

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION MEETING
VIA ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS**

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 – 5:06 p.m.

PROPER STATEMENT OF NOTICE – Deputy Municipal Clerk Fenton-Newman 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, The Times, the Trentonian and the Hopewell Express (the official newspapers) on December 22, 2021 and amended on December 29, 2021, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Deputy Municipal Clerk Fenton-Newman led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

OATH OF OFFICE OF ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBER

Elizabeth Maher-Muoio, State Treasurer and former Assemblywoman, administered the Oath of Office to Elected Committee Member Urmila “Uma” Purandare.

ROLL CALL - The 2022 Township Committee answered the roll call of the Municipal Clerk:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Kuchinski, McLaughlin, Peters-Manning, Purandare, Ruger

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator/Director of Public Works George Snyder, Municipal Clerk Laurie Gompf, Deputy Municipal Clerk Katherine Fenton-Newman, CFO Julie Troutman, Township Attorney Steve Goodell

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2022

Municipal Clerk Gompf called for nominations for the office of Mayor for the year 2022. Committee Member McLaughlin nominated Courtney Peters-Manning for Mayor for the year 2022. The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that Committee Member Peters-Manning was nominated and she called for further nominations for the office of Mayor. Hearing no further nominations from the Floor, the Municipal Clerk announced nominations were closed.

ROLL CALL VOTE FOR THE NOMINATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBER PETERS-MANNING FOR MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2022:

AYES: Kuchinski, McLaughlin, Peters-Manning, Purandare, Ruger
NOES: None

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that Committee Member Peters-Manning was duly elected Mayor for the year 2022.

OATH OF OFFICE OF 2022 MAYOR – Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Peters-Manning.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2022

Municipal Clerk Gompf called for nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor for 2022. Mayor Peters-Manning nominated Michael Ruger for Deputy Mayor for the year 2022. The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that Committee Member Ruger was nominated and she called for further nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor. There were no further nominations from the Floor and the nominations were closed.

The Municipal Clerk called for a vote on the nomination of Committee Member Ruger for Deputy Mayor.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Kuchinski, McLaughlin, Purandare, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that Committee Member Ruger was duly elected Deputy Mayor for the year 2022.

OATH OF OFFICE OF 2022 DEPUTY MAYOR – Assemblyman Anthony Verrelli administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Mayor Ruger.

2022 MAYOR’S WELCOME AND COMMENTS

Mayor Peters-Manning thanked everyone who was present; wished everyone a happy New Year; congratulated Committee Member Purandare and Deputy Mayor Ruger; recognized the Local and State elected officials present; expressed her regrets that the meeting could not be held in person; and made the following statement:

“We were so hoping to be in person for this meeting. I don’t think any of us would have thought that we would still be in the thick of this pandemic in January 2022. I know it’s hard to be optimistic right now and it’s hard not to be angry. I’m angry, too. I’m sad and I’m angry that we’re not together in person and that the world feels so divided right now. But when things are hard like this, we are faced with a choice: We can either submit to our anger and our disappointment or we can press on and redouble our efforts and come together and be a unified community in the face of fear and uncertainty.

This is not March of 2020. We know so much more about this virus now than we did then. We have life-saving vaccines and treatments. We have learned resilience and we have cultivated the ability to be flexible and adaptable and we have learned to pivot on a dime. It’s so easy to focus on the divisions and the ways that we are apart. But we have also have come together in ways big and small over these past two years, as Americans tend to do when times are hard.

Allow me to tell you a story I found about the 1918 flu pandemic, before we had the medical and scientific technology that we have now, and when the world was mired in World War. It’s about a family of Italian immigrants who all became ill after some passing soldiers stopped by their New Jersey farm to use their well. While the entire family was so sick that they could not get out of bed, a neighbor came to their aid.

