

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING AUDITORIUM
AND VIA ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS**

Monday, July 11, 2022 – 6:31 p.m.

PROPER STATEMENT OF NOTICE – Mayor Peters-Manning 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 January 5, 2022, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: David Chait, Kevin Kuchinski, Michael Ruger,
Mayor Courtney Peters-Manning

ABSENT: Uma Purandare

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator/Public Works Director George Snyder, Municipal Clerk Laurie Gompf, CFO Julie Troutman, Director of Community Development/Engineer James Hutzelmann, Township Attorney Steve Goodell, Engineer Herb Seeburger

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Mayor Peters-Manning led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Ruger to approve February 7, 2022 Executive Session Meeting Minutes; February 28, 2022 Executive Session Meeting Minutes; March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes; March 14, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes; and March 21, 2022 Special and Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Snyder announced that property taxes are due August 1st and that the second quarter newsletter will be sent out soon.

Mr. Hutzelmann reported that the NJ DOT Municipal Aid grant for the Pennington Rocky Hill project grant was submitted; that Trap Rock has submitted their reclamation plan; that a technical review will be done; that it may go before the Planning Board as a capital courtesy review; and that EMS and Fire Safety personnel were in attendance when he and Mr. Snyder went and inspected the quarry.

Mr. Hutzelmann was asked if Suburban Engineering Consultants had submitted anything regarding the band shell. He replied that they had submitted a draft plan based on the field visits and that he was in the process of reviewing them. Committee Member Ruger requested that he send it to the Woolsey Park Committee before their next meeting for their review.

Committee Member Chait announced the upcoming meeting of the Affordable Housing Committee; that Public Works was currently working on the Lawrence Hopewell Trail Mount Rose parking lot connector trail; announced curbside collection dates and that the next issue of the Town Crier will be out soon.

Committee Member Kuchinski reported that Ms. Troutman has been working with Department Heads to find potential new revenue sources that do not rely on residential property taxes; provided a status update on municipal field use; and presented Planning Board updates.

Committee Member Ruger reported on the upcoming Citizens' Equity Advisory Committee and Woolsey Park Advisory Committee meetings.

Mayor Peters-Manning reported on the Police Department's Open House which was held in order for residents to meet the new Police Chief, James Rosso; and announced that the Township has received a grant from the State to upgrade the 911 dispatch system.

PUBLIC SECTION

The following members of the public spoke during public comment:

James Burd, a resident of Nursery Road, questioned if any transportation evaluations have been done around the areas of the new affordable housing developments; requested an update on the Oldis Farm and the horse farm next to the Oldis Farm on Route 546; questioned if there is DEP involvement with the two properties; requested that Committee Meetings be changed back to 7:00 p.m. and presented a petition with signatures requesting such; and questioned if the developer is paying Trenton Water Works for the water they are taking from the fire hydrants on Route 546 and Scotch Road.

Melanie Philips, a resident of Washington Crossing-Pennington Road, commented on Ordinance 8-A which would allot spending \$10,000 on a demographic study regarding children coming into the school district.

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

ORDINANCE – FINAL READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Peters-Manning read by title the introduced ordinance:

ORDINANCE RE-APPROPRIATING \$10,000.00 OF OBLIGATIONS
NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO
PROVIDE FOR A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
HOPEWELL VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN AND BY
THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER,
NEW JERSEY

Mike Zuba, Demographer, submitted a presentation which provided his background and the process that his organization will follow to achieve an accurate demographic study which will show the possible impact new developments in Hopewell Township will have on the Hopewell Valley Regional School District.

Mayor Peters-Manning declared public hearing open.

Melanie Phillips questioned if real-time data would be used in the study.

James Burd questioned if expansions would need to be made regarding schools and municipal services.

