

**NORTH HANOVER TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2022, 7:00 P.M.**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Dial In: 1-888-482-9769; Access Code 4493305#
OR
IN PERSON LIMITED TO THE FIRST 13 REGISTERED
TO REGISTER EMAIL: CLERK@NORTHHANOVERTWP.COM**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE: Led by Mayor Doyle

ROLL CALL: Mayor Doyle
Deputy Mayor Forsyth
Committeeman DeBaecke
Committeeman Kocubinski
Committeeman O'Donnell

Absent: None

Also Present: Township Clerk Picariello and Township Attorney Mark Roselli

SUNSHINE STATEMENT: “The provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notice of this meeting has been transmitted by email to the Courier Post, Burlington County Times and The Trenton Times as well as given to those having requested same and posted on the Township bulletin board located in the foyer of the municipal building”.

SWEARING IN OF FULL-TIME OFFICER LIMING

Mr. Liming came forward to be sworn in as a Full-Time Police officer. Mayor Doyle welcomed Mr. Liming's family. Committeeman/Police Commissioner DeBaecke administered the Oath of Office. A round of applause was offered. Mayor Doyle expressed his appreciation to Officer Liming. He noted it is a much more difficult role to fulfill in this day and age. He told him to stay safe and noted his dedication to the residents of North Hanover does not go unrecognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT AS IT RELATES TO AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Doyle opened the meeting to the public. There were no public comments this evening

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

Proposed By: Committeeman O'Donnell
Seconded By: Committeeman DeBaecke

REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

1. Fire Marshall final correspondence – Clerk Picariello noted Mr. Paolo thanked the Township Committee for all the years of service and offered any assistance that was needed during the transition.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Hirsh noted the Local Recreation Improvement Grant needs to be determined what improvements the Township Committee would like to do. He noted there was \$50,000 awarded. He stated the FY 2021 NJDOT contract was working on final construction quantities and a payment. He noted the FY2022 NJDOT plans and specifications were submitted and he was waiting for approval to bid.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- March 17, 2022 – Regular Meeting

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | X | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O’Donnell | | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

- March 17, 2022 – Executive Session

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | X | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O’Donnell | | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

BILLS AND CLAIMS FOR APPROVAL

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O’Donnell | | X | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | X | | X | | | |

ORDINANCE – ADOPTION

2022-04 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

**ORDINANCE 2022-04
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER**

CALENDAR YEAR 2022

***ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)***

WHEREAS, the Local Government CAP Law, N.J.S. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to **2.5%** unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to **3.5%** over the previous year’s final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the

1.0% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the *Township Committee* of the *Township of North Hanover* in the County of *Burlington* finds it advisable and necessary to increase its *CY 2022* budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the *Township Committee* of the *Township of North Hanover* in the County of *Burlington* hereby determines that a 1.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$27,772.67 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government CAP Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the *Township Committee* of the *Township North Hanover* of in the County of *Burlington* hereby determines that any amount authorized herein above that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the *Township Committee* of the *Township of North Hanover* in the County of *Burlington*, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the *CY 2022* budget year, the final appropriations of the *Township of North Hanover* shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$97,204.35, and that the *CY 2022* municipal budget for the *Township of North Hanover* be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized herein above that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

MAYOR OPENS THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments this evening.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed By: Committeeman DeBaecke

Seconded By: Committeeman O’Donnell

MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2022-04

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | X | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O’Donnell | | X | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

CONSENT AGENDA DEFINED:

All Resolutions listed on today’s consent agenda are to be considered as one vote by Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

2022-67 Resolution Appointing Part-Time Custodian

**RESOLUTION 2022-67
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME CUSTODIAN

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. Title 40 and Title 40A provide for the Appointment of Certain Officers, Appointees, and Employees to be appointed in Township Positions to carry out the lawful duties and responsibilities of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Salary Ordinance provides for the rate of Compensation, Salary, or Wages of Certain Officers, Appointees and Employees of said Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Officers, Appointees, and Employees are hereby appointed for their respective terms, as follows:

Part-Time Custodian ~ Kelly K. Greene

Effective Date of Employment: 04/05/2022

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-named position will be compensated at a rate of \$18.00 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours per week.

