

The following are notes, not official minutes. For an official transcript of this meeting, please go to Delanco Municipal Building, 770 Coopertown Rd.

**Health Department Meeting prior to Township Committee Meeting– Jan 8 2007 –**

- Devinney, Fitzpatrick, Hinkle, Templeton, Ouellette present
- Janice Lohr appointed secretary
- Burlington County Dept. of Health appointed as inspection agency for Delanco Township
- Rabies Clinic – held on Nov. 11, 2006. 80 vaccinations were given – pet waste guidelines were distributed as per Stormwater Management regulations

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING– JANUARY 8, 2007**

**Present:** Devinney \_\_\_ Fitzpatrick \_\_\_ Hinkle \_\_\_ Templeton \_\_\_ Ouellette \_\_\_

**Also Present:** Twp. Administrator Corcoran Twp. Engineer Denton, Twp. Solicitor Heinold Municipal Clerk Lohr, Deputy Municipal Clerk Zimmerman, Chief of Police Parsons, Code Enforcement Officer, Public Works Fenimore arrived with meeting in progress



**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

- RESOLUTION 2007-26 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON FOR THE PROVISION OF SOLIDWASTE/ RECYCLING SERVICES
- RESOLUTION 2007-27 2005 BUDGET RESERVE TRANSFERS
- RESOLUTION 2007-28 RESOLUTION CANCELING TAX BALANCES FOR NONEXEMPT PROPERTIES ACQUIRED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO
- RESOLUTION 2007-29 REFUND OF 2006 TAX OVERPAYMENTS
- RESOLUTION 2007-30 RESOLUTION TO REFUND VETERANS DEDUCTION GRANTED FOR 2006
- RESOLUTION 2007-31 RESOLUTION TO REFUND SENIOR CITIZEN DEDUCTION FOR YEAR 2006
- RESOLUTION 2007-32 RESOLUTION TO VOID CHECK # 22922 SENT TO SURETY TITLE COMPANY FOR 2006 TAX OVERPAYMENTS TOTALING \$5,005.92
- RESOLUTION 2007-33 APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER – JOINT INSURANCE FUND
- RESOLUTION 2007-34 APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER – MUNICIPAL EXCESS LIABILITY JIF PAYMENT OF BILLS
- ACCOUNT AMOUNT
- GENERAL \$ 561,983.22
- PAYROLL 68,804.05
- TRUST 13,802.00
- ANIMAL CONTROL 382.50

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Recreation Commission:**

- Kate Fitzpatrick to fill Alternate #2 term to 12/31/09
- Phil McFadden to fill unexpired 5-year term to 12/31/07

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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**Meeting open to the public**

Resident of Perkins: Regarding roadwork recently completed on Perkins – surface is already beginning to fail from top down. Directly by his side porch, further towards railroad track, and apron of old Gamble Building – pre-pothole condition. Haven’t even had our first winter on it. Another issue is a dead tree right across from pole with transformer.

Hinkle: Didn't we have that inspected? Didn't we hold funds out?

Fitzpatrick: Yes, there were punchlist items.

Devinney: Can we ask state department that agreed to process come out to look at this road?

Corcoran: I wasn't too pleased with this to begin with. We can have our new engineers prepare a report on what was said tonight and forward to Dept. of Transportation. It's their money.

Ouelette: Copy of punchlist to new engineer

Denton: Will look at that

Ouelette: Get back to resident next week?

Denton: OK

Resident of Burlington Ave: Beavers on other side of tracks – lot of water to be released from property of NVR. Water is backing up into Edgewater Park. Water to be released tomorrow without completion of Bogg's Ditch repairs being done will flood my property. I have a \$5,000 septic system and sump pumps going. The water has no place to go. Pipe under Burlington Ave. is still clogged. Water can't get to cleaned up Bogg's Ditch.

Hinkle: They've been working on this for years.

Resident: I have Diane Allen on it.

Hinkle: I have Jim Saxton on it. Corps of Engineers didn't follow through. They need a new gate there.