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Chait to close public hearing.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Motion by Chait, seconded by Ruger to adopt the introduced ordinance.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chait, Kuchinski, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

ABSENT: Purandare
ORDINANCE ADOPTED

Ordinance advertised June 17, 2022, Hopewell Valley News. Posted municipal bulletin board as required by law.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-1778

ORDINANCE RE-APPROPRIATING \$10,000.00 OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HOPEWELL VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) **AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. \$10,000 is hereby re-appropriated (the “Re-Appropriation Amount”) from the following bond ordinances of the Township of Hopewell, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey (the “Township”), which are no longer necessary for the various purposes for which the obligations previously were authorized:

<u>Ordinance Number</u>	<u>Improvement Description</u>	<u>Date of Adoption</u>	<u>Amount to be Re-Appropriated</u>
Section 3(d) of bond ordinance 20-1725	Aquifer and traffic studies by the Council of Affordable Housing, including related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	February 18, 2020	\$10,000.00
TOTAL:			\$10,000.00

Section 2. The Re-Appropriation Amount will be used to provide for the Demographic Study in partnership with Hopewell Valley Regional School District, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

Section 3. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

ORDINANCE – FINAL READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Peters-Manning read by title the introduced ordinance:

ORDINANCE RE-APPROPRIATING \$850,000.00 OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE 2022 CHIP SEAL AND ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

Mayor Peters-Manning declared public hearing open. No comments from the public. Motion by Chait, seconded by Ruger to close public hearing.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Chait to adopt the introduced ordinance.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chait, Kuchinski, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

ABSENT: Purandare

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

Ordinance advertised July 1, 2022, Hopewell Valley News. Posted municipal bulletin board as required by law.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-1779

ORDINANCE RE-APPROPRIATING \$850,000.00 OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE 2022 CHIPSEAL AND ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) **AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. \$850,000 is hereby re-appropriated (the "Re-Appropriation Amount") from the following bond ordinances of the Township of Hopewell, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey (the "Township"), which are no longer necessary for the various purposes for which the obligations previously were authorized:

<u>Ordinance Number</u>	<u>Improvement Description</u>	<u>Date of Adoption</u>	<u>Amount to be Re-Appropriated</u>
Section 3(a) of bond ordinance 20-1725	The Road Program (base), the Road Program Priority 1 (no base)* and 2021 Road Program preparation (PSEG), all as more fully described on lists on file in the Office of the Clerk which are hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth at length, including related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	February 18, 2020	\$325,000.00 (X-04-00-677-510)
Section 3(a) of bond ordinance 21-1743	The 2021 Road Programs for various roads, the 2022 Road Program design and the 2021 maintenance Program (base), all as more fully described on lists on file in the Office of the Clerk which lists are hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth at length, and improvements to Harbortown Rocktown Road*, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	March 15, 2021	\$525,000.00 (X-04-00-678-410)
TOTAL:			\$850,000.00

Section 2. The Re-Appropriation Amount will be used to provide for the following various capital improvements:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2022 Chipseal and Road Maintenance Program including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$325,000.00
2022 Road Program including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$525,000.00
Total	\$850,000.00

The above referenced improvements include all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto and further including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

Section 3. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the

adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

ORDINANCE – FINAL READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Peters-Manning read by title the introduced ordinance:

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$57,000 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE WASHINGTON CROSSING ESTATES TREATMENT PLANT PIPE REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

Mayor Peters-Manning declared public hearing open. No comments from the public. Motion by Ruger, seconded by Chait to close public hearing.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Motion by Chait, seconded by Ruger to adopt the introduced ordinance.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chait, Kuchinski, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

ABSENT: Purandare

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

Ordinance advertised July 1, 2022, Hopewell Valley News. Posted municipal bulletin board as required by law.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-1780

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$57,000 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE WASHINGTON CROSSING ESTATES TREATMENT PLANT PIPE REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. \$57,000 is hereby appropriated by the Township of Hopewell, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey (the “Township”) from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Washington Crossing Estates Treatment Plant Pipe Replacement Project, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto. The \$57,000 is a supplemental appropriation to the \$85,000 appropriated in the 2022 adopted budget.

Section 2. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by law.

ORDINANCE – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

Mayor Peters-Manning read by title the ordinance for introduction.

AN ORDINANCE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 19-1715 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, COUNTY OF MERCER,

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Motion by Chait, seconded by Kuchinski to introduce the ordinance on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chait, Kuchinski, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning

NOES: None

ABSENT: Purandare

ORDINANCE INTRODUCED

Second reading, public hearing date August 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLUTIONS #22-253 THROUGH #22-261, Read by title.

