

The following are notes, not an official transcript of the meeting. For an official transcript, go to the Delanco Township Municipal Building, 770 Coopertown Road.

Township Committee Meeting

Present: DiCarlo, Hinkle, Ouelette, Fitzpatrick

Municipal Clerk Lohr, Administrator Corcoran, Deputy Clerk Zimmerman

Ordinance 2006- 9 authorizing the acquisition of real property in and for the Township; appropriating the sum not to exceed \$350,000; authorizing the issuance of an inter-agency loan in the amount of up to \$350,000; making certain determinations and covenants; and authorizing certain related actions in connection with the foregoing 3rd reading by title only, public hearing (no comment), passed unanimously

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Consent Agenda Items:

Ordinance 2006- 10 removed for discussion at request of Ouelette

Resolution 2006- 98 authorizing NJDOT Grant application – improvements to Orchard Street and Second Street

Resolution 2006- -99 authorizing NJDOT Grant application – improvements to Washington St.

Resolution 2006- 100 refund of 2006 tax overpayment

Resolution 2006- 101 authorizing township engineer to advertise for construction bids for the Pine Street improvement project

Resolution 2006- 102 terminating contract for affordable housing monitoring services

Resolution 2006- 103 determining and declaring Zurbrugg Mansion properties as an area in need of redevelopment

Payment of Bills:

General	\$166,218.63
Payroll	56,340.75
Capital	1,250.22
Trust	29,654.91
Animal control	6,556.72

Approval of minutes: May 15, 2006

Consent agenda approved

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Minutes for May 8 and June 5 were approved by vote

Ordinance 2006- 10 to amend Chapter 224 of the code entitled “Public Records, Access to” 1st reading by title only and set public hearing date for July 10, 2006

Ouelette questioned fee of \$5.00 for copies when he paid \$.75 in another township.

Corcoran – the only change in this ordinance is the procedure which allows the clerk to request payment for Xeroxing in advance. It’s to avoid someone asking for copies requiring township employee time and resources and then not picking them up.

First reading was then approved

Meeting open to the public:

Resident of Pennington Court: asked Corcoran to discuss information on the land swap for the path at Newton’s Landing following walk

Corcoran: had discussed in executive session since it could potentially affect a contract.

Nothing is resolved. Township Committee’s direction is to not carve up the parcels.

Township Committee’s understanding of the swap was that Pulte would transfer land to Township which would transfer it to the county. County now seems uninterested in maintenance.

Resident: Didn’t realize until walk that lawn areas were Newton’s Landing’s responsibility. They don’t want to take on more.

Corcoran: Neither do we.

Resident of McKay Way: Thanks for the improvements to the site at Newton’s Landing Blvd. and Creek Rd. Last trailer and drainage remains

Corcoran: Unsung heroes – Phil and Walt

Resident: Silt fence is falling down

Rahenkamp: It will be taken care of tomorrow.

Hinkle: What happened to the ducklings?

Rahenkamp: A fox

Resident of Illinois Ave: Received a letter from the township inquiring as to interest in the property adjoining his. Is interested

Corcoran: Send a letter of interest

Resident of Second Street: Trash at the river and Lilac – no can.

Fitzpatrick: We will put one there

Resident (Rahenkamp): Weeds need to stay to keep silt in place. The mound of topsoil will be used.

Resident of Delaware Ave. (me): Regarding trash situation. When there is a holiday with only one collection per week, trash overflows the can at Union. People leave plastic bags of dog droppings beside the can. It’s summer; that’s not sanitary. Not sure what you do there, maybe a can at each street would help.

Fitzpatrick: We’ll look into doing that.

Resident of Rivers Edge: Rental inspectors drop something new on you each year. Now fire extinguishers need to be #2 rated. You can't buy them in a store – have to special-order. Then you have to pay \$20 for reinspection.

Fitzpatrick: The state law changed. The extinguisher needs to be visible and mounted in reach and near a door. Reinspection fee should be waived since it's a new law

Hinkle: Residents were not even informed

Fitzpatrick: Letter that goes out for annual inspection should have new requirements.

Hinkle: The property owner has the responsibility though.

Lohr: We could do a courtesy mailing. I wouldn't like to see us establish responsibility for making residents aware of all the changes in state law. Operating a rental property is a business. It sets a dangerous precedent to make the township the responsible party.

Township doesn't even get the code books. The code enforcers do.

Resident: Township boards should tell the state, band together to get action. One person can't get anything changed. We've seen that here in town.

Lohr: We could work on a courtesy notice of significant changes.

Fitzpatrick: We should have a meeting of landlords.

Resident of Buttonwood Street: Who owns the property at Vine and Buttonwood? Why is there a trailer there?

Fitzpatrick: Grass there is too high and shrubs need to be taken out. Trailer is there as per temporary use for construction. Steve will look into code to see how long it can be there.

Lot for sale at Hickory and Walnut needs to be cleaned up too.

Resident of McKay Way: Could there be a notice of how long the trailer can be on a property?

Lohr: Property owner has approvals for a duplex.

Fitzpatrick: We will update at the July 10 meeting

Meeting closed to the public

Discussion Items:

Zurbrugg Mansion update – Corcoran: Request for proposals with color brochure will be mailed June 23, responses are due 2 pm Sept. 6. They will be reviewed by professionals and Township Committee which reserves the right to ask for additional information about a proposal. There will be tours, the carriage house will be available, and there will be a question period.

Fitzpatrick: If anyone knows anyone who would be interested, let them know.

Correspondence

1. Resignation of Bob Bellen as Emergency Management Coordinator
2. Thanks from J. Nixon from First Presbyterian Church for help with Red Cross Blood Drive – collected 36 units

Comments –

Township Administrator Steve Corcoran:

1. Working on PA system and acoustics in the Municipal Building through a contractor/consultant and someone from the NJ court system. No cost to the township.

Looking into baffles 1st. Hoping to have access to some of the historical images of town through the Historical Preservation Advisory Board. Could be printed on canvas.

Fitzpatrick: Rec program is looking for space in here to display some art work – about 6-8 pieces

2. Website – training on Thursday at Walnut Street School. Launched by the end of the month.

Comments Township Committee:

Ouelette: Attended a program on eminent domain. Bill passed Committee to state Assembly as of today.

Hinkle: Weren't we going to have a roundtable of committees?

Fitzpatrick: Yes, it should be on a Monday Township Committee night.

Fitzpatrick:

1. Township received an award from the Rancocas Conservancy for helping to protect the waterway.

2. Met with Bridge Commission regarding the Lippincott property. We're waiting for plans so we can have demolition. Commission is paying for engineering services for the plan as well as a lump sum for demolition. There will be two sets of plans – seeded and unseeded. There will be a light for the parking.

3. Issue with Ryan Homes regarding affordable housing is resolved. They will build 14 senior units and carry credits over.

4. Monuments were rededicated – needs a path to them – Rec?

5. Engineers met with Steve regarding plans for Pine Street – inviting residents to July 10th meeting. They will be replacing sidewalks and curb and taking out some trees. They will only repair street in places where tree roots have damaged it – not redoing the whole street.

6. Board of Ed honoring teachers Harding and Vogt for many years of services and Mongo after 6 years as principal.

7. 8th grade student Eric Wolford won the Brett Harris award.

8. Will write to the state re: impact of changes on landlord.

Will also write to support Bill 172 which exempts municipal clerks from being held responsible (I missed the rest) Would like to do a Resolution to send to state.

Will write to support Bill 553 which would allow municipalities to impose premiums for health care on employees.

Notes submitted by Maureen Barrett