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman O’Donnell | X | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

2022-68 Resolution Appointing a Part-Time Fire Official

**RESOLUTION 2022-68
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME FIRE OFFICIAL

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. Title 40 and Title 40A provide for the Appointment of Certain Officers, Appointees, and Employees to be appointed in Township Positions to carry out the lawful duties and responsibilities of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township Salary Ordinance provides for the rate of Compensation, Salary, or Wages of Certain Officers, Appointees and Employees of said Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Officers, Appointees, and Employees are hereby appointed for their respective terms, as follows:

Part-Time Fire Official (including Fire Inspector) ~ Robert Gancarz

Effective Date of Employment: 04/07/2022

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-named position will be compensated at a rate of \$26.00 per hour.

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman O'Donnell | X | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

2022-69 Resolution Designating the Month of May as “Bag Up New Jersey” Month

**RESOLUTION 2022-69
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY AS “BAG UP NEW JERSEY”
MONTH**

WHEREAS, P.L.202, c.117, signed into law on November 4th, 2020 is the most progressive disposable bag law in the country, -with the goal of phasing out single-use plastic and paper bags
And encouraging the use of reusable bags throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey is working to reduce reliance on single-use products to ensure that future generations have a clean and healthy environment to live, work, and recreate in; and

WHEREAS, banning or limiting the use of single-use plastic and paper carryout bags is a significant step in this effort; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Clean Communities Council, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the New Jersey Department of State, policymakers, environmental and business groups, as well as stakeholders, are working together to educate consumers, businesses, and communities about the new law and encouraging residents to “Bag Up” before the ban on single-use plastic bags goes into effect on May 4, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive “Bag Up NJ” campaign will include educational programs, public and media engagement and reusable bag distribution programs throughout the state, with an emphasis on underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, this statewide public education campaign will provide residents, businesses, and visitors

with information about the types of reusable and sustainable bags and containers that they may use and where to access these products.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the North Hanover Township that it is critical to begin educating the public about this new law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that one way to gain important recognition is to deem the month of May each year as “Bag Up NJ” month in North Hanover Township, as a further reminder that all residents should bring their own reusable bags to the store; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the NJ Clean Communities Council, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman O'Donnell | X | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

2022-70 Resolution Urging the Swift Passage of S-330/A3804, Which Shall Restore the Energy Tax Receipts to Municipalities

**RESOLUTION 2022 -70
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

RESOLUTION URGING THE SWIFT PASSAGE OF S-330/A3804, WHICH SHALL RESTORE THE ENERGY TAX RECEIPTS TO MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for the use of their rights of way; and

WHEREAS, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties, and other entities, the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, for years, though, State budget makers have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to fund State programs; and instead of being spent on local programs and services and used to offset property taxes, the money has been spent as successive Legislatures and Administrations have seen fit; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of dedicated energy tax receipts to the State’s General Fund further jeopardizes this critical property tax relief funding in future years; and

WHEREAS, by reducing Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Act (CMPTRA), which is also comprised of revenues that should be returned to municipalities, State Budget

makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes, while keeping additional revenue that should have been returned to provide property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative impact of years of underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials are in the best position to decide the best use of these resources, which were always intended to fund local programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Senator Singleton and Senate President Scutari have introduced legislation (S-330) that will restore, over a five-year period, Energy Tax Receipts to municipalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of the North Hanover in the County of Burlington urges the Legislature to swiftly pass this legislation and Governor Murphy sign the legislation prior to passage of the FY2023 State budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Governor Murphy, and the League of Municipalities.

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman O'Donnell | X | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

NON-CONSENT AGENDA

2022-71 Resolution Approving the Public Display of Fireworks for the Township of North Hanover Family Night Celebration

**RESOLUTION 2022-71
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER FAMILY NIGHT CELEBRATION

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Township of North Hanover to approve the public display of fireworks for the North Hanover Family Night Celebration; and

WHEREAS, a proposal was submitted to the North Hanover Township Committee for consideration; and

WHEREAS, the North Hanover Township Committee desires to accept the proposal from Celebration Fireworks Inc., in the amount of \$4,815.00; and

WHEREAS, after **authorization is approved**, the Fire Official will then be able to issue a permit for the public display of fireworks.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of North Hanover, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that approval is granted for the public display of fireworks for the North Hanover Family Night Celebration to be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022, with a rain date of Sunday, September 18, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fire Official is hereby requested to issue a permit pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:18-2.7.

