

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 2/1/2018**

**REORGANIZATION/REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2018**

The Reorganization and Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Hopewell was called to order by Mayor Anzano at 7:15 pm on January 2, 2018. The following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Chris Fossel, Ms. Debra Lehman, Mr. David Mackie, Mr. C. Schuyler Morehouse and Ms. Shelby Tewell. Mr. Ryan Kennedy assumed his place on the dais after taking his Oath of Office. Borough Administrator/Clerk Michele Hovan was also present as were 19 members of the public.

Ms. Hovan read the “Sunshine Statement” indicating the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and Mayor Anzano led the flag salute.

Remarks by Mayor Paul Anzano

Mayor Anzano took a moment to thank Council for their service, adding that the Borough was continuing to make great strides. Mayor Anzano noted Ms. Tewell’s work on street safety, calling it “impactful,” and said that other stakeholders in the community are eager to support the initiative. Mayor Anzano thanked Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Mackie and Ms. Hovan for their work in the area of redevelopment and noted that the Borough was positioned to work with willing developers to improve the Borough in the time ahead. The Mayor recognized Ms. Lehman, Mr. Fossel and Mr. Morehouse as valuable liasons in their respective committees and also broadly thanked the hundreds of volunteers that dedicate their time to Hopewell Borough and serve honorably.

Mr. Morehouse thanked Mayor Anzano for his continued support and leadership. Mayor Anzano said the Borough was on a “great run” and looked forward to the new year and the improvements it will bring.

Oaths of Office

Ms. Hovan administered Oaths of Office to Councilman C. Schuyler Morehouse for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2020, and to Councilwoman Shelby Tewell for an unexpired term to expire December 31, 2018.

Patrick Kennedy, Esq., father of Ryan P. Kennedy, administered the Oath of Office to his son as the Councilman’s daughters held a vintage book that belonged to his great-grandfather when he served as a Justice of the Peace, and with members of his family surrounding him. Councilman Kennedy was elected to a three-year term to expire December 31, 2020. Mayor Anzano acknowledged the senior Mr. Kennedy as a longtime colleague and a mentor when he first began practicing law, with a team of others that he deemed an all-star cast.

Nomination of Council President

Mayor Anzano opened the floor for nominations for Council President. Mr. Mackie nominated Mr. Morehouse. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Fossel. Mayor Anzano asked if there were any additional nominations and there were none. On motion by Mr. Mackie, seconded by Mr. Fossel and carried unanimously, Mr. Morehouse was elected Council President for a one-year term to expire 12/31/2018.

Mayor Anzano opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments the meeting was closed to the public on motion of Mr. Fossel, seconded by Mr. Morehouse and carried. Mayor Anzano acknowledged Freeholders John Cimino and Sam Frisby and their staff members in attendance and thanked them for coming.

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Reorganization Resolutions

The following Resolution Nos. 2018-01 – 2018-23, as filed in the Municipal Clerk’s Office, were adopted on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Lehman, and carried unanimously.

2018-01	Schedule of Regular Meetings
2018-02	Rules of Order
2018-03	Official Depositories
2018-04	Authorized Signatories
2018-05	Official Newspapers
2018-06	Consent Agenda
2018-07	Interest & Penalty Rates for Delinquency Charges
2018-08	2018 Temporary Budgets
2018-09	Authorization to Hold Annual Tax Sale
2018-10	Tax Collector Cancellation Limit
2018-11	Returned Check Fee
2018-12	Professional Services – Borough Counsel
2018-13	Professional Services – Municipal Auditor
2018-14	Professional Services – Bond Counsel
2018-15	Professional Services – Borough Engineer
2018-16	Maintenance of Municipal Tax Maps
2018-17	Professional Services - Insurance Broker of Record
2018-18	Statewide Insurance Fund Commissioner
2018-19	Statewide Insurance Fund Risk Manager Agreement
2018-20	Public Agency Compliance Officer/Affirmative Action Procurement and Service Compliance Officer
2018-21	Professional Services – Continuing Disclosure Agent Services
2018-22	Appointment of Municipal Court Judge
2018-23	2018 Temporary Budget for Debt Service

Roll Call:

Ayes: Fossil, Kennedy, Lehman, Mackie, Morehouse, Tewell
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstain: None

Mayoral Appointments

The following mayoral appointments “A” through “T” were confirmed on motion of Mr. Morehouse seconded by Mr. Lewis, and carried unanimously:

- (A) Municipal Prosecutor – W. Reed Gusciora
 1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
 Alternate Prosecutors – Mercer County Prosecutors

