

The following are notes, not official minutes. For an official transcript, go to the Delanco Municipal Building at 770 Coopertown Rd.

Township Committee September 17, 2007  
Devinney, Hinkle, Templeton, Ouellette Fitzpatrick  
Janice Lohr, Municipal Clerk

**ORDINANCE 2007-12 CANCELING CERTAIN FUNDED APPROPRIATION  
BALANCES HERETOFORE PROVIDED FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS  
AND REAPPROPRIATING A PORTION OF SUCH FUNDED APPROPRIATION  
BALANCES FOR OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR OCTOBER 1,  
2007**

\$157,000 to be reappropriated \$119,000 for street sweeper, \$33,000 for video cameras for police department and \$5500 for shared services contribution to animal control vehicle

Fitzpatrick: Confused why we are doing this. These are required as is \$25,000 for mansion. We have another bond ordinance with \$135,000 set aside for public works and pole barn. Where are we going to get the money for the rest of the things we approved?

Ouelette: We have \$135,000 leftover in another bond.

Fitzpatrick: If you are concerned about that, take it out

Hinkle: What about salt barn- wasn't that supposed to come out of the \$135,000.

Fitzpatrick: We paid that.

Lohr: Capital is three pronged – this amendment wasn't going to fund everything. Plan to borrow from Bridge Commission. Everything wasn't coming from this.

Fitzpatrick: We decided not to borrow from the Bridge Commission?

Ouelette: Right

Fitzpatrick: 25,000 for salt barn, 7,000 for software, 9,000 for ....., and 10,300 for bullet-proof glass, 85000 for drains

Ouelette: Still have loan application in.

Fitzpatrick: Street sweeper was in original loan.

Ouelette: Money for street sweeper.

Fitzpatrick: 29,500 for road construction , 33,000 for police, \$10,091 glass \$13,500 for animal control vehicle. First ordinance was rescinded because it didn't include the \$29,500. I don't know how we are going to do them next year. We didn't have any discussion on this. I had no idea.

Ouelette: the \$119,000 for the street sweeper – we need to move on this or we will lose that deal.

Fitzpatrick: We had a separate bond.

Ouelette: That hasn't been brought out recently.

Hinkle: When can we pay Delran?

Ouelette: Then let's take money from

Templeton: The intent is to limit debt service. We are being crushed by it. We need to act on the street sweeper. Some of the other things aren't due now. We can maneuver there.

Hinkle: We voted on it.

Fitzpatrick: I understand the debt, but thought it was going to be  
Some items need to be done. The roof on the mansion

Templeton: We don't have an estimate. Mr. Corcoran has given us various estimates.

Fitzpatrick:

Templeton: the Bridge Commission payments ramp up to from \$23,000 to \$27,000 annually until 2017. I don't want to commit this community to more debt .

Fitzpatrick: I didn't know

Templeton: It was in your email.

Fitzpatrick: When

Templeton: In July... it went out to everyone.

Fitzpatrick: I didn't get that. If it went out in July, we could have discussed it.

Hinkle: I didn't get that either.

Fitzpatrick: Who sent it?

Templeton: Steve...

Templeton: If there is a way to use existing funds that taxpayers have been paying for years, granted that they may have been for a different purpose back then. We need the flexibility to act now to fund these things that we need.

Fitzpatrick: I'm not in disagreement. List came in at \$2 million and we narrowed to \$203,000. They were required items. We didn't pick anything out of that list.

Templeton: We can still pick and choose as we move forward, and look at that other bond as the mayor said. We can look at the bullet-proof glass.

Fitzpatrick: It's required by state law

Templeton: I talked to the court administrator. It's not required

Fitzpatrick: That's not what we were told.

Templeton: I know.

Fitzpatrick: Software and new computers not required, but you have to do those upgrades. We're going to put them on back burner.

Templeton: We can address through remaining ordinance

Fitzpatrick: I thought that was for the pole barn.

Templeton: We don't have the real estate for that at the present and I don't know that there is a plan for that. As things come up that are needed, we need to avoid incurring additional debt.

Hinkle: Mr. Mayor, what is your opinion?

Ouellette: Take the dollars for the street sweeper. We have \$135,000 in the other bond as well as the application to the Bridge Commission. I feel strongly that we need to act on the street sweeper.

Hinkle: We shouldn't be here now.

Ouellette: Here we are. The ordinance was put forward by our administrator. The other dollars weren't specific. These are specific needs.

Hinkle: and the salt shed

Ouellette We need to meet our obligations

Hinkle: This is embarrassing.

Ouellette We are addressing them this year. If you have a different solution, by all means share it.

Hinkle: We had an ordinance, but don't want it, so now we're making a new ordinance. We could have had the sweeper.

Fitzpatrick: No it was in the loan.

Lohr: The Bridge Commission money won't come in.

Hinkle: Why wasn't it in the ordinance?

Lohr: I didn't put the ordinance together. New program – bank funded lease program. Bridge Commission not ready to loan us money. This is a matter of shuffling some things around. You have bids and cameras – about \$25,000. Lt. Sacalis expressed interest in additional equipment. That is funded by additional \$7,000. There was some optional equipment bid. The \$25,000 was the base bid.

Ouellette:

If they don't, there is the \$8000 we need right there.

Lohr: Once the bids expire, we have to go back out to bid. The sweeper and camera have been advertised and bid. You have the other ordinance – pole barn and land acquisition. After that, you will need to authorize new debt.

Fitzpatrick: After that explanation, taking that into consideration, my concern is that we don't let these items ride.

Hinkle: That is mine also.

Fitzpatrick: We went over that in great detail. I move that we approve this because we are under bid pressure

Devinney: Second Kate's motion. This is a really good deal for the large capital item.

Chief has explained how financially worthwhile the cameras are vs. the legal fees. I don't want to burden the township with further debt. We need to look at these items that we feel are important.

Passed unanimously.

Resident of McCay Way: Question on bond \$203,000- If you have excess, do you need another ordinance?

Lohr: Yes

Fitzpatrick: It was only \$157,000 that was left. After this, that money is gone.

Resident: The \$135,000 shared services, where does that go?

Fitzpatrick: It's a bond. Don't you have a copy of the ordinance?

Resident: No

Lohr: Was part of 2003 ordinance – amended in 2005. This is already authorized debt. The purpose section is being changed as the needs have changed.

Resident: Interest rate? You still pay interest on the amount you aren't using.

Hinkle: Yes

Resident: When I hear the mansion mentioned, that's a huge investment. That roof is looming and the weather is changing. Something is dragging on and on. Can that repair come out of that \$135,000.

Devinney: Yes, it should. Once we have a formal quote

Resident: Gone out for bid.

Fitzpatrick: Yes, no replies from contractors

Hinkle: Should put up tarps

Resident: There yesterday for the fashion show. Went well. Self esteem for young ladies for the future. That mansion is really scary

Templeton: Great difficulty having a roofing contractors return calls. We've been passing names on.

Hinkle: They don't all do that kind of work.

Resident: This Old House... do they know anyone in this area. My daughter had to bring someone from Boston to New York.

Templeton: I've done that. Talked with Mrs. Westfield, historic preservation architect. She gave me three names and I've passed them on to Mr. Corcoran.

Resident: Sometimes you have to change procedure

Templeton: If you only knew all that has gone on behind the scenes to try to deal with the mansion. It doesn't all go through Mr. Corcoran.

Resident: I'll ask around

Templeton: The problem isn't in the 100 year old part, it's in the 30 year old part.

Resident: I hope we don't have to incur any more debt.

Resident of Maple: \$135,000 – is it prioritized.

Hinkle: No, you can use it as you need

Fitzpatrick: The balance is for municipal building and public works facilities. We have to reappropriate it. We'll have to do what we just did. Mansion roof is a priority.

Resident: It seems like people are going out of their way to get something moving. What can be done to make it happen? Residents don't know what's happening.

Communication is difficult. Acoustics in this room are terrible.

Fitzpatrick: Shed was already resolved. We should have received an email. We didn't know it.

Resident: Sidewalk from Burlington Ave. from Bridge – sidewalk is different on the two sides.

Fitzpatrick: Side that was completed we did first because grant money wouldn't cover both sides. \$138,000 left just went out for bid. Applied for grant

Lohr: Bids were opened and are in the scope of what funding is left.

Fitzpatrick: All of it

Lohr: Not sure, Kathy Eliot was preparing a project sheet.

Fitzpatrick: Bud

Lohr: No,

Fitzpatrick: Can we use them? They did a great job.

Lohr: No, we have to take lowest bidder.

Fitzpatrick: We had a problem with a subcontractor. Sometimes you don't have control

Resident: Can you specify it in the bid?

Lohr: Not sure.

Resident: Agreement with Pulte and the county. Can we put one field in at a time.

Fitzpatrick: We don't own that property and I don't think we ever will. It's being looked into.

Resident: No lights in the skatepark?

Ouellette: Is a floodlight.

Resident: Not on when I went by. Do the police have bikes? Do they use them?

Hinkle: They use them

Templeton: It depends on their shift and if they are providing coverage to other townships.

Resident: They work in other townships?

Templeton: Yes, and Beverly and Riverside come here.

Resident: Kids are hanging in the street because they have no place to go

Fitzpatrick: Tonight they were in the gazebo in Gateway Park using it as if it were a ramp.

Resident: Juvenile panel here Thursday. What is that?

Lohr: Residents appointed by court system to deal with minors who have broken the law without going through adjudication. Not open to the public. Dealing with infractions without going through the court process. Juveniles have the right to privacy.

Resident: Lights and facilities we don't have are all somewhat tied together.

Resident of Burlington Ave: Kathy Elliot's name was brought up. Has her role been expanded?

Fitzpatrick: Birdsall is maintaining that grant; they started it. You don't want to change the engineer in midstream.

Resident: How much time have you spent on the mansion? If you didn't have that, how much work would have been done for the township?

Devinney: It's all for the township

Resident: Things may have slipped through the cracks. You've discussed doing a roof. I don't know what's being discussed in executive. I want to see that thing go. We're already in mid-December. We're getting close to elections. I'm not happy with the professionals. I have great respect for Doug. He is the first professional who seemed like he was jumping into working on a problem he shouldn't have had to work on. He tried to fix the shed problem. Ed Schaeffer, Steve, or Phil should have done it weeks ago. I'm not happy with Code Enforcement. I'm not happy with Township Administrator. It may need to be split. Riverside is going to be hiring a full-time code inspector and we share Phil with them. I was never happy with Birdsall. Now, I think it isn't the engineering company. It's the person for the township who is doing the work. Kathy is the best we've had. Denton hasn't done much. Can't hear him.

Fitzpatrick: Most engineers are like that. Work on paper – RiversEdge RiverWinds has been well done. He's been the best engineer this township has had in the six years I've been here. Birdsall – things were signed off that shouldn't have been. Dave Denton pays attention to detail.

Lohr: He has met some real crunch deadlines and took over work from previous engineers. Dave hasn't been able to show us on big projects.

Resident: When the mansion goes away and you have more time, maybe you could look at replacing the professionals. Township administrator may have too much control.

Hinkle: Most have a secretary. There's a lot he does above the call of duty.

Resident: Wealth of knowledge – different jobs in County, etc.

Devinney: It's a tough job

Resident: He may need a secretary.

Resident of Mc Cay Way: We wouldn't have gotten where we are in Newton's Landing without a person like Steve. Town has grown 1000 over five years – a tremendous strain. This committee has done a great job with what they have. Another observation – increase of kids on skatepark without helmets – even adults. Chief stated he had 21 warnings about a month ago. Maybe that has slacked off. We need to find a place.

Skatepark is an open area where people go by all the time. It's an area where they can congregate. Ask them to pay more attention to that area.

Discussion:

Proposed Resolution 2007-115 supporting Bridge Commission's "Burlington Lease Bank" Program – lending to government – no insurance cost, low rates,

#### COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Devinney: Just because the money is there, we don't have to borrow it. These are the best terms.

Templeton: Why is this before us? Seems like an ad for Bridge Commission to act as a bank. Asking us to lobby Freeholders to approve this. We don't have any details. Seems strange to get a phone call this afternoon from Bridge Commission employee to put it on our agenda.

Hinkle: Done for years

Fitzpatrick: Funds and in kind services have been used- got \$45,000 in cash. It's just to support. No repercussions.

Hinkle: I agree

Devinney: If it offers more opportunities, we should do it

Ouellette: Gives us another avenue to borrow dollars. Not committed by approving.

Templeton: This resolution was put in front of us by Bridge Commission. Articles in newspaper recently. Bridge Commission seems to be having some problem with their own finances. Freeholders seemed to be asking them to get their house in order. This is clearly an ad for the Bridge Commission.

Passed with Templeton voting against.

Comments:

Hinkle:

-Water bill - \$533 for Gateway – there is a sprinkler system. I went out. The fountain is fine, but it is leaking by the meter. Left John a message to shut water off until we get it straightened out.

Fitzpatrick: This happened last year and they were sending estimated bills

Ouellette: I have a plumber at the house tomorrow

Devinney:

-Hawk Island clean-up on Saturday at 9:00

*Submitted by Maureen Barrett*