Motion by Chait, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolution #22-253 through #22-261.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**R E S O L U T I O N #22-253****A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF
OF BONDS AND/OR FEES**

WHEREAS, bonds and/or fees were posted for a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy;
and

WHEREAS, appropriate Township Department Officials have certified that outstanding items have been met and recommend reimbursement of the fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 11th day of July, 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey:

1. That the T.C.O. Driveway escrow money (\$1,000.00) posted on 5/4/18 by Arefur Rahman & Reeham Nizam for Block 72, Lot 1.09 (Permit #2016-0089) be and is hereby released.

R E S O L U T I O N # 22-254**RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION
OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES**

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2021 Evolve Bank and Trust purchased Tax Sale Certificate 21-00006, for property located at Block 43.24, Lot 15.14 known as 3 Silvers Court, assessed to Elm Ridge Investments LLC.; this certificate was redeemed by Empire Title & Abstract Agency LLC as agent at time of sale; and

WHEREAS, the Township can now release the principal and interest received, and premium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 11th day of July 2022 that the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, Mercer County, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes the Tax Collector to release the amounts listed to the Lien Holder as specified below:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>OWNERS' NAME(S)</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>LIEN HOLDER</u>	<u>PREMIUM</u>
43.24/15.14	Elm Ridge Inv LLC	\$26,396.56	Evolve Bank & Trust	\$76,100.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this approved resolution is forwarded to the Tax Collector.

R E S O L U T I O N #22-255**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF
TAX OR SEWER OVERPAYMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has determined that overpayments of taxes and/or utility charges have been made; said overpayments are caused by duplicated payments from owners, title agencies and mortgage companies who have been contacted by the Collector for proper settlement; tax appeals; or utility overpayments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 11th day of July 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the individuals and/or corporations so specified below be refunded the overpayment of taxes. Further, a copy of this approved resolution shall be forwarded to the Collector and to the Finance Officer.

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>REFUND TO</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
41/7	TCMC LLC c/o C Stasiak	280 Carter Rd	\$18,385.36

Reason: Paid by TCMC LLC and Mortgage Company

R E S O L U T I O N #22-256

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FOR HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

WHEREAS, registration fees were paid for participation in a variety of programs sponsored by the Hopewell Township Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, some participants have requested a refund in accordance with department policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 11th day of July 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following program refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Gloria Hu	53 Chicory Lane	Pennington 08534	\$152.00
Trish Mikita	108 Johnstone Drive	Pennington 08534	\$264.00
Nidhi Sharma	266 Colt Street	Pennington 08534	\$153.75
Kim Whittington	25 Voorhees Court	Pennington 08534	\$155.00
Michele McLean	1205 Dickenson Drive	Yardley, PA 19067	\$225.00
Jenine Lansing	10 Van Gogh Court	Ewing 08618	\$260.00
Lauren Rankin	124 Shrewsbury Court	Pennington 08534	\$ 44.25
Mark Signorin	6 New Road	Lambertville 08525	\$205.00
Molly Peterson	115 Hopewell Wertsville Rd	Hopewell 08525	\$ 88.50
Lorraine Shui	22 Greylynne Drive	Princeton 08540	\$ 88.50
Glenn D'Auria	10 Nathaniel Drive	Titusville 08560	\$ 44.25
Heather Driscoll	132 King George Road	Pennington 08534	\$170.00
Liya Ma	247 Concord Place	Pennington 08534	\$108.75
Prudence Cole	93 Elm Ridge Road	Princeton 08540	\$ 44.25
Shelby Stenhagen	15 Dorset Drive	Ewing 08618	\$ 45.25
Bethanne Prugh	325 Wash Cross-Penn Road	Titusville 08560	\$ 44.25
Katherine Nunnally	5 Tara Way	Pennington 08534	\$235.00

R E S O L U T I O N #22-257

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL PART-TIME SEASONAL WORKERS FOR THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there is a need for part-time workers to manage, supervise, and lead a variety of programs sponsored by the Hopewell Township Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing their experience and qualifications, the following individuals were selected and are recommended by the Hopewell Township Recreation Director for appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 11th day of July 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that part-time workers be hereby appointed effective July 12, 2022 through September 6, 2022 as follows:

NAME	TITLE	PROGRAM	SALARY
Mark Chiu	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
Lisa Strigel	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
John McGinley	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
Christine Levering	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
Michael Rowley	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
Jennifer Dowling	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
Jenna Bailin	Recreation Leader Per-Diem	Teen Travel	\$ 260.00 per day
Michael Rowley	Recreation Leader	Lunch Bunch	\$ 25.00 per hour

Pay scale as set by Township Ordinance:

Recreation Aide:	\$ 13.00 per hour to \$15.00 per hour
Recreation Leader:	\$15.00 per hour to \$35.00 per hour
Recreation Supervisor	\$35.00 per hour to \$50.00 per hour

Each of the summer camps has a range of hours that is dependent on weather, drop-off and pick-up times of campers, daily trip times, and set-up/planning time.

