

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/10/18**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Hopewell was called to order by Mayor Paul Anzano at 7:14 pm on June 7, 2018. Ms. Toth 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.

Ms. Toth called the roll and the following members of the Borough Council were present: Mr. Chris Fossel, Mr. Ryan Kennedy, Mr. David Mackie, Mr. C. Schuyler Morehouse and Ms. Shelby Tewell. Ms. Debra Lehman was absent. Deputy Borough Clerk Regina Toth was also present. There were three members of the public present.

Mayor Anzano opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. Kate Staton, 60 Lafayette, spoke about road conditions and traffic in the Borough. As a new resident with a seven-year old son, she said she is concerned with truck traffic on Lafayette and requested police oversight. Mayor Anzano said there are plans for repair to Maple and that we are aware of these issues and have continuous contact with the police. He stated her concerns are taken seriously and directed Ms. Toth to email Ms. Staton the Borough website link. Mr. Mackie discussed the scoring system for street repair and the DOT funding process. Mr. Morehouse suggested that Ms. Staton, as a new resident, look at the budget and get involved with town projects. Mr. Kennedy stated there are three redevelopment areas in town and that her comments are helpful.

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

Proclamation – Campaign Against the Stigma of Mental Illness.

Mayor Anzano tabled discussion for this proclamation, saying the County prefers we address this issue in September.

Proclamation – In Memoriam – Lawrence A. Rothwell

Mayor Anzano spoke of Mr. Rothwell’s importance to not only Pennington Market but to the entire community. Mr. Kennedy stated the Market held many charitable events for cancer treatments, education, and the YMCA and that his death was a big loss to the community. Mr. Fossel spoke of Mr. Rothwell’s role in hiring special education young people and giving them their first jobs (one of whom has worked at the store for years and is a customer favorite). Mayor Anzano smiled in remembrance of the crazy sport coats the entire family would wear to events.

MINUTES – the meeting minutes from the May 3, 2018 regular meeting were accepted on motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Tewell, and carried (Ms. Lehman abstaining due to absence).

MINUTES – the meeting minutes from the May 14, 2018 special meeting were accepted on motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Tewell, and carried (Mayor Anzano and Mr. Fossel abstaining due to absence).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS –there were no comments regarding the Director’s submitted report.

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/10/18**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF WATER AND SEWERS- Mr. Morehouse stated there was a broken water main which was quite a blow in that the Borough lost 7,000 gallons of water over a 24-hour period. Mr. Kennedy mentioned that the Economic Development Committee complained the Cruise Night no-parking signs created the wrong impression that roads were closed longer than they really are. Mr. Morehouse agreed and said only Seminary and Broad Street were adversely affected.

Ordinance No. 816 – First Reading

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR EAST PROSPECT STREET ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PHASE III IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$430,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$430,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Ms. Toth read Ordinance 816 by title. Resolution No. 2018-65, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 816 was adopted on motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Tewell and carried.

Roll Call:

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

Ordinance No. 817 – First Reading

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER UTILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE EAST PROSPECT STREET PHASE III PROJECT IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$95,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$95,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

Ms. Toth read Ordinance 817 by title. Resolution No. 2018-66, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 817 was adopted on motion of Ms. Tewell, seconded by Mr. Morehouse and carried.

Roll Call:

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

Ordinance No. 818 – First Reading

CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS, INCLUDING SECTION 20 COSTS FOR USE BY THE HOPEWELL BOROUGH WATER UTILITY, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL,

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/10/18**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$20,000.00 FROM THE WATER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF

Ms. Toth read Ordinance 818 by title. Resolution No. 2018-67, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 818 was adopted on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried.

Roll Call:

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

Ordinance No. 819 – First Reading

CAPITAL ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF COMPUTER AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF TECHNOLOGY SOFTWARE, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$8,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF

Ms. Toth read Ordinance 819 by title. Mr. Kennedy remarked that this small expenditure would allow the Borough to have a screen in the courtroom and Mr. Mackie agreed that would be a nice improvement. Resolution No. 2018-68, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 819 was adopted on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried.

Roll Call:

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

Ordinance No. 820 – First Reading

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER TWO, "ADMINISTRATION" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL, 1975, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION THEREOF TO BE KNOWN AS SECTION 2-33, ENTITLED, "AWARDING OF CONTRACTS FOR REDEVELOPMENT WORK WITHIN THE BOROUGH"

Ms. Toth read Ordinance 820 by title. Mr. Mackie explained this ordinance relates to redevelopment and political contribution and stated that, even though we don't have that ethical problem in the Borough, since we're going into new area of redevelopment it would be a good idea to "check all boxes" for openness and fairness. Resolution No. 2018-69, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office to introduce Ordinance No. 820 was adopted on motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Morehouse and carried.

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/10/18**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

Roll Call:

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Nos. 2018-70 through 2018-72, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office, were adopted on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Fossel and carried.

