

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING AUDITORIUM**

Wednesday, March 9, 2005 - 5:12 p.m.

PROPER STATEMENT OF NOTICE - Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order stating that notice of the meeting had been posted on the municipal bulletin board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News and The Times (the official newspapers) on March 3, 2005 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

ROLL CALL: Those answering the roll call of the Deputy Municipal Clerk:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Iorio, Niederer, Sandom, Sandahl, Mayor Kemp

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: CFO Cruickshank-Borges, Deputy Municipal Clerk Moore

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Recreation Director Michael Hritz presented reductions to the proposed 2005 Recreation Department budget. He was hopeful that the Boroughs of Hopewell and Pennington would contribute to the operating costs of the Recreation Department through interlocal agreements. Discussion was held with respect to an increase in fees; reductions in the operating budget; fees charged by neighboring municipalities for their recreation programs; and issues related to software utilized by the Recreation Department.

(At 5:50 p.m., Mr. Hritz left the meeting.)

Public Works Assistant Director Victor Silvestrov reviewed reductions to the Public Works Department 2005 Budget that included in-house composting and cleaning services, layoff of two laborers, and reductions in the road maintenance program. Discussion was held with respect to interlocal services agreements for storage and delivery of road salt; unused equipment; reduction in the number of bulky waste pickups; and in-house paving.

(At 6:20 p.m., Mr. Silvestrov left the meeting.)

Mayor Kemp reported on a meeting with the Mayors of the Boroughs of Hopewell and Pennington. Comparison studies of the cost of police services in neighboring communities was discussed, and potential increases in the interlocal services agreement with Hopewell Borough for police services.

(At 6:40 p.m., Mayor Kemp left the meeting.)

Health Officer Gary Guarino reviewed reductions in the 2005 Health Department budget, including hydrogeologist services, legal, advertising, training and conferences.

(At 7:00 p.m., Mr. Guarino left the meeting.)

Historic Preservation Commission Member David Blackwell reviewed the Commission's 2005 budget and request for matching grant funding for professional services to provide design guidelines for historic sites. He noted that the Commission is mandated by ordinance to designate historic sites in Hopewell Township.

(At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Blackwell left the meeting.)

Ms. Borges reviewed additional proposed budgetary cuts submitted by various department

heads. She noted certain items that need to be confirmed prior to preparation of the final budget document.

PUBLIC SECTION

William Schoelwer, a resident of Westcott Boulevard, questioned the appointment of a new Recreation Director; funding for the maintenance of ball fields at the Municipal Athletic Complex; decals on police cars; and the possibility of siting telecommunication towers on township property. He expressed support for recouping costs of storage and delivery of road salt from the boroughs and a reduction in the number of bulky waste pickups.

Barbara Wahlers, a resident of Marshall's Corner-Woodsville Road, commented on funds expended by advisory task forces such as the Wastewater Advisory Committee and the Jacob's Creek Bridge Task Force.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION. Read into the record.

Deputy Mayor Iorio stated that the meeting would not reconvene following the Executive Session.

Motion by Sandahl, seconded by Niederer to go to Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee to discuss personnel and legal matters; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the Township Committee to conduct a meeting from which the public is excluded in order to discuss such matters; and

WHEREAS, the time when and circumstances under which discussion conducted in executive session may be disclosed to the public is when appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 9th day of March 2005, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Township Committee shall forthwith conduct an executive session to discuss the above.

At 7:40 p.m. the Executive Session was held.

At 9:17 p.m., Motion by Sandahl, seconded by Sandom to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

ANNE B. MOORE
DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK