

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– NOVEMBER 20, 2006

Present: Devinney, DiCarlo, Hinkle, Ouellette, and Fitzpatrick

Also Present: Deputy Municipal Clerk Zimmerman, Chief of Police Parsons

**ANNOUNCEMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF WALNUT STREET SCHOOL
ELECTIONWINNERS**

Mayor: Adam Dych

Deputy Mayor: Jennifer Baiada

Committeemembers: Heather France, Paul Newman and Jeremy Stoltz

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINSTERED TO WALNUT STREET SCHOOL STUDENTS
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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

**RESOLUTION 2006-149 URGING ACTION BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE ON
ETHICS REFORM**

**Resolution 2006 ??? this wasn't on the written agenda and I didn't catch the number.
It is one of the amendments to the zoning section of the code.**

RESOLUTION 2006-150 REFUND OF 2006 TAX OVERPAYMENT

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$ 225,573.52

PAYROLL 33,193.65

TRUST 9,061.46

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 11/13/06

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Passed unanimously
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MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No comments

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. FY 2007 Community Development Block Grant Program

Fitzpatrick: To Dec. 4th agenda

CORRESPONDENCE - none

COMMENTS

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

Chief Parsons:

- Handicapped parking on Willow
- Students were moved due to construction
- working on 2 stop signs

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Devinney

-Attended NJ League of Municipalities Conference – Sessions on State planning and smart growth, Ethics (Uniform Ethics Code has been adopted by Executive branch. It has real penalties.) Property taxes (This session was aired by WNJN. Big question was sustainability of tax cuts.)

DiCarlo

-Location for tree lighting still up in the air – Columns or Gazebo
-Women's Club purchased flags (large and green with orange and off white storefront graphics) for lamps on Burlington Ave. Public Works will hang them. Thanks to Women's Club. (\$3000)

Hinkle

-Six cats out in her yard – encouraged public to let cats out or neuter- Animal Control did a great job
-Thanks to Walnut Street School for working with the students on the election project. They enjoyed the tour of the Police Department.

Ouellette

-Attended League of Municipalities Conference – budget, purchasing, ethics, open public meetings and documents, property tax, economic redevelopment and eminent domain

Students Comments:

- Assembly re My Space and Internet Safety
- Suggested a lacrosse team or maybe a track team (Fitzpatrick: We'll take that under consideration)
- Helped clear gutters over the weekend.
- New sidewalks are really nice and it's nicer walking to school.

Fitzpatrick

-Reviewing RFP's on mansion. Some additional appointments are set up and hopefully there will be something to present to the public in December.

Resident of Pennington:

1. Three main entrances into Delanco – driving by playground where skateboard park is. There is always litter. Maybe the younger people have some thoughts about what can be done. Public works is out there picking up all the time and it reflects poorly on the town.
2. Public meeting Nov. 29 on Columns?

Fitzpatrick: That was canceled.

Student Newman: Maybe if there is too much trash there, the police department should threaten to close the park, but I don't want it to shut down.

Chief: That's the problem.

Student Mayor Dych: We need more recycling bins. There aren't enough. People have to walk all the way to the other side to throw something out and people are lazy.

Student France: Impact Club at school could help clean up the litter.

Student Stolz: Lots of kids at skateboard park don't wear helmets.

Fitzpatrick: Another thing you might want to do is spread the word to keep the town nice and clean. I think we should suggest another trash can.

Chief Parsons: That's a good idea. We use community service people to do clean up, but we don't have enough booked.

Student Baiada: Maybe when you catch them, they can be made clean it up.

Student Newman: Notices graffiti – bad words. They should be caught and fined.

Hinkle: Do we have a problem with graffiti?

Chief: Yes

Stoltz: I saw some kids writing things and they were caught by an officer. They weren't fined. I think that should be changed.

Chief: We take the information and contact their parents. We can't talk about juveniles due to their age. You don't see all of what happens.

Student Dych: We could put a camera in each field.

Chief: It would be very expensive.

Student Dych: Candidates' Night was mischief night. I didn't see any police officers.

Chief: We are where the population isn't. We used unmarked cars too.

Hinkle: How expensive are the cameras?

Chief: \$4-5000 per.

Student France: With all the construction at Pearson and Walnut, the fields feel really small. What will happen when all of the kids at Pearson go to Walnut?

Hinkle: Six of those classrooms are empty now.

Fitzpatrick: School district has done a great job projecting what we will need.

Student Newman: When you go into Riverside, there are trains that are just sitting on the sides and are covered with graffiti. I think the cops should investigate that more closely.

Student Dych: About the river and Hawk Island, I've noticed that there are clothes laying around and on the trees.

Fitzpatrick: There will be a clean up day again on Hawk Island.

Hinkle: John used to get prisoners to help with that.

Student Stoltz: We don't get recess anymore. I think we should be able to go outside for 20 minutes.

Fitzpatrick: You should go before the Board of Education. We don't have jurisdiction.

Student Stoltz: About Hawk Island that you can't go on it. Why is that?

Fitzpatrick: Some is private property. Some belongs to the Township. The County is working on making it a park.

Chief Parsons: Safety issue. State may have equipment out there. There are some people who go out there to fish or walk. It's a liability.

Student France: Saw a shirt in the street

Fitzpatrick: I suggest you carry a bag when you walk and pick up the trash. I do because it's my neighborhood and I take a lot of pride in it. It's not right that people litter, but I don't want to leave it there either.

Student Newman: On Hawk Island, there are huge piles of beer bottles. They look really old.

Chief: They are really old. They've been there since before I was chief.

Hinkle: We haven't had a clean up out there for three years. We are due for one.

Resident of Burlington: Streetscape – can't they move the curb out and keep some of the larger trees where possible. When they get past the gas station there is more room to work.

Fitzpatrick: That phase isn't going to be done – only to Union or Walnut.

Student Dych: On the way home, the guys just sit there and look at you. Something else about Hawk Island – there's a big metal thing out there. How did they get that out there?

Chief: Some of that has been out there for years.

Resident of Burlington/President of PTO: Walnut Street School Drama Club presented 2nd play. Practiced at 7:30 in the morning. Play was 1 ½ hours. It's a new program and we need to market it more to the public.

Fitzpatrick: We were going to have a representative to Township Committee meetings. We have a website. If you don't have children in the schools, we don't know what is going on.

President of PTO: Dec. 1st fundraiser – tickets \$5

Student Dych: Dances until 9:30 – used to be 10. Is curfew til 10?

Chief: Friday night is 11:00

Student Baiada: Could start dances earlier

Fitzpatrick: Will make that suggestion to Mr. Livengood and let him know

Student France: Law about sugar in schools... could they have done that after Halloween?

Hinkle: All the schools are doing that

Student Dych: Bathrooms in schools – new dryers are very loud and not as fast.

Fitzpatrick: Thanks to student committee members and mayor. Suggested that they write down their suggestions and present them to school board. It's important that they have a voice.

A few more questions from students were redirected to board of ed.

Fitzpatrick suggested that students attend a board of ed meeting.

Student Dych: Basketball park closed at 9:00

Fitzpatrick: All of the Township parks close at 9:00.

Hinkle: Students can take their whole name plates with them

Fitzpatrick: They have their oaths of office

Student Dych: Loitering and littering at 7-11 Why isn't that enforced?

Chief: We don't move people all of the time. We give them a little time. We make 2-3 arrests there every week – mostly shoplifting. They have cameras everywhere.