2018-70	Jurisdictional Agreement with Mercer County – Princeton Avenue
2018-71	Liquor License Renewal – Hopewell House
2018-72	Liquor License Renewal – Hopewell Bistro

Roll Call:

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

Discussion – Reading Street Senior Center Repairs

Mr. Fossel said there was a wide variance in cost estimates and said Pennington wanted to close the senior center because it's in bad shape. He stated the new community center won't be ready for a while and Pennington Borough, Hopewell Borough and Hopewell Township all agree to contribute to keep the current senior center open. He added that the Borough is committed to paying 5% but that we don't know what the actual amount would be. Mr. Morehouse questioned how we could commit to an amount that is not in our budget. Mayor Anzano responded that the amount would be in our 2019 budget. Mr. Morehouse also expressed concern that the building will be Pennington's (and not Hopewell Borough's) asset. Mr. Kennedy thought the amount charged to the Borough was probably too high because our residents don't use the building very much. He also expressed concern that we not throw away our opportunity to get money later, and that the long term plan is to have a future developer incorporate the senior center into their development. Mr. Morehouse stated that the Borough also needs to consider funding for DPW and library repairs. Mayor Anzano stated that the discussions are continuing and there are many possibilities.

Resolution No. 2018-73, as filed in the Municipal Clerk's office, was adopted on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Ms. Tewell and carried.

Discussion – Ban on Plastic Bags

Mayor Anzano stated that only two stores in town use plastic bags (Michael's and Village Express) and he thinks it would be helpful to get opinions from citizens and businesses in town. While Mr. Morehouse said ridding the town of plastic bags is laudable, he believes it will be difficult to implement. He said that a

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/10/18**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

program encouraging folks to forego plastic bags voluntarily might be better than an outright ban and suggested putting up a town banner encouraging reusable bags. Mr. Morehouse also wondered about the practicality of paper bags for certain merchandise. Ms. Tewell pointed out that many people “repurpose” plastic bags for dog waste, and she also liked Mr. Morehouse’s idea of a town banner. Mr. Kennedy stated that a ballot question asking if people wanted a five cent tax per bag was overwhelmingly voted against five years ago.

Departmental Reports

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

Municipal Clerk	May	\$	353.00
Tax Collector	May	\$	1,298,081.36
Municipal Court	April	\$	2,424.28
Registrar	May	\$	130.00
Zoning	May	\$	100.00
Facility Rentals	May	\$	250.00
Health	May	\$	80.00
Pet Licensing	May	\$	70.00

Claims for Payment

The Claims for Payment, as attached, were approved on motion of Mr. Morehouse, seconded by Mr. Fossel and carried.

Roll Call:

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

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

Council Liaison Reports

Ms. Tewell said she was excited for the upcoming Safety Town presentation with Administrator Michele Hovan, during which they will teach safety lessons via singing and dancing. She also stated her desire to throw a party for Borough volunteers.

Mr. Fossel commented about the issue of vaping, saying it is an addictive drug marketed to children. He complained there was too much vaping equipment on the counter at Village Express. Mayor Anzano suggested talking to Chief of Police Lance Maloney, who has previously advised merchants to put all vaping equipment below counter (out of sight). Mr. Morehouse stated that some cities have banned all

**BOROUGH OF HOPEWELL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
APPROVED: 7/10/18**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

flavored types and Mayor Anzano said that by putting items below the counter, and requesting proof of age, these drugs will not be sold to children.

Mr. Mackie spoke of the Planning Board discussion on draft redevelopment plans for the lumberyard property, stating the general concept was for 13 attached single family residences, two of which would be affordable housing units. He stated it was just at the conceptual stage, and that any stormwater issues would be better after redevelopment than they are now. Mr. Kennedy added that there would be sufficient parking, with each unit having its own garage. In response to a question about the railroad property, Mr. Mackie stated that there are several options regarding establishing a new zone within this parcel, stressing he wants it to fit into the environment and neighborhood, and adding that it's in the very early stages of planning.

Mr. Kennedy reported that Cruise Night was a success and that the Economic Development Committee suggested an outreach to the public to educate them about redevelopment.

Ms. Tewell reported on the successful park cleanup and said the Shade Tree Committee is looking for volunteers to take some burden off the Public Works department.

Mr. Morehouse reported on a successful Heritage Weekend, saying the library and museum worked nicely together and that the museum was becoming more active in the community. He also reported that the company that had been paying for the town snowflakes was no longer doing so, and the Hopewell Business Association sent him a letter, suggesting that business owners could help pay for snowflakes. Mr. Morehouse does not want to have the Borough take on the cost for hanging and maintaining (\$5,000) and storage (\$1,000). He suggested the possibility of funding through the harvest fair. Mr. Kennedy said Ms. Janice Schroder is trying to reinvigorate the HBA and that it is not an easy task.

Mayor Anzano stated he will meet with Governor Murphy regarding SALT and stated it was a complicated matter, potentially allowing taxpayers to allocate their payments as charity. He stated that any payments have to benefit the town, not just the person paying. Mr. Morehouse added that regardless of any federal tax benefits, the Borough still needs taxpayer money to go where it has traditionally gone.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm on motion by Mr. Mackie, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina M. Toth
Deputy Borough Clerk