Their grandson relayed the story: ‘Down the road from their farm was an American couple, my grandparents referred to anyone who spoke English and was not Italian as American. The American man came to their house to check on them. He killed several chickens from their chicken coop, made chicken soup, and then spoon-fed each member of the family. This man helped them to the outhouse, cleaned them up, changed the bed sheets, cleaned the children, and put all the dirty sheets and clothing in a pile outside. Apparently this man did this at other homes as well, because after they all recovered, other neighbors said that he had come to their home to check on them, too and offered or gave them chicken soup. The family survived the 1918 flu thanks to the kindness of the American whose name they didn’t even know. I asked my mother why didn’t they find out the man’s name after they all got better? My mother told me that the man’s house was empty after the flu pandemic. No one knew if the couple had moved away or if both had died but the story of his kindness has never been forgotten.’

I tell you this story because it’s a reminder that, even in the darkest of times, the way we treat each other and the way we come to each other’s aid really matters and it has long-lasting reverberations. The Hopewell Valley has come together in so many ways over the last two years. We’ve donated and volunteered at the newly-created Hopewell Valley Mobile Food Pantry. We’ve worn masks and gotten vaccinated to protect the vulnerable members of our community, and we’ve checked on each other and brought meals to friends and families who needed it. We will get through this latest wave of COVID-19. We will. And we have so much to look forward to.

We’ve made great progress on our Senior and Community Center in 2021. We involved stakeholders to figure out exactly what the community needs for a Center to bring us all together. We have secured sewer rights for the Center, which is no small task. I can’t wait to see the further progress we will make this year. We have welcomed several new companies to the former BMS site, now known as the Innovation West Campus, including PTC Therapeutics and BeiGene. Both of whom will not only help Hopewell Township taxpayers, but they will create life-saving treatments and cures right here at home.

On the horizon is the challenge and the opportunity for legalized recreational cannabis in New Jersey. We have approved one cultivation license with a comprehensive Ordinance that pulled from best practices all over the country. As 2022 begins and regulations from the State have been released, we will work closely with the Municipal Alliance and our Police Department and look at retail cannabis and the recommendations from our Planning Board. I invite members of the public to participate in this process, as the more voices we have participating in a robust discussion, the better the result will be for Hopewell Township and its residents.

We have a band shell coming to Woolsey Park, as I mentioned earlier, where we will be able to get together outdoors and listen to music and celebrate being together as a community. We have planted a seedling of the historic Salem Oak tree in Woolsey Park, and we will celebrate its dedication on Arbor Day in April.

Two of our affordable housing developments are likely to break ground this year and we have the opportunity to welcome our new neighbors with open arms in the spirit of community that Hopewell Township is known for. With this development comes the opportunity to thoughtfully consider the needs of the entire Township for years to come. This includes assessing potential challenges in public works and both volunteer and professional emergency services, and continuing to look at our hiring and promotions in the police department.

I am honored to serve as the Mayor of Hopewell Township in 2022. I look forward to working with all of you to celebrate our community, honor our history, and continue to move us forward. Thank you.”

2022 DEPUTY MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Ruger made the following statement:

“Thank you Mayor Peters-Manning, and it is very nice to say that. Let me start by thanking all the members of the Committee for your vote of confidence. I am looking forward to the year to come. I also want to thank my family for their continuing support as I start my fifth year on the Township Committee. As for my remarks, I’ll be brief. All of us on this committee take our oaths of office very seriously. Throughout 2022 we will all do everything that we can, and continue to do our best, to make life better for the people of Hopewell Township. Thank you.”

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY, DEPARTMENTS FOR 2021 BY MAYOR

- A. Finance, Planning Board, Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee, Historic Preservation Commission – Kuchinski
- B. Board of Health, Lawrence Hopewell Trail, Environmental Commission, Senior Advisory Board - Purandare

- C. Planning Board, Agricultural Advisory Committee, Citizens' Equity Advisory Committee, Woolsey Park Advisory Committee, Open Space Advisory Committee – Ruger
- D. Administration/Legal, Police/Public Safety, Deer Management Advisory Committee – Mayor Peters-Manning

RESOLUTION #22-01. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #22-01.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

