

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
VIA ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS
TENTATIVE AGENDA TO THE EXTENT KNOWN**

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2020 – 3:00 P.M.

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF PROPER NOTICE BY MAYOR** - Notice of this meeting has been posted on the municipal bulletin board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News, The Times, The Trentonian and the Hopewell Express on May 19, 2020 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

- II. ROLL CALL BY MUNICIPAL CLERK**

- III. RESOLUTIONS**
 - A. A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

 - B. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL S-2475 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A-3971 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF “CORONAVIRUS RELIEF BONDS” BY MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES

- IV. PUBLIC SECTION**

- V. ADJOURNMENT**

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #20-

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TEMPORARY
EMPLOYEES IN HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, there is a need for temporary help in the Department of Health;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 22nd day of May by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the following individuals be and are hereby appointed as temporary employees in the Hopewell Township Health Department:

1. Jeremy Borges – Part-time Contact Tracer
2. Melissa Self-Gomes – Part-time Contract Tracer

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above individuals be compensated at the hourly rate of \$25.00 per hour, not to exceed 25 hours per week (unless deemed necessary).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this appointment is effective June 1, 2020.

Date Adopted:

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL S-2475 and ASSEMBLY BILL
A-3971 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE “CORONAVIRUS RELIEF BONDS” BY
MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, A-3971, which authorizes the issuance of “coronavirus relief bonds” by municipalities and counties and is sponsored by Assemblyman Dan Benson, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin and Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, was approved by the New Jersey General Assembly on May 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Senate companion, S-2475, sponsored by Senators Troy Singleton and Vin Gopal was introduced on May 11 and awaits Senate committee action; and

WHEREAS, municipalities and counties are experiencing unprecedented financial challenges, including significant loss of and unanticipated expenses because of the on-going COVID-19 global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, these fiscal consequences of the pandemic and the ongoing COVID-19 State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency, are likely to continue and further impact the Township of Hopewell; and

WHEREAS, the current public health emergency led to shuttering of businesses, construction, courts, and schools; and

WHEREAS, local governments are experiencing a record decline in revenue from permitting fees, licensing fees, parking revenue, hotel/motel occupancy taxes, and court fines at the same time experiencing income losses due to declining returns on investments with the uncertainty of property tax collection and state aid revenues in the horizon; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township budget has significant fixed statutory expenses and provides essential public services; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing many essential services is likely to increase as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic for an extended period afterwards; and

WHEREAS, A-3971 and S-2475 would allow counties and municipalities to borrow moneys through the issuance of bonds and notes to cover the revenue shortfalls and additional costs that are directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic and pay that money back over a ten-year period; and

III-B

WHEREAS, the A-3971 and S-2475 would also require a local government to thoroughly investigate and apply for financial assistance that may be available to it from the federal government, the State and other sources due to revenue shortfalls and expenditures because of the pandemic, prior to authorizing the issuance of the “coronavirus relief bonds”; and

WHEREAS, under A-3971 and S-2475 a municipality may use the proceeds from the sale and issuance of the coronavirus relief bonds to address a revenue shortfall experienced by the municipality and cover the cost of unanticipated expenses that are directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic and which occurred within 24 months after the end of the Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, A-3971 and S-2475 is not a one size fits all solution that provides the appropriate financial assistance to Hopewell Township to help address all revenue shortfalls and expenditures directly attributable to this pandemic; and

WHEREAS, without this legislation, to address the revenue shortfall some municipalities would be required to take extreme measures that would gut local government eliminating critical public service. Local governments need the flexibility that A-3971 and S-2575 provides to limit the impact on property taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer and State of New Jersey that:

1. Strongly supports the swift passage and signing into law A-3971 and S-2475, which will provide flexibility and offer relief to municipalities and counties to address their revenue shortfalls and expenditures directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Office of the Governor, the President of the New Jersey State Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the Sponsors of the Legislation, the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee, the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee, our State Legislators, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Date Adopted: