

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

Township Committee April 20, 2009

Devinney, Hinkle, Templeton, Fitzpatrick, Jass

Also Present: Janice Lohr, Municipal Clerk; Karen Zimmermann, Deputy Municipal Clerk; Lt. Sacalis, Chief Parsons, Delanco Police

\*\*\*\*SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*RESOLUTION 2009-66\*\*\* RESOLUTION HONORING BOBBY DAVISON  
DISTINGUISHED SPELLING BEE SCHOLAR

\*\*\*RESOLUTION 2009-67\*\*\* RESOLUTION HONORING MAYOR FERNAND  
OUELLETTE

Ouellette: An honor to serve in this community and work with the Township Committee, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the staff and police. It takes a lot of people to make things work. This recognition really belongs to all who serve our community.

Templeton: We miss you. You brought a special kind of class. All of us would be hard-pressed to find a more decent person than you. It was a privilege to work for and with you on the challenging problems we faced. You sacrificed time with your family on evenings and weekends. You handled it all with grace under fire. Your calm steadied the ship.

Devenney: Thanks for stepping in as township administrator.

Hinkle: I'll echo that. Serving the public isn't an easy job. It's hard in your profession, but it's much more difficult here.

Jass: Thank you. I'm in the hot seat now. Thanks for all you did for the citizens of Delanco.

Fitzpatrick: Thank you. I know what it's like to be mayor. We do have a great group of people. I hope we continue to do good work for the residents.

Hinkle: I do want to congratulate Bobby. We all do.

RESOLUTION 2009-64 (Tabled from 4/13 meeting) RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
NEW JERSEY LEGISLATIVE BILLS S-2503 AND A-2872

Fitzpatrick: These came from the Shade Tree Commission regarding licensure of tree experts. Bill Matulewicz expressed some concerns. We're offering Shade Tree the opportunity to come before us and explain their recommendations.

Hinkle: I read the entire bill today. You can come in with a two year degree.

Schmitt: I don't think we need a four year degree to trim trees or even two years.

Member of the public: Didn't they change that to three years?

Schmitt: I'm looking at the future. I don't think you need a degree.

Hinkle: We have some people who come into town and don't know what they are doing with the trees.

Fitzpatrick: Senior expo had someone from Consumer Affairs. If someone comes to your house to trim trees, they have to be licensed. You can ask to see the license and their insurance. John Fenimore is concerned that it would cost money for them to get the license and they would pass that on.

Hinkle: Educating the public is what we should do.

Schmitt: You should always have someone who is insured.

Jass: Shade Tree could put out guidelines in the *Beverly Bee*.

Templeton: How to pick an arborist. I had called an arborist that the township uses. He's been in the business for 30 years and has all of the certificates. He said it would make it more expensive for him, but didn't do much to deter the fly-by-night guy. It's still "buyer beware." Guidelines should include the type of liability. This resolution is just in support of a bill. It just seems another layer of bureaucracy at this time.

Schmitt: I think you look at the insurance and license. You don't need a degree to cut sticks off of trees.

Resident of Maple: Mark is speaking for the commission. I was wondering, as a private citizen, if something had happened to make this necessary. I read it as three years in the field, but it requires additional training. It seems kind of onerous. Is it possible to further table the resolution?

Towell: I've received the same correspondence over and over from the state.

Fitzpatrick: We receive it too. It says "from a four year college" or complete "two years of college" and be employed for three years.

Resident of Maple: Two levels

Fitzpatrick: A Tree Care Operator and a Tree Care Expert. If people have a question, they should call the Bureau of Consumer Affairs.

Towell: Do we answer the state?

Fitzpatrick: Not necessary. What does the Committee think?

Schmitt: Maybe we could write a letter.

Fitzpatrick: You...Shade Tree can write a letter.

Resident of Center: Since the state requires license and insurance, would they be required to give the township a copy of those before they start?

Jass: No, onus is still on the consumer.

Templeton: It's the same as when you have a plumber come in to fix a leak.

Matulewicz: I sent you the Cliff notes of the legislation – two tiers – Expert with four years degree and a contractor level with three years continuous employment. Burlington County requires a license for contractors who do home improvement.

Fitzpatrick: (Reiterated info from Consumer Affairs) I would recommend that we not adopt these now. State is making more requirements.

Matulewicz: Yes, because tree industry is rife with guys with saws and pick-up trucks. The last thing a resident needs is for one of these to drop a tree limb on someone's car.

Fitzpatrick: Most of the people who have spoken have been against it.

Matulewicz: I'm a licensed professional. I don't think having someone in a high risk industry meeting standards is bad.

Fitzpatrick: At this point, we aren't going to move forward.

Lohr: I'll mark it as unadopted.

Hinkle: This Friday some members are going to accept the “Tree City USA” designation. I’d like to recognize Bill Matulewicz for his 16 years of service and commend him.

Fitzpatrick: I think we should have them honored at a public meeting.

Matulewicz: The award is great, but are all reaping the work of the commission 60-70 years ago.

Templeton: When you planted the tree last year at the school, you found a penny from...

Matulewicz: 1926

Templeton: It was a good lesson for the students.

#### COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

##### 1. Police Sacalis

-Our patrolman was honored as patrolman of the year. Thanks for putting our names forward.