R E S O L U T I O N #22-01

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING ONE YEAR
TERMS EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, that the persons listed as follows are hereby appointed for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2022:

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:	Steve Goodell
MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR:	Robert Yostembski
MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER:	John M. Holliday
DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR:	Christine Irizarry
DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK:	Katherine Fenton-Newman
TREASURER:	Julie Troutman
PENSION CERTIFYING OFFICER:	Susan Newman
SEARCHER FOR PROSPECTIVE ASSESSMENTS:	Laurie E. Gompf
TAX SEARCH OFFICER:	Mary Kennedy Nadzak
REDEVELOPMENT ENGINEER	Mark Kataryniak

RESOLUTION #22-2. Read by title.

Motion by McLaughlin, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #22-2.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

R E S O L U T I O N #22-02

**A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING
A TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

BE IT RESOLVED on this 4th day of January 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that James Hutzelmann is hereby reappointed Township Engineer to a three-year term expiring December 31, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that James Hutzelmann be authorized to sign the following applications on behalf of Hopewell Township for the year 2022: NJDEP Treatment Works Applications; D&R Canal CP-1 Permit Applications; Mercer County Soil Conservation District Permit Applications; and all permit, grant and loan applications related to Hopewell Township Capital Projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Township Engineer, Administrative Officer, Zoning Officer, Construction Official and Public Works Director.

RESOLUTION #22-3. Read by title.
Motion by McLaughlin, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolution #22-3.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

RESOLUTION #22-03

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING
PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER (P.A.C.O.)**

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.2 et. seq., each public agency shall annually designate an officer or employee to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O); and

WHEREAS, the individual designated as the Public Agency Compliance Officer will be the point of contact for all matters concerning implementation and administration of the legal requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity Monitoring Program; and

WHEREAS, the Public Agency Compliance Officer is also responsible for administering contracting procedures pertaining to equal employment regarding both the public agency and its service providers; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.3, each public agency shall notify the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Purchase & Property, Contract Compliance Audit Unit, EEO Monitoring Program of its designation by January 10th of each year; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to designate Sean Canning, QPA to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer for the calendar year 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Hopewell Township that Sean Canning is hereby designated to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer for the calendar year 2022.

RESOLUTION #22-4. Read into the record.
Motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolution #22-4.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

RESOLUTION #22-04

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of January 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, that the following are hereby appointed for the terms designated:

	NOMINEE	TERM	TERM EXPIRING
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, ZONING:			
	Prakash Rao	4 year	12/31/25
Alternate No. 1	Keith Thedinga	2 year(unexp)	12/31/22
Alternate No. 2	Matt Kolodziej	2 year	12/31/23
PLANNING BOARD CLASS III:			
(Township Committee Member)	Kevin Kuchinski	1 year	12/31/22
AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE:			
	Boyana Georgieva	2 year	12/31/23
	Linda Rogers	2 year	12/31/23
	Karen Kent	2 year	12/31/23

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

	Kurt Vollherbst	3 year	12/31/24
	Thomas Finn	3 year	12/31/24
	Dana DeCore Falconi	3 year	12/31/24
Senior Member	Michael Chipowsky	2 year	12/31/23
Senior Member	Burt Sutker	2 year	12/31/23
(Township Committee Member)	Kevin Kuchinski	1 year	12/31/22

BOARD OF HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

	Michael Rothwell	3 year	12/31/24
Alternate No. 2	Lisa Dobruskin	2 year	12/31/23

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD:

	Stanley Saperstein	2 year	12/31/23
	Sebastian Panebianco	2 year	12/31/23

WOOLSEY PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Public Works	Dave Guerard	1 year	12/31/22
Parks & Recreation	Karin Poveromo	1 year	12/31/22
Environmental Commission	Jim Gambino	1 year	12/31/22
Deer Management Advisory	Chris Pazdan	1 year	12/31/22
HV Arts Council	Carol Lipson	1 year	12/31/22
HV Veteran's Association	Mike Chipowsky	1 year	12/31/22
Township Resident	Russ Granzow	1 year	12/31/22
Township Committee Member	Michael Ruger	1 year	12/31/22

CITIZENS EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

	Shannon Kelly	1 year	12/31/22
	Kareen Bar-Akiva	1 year	12/31/22
	David Berez	1 year	12/31/22
	Madeline Mansier	1 year	12/31/22
	Nancy Lee	1 year	12/31/22
	Bonnie Williams	1 year	12/31/22
Township Committee Member	Michael Ruger	1 year	12/31/22

RESOLUTION #22-5. Read by title.

RESOLUTION #22-05**MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS,
COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Courtney Peters-Manning, Mayor of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, on this 4th day of January 2022, do hereby appoint the following for the terms designated:

	NOMINEE	TERM	TERM EXPIRING
PLANNING BOARD:			
Class I	Michael Ruger(Mayors Designee)	1 year	12/31/22
Class II	Rex Parker (EC Member)	3 year	12/31/24
Class IV	Paul Kiss	4 year	12/31/25

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION:

	James Gambino	3 year	12/31/24
	Rex Parker	3 year	12/31/24
Alternate No. 1	Paul Kinney	2 year	12/31/23

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION:

Class C	Amie Rukenstein	4 year	12/31/25
Alternate No. 1	Julie Blake	2 year	12/31/23

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Anne Carcagno	3 year	12/31/24
Lucia Huebner	3 year	12/31/24

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Lisa Wolff	3 year	12/31/24
Amie Rukenstein	3 year	12/31/24

DEER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Master Gardener)	John Piepszak	3 year	12/31/24
Alternate No. 1	Elizabeth Wasch	1 year	12/31/22

OATH OF OFFICE OF 2022 TO COMMITTEE, BOARDS AND COMMISSION APPOINTEES – Laurie E. Gompf, Municipal Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to all Committee, Boards and Commission appointees who were in attendance.

RESOLUTION #22-6. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolution #22-6.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

RESOLUTION #22-06**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR 2022**

WHEREAS, Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act requires the posting of annual meetings together with notification of said meetings to the official newspapers of the Township, and submission of the same to those persons requesting copies of said notice; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell desires to set forth a schedule of public meetings for the year 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer and the State of New Jersey that the Township Committee shall hold its regular meetings at 6:30 p.m. (subject to change) via Zoom Video Communications and/or at the Municipal Building Auditorium located at 201 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road, Titusville, New Jersey, on the first (1st) and third (3rd) Monday of each month, except when that Monday is a national holiday and then the meeting will be held the following Tuesday evening or as noted in the attached annual notice of scheduled meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that due to the fluctuation of COVID-19 transmission rates, the Township reserves the right to conduct municipal meetings via Zoom® or similar technology in lieu of in-person meetings to balance the need to conduct public business with the personal safety of those wishing to attend. In such case(s), within one business day of the decision to conduct the meeting via Zoom®, the Township will post the Municipal Complex Main Entrance and Official Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building, publish notice on the Township website and Facebook® and other social media platforms and provide an electronic copy of said notice to all persons who request a copy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be posted and maintained posted throughout the year in accordance with the statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution and schedule be forwarded to the official newspapers of the Township.

RESOLUTION #22-7. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolution #22-7.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

R E S O L U T I O N #22-07

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopewell Valley News, The Times of Trenton, The Trentonian and the Hopewell Express are hereby designated as the official newspapers of the Township of Hopewell for the year 2022.

RESOLUTION #22-8. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Purandare to adopt Resolution #22-8.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

R E S O L U T I O N #22-08

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING STATE
APPROVED PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES AS OFFICIAL
DEPOSITORIES OF HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP**

BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of January 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, that any public depository as listed on the attached Cash Management Plan be designated as an Official Depository of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, for the year 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer are hereby authorized to purchase and sell participations in the cash fund of these depositories for investment purposes for the account of the Township of Hopewell.

RESOLUTION #22-9. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolution #22-9.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Kuchinski, McLaughlin, Purandare, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

R E S O L U T I O N #22-09

ADOPTING A TEMPORARY 2022 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Local Budget Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19) provides that where any contracts and/or commitment of payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2022 budget, temporary appropriations shall be made for the purpose in the manner and the time provided; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is within the first thirty days of the year 2022; and

WHEREAS, 26.25% of total appropriations of the 2021 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for debt service, capital improvement fund and deferred charges in said budget is the sum of \$4,548,246.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of January 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, that the following temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of the Resolution be transmitted to the Township Treasurer's Office.

IN CAP APPROPRIATIONS:

	2021 Budget	2022 Temporary Budget
Executive		
S&W	362,008.00	80,000.00
OE	224,846.00	120,000.00
Legislative		

S&W	23,646.00	6,000.00
OE	18,250.00	5,000.00
Legal Services		
OE	389,000.00	300,000.00
Municipal Clerk		
S&W	166,474.00	38,000.00
OE	30,355.00	6,400.00
Financial Administration		
S&W	195,631.00	50,000.00
OE	30,760.00	7,000.00
Auditing Services		
OE	30,000.00	30,000.00
Tax Collection		
S&W	97,376.00	25,000.00
OE	8,815.00	3,500.00
Municipal Assessor		
S&W	135,024.00	40,000.00
OE	44,500.00	7,500.00
Engineering		
OE	61,000.00	63,000.00
Historic Preservation Commission		
OE	1,300.00	500.00
Community Development		
S&W	340,982.00	60,000.00
OE	100,700.00	15,000.00
Insurance Premiums		
OE	432,833.00	383,000.00
Insurance Benefits		
OE	2,567,231.00	552,000.00
Health Benefit Waiver		
OE	65,000.00	12,000.00
Disability Insurance		
OE	6,000.00	4,000.00
Police Services		
S&W	3,495,516.00	970,000.00
OE	193,050.00	80,000.00
Prosecutor		
S&W	50,781.00	13,000.00
Streets and Roads		
S&W	1,501,579.00	553,000.00
OE	313,800.00	200,000.00
Solid Waste & Recycling		
OE	32,185.00	10,000.00
Municipal Building		
S&W	99,095.00	20,000.00
OE	130,000.00	40,000.00
Fleet Maintenance		
S&W	136,771.00	42,000.00
OE	121,000.00	70,000.00
Health		
S&W	381,818.00	78,000.00
OE	42,400.00	9,000.00
Senior Services		
S&W	46,702.00	22,000.00
OE	6,745.00	1,500.00
Environmental Commission		
OE	6,850.00	1,000.00
Parks Maintenance		
S&W	64,855.00	14,000.00
OE	20,000.00	14,000.00
Recreation		
S&W	129,240.00	31,000.00
OE	7,300.00	2,000.00
Utilities		

OE	158,000.00	45,000.00
Street Lighting		
OE	145,000.00	45,000.00
Telephone		
OE	50,000.00	25,000.00
Motor Fuels		
OE	155,000.00	70,000.00
Municipal Court		
S/W	238,187.00	52,000.00
O/E	11,518.00	3,500.00
Public Defender		
S/W	21,600.00	16,000.00
Social Security		
OE	590,000.00	140,000.00
DCRP		
OE	2,000.00	2,000.00
Pension		
OE	1,642,087.00	0.00
Animal Control		
OE	57,000.00	0.00
Interfund Operating Trf		
OE	68,287.00	0.00
Water Utility		
OE	3573.56	0.00

OUT OF CAP APPROPRIATIONS:

Recycling Tonnage Tax		
O/E	1,000.00	346.00
Interlocal Police Services		
S&W	410,539.38	100,000.00
OE	34,150.00	5,000.00
Interlocal Recycling		
OE	252,536.00	66,000.00
Interlocal Dispatch		
S&W	74,727.77	0.00
Interlocal Senior Service Coordinator		
S&W	10,000.00	0.00
O/E	4,969.00	0.00
Interlocal EMS Mercer County		
O/E	15,350.00	0.00
Interlocal Municipal Alliance Coordinator		
O/E	11,000.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Expenses		
O/E	1,258,711.23	0.00
TOTAL	17,326,653.94	4,548,246.00