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- 1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (B) Public Defender – John Holliday
1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- Alternate Public Defender – Lee Engleman
1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (C) Custodian of Municipal Deeds – Dennis O’Neal, Borough Engineer - 1-Year
Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (D) Search Officer – Donna Griffiths, Tax Collector
1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (E) Clean Communities Coordinator – Herbert Ruehle
1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (F) Recycling Coordinator – Herbert Ruehle
1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (G) Library Board of Trustees:
William Baumbach - 5-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2022
C. Schuyler Morehouse – Mayor’s Representative - 1-Year Term to
Expire 12/31/2018
- (H) Planning Board:
Class II – Michele Hovan - 1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
Class III – David Mackie - 1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
Class IV – Robert Donaldson – Unexpired Term to Expire 12/31/2021
Alternate #2 – Louis Young – 2-Year Term to Expire 12/31/19
- (I) Historic Preservation Commission
Class C – Eric Hendrickson – 4-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2021
Alternate #2 – Barbara Reeder – 2-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2019
- (J) Board of Health
Mary Galioto - 3-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2020
Council Liaison – Debra Lehman – 1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (K) Recreation Committee
Steve Quinlan – 3-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2020
- (L) Emergency Management:
Coordinator – Joseph Novak
1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018

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Deputy Coordinator- Herbert Ruehle
1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018

Deputy Coordinator – Michele Hovan
1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018

- (M) Economic Development Committee:
Ray Disch - 3-Year Term to Expire12/31/ 2020
Christopher Makilschmitt – 3-Year Term to Expire12/31/2020
Council Liaison – Ryan Kennedy – 1-Year Term to Expire 12/31/2018
- (N) Hopewell Valley Open Space Committee:
Judy Jengo - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
Joseph Miko - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
Chris Fossil – Council Representative - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
- (O) Hopewell Valley Senior Advisory Board:
Jean Harrington – 3-Year Term to Expire12/31/2020
Chris Fossil – Ex Officio - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
- (P) Advisory Shade Tree Committee:
Beverly Mills – 3-Year Term to Expire12/31/2020
Shelby Tewell – Council Liaison - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
- (Q) Hopewell Valley Green Team
Scott Fulmer - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
Jennifer Curtis - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
Ryan Kennedy – Governing Body Liaison - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
- (R) Mercer County Board of Human Services
Lottie Doverman - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
- (S) Central Jersey Transportation Forum
Michele Hovan - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
Dennis O’Neal - 1-Year Term to Expire12/31/2018
- (T) Standing Committees of the Mayor/Borough Council
1-YEAR TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2018

Paul Anzano: Building Committee, Finance, Personnel

C. Schuyler Morehouse: Finance, Personnel, Building Committee, Water Planning,
Library, Emergency Services Liaison

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Chris Fossil:	Senior Advisory, Municipal Alliance, Open Space
Ryan Kennedy:	Economic Development, Planning Board Class I, Green Team
Deb Lehman:	Finance, Board of Health
David Mackie:	Personnel, Building Committee, Water Planning Committee, Planning Board Class III, Safe Streets
Shelby Tewell:	Recreation, Advisory Shade Tree Committee, Safe Streets

CONCLUSION OF REORGANIZATION PORTION OF THE MEETING

Regular Meeting

Mayor Anzano opened the meeting to the public. There being no comment or questions, the meeting was closed to the public on motion by Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Ms. Lehman and carried unanimously.

Presentation by J. David Waldman – Proposed Regulations Affecting Beekeeping Practices

Mr. Waldman introduced himself as a 33-year East Prospect Street resident, 2nd Vice President of the Northwest NJ Beekeepers Association and beekeeping hobbyist. He noted that he previously provided information to Ms. Hovan for Council review. Mr. Waldman said that legislation was pending at the State level to eviscerate hobbyist beekeepers and that his organization was working with communities across the State to oppose the rule changes. Mr. Waldman said that he was currently working with Readington, Basking Ridge and Peapack Gladstone, among others. Mr. Waldman said that he believes the proposed rule amendments are a reaction by acting head of agriculture in response to an incident involving a hobbyist beekeeper that did not abide by best practices and in fact, violated them aggressively; neighbors got stung and filed a nuisance suit, contacted the State and the State responded. Mr. Waldman said that he had identified 10 hobbyist beekeepers in Hopewell Borough and described the behavior of the insects as “drunk on honey” and hardly a threat. In response to a question raised by Mr. Mackie, Mr. Waldman said that the farm bureau was supportive of the beekeepers’ positions and added that the rules were capricious and lacked scientific research. In response to a question by Mayor Anzano, Mr. Waldman said that the association was in contact with the new Administration. In response to a question raised by Mr. Morehouse, Mr. Waldman said that the proposed rules prohibit beekeeping on lots of ¼ acre or less, hives would be limited to two in number and that decommissioned hives are impractical to move. A discussion ensued pointing out that seemingly suitable sites including St. Michael’s Preserve, public parks, etc. can be fraught with other issues, such as setback requirements, etc. Mayor Anzano suggested the legislators be contacted directly in addition to action taken by the communities. Mr. Kennedy inquired if the Borough regulated bees in any way and Ms. Hovan said it did not. Discussion involving the importance of honeybees to the food supply and limited research and scientific evidence to support the legislative changes continued. Mayor Anzano said that he would talk to Doug Fisher, the Acting Commissioner on Agriculture.