Lunch Bunch - Range is from 1-1.5 hours per day

Teen Travel - Range is from 35 hours to 40 hours per week

R E S O L U T I O N #22-258

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF UNUSED ANNUAL LEAVE, SICK AND COMPENSATION TIME TO PATROL OFFICER JOHN A. FERNER

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer John A. Ferner retired July 1, 2022 from employment with the Township of Hopewell Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement between Hopewell Township and the Hopewell Township Police Benevolent Association provides to employees who retire from service the payment of unused sick, annual leave and compensatory time at their current hourly rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 11th of July, 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Township Committee hereby approves the payout of accumulated sick time as calculated by the Human Resources Director in the amount of \$10,517.66 to Patrol Officer John A. Ferner.

R E S O L U T I O N #22-259

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF UNUSED VACATION AND SICK TIME TO DONALD O'HARA

WHEREAS, Donald O'Hara retired July 1, 2022 from employment with the Hopewell Township Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement between the Township of Hopewell and the Hopewell Township Public Works AFSCME Local 3867 provides to employees who retire from service the payment of unused sick, vacation and compensatory time at their current hourly rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 11th day of July, 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Township Committee hereby approves the payout of accumulated vacation and sick time as calculated by the Human Resources Director in the amount of \$19,312.76 to Donald O'Hara.

RESOLUTION #22-260

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION OF
THE WATERSHED INSTITUTE
TO CONDUCT A BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL**

WHEREAS, application has been made by the Watershed Institute to conduct a Butterfly Festival in the Township of Hopewell at 31 Titus Mill Road on August 6, 2022, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Health Officer, the Hopewell Township Police Department, and Hopewell Township Bureau of Fire Safety have reviewed the application and granted their approval to conduct the festival and recommend the granting of a permit pursuant to the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Hopewell, Chapter IV, Section 4-3 Festivals and Large Assemblies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. This Resolution shall constitute a permit to conduct a Butterfly Festival in accordance with the application submitted by the Watershed Institute, which festival is to be held on August 6, 2022 at 31 Titus Mill Road in Hopewell Township.
2. The Watershed Institution shall be exempt from the several provisions of 4-3, et seq. (4-3.8 Exemptions. a. Charitable or non-profit organizations) except those provided by 4-3.4, Insurance Requirement.
3. The Municipal Clerk is directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Watershed Institute, 31 Titus Mill Road, Pennington, NJ 08534.

RESOLUTION #22-261

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION OF
RUTGERS MASTER GARDENERS OF MERCER COUNTY
TO CONDUCT AN INSECT FESTIVAL**

WHEREAS, application has been made by Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County to conduct an Insect Festival in the Township of Hopewell at Mercer County Educational Gardens & Equestrian Center on September 10, 2022, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Health Officer, the Hopewell Township Police Department and the Hopewell Township Bureau of Fire Safety have reviewed the application and granted their approval to conduct the festival and recommend the granting of a permit pursuant to the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Hopewell, Chapter IV, Section 4-3 Festivals and Large Assemblies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. This Resolution shall constitute a permit to conduct an Insect Festival in accordance with the application submitted by Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County, which festival is to be held on September 10, 2022 at Mercer County Educational Gardens & Equestrian Center in Hopewell Township.
2. Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County shall be exempted from the several provisions of 4-3, et seq. (4-3.8 Exemptions. a. Charitable or non-profit organizations) except those provided by 4-3.4, Insurance Requirement.
3. The Municipal Clerk is directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County, 1440 Parkside Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08638.

RESOLUTION #22-262. Read by title.

Motion by Chait, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolution #22-262.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

RESOLUTION #22-262

**RESOLUTION OF AWARD OF BID # 22-09 -WASHINGTON CROSSING PARK
ESTATES WATER TREATMENT PLANT PIPING REPLACEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Hopewell has a need for piping replacement at the Washington Crossing Park Estates Water Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the Township has advertised and received formal bids for Bid # 22-09 Washington Crossing Park Estates Water Treatment Plant Piping Replacement, in a Fair and Open manner in accord with N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5 et. Seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Township publicly received formal bids on June 1, 2022 at 9:00A.M.; and

WHEREAS, the Township received two (2) bids to wit:

DeMaio Electrical Co. Inc	VNL Inc.
\$138,000.00	\$149,000.00

WHEREAS, the design engineer and qualified purchasing agent have determined DeMaio Electricals Co. Inc’s submittal to be the lowest responsive bidder, in accord with N.J.S.A.40A:11-4(a); and

WHEREAS, This Resolution shall be effective upon passage and publication of Ordinance No.22-1780; and

WHEREAS, this bid can be awarded upon the passage and publication of Ordinance No. 22-1780, which appropriates funds to finance the improvement, but not before; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that upon passage and publication of ordinance No. 22-1780, funds NOT TO EXCEED, \$138,000.00 are available as follows:

Line item:

X-06-00-622-101 \$57,000

2-05-55-502-029 \$81,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with DeMaio Electrical Co. Inc. in the amount of \$138,000.00, in accord with all the tenets as found in Bid #22-09 Washington Crossing Park Estates Water Treatment Plant Piping Replacement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that This Resolution shall be effective upon passage and publication of Ordinance No. 22-1780; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this bid can be awarded upon the passage and publication of Ordinance No. 22-1780, which appropriates funds to finance the improvement, but not before.

RESOLUTION #22-263. Read by title.

Motion by Chait, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolution #22-263.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

R E S O L U T I O N #22-263

A RESOLUTION AMENDING 2022 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Township entered into a Professional Services Agreement with the firms noted below; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend this agreement to change the amount and/or the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds are available.

<u>FIRM</u>	<u>CURRENT MAXIMUM</u>	<u>PROPOSED MAXIMUM</u>	<u>CURRENT TERM EXPIRES</u>	<u>PROPOSED TERM EXPIRES</u>
Van Cleef Engineering Associates (Washington Crossing Estates Plan Upgrades) 2-05-55-502-028	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	12/31/2022	No Change

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 11th day of July, 2022 by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Professional Services Agreements be and are hereby amended.

RESOLUTION #22-264. Read by title.
Motion by Kuchinski, seconded by Ruger to adopt Resolution #22-264.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chait, Kuchinski, Ruger, Mayor Peters-Manning
NOES: None
ABSENT: Purandare

RESOLUTION #22-264

BILLS & CLAIMS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of cash disbursements authorized for approval of bills for payment date July 11, 2022 in the following amounts:

Bills and Claims	\$	307,866.92
Payroll	\$	342,826.63
Total Disbursements	\$	650,693.55

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

WORK SESSION - EAST WELLING AVENUE SIDEWALKS

Herb Seeburger of Van Cleef Engineering provided draft conceptual plans along East Welling Avenue which would provide sidewalks on the street. He explained that both sides of the road are in Hopewell Township and offered options for sidewalk placement.

He described Option One as installing a single sidewalk on the east side of the road; proposed that the road be widened approaching the Curlis Avenue end to maintain a twelve-foot travel lane as the road narrows towards Curlis Avenue; that a sidewalk would be installed on the east side only; that the sidewalk would connect with an existing sidewalk on Curlis Avenue; and that Curlis Avenue leads up to Pennington Borough and the elementary school.

Mr. Seeburger was asked to comment on the benefits of installing sidewalks on East Welling Avenue to which Mr. Seeburger replied that children walk to school in this area; that providing a sidewalk on East Welling Avenue will provide a seamless connection for children walking to school; and that it keeps the children off the street and onto the sidewalk. Obtaining a Safe Routes to School grant was discussed.

Mr. Seeburger presented Option Two as being a single sidewalk on the west side of the road; that it is more problematic due to the fact that the culvert would need to be extended; that the project fee would be more expensive; and that the trees in the vicinity of the sidewalk will need to be removed.

Discussion ensued regarding the removal of the trees. Mr. Seeburger then advised that Option Three consisted of placing curbs and sidewalks on both sides of the street to which Committee Members questioned if an Option Four could possibly consist of instituting some kind of traffic calming. Mr. Snyder reviewed the traffic study conducted by the Police Department which indicated the majority of drivers drove within the speed limit. Discussion was held regarding various options of traffic calming which could be implemented.

Mayor Peters-Manning opened the meeting for public comment.

Shannon Erwin, a resident of East Welling Avenue, expressed her desire for a sidewalk; noted that the street is dangerous where it is narrow; preferred that the sidewalk be on the west side of the street; and stated that if the sidewalk was on the west side, the children would not have to cross the street to go to school.

George and Kerri Ward, residents of East Welling Avenue, requested that the sidewalks not be placed on their side of the street, which is the east side; stated that placing the sidewalk on the east side would result in children crossing the street twice to get to the Tollgate school; and cited concerns over the impact of construction on his septic system.

Robert Sonzogni, a resident of East Welling Avenue, cited his concerns over trees being cut down; questioned if trees could be planted to replace the trees lost due to the sidewalk placement; questioned the placement of the sidewalk as it relates to the utility poles; inquired if sidewalks would be slanted to accommodate for the angle of the terrain on the east side of the road; and stated that even if there were sidewalks on both sides of the road, children on the east side of the road would still need to cross the street to go to school.

Frank Newport, a resident of East Welling Avenue, cited the number of houses on each side of the creek as well as the number of houses on the east and west side of the road; urged the Committee to keep a certain shade tree in tact; cautioned that there is a significant hill that a sidewalk would make unsightly; and suggested that no sidewalks be placed on East Welling Avenue.

Mike Murr, a resident of East Welling Avenue, stated he has lived on East Welling Avenue for 28 years; that there have never been sidewalks on East Welling Avenue; that children have always walked to school without sidewalks on the street; requested that the Committee visit the road before they consider where to put the sidewalk and before they consider cutting down trees; and suggested that there is a better use for the money that would be spent on the sidewalks.

Suzanne Trautwein, a resident of East Welling Avenue, made certain comments regarding what she perceived to be a traffic study and expressed that the traffic study was actually a traffic deterrent, to which Mayor Peters-Manning clarified that Pennington Borough performed the traffic deterrent, not Hopewell Township. Ms. Trautwein stated that the curve is downhill and traffic moves quickly; that there is more traffic now; that more people are distracted driving; requested traffic calming; and welcomed the installation of sidewalks.

Susan Perris, a resident of East Welling Avenue, cited recent flooding at the creek; expressed her belief that if trees were removed it would worsen the flooding situation; and urged the Committee to take precautions to curtail the flooding if they install sidewalks.

George Ward wanted to ensure that the Township Committee was clear on which side of the road each resident who spoke lived on.

Mayor Peters-Manning indicated that more trees could be planted and Mr. Seeburger confirmed that the replanting of trees was addressed in his estimates for the project. Mr. Seeburger then explained how the sidewalk would be installed to address ADA compliance.

Robert Sonzogni, asked that Mr. Seeburger address which side of the utility poles the sidewalks would be placed to which Mr. Seeburger replied that the sidewalk would go behind the poles, however the one pole that is set back could possibly be removed.

A discussion ensued regarding traffic calming measures that might be utilized on the street; debated whether or not traffic calming measures were warranted; discussed the difference between traffic calming and roadway safety; and commented that the residents would have the responsibility to shovel and repair the sidewalks.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – AS LISTED ON THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE ON THE CLERK’S PAGE.

PUBLIC SECTION

The following members of the public spoke during public comment:

James Burd questioned the Township’s intention for the Oldis Farm and Horse Farm properties; inquired if the farm will be preserved; suggested that a traffic study be conducted at Federal City and Bull Run Roads by all three police chiefs; and questioned who makes the decisions on the times the Boards and Committees meet.

Melanie Phillips questioned a clarification regarding Ordinance 9-A with regard to an entrance to the Zaitz tract.

William Reed Rankin, a resident of Poor Farm Road, speaking on behalf of Gail Marie Liana Thompson of the same address, requested the regulation of Airbnb's in the Township; cited examples of issues that have occurred in the neighborhood; and requested that the Committee intervene.

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

At 8:16 p.m., motion by Ruger, seconded by Kuchinski 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