RESOLUTION #22-10. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by McLaughlin to adopt Resolution #22-10.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Kuchinski, McLaughlin, Purandare, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

RESOLUTION #22-10

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING TEMPORARY
2022 WATER, SEWER UTILITY SBRSA & SEWER UTILITY ELSA BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Local Budget Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19) provides that where any contracts and/or commitment of payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2022 budget, temporary appropriations shall be made for the purpose in the manner and the time provided; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is within the first thirty (30) days of the year 2022; and
WHEREAS, 26.25% of the total appropriations of the 2021 Water Utility budget, exclusive of debt service is the sum of \$41,717.00; and

WHEREAS, 26.25% of the total appropriations of the 2021 Sewer Utility budget, exclusive of debt service is the sum of \$88,006.00 for SBRSA Sewer Utility and \$256,299.00 for ELSA Sewer Utility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of January 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Township Treasurer’s office.

	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2022 Temporary Budget</u>
<u>WATER UTILITY</u>		
S & W	11,500.00	4,000.00
OE 146,425.00	37,517.00	
Employee Benefits		
OE 1,000.00	200.00	
TOTAL	158,925.00	41,717.00
<u>SEWER UTILITY SBRSA</u>		
S & W 13,000.00	3,000.00	
OE 321,082.00	84,806.00	
Employee Benefits		
OE	1,180.00	200.00
TOTAL	335,262.00	88,006.00
	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2022 Temporary Budget</u>
<u>SEWER UTILITY ELSA</u>		
S & W 24,000.00	6,500.00	
OE 950,530.00	249,249.00	
Employee Benefits		
OE	1,850.00	550.00
TOTAL	976,380.00	256,299.00

RESOLUTION #22-11. Read by title.
 Motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolution #22-11.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

RESOLUTION #22-11

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC WORKS TO RE-OPEN
 IT’S PETTY CASH FUND FOR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200.00;
 RECREATION TO RE-OPEN ITS PETTY CASH FUND
 FOR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00; THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
 TO REOPEN ITS PETTY CASH FUND FOR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400.00;
 AND THE SENIOR SERVICES OFFICE TO RE-OPEN THEIR PETTY CASH FUND
 FOR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50.00**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-21 authorizes the establishment of Petty Cash funds for the Administration, Public Works, Recreation and Senior Services departments of Hopewell Township; and

WHEREAS, said petty cash funds were established by resolutions dated October 7, 1991 (Administration), January 4, 2001 (Recreation), February 1, 2001 (Public Works) and April 8, 2013 (Senior Services), by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Township Committee that said funds be continued under the direction of Administration, Public Works, Recreation and Senior Services respectively.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 4th day of January 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that effective January 1, 2022, the Public Works Office be and is hereby authorized and permitted to re-open its Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$200.00; the Recreation Office be and is hereby authorized and permitted to re-open its Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$500.00; the Administration Office is hereby permitted to re-open its Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$400.00 and the Senior Services Office be and is hereby authorized and permitted to re-open its Petty Cash Fund in the amount of \$50.00 pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-21. Said Petty Cash Funds will be used by such office or department to pay claims for small miscellaneous expenses.

RESOLUTION #22-12. Read by title.

Motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski to adopt Resolution #22-12.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Kuchinski, McLaughlin, Purandare, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

R E S O L U T I O N #22-12

B I L L S & C L A I M S

BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of cash disbursements authorized for approval of bills for payment date January 4, 2022 in the following amounts:

Bills and Claims	\$	5,814,640.83
Payroll	\$	0.00
Total Disbursements	\$	5,814,640.83

Itemized and listed on the submitted schedule are hereby approved and filed as a record as part of the minutes of this meeting.