##### 2. Municipal Clerk - tomorrow is school election – 2-9PM

#### COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Devinney:

-Attended VFW meeting to honor police, fire, and EMT – nice to see local, county, and federal representatives there to congratulate

-Attended Sen. Adler’s business roundtable – Fed, State, and county help through existing and Stimulus Program for local businesses

Hinkle:

-11 on the Saturday at West Ave - two are American Elms – one from Shade Tree and one from Mayor Project. It’s the beginning of beautifying the West End.

-Attended Adler’s roundtable – great program

-Energy Audit grant to BPU – needs approval

-Received quotes for solar panels – price came down. We can’t do this grant until we complete energy audit.

Templeton:

-Attended Energy Conference in New Brunswick – programs and initiatives. I’m filtering through the information to see what fits our community and needs. Sustainable NJ program – point schedule for what community can do which would result in certification from state, but not much else. We’ve taken some of those steps already – will take everyone to run with the piece that applies to them. I’d like to bring Environmental Advisory Board and School Board in on this. We have to change the way we do business in terms of the environment.

-Attended Transportation meeting hosted by Adler – public transit and highways as well as federal representation. Light Rail parking lot is moving towards funding. I asked for stimulus money to make it a parking lot like the rest of it. Also discussed noise from train horns and the impact on residents. “Quiet zones” require four way gates and further liability as well as maintenance for the gates. We’re trying to find a solution for this.

Sen. Allen proposed setting aside money just for the gate crossings so the money would

be there when the communities were ready. I discussed Zurbrugg waterfront with a member of Adler's staff.

Fitzpatrick: I submitted on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. I asked for a follow-up. There was a letter of support sent and a brief description. Adler chose that project from our list as one we could definitely get federal funding for. We could submit again since it might not be the same grant. I submitted it for \$200,000. I don't know why it's \$275,000 now.

Templeton: That was just for the bulkhead. It didn't include the ramp.

Fitzpatrick: I have that on my list.

Templeton: I'd just like to see the list.

Fitzpatrick: I'll read it to you....(included stabilization, survey, ramp... Our plans aren't complete, since we need to locate existing pipes and work with DEP. We would reclaim 5000 square feet.) I did this myself from the application Dave Denton did. (continued to read from her letter) Jill (in DC) acknowledged that she received it. We can amend it to include another \$75,000.

Templeton: They are trying to get it into a transportation project so they can get it into the stimulus package. I mentioned the historic property being restored, affordable housing, public access to the waterfront. They need that by Monday.

Fitzpatrick: I will contact Jill.

Templeton:

-Attended Joint Insurance Fund – Still don't have some manuals I've requested from them. It's been difficult getting information out of them. Mr. Corcoran said that community groups needed private insurance to use this room. That wasn't true at all.

Fitzpatrick: I think that requirement was here long before Steve came along.

Lohr: Only for this building

Fitzpatrick: Just outside organizations. Like the Women's Club.

Templeton: That's what I found out. They don't need it.

Lohr: We do have ordinances.

Fitzpatrick: We could amend them. That would be good.

Jass: This is used as a courtroom. Is there anything about it – judicial- that would make that a problem?

Hinkle: No

Lohr: The problem is the availability. Most evenings are taken up except for Friday. It's hard for an organization to find a time to use this. Township activities take precedence. It's hard to accommodate all of the organization.

Jass: Teenagers would like Friday nights.

Fitzpatrick: We gave them that opportunity last year. Mike, are you going to look into getting that in writing?

Templeton: Yes, it was to protect the organization. The township was already fully protected.

Fitzpatrick: We just need it in writing.

Jass:

-Seems like a lot of money got thrown together. There seems to be overlay of different grants for the same thing. Ex. energy audit...determine carbon footprint.

Fitzpatrick: Ed, did you get a chance to look at these?

Devinney: I did. I think we should have a work session just for grants. We should spend some time looking at it.

-Meeting with Adler on Transportation was informative. One thing – they will resurface Rt. 130 from Andover to Burlington City. I asked what happens to the bridge and the jughandle. This section isn't on the table.

-RiverRoute – DVD - Putting together list of available business property like Jevic and Distributec.

-Joint Land Use Board – reported on our Dunes discussion. Matulewicz was there too. Mike had papers streets. Hinkle looking into a grant for a plan. The “Dunes” didn't have much explanation in the Master Plan. JLUB formed subcommittee from boards in town to do a visionary plan for the Dunes and move forward.

(missed a piece here)

Fitzpatrick: You definitely need a planner with that group.

Jass: JLUB would like to hear from Doug after he reviews the paperwork.

Fitzpatrick: Mt. Laurel had a victory regarding zoning of Ramblewood Country Club to keep 240 homes out. Mt. Laurel's zoning mandated that golf course could never be subdivided. So we can protect that property through restrictions.

Templeton: Going the Green Acres protects it from future Township Committees that may feel otherwise.

Fitzpatrick: Deed restrictions and zoning would do the same and not limit us.

Templeton: You aren't being limited.

*I left at this point.*

*Maureen*

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

RESOLUTION 2009-68 RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2009 TEMPORARY BUDGET  
(2nd quarter)

RESOLUTION 2009-69 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REPLENISHMENT OF THE  
TOWNSHIