREAS, final selection of properties on which development easements will be purchased will depend on successful negotiations for the value of the development easements with the applicants and final approval of the applications by the Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board and the State Agriculture Development Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell in the County of Cumberland that the Township Committee does support the potential acquisition of development easements on the property herein above cited through the Cumberland County Agriculture Development Board Farmland Preservation Program/Easement Purchase Program.

Motion by: Shoemaker

Aye: Hankins, Ritter, Cruzan, Shoemaker

Absent: Facemyer

Second by: Cruzan

Nay:

Abstain:

Township of Hopewell
Cumberland County, New Jersey
RESOLUTION NO. 09-53
HONORING OLETA C. SPEAR

WHEREAS, Oleta C. Spear was a long time resident of Hopewell Township; and

WHEREAS, Oleta C. Spear served her fellow citizens as the Hopewell Township Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Board Secretary from February 23, 1977 though March 31, 1984; and

WHEREAS, the Township benefited greatly from Oleta Spear's diligence and competence; and

WHEREAS, all who dealt with Oleta remember her cheery disposition, her warm smile and her organizational skills; and

WHEREAS, Oleta C. Spear was suddenly and tragically taken from this life in a motor vehicle accident on August 20, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to make note of and express its gratitude for the contributions which Oleta C. Spear made to Hopewell Township and its citizens as an employee of the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, that the Committee and the entire Municipal staff hereby expresses their heartfelt sympathy to the family of Oleta C. Spear while simultaneously celebrating her life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby proclaims its sincere appreciation for Oleta C. Spear's contributions to the benefit of Hopewell Township and the greater Bridgeton area; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Oleta Spear's family care of her beloved daughters, Susan Spear Loessin and Beth Spear McClain.

THIS RESOLUTION IS HEREBY ADOPTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell at its regular meeting held on September 9, 2009, at 590 Shiloh Pike, Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Motion by: Ritter

Aye: Hankins, Ritter, Cruzan, Shoemaker

Absent: Facemyer

Second by: Shoemaker

Nay:

Abstain:

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: **Atlantic City Electric** Notice of Filing and Public Hearings, **South Jersey Traffic Safety Alliance** Safety First Newsletter, **Alloway Township** Amended Recycling and Waste Ordinance, **The Ritter Law Office** notification to Cumberland County Planning Board on repealing of Hopewell Township Ordinance No. 05-07 (required on-site recreation improvements), **Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties** “The Big Night” information and advertising form, **Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce** Salute to Business award winners, **Bayshore Discovery Project** OysterFest Dinner and Auction information flyer, **Cumberland County Health Department** Flu Clinic Schedule 2009, **NJLM** Eastampton Affordable Housing Decision, National Preparedness Month Kick-Off, Women in Government Breakfast information and registration form, League Delegates Luncheon information and registration form, Lame Duck Issues (Affordable Housing Reform).

Solicitor’s Report: T. Henry Ritter reported that he had been in contact with the lender’s attorney regarding the Lovell Suit and informed him that if a detailed rehabilitation plan was not submitted, the repossession process would continue. Any further action was tabled until the next committee meeting.

Shoemaker, seconded by Cruzan, moved to authorize the township solicitor to prepare and advertise **Bid Specifications for a Solid Waste Disposal Contract** which is due for renewal. (Approved 4-0)

There being no further business, Shoemaker, seconded by Cruzan, motion to **ADJOURN** was approved by all. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:29pm.

ADJOURN

Eugene Daddario, A. Clerk
Theodore T. Ritter, D. Clerk

cc:
Committee,
Township Bulletin Bd.,
Sol. T. H. Ritter

AGENDA
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
September 9, 2009

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Sunshine Statement:

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

***Approval of Minutes** of 8/26/09 Regular Meeting (Including Resolutions and Ordinance Passed)

Treasurers Report:

DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrator: Cumberland County Child Support Unit has moved into front municipal offices.

Assessor:

Clerk:

Construction Dept: *August Report (\$2,552.00 in Permit Fees)

Dog Registrar:

Convenience Center: 1155 Permits issued as of 9/9/09.

Economic Development: Meeting held Tuesday, September 8. CDC Director, Tony Stanzione, discussed marketing, development, etc.

Engineer:

Environmental Commission:

Fire Dept. (Cruzan)

Insurance: (Shoemaker)

Public Works/Road: Township employment of Jeffrey Cassidy started August 31, 2009 as a part time public works worker (28 hours per week), *Bid specifications for Pick-up Truck

Planning and Zoning Boards: The August Planning Board Meeting has been cancelled. All matters have been postponed until the September 16th meeting. There will be no September Zoning Board Meeting.

Tax & Sewer Collector: *August Cash Book Report \$1,831,039.08 incl. interest

Senior Center: New computers were installed the week of 8/25/2009.

***Approval of bills:** Total Bills **\$37,366.91** on Treasurers 9/09/09 prepared list. (Less Hankins and Cruzan Bills)

Approval of Hankins Bill (\$26.44)

Approval of Cruzan Bill (\$812.16.)

Approval of CASA Payroll Expense total issued for 9/09/09 **\$18,100.38**

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

OLD BUSINESS:

COAH: (Shoemaker)

TDR Project: (Shoemaker) *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant Application

Sewer Upgrade Project Report

Municipal Building Renovation Report

Discussion: Route 49 Curve Signage

NEW BUSINESS:

CRHS Football Team: Clean Communities Clean-up Request

West Cumberland Little League State Championship Banner Request

***Resolution No. 09-51** Requesting Change in Title (Capital Budget)

***Resolution No. 09-52** Supporting the Acquisition of Development Easement Properties

***Resolution No. 09-53** Resolution to Honor Oleta C. Spear

CDC: (Mayor)

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTES & FILINGS include: **Atlantic City Electric** Notice of Filing and Public Hearings, **South Jersey Traffic Safety Alliance** Safety First Newsletter, **Alloway Township** Amended Recycling and Waste Ordinance, **The Ritter Law Office** notification to Cumberland County Planning Board on repealing of Hopewell Township Ordinance No. 05-07 (required on-site recreation improvements), **Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties** “The Big Night” information and advertising form, **Bridgeton Area Chamber of Commerce** Salute to Business award winners, **Bayshore Discovery Project** OysterFest Dinner and Auction information flyer, **Cumberland County Health Department** Flu Clinic Schedule 2009, **NJLM** Eastampton Affordable Housing Decision, National Preparedness Month Kick-Off, Women in Government Breakfast information and registration form, League Delegates Luncheon information and registration form, Lame Duck Issues (Affordable Housing Reform).

Solicitor’s Report: Lovell Suit, Solid Waste Contract

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (If Needed)

ADJOURN

Eugene Daddario, A. Clerk
Theodore T. Ritter, D. Clerk

cc:
Committee,
Township Bulletin Bd.,
Sol. T. H. Ritter