Resident: Bridge Commission is involved. Engineers who were hired to do it said they weren't clearing out the ditch – just the pipe. I got Diane Allen involved, and all of a sudden the permits were cleared in a few days. If that took five years, how can they get a train car to drill a hole in five days.

Ouelette: Fenimore has been working diligently. Water has accumulated on this side of tracks and impacted Edgewater Park and Beverly National Cemetery – lots of folks involved.

Corcoran: We were onsite with Edgewater Park, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Cemetery Director. County has been doing the clean up work and have requested permit to expand their clean up. Dept of Veterans Affairs will meet with Edgewater Park residents.

Resident: I've been coming here for a couple of years. Now they are going to meet with Edgewater Park, but not with the people it affects in town. Why are there special meetings with Edgewater Park?

Corcoran: There is no drilling or railroad train coming in.

Resident: I've been fighting to get the Ditch cleared and we're finally making strides. We've had water problems for years, and the county is having meetings with Edgewater Park?

I've involved Diane Allen and the Department of Health.

Corcoran: They know they can't release all of that water. That is absolutely not going to happen. They are going to do some cleaning up so they can determine for sure what the problem is. There is going to be no sudden release.

John Fenimore (just arrived): They are going to work with the tide

Resident: That pipe hasn't been cleared.

Fenimore: County has cleared the mouth of that.

Resident: 100-150 feet of debris

Fenimore: Difficult problem. Edgewater Park residents have water in their backyard.

Resident: When someone pulls that plug, someone's got to prove it will go to the river and not into my backyard. It has no place else to go.

Fenimore: Old beaver dam there. I know what you are saying. It's being diverted there.

Resident: Water on river side of Burlington Ave. never goes down. Bridge Commission has a month and a half old tidal survey that says it doesn't goes down.

Fenimore: Today it definitely has gone down. There was a lot of restriction there. We still have to clear between Burlington Ave. and the RR tracks. Needs a channel to draw the water down. County working with us as well as another agency. I don't think that what is going to happen tomorrow is going to do anything.

Resident: If the pipe is clear, the water is coming from NVR into Bogg's Ditch?

Fenimore: It could. It's not going to clear out the pipe – been there for 60 years. Has to be debris – punch a hole to see where it is. We're trying to see if that would help.

Resident: Baffled by sense of urgency because of Edgewater Park when we have been living with it for years.

Fitzpatrick: John has worked diligently – county was going to release a bit at a time. Edgewater’s involvement made county step up. If the county had stepped in when they should have, this may not have occurred. I suggest you take your concern to the county freeholders’ meeting.

Hinkle: We’ve been working on it for years. Another resident called because they made a road for access and now the kids are down there on motorcycles.

Fenimore: Army Engineers put this in and we are stuck with it. They won’t help us. Cemetery seemed very receptive. This isn’t going to go away. With the tide, it’s a magnet. I worked on this 35 years ago. It will get into the septic in Edgewater and that will be a problem.

Resident: I’m worried about the floodgates opening.

Fenimore: Met with Paul Wick and Farias. Concern with flooding.

Templeton: When is the county going to finish up the upper end of Bogg’s?

Corcoran: They have a general permit.

Fenimore: They are only going to Burlington Ave.

Resident: Bridge Commission has survey that says the pipe needs to be replaced. It probably is just filled with silt. It needs to be dredged. Corps of Engineers and Wetlands won’t allow that.

Fitzpatrick: They should be doing it. No one wants to take responsibility.

Resident: Gate needs to be replaced. It worked until it was removed.

Fitzpatrick: U.S. government is responsible.

Corcoran: Corps needs no permits.

Fitzpatrick: They could do it in a heartbeat.

Templeton: Can we forestall the drilling of the hole?

Fenimore: What do I tell Edgewater?

Templeton: They have a few inches of water, but I was out there today and these people have ducks in their backyard. Culvert is clogged, slow flow, lots of water under it.

Fitzpatrick: Someone at DEP should be in control of that.