Committee Member McLaughlin stated that she had asked for a few minutes to thank the people who have made her service in Hopewell Township possible, productive and enjoyable. She declared that this is the beginning of what she is sure will be a good year for the Township under Mayor Peters-Manning and Deputy Ruger's strong leadership; that it is a night of celebration for the upcoming term; and that it was also the end of her service on the Hopewell Township Committee.

She thanked her family, Mike, Meghan, Amelia and Carolyn, for encouraging her to step up and out of her comfort zone and for being flexible as her new responsibilities took her away from home. She thanked Asher, Audrey, Julia, Jeff, Peter and Margot for their support, encouragement and flexibility; stated that they are a strong team together and she relied on their strength when times were difficult. Committee Member McLaughlin thanked the voters of Hopewell Township who gave her the responsibility of voicing their concerns and the opportunity to use her skills to protect and grow what is special here.

Committee Member McLaughlin expressed her gratitude that the voters allowed "this girl from Kansas, who had fallen in love with this unique corner of the world, to represent you." She thanked Vanessa Sandom for her extraordinary mentorship; that negotiating on the same side of the table with Kevin Kuchinski is true fun and the word "and" is always preferable to the word "but"; that Julie Blake's steady voice on the other side of the phone was a godsend during tough times; that Courtney Peters-Manning's leadership will be a joy to watch; that Michael Ruger's thoughtful questions and understated good humor lead the committee to decisions with a very wry smile; thanked and commended the staff of Hopewell Township for striving daily to serve the residents efficiently, fairly and always with a smile; that she is lucky to live here and have the staff working for this community.

Committee Member McLaughlin announced that she is taking on a new role on Thursday, that she will still represent the residents of Hopewell Township; and that Hopewell Township is very fortunate to have this new team in place. She offered her assistance to anyone with needs that Mercer County can meet; that she is looking forward to hearing from the residents; and continuing to work together.

Mayor Peters-Manning told Committee Member McLaughlin that she would be sorely missed on the Township Committee but looked forward to working with her in her new position with Mercer County.

PUBLIC SECTION

Glenn Gabai, a resident of Frenchtown and also the owner of property on Pennington Road, offered his congratulations and thanks for taking the responsibility of municipal government on their shoulders; promoted the support of retail cannabis sales in Hopewell Township; that surrounding municipalities have approved the sale of cannabis products; and urged the Committee to approve retail cannabis sales.

Samuel Frisby, Mercer County Commissioner, congratulated all who were sworn in this evening; commented that it is a bittersweet moment for Hopewell Township; expressed his pleasure that Committee Member McLaughlin will be joining him as a Commissioner in Mercer County; that he was saddened that Julie Blake has left the Committee; and thanked the entire Committee for all that they do.

Committee Member Ruger expressed his thanks to Committee Member McLaughlin for everything she has done; that he is very excited to see her joining the County Commissioners; and told her she will be fantastic.

Committee Member Kuchinski remarked that it has been an honor to serve with Committee Member McLaughlin; that she helped drive Hopewell Township forward on economical and personal standpoints; looked forward to working with her in her new role; stated that he knows she will do great service to all the communities served by Mercer County; and thanked her for the honor of serving with her.

Committee Member McLaughlin thanked everyone for their comments; reminisced that she had great fun working with everyone; thanked Steve Goodell for his clear and comprehensive guidance on issues that were tangles of thorns; that she relied on his incite; and was glad they had the opportunity to work together. Mr. Goodell thanked her for her comments and told her that she has been a pleasure to work with.

Committee Member Purandare echoed previous comments regarding Committee Members McLaughlin and Blake; that she was very excited to join the Township Committee; looked forward to working with the Township staff; and thanked everyone for the support they have provided her over the past few months.

At 6:04 p.m., motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Ruger to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

The detailed public meeting may be viewed at www.hopewelltp.org in the video library.

LAURIE E. GOMPF
MUNICIPAL CLERK