

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 5/4/2017**

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 6, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Hopewell was called to order by Acting Mayor David Mackie at 7:05 pm on April 6, 2017. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan read the “Sunshine Statement” indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and Acting Mayor David Mackie led the flag salute.

Ms. Hovan called the roll and the following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Chris Fossel, Ms. Debra Lehman, Mr. Robert Lewis, Mr. David Mackie and Ms. Shelby Tewell. Mayor Paul Anzano and Mr. C. Schuyler Morehouse were absent. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was also present. There was one member of the public present.

Acting Mayor Mackie opened the meeting to the public. Mr. Mark Peters, 9 Princeton Avenue, soon-to-be 83 W. Prospect Street, spoke “for the record” that he feels there are too many unknowns still regarding Sanctuary Cities and he remains concerned about the Borough’s status as one. Mr. Peters said he was in contact with Mayor Anzano and expressed his thoughts that the 2nd Circuit was clear and cited Brown vs. Board of Education as the guiding decision regarding federal funding. According to Mr. Peters, there is no evidence that legally protects federal funds for law enforcement purposes. Mr. Peters said that he is 31 years old and plans to live in the Borough forever and remain involved with the community, adding that he thought that the Borough Council handled themselves well at the last meeting. Mr. Lewis thanked him for coming out and said he voted against Sanctuary City status and that while he is comfortable with his vote, he did not share the same concerns as Mr. Peters. In response to Mr. Peters’ comment about community involvement, Mr. Lewis announced that the park clean-up day would be held on April 22nd, between 9am and 12pm and encouraged him to attend.

There being no additional comments or questions the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Lehman and carried.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS – there were no comments or questions regarding the Director’s submitted report except regarding potholes, and Ms. Hovan said that the DPW crew was addressing them and had reported the Broad Street ones to the County.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF WATER AND SEWERS- there were no comments or questions regarding the Director’s submitted report.

MINUTES – The meeting minutes from the March 2, 2017 regular meeting were accepted on motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Lehman, and carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 802 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE A SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL, COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance 802 by title and explained that it was time to update the schedules and that it was three years since the last. Ms. Hovan said that ranges should remain sufficient for at least another three

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years once adopted and that the actual salary resolution would be on the next agenda following budget adoption.

Resolution No. 2017-39, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 802 was adopted on motion of Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Lehman and carried.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: FOSSEL, LEHMAN, LEWIS, MACKIE, TEWELL

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MOREHOUSE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ORDINANCE NO. 803 – FIRST READING

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance 803 by title and explained that the Ordinance permits the State-assigned cost-of-living adjustment that any amount unused in this budget could be banked for future use. Ms. Hovan added that a portion of the existing cap bank balance was utilized in the 2017 budget.

Resolution No. 2017-40, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 803 was adopted on motion of Mr. Fossel, seconded by Ms. Tewell and carried.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: FOSSEL, LEHMAN, LEWIS, MACKIE, TEWELL

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MOREHOUSE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ORDINANCE NO. 804 – FIRST READING

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF
NEW JERSEY RELATING TO SEWER RATES AND AMENDING "THE REVISED GENERAL
ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL, 1975," AS AMENDED**

(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance 804 by title and explained that the Ordinance represents a 2% increase in keeping with rising costs for the utility, that sewer was due for an adjustment this year, and that water was adjusted in 2016 on the every-other-year cycle.

Resolution No. 2017-41, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 804 was adopted on motion of Mr. Mackie, seconded by Mr. Lewis and carried.

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ROLL CALL:

AYES: FOSSEL, LEHMAN, LEWIS, MACKIE, TEWELL
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: MOREHOUSE
ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-42 – INTRODUCTION OF 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office, was adopted on motion of Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Fossel, and carried. Ms. Hovan provided a brief summary of budget highlights, noting in particular the successful utilization of surplus in recent years and that the return was consistently excellent in at least the past 5 cycles. Ms. Hovan said that the net increase over 2016 is 2.5 cents per \$100 in assessed valuation increase over 2016, which translates into a \$87.50 total annual increase for a home assessed at \$350k. Ms. Hovan announced that the public hearing would be held on May 4, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: FOSSEL, LEHMAN, LEWIS, MACKIE, TEWELL
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: MOREHOUSE
ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Nos. 2017-43 through 2017-47, and 2017-50, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office, were adopted on motion of Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Lehman, and carried.

2017-43	TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS
2017-44	DEDICATION BY RIDER – POAA TRUST
2017-45	DEDICATION BY RIDER – STORM RECOVERY TRUST
2017-46	AUTHORIZATION TO FILE RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APP
2017-47	AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN SOMERSET COUNTY AUCTION (MAY 11-17, 2017)
2017-50	CONTRACT AWARD – EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY FOR EAST PROSPECT STREET ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1

ROLL CALL:

AYES: FOSSEL, LEHMAN, LEWIS, MACKIE, TEWELL
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: MOREHOUSE
ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-49, SUPPORT FOR A-1834/S-178 – LICENSURE OF ADDITIONAL ANGIOPLASTY FACILITIES, was tabled until the May 2017 Borough Council meeting.

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PROCLAMATIONS

Mr. Mackie noted the proclamations offered for ARBOR DAY 2017 and the ANNUAL SERVICE RECOGNITION DAY.

APPOINTMENT

Mr. Mackie announced the Mayor's appointment of Jeffrey Kyle to the Economic Development Committee to fill an unexpired term to expire 12/31/2018.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The following Departmental Reports were accepted and approved on motion by Ms. Lehman, seconded by Mr. Fossel and carried:

MUNICIPAL CLERK	MARCH	\$	1,485.28
LICENSING OFFICIAL	MARCH	\$	40.00
MUNICIPAL COURT	FEBRUARY	\$	1,446.30
TAX COLLECTOR	FEBRUARY	\$	1,374,418.79
TAX COLLECTOR	MARCH	\$	113,539.31
RAILROAD STATION FEES	MARCH	\$	225.00

Mr. Mackie opened the meeting to the public. There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Fossel, seconded by Ms. Lehman and carried.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Lewis again announced the park clean-up day scheduled for April 22nd and encouraged everyone to help spread the word.

Mr. Mackie reported that the Planning Board worked on two ordinance recommendations, one to adjust escrow fees and another regarding principal uses on a single lot that the planner is working on. Mr. Mackie also reported that the redevelopment subcommittee is meeting regularly to define objectives for the service zone it anticipates to be compatible with any forthcoming development plan. Mr. Mackie reported that the owners of Hopewell 57 stated that they were in contractual talks with a potential developer.

There being no further comment, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm on motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Lehman and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan
Borough Administrator/Clerk