Fenimore: RR offered to help since the water is leeching through their track.

Resident: How deep?

Fenimore: Varies - 4 ft. in places. It was put in for the cemetery 60 years ago. Railroad doesn’t want all that water under there either. You do have a legitimate concern. That’s why we want to work with the tide and if it’s going downhill, give it a chance to relieve itself. Whatever you guys want to do (to Township Committee)?

Hinkle: Whatever we can do

Resident: I was excited that they had the permits for December weather permitting. Weather was beautiful and they didn’t do anything.

Fenimore: Nellie’s Pond is down there too. It doesn’t connect, but there is a lot of water back there. I wish it hadn’t gotten to this point. They can pull out debris, but not dredge. They can’t put the channel in and that’s what we need.

Templeton: Can we push the county to finish before we risk their property?

Fenimore: I’ll talk to Paul Wick.

Resident: If they can’t dredge, there is no way they can clear it due to the silt. If they can’t clear out before or after, it won’t do any good.

Fitzpatrick: Someone has to maintain it. Debris that comes in with the tide doesn’t go out with the tide. If they clean the pipe, they clear some of that silt.

Resident: If riverbed is higher than the bottom of the pipe, it won’t clear out.

Corcoran: It’s removed about three feet of water. Where did it go?

Fenimore: To the mudflats

Resident: Between my house and Wallace Paving has standing water.

Fenimore: Will call county and light rail and tell them about our concerns

Resident: Sump pumps run 24/7. The water you see is nothing compared to what we’re pumping out. What can I do?

Ouelette: Agencies are involved now. They are more concerned. Engineers can help resolve that issue. We can fix it with a bandaid and punch a hole and get a little water trickling through, but that doesn't stop it from happening again and again.

Fitzpatrick: Call Army Corps.

Corcoran: We will have more information tomorrow. Engineers from Army Corps are coming out.

Resident: What can the residents do?

Fitzpatrick: Call the Corps.

Corcoran: Bring pressure through congressional office. Letters and emails make a difference. We're hoping Philadelphia office is responsible – our chances are better.

Templeton: Go to Allen, Conaway and Connors – they can get to them faster than you can.

Devinney: Since cemetery is getting involved, they may be able to put pressure on our representatives.

Resident of Second St: Owns Bogg's Ditch property Burlington to RR tracks – raised questions when NVR was approved. Said we needed long-term solution to Bogg's Ditch. I will do whatever is needed to clean it up. When I volunteered to help the town and let boats park, they weren't removed and then there was legal action. (I don't know what this is about.) Second time was to clean the pipes in front of my house, I allowed access through my property. They disposed of the stuff, but it didn't get covered with sand. Before you access my site at all, Doug has to talk to Phil Hart so it is legally clear as to how. We're ready to do the 25 lots and we need absolute clarity. There has to be some common ownership – Riversedge Homeowners...maybe Green Acres involved so that we get ownership of it. No question – Burlington to river with westerly winds it's going to get clogged every time. Until we clean up the beaches every spring, we will have the problem. We need a solution on the river. Sluice gates won't help. Neighbor had four foot sea wall- you can see three inches.

Resident of Pennington: Matt Johnson wrote letter re: retention basin. Did Birdsall sign off on it? Does Pulte have responsibility? Onsite survey done by landscapers who were checking items for punchlist. As of Nov. 10, meadow has grass- not meadow mix. Original letter said the county wanted to see flowers growing before they would accept it. I think there will still be a problem with Pulte and the basins.

Resident of McCay Way: On behalf of Newton's Landing Homeowners Association, congratulated new members and mayor. Will this committee continue to have Ms. Fitzpatrick sit on board reviewing punchlist? How will transition to new engineer in regard to bonds?

Fitzpatrick: Let's discuss before making a decision.

Ouelette: Meeting this week. We're looking at Birdsall continuing and finishing up.

Resident: Keep us informed. Wrote to Doug, Steve, Kate, and Birdsall. in reference to JLUB2004-20. Questions regarding things that were to be done regarding farmhouse. Will email prior to meeting. Steve, will you copy the booklet for Mr. Denton?

Corcoran: Will discuss during my report.

### **Meeting closed to the public**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from Remsa- Burlco Regional Planning – 20 minutes for a presentation at one of our public meetings.

Fitzpatrick: What's the presentation on?

Lohr: New planner – discuss ongoing economic development in river route.

2. Burlco – regarding grants (I missed the rest of this. We did submit applications)

3. JFK Democratic Club request for meeting space for fourth Tuesday.

4. Riverwinds Homeowners Association

5. email from Browns resigning from Shade Tree Commission – Resignations accepted – 2 openings

Fitzpatrick: Mindy Jacobs also resigned. Contact to send letter. We have two people who want to serve, but need her letter.

## **COMMENTS – PROFESSIONALS**

Engineer Denton: Introduced Harry Fox, a principal of the firm.

Solicitor Heinold: Thanks for appointment. Issues have been addressed

## **COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR**

1. Computers and hard drives – suspicious problems- hit with unusual surge undetected by equipment. PSE&G found a piece of gear that was malfunctioning. Seems to have solved the problem.
2. Winzinger – In Dec. received a copy of DEP letter – three items with which they were to comply. Committee is asked new engineer to do environmental studies. Contacts for DEP are on our website. Committee is opposed. It's a huge tub grinder – very noisy and dusty. They will be running separator and rock crushing plant. The current plant is at the bypass at Hainesport. The more input from the public, the better. Edgewater Park is also involved. Unfortunately, for 6-9 months, they can operate without township approvals due to “recycling”
3. Newton’s Landing project down to final punchlist – not cost effective to have new engineer involved now. Birdsall should continue on that project.  
Resolution 2007-35 appointing Birdsall specifically for Newton’s Landing punchlist issues.

## **COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS**

1. Police – none

2. Public Works

-picking up Christmas trees

-training

-removing trees on the list that we had

- engineer should get in with us on Bogg’s Creek. The more heads we pull in, the better. If the cemetery is willing to help, that will help us.

-streets that need to be done – has list for new engineer

3. Zoning and Code Enforcement

2006 report – complaints 426 – handled 407 – 19 outstanding violations most are in court with cases coming up next week. Cost \$1044.45 to mail. 67(?) rental inspections 105 signs illegally placed on right-of-ways were confiscated. In court 22 summonses - \$1,351 collected in fines as assessed by judge. Zoning approved 19 of 40. 32 of (couldn’t hear this)

Motion to approve JFK Club meeting at Municipal Building on the fourth Tuesday of the month passed unanimously

## **COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

Fitzpatrick:

-Dedication of Miller Gym – nice tribute – portrait painted for hall of new wing – open house tomorrow

-Rec is planning Flower Show trip for March 9

-Senior meeting tomorrow

Templeton:

-Letter from DEP – number they gave was fax. I called today with the number I got three years ago.

To Fenimore: Helpful if someone from Denton’s office is there at Bogg’s Ditch tomorrow?

Fenimore: Will call RR and county about cleaning out that side. We will need another joint meeting and try to clear this up for once and for all. There is a force main under that.

Templeton: Thanked all for support. Attending JLIB meeting.

Hinkle:

- Dedication of Miller Gym
  - Reorganization – thanks for party
  - New judge
  - Low income home energy program for seniors – spread the word
- Corcoran: Will go up on website tomorrow

Devinney:

- Attended gym dedication – students charming – great dedication of staff of the school

Ouelette:

- attended court as well. Our new judge will serve us well
- attended dedication of gym
- met on Friday at Bogg's Ditch to try to address the situation. We're in competent hands with the leadership John has shown in trying to put people together. It's a group effort – not just Delanco or Edgewater Park's problem.

Fitzpatrick:

- Last official business as mayor – support fellow mayors requesting that state prevent illegal offroad vehicles.

To executive session 2007-36 for legal, contract, and personnel matters.

*Notes submitted by Maureen Barrett*