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | X | | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | X | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O'Donnell | | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

2022-72 Resolution Authorizing Release of Escrow

RESOLUTION 2022-72
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON

AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF ESCROWS

WHEREAS, the following accounts have a balance in the escrow account:

| Name | Block/Lot | Balance |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Trex Performance (2556909001) | 609/2 | \$3,115.00 |

WHEREAS, the professionals have indicated that no monies are due these accounts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of North Hanover, County of Burlington, that the above-named escrow account be released; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer.

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | X | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O'Donnell | | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | X | | X | | | |

DISCUSSION

Mayor Doyle noted the Memorial Day parade was being planned. He noted the Recreation Advisory Committee wanted to know should they plan for the luncheon. Attorney Roselli noted he felt it would be fine. It was noted it would be held in a well-ventilated area.

Clerk Picariello inquired if restrictions should be lifted for meetings. Township Committee stated yes but keep the audio portion in place.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE “COMMENTS”

Committeeman DeBaecke stated he was looking forward to the Memorial Day parade. He also noted a proposed 37 house development, on Provinceline Road, was coming before the JLUB at their April 27th meeting. He noted he has been working with Assemblyman Dancer on crafting a bill to change the funding formula for preserving farms. He stated he was hopeful for the future of farm preservation.

Deputy Mayor Forsyth stated Herman’s donated stone for the compactor repair at the Waste Facility and expressed his appreciation. He also expressed concerns over accidents on Meany Road. Mayor Doyle noted the County has been contacted numerous times over the hazards. There were discussions concerning reducing the speed limit and Attorney Roselli noted a traffic study would need to be done. There was also discussion concerning closing the end of the Road. Engineer Hirsh noted he would explore the rural residential road law to see if it was feasible for reducing the speed limit.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Questions, comments or statements from members of the public in attendance.

Mayor Doyle opened the meeting to the public. He thanked Mr. Voorhees for his attendance.

Mr. Wayne Voorhees – 226 Cookstown-New Egypt Road- Mr. Voorhees stated he was amazed that no one comes to this meeting. He also inquired as to what pickleball was and an explanation was given. He noted he was pleased the Township Committee would be keeping the audio portion of the meeting.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

Proposed By: Committeeman O’Donnell

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Forsyth

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

2022-73 Authorizing a Closed Session Meeting to discuss the following matter(s) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; Contract Matters, Personnel and Litigation matters

**RESOLUTION 2022-73
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION MEETING

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 and P.L. 2001, C. 404, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of North Hanover Township wishes to go into a closed Executive Session and is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist which should not be discussed in public, and

WHEREAS. the Open Public Meetings Act pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the Township Committee to discuss certain matter(s) in private, and in this case for the purpose of the Township Committee to discuss contract negotiations, litigation and personnel matters in this regard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Township Committee of North Hanover Township that it will go into an Executive Session for the purpose of the Township Committee to discuss Contract Matters, Litigation and Personnel matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the results of such discussion may be revealed at such time as the matter(s) are resolved and/or a contract(s) is signed and/or the negotiations are formally settled. Interested parties may contact the Township Clerk anytime during normal business hours for periodic updates as to the availability in this regard.

TABLE INDEFINITELY

| COMMITTEE | MOTION | 2ND | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------|------|---------|--------|
| Committeeman DeBaecke | | X | X | | | |
| Deputy Mayor Forsyth | | | X | | | |
| Committeeman Kocubinski | X | | X | | | |
| Committeeman O'Donnell | | | X | | | |
| Mayor Doyle | | | X | | | |

BACK TO PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION TO ADJOURN 7:58 pm

Proposed By: Committeeman DeBaecke

Seconded By: Committeeman O'Donnell

Respectively submitted,

Mary Picariello, RMC/CMR/CTC
Township Clerk