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Mr. Waldman read the proposed resolution aloud and in response, and on motion by Mr. Fossel, seconded by Mr. Mackie and carried unanimously, the Hopewell Borough Council adopted Resolution No. 2018-27 in opposition to the proposed beekeeping regulations. Freeholder Sam Frisby asked that a copy be provided to the Freeholders as well and added that the Freeholders are always interested in issues that affect the citizens of all the county communities.

Mr. Waldman thanked the Mayor and Council for their time and support of this issue and the stated opposition to eliminate hobbyist beekeeping.

Report of the Director of Public Works – there were no comments or questions regarding the Director’s submitted report.

Report of the Director of Water and Sewers- Mr. Mackie acknowledged the hard work by Director Misiolek and his fellow public works personnel on the recent water main break issue.

Minutes – The minutes from the December 7, 2017 regular meeting were accepted on motion by Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Fossel and carried, with Ms. Tewell abstaining due to absence and Mr. Kennedy due to ineligibility.

Ordinance No. 812 – First Reading

An Ordinance of the Borough of Hopewell in the County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, Amending "The Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hopewell, 1975," as Amended by Replacing Chapter II (Administration), Section 29 Entitled “Parks and Recreation Committees” with Chapter II (Administration) Section 29 Entitled “Recreation Committee”

Ms. Hovan read Ordinance 812 by title and explained that the ordinance expands the membership of the recreation committee from three to five and disbands the parks committee, which has been de facto disbanded for years.

Resolution No. 2018-24, as filed in the Municipal Clerk’s office to introduce Ordinance No. 812 was adopted on motion of Ms. Lehman, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried unanimously.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Fossel, Kennedy, Lehman, Mackie, Morehouse, Tewell
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 2018-25 and 2018-26, and 2018-28, as filed in the Municipal Clerk’s Office, were adopted on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Ms. Tewell, and carried unanimously.

2018-25 Redemption of Tax Lien
2018-26 Cancellation of Capital Balances

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2018-27 (pulled as listed; used in meeting for beekeeping statement resolution)
2018-28 Redevelopment Plan Request to Planning Board

Roll Call:

Ayes: Fossel, Kennedy, Lehman, Mackie, Morehouse, Tewell
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Departmental Reports

The following Departmental Reports were accepted and approved on motion by Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Ms. Tewell and carried unanimously:

Municipal Clerk	December	\$	1,574.51
Vital Statistics	December	\$	56.00
Zoning	December	\$	50.00
Health	December	\$	75.00
Municipal Court	December	\$	1,155.94
Facility Rentals	December	\$	187.50

Claims for Payments

The Claims for Payment, as attached, were approved on motion of Ms. Lehman, seconded by Ms. Tewell and carried unanimously.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Fossel, Kennedy, Lehman, Mackie, Morehouse, Tewell
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

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

Council Liaison Reports

Ms. Lehman reported that the Board of Health was considering an ordinance to prohibit sales of e-cigarettes to minors and said that similar measures had been passed in Pennington and Montgomery. Ms. Lehman also said that the Board was discussing a property maintenance ordinance and noted that there were many issues to consider and that more discussion was required. Mayor Anzano said that the State recently passed a law increasing the legal age for electronic cigarettes to 21 so there might not be a reason to further consider it. Mr. Mackie said that the Planning Board's Reorganization meeting was the next evening and announced the recent resignation of the Board Secretary who had accepted a new job and a promotion in another town. Mr. Morehouse said that the last library meeting could not be held due to a lack of a quorum

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and that the sewerage authority and fire department were doing well. Mr. Fossel said that the senior advisory board had not met in two months.

Mayor Anzano said that he was in touch with the new Administration and hoped to work with the Governor-elect on issues affecting Hopewell Borough.

There being no additional comment and on motion by Ms. Lehman, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Hovan
Borough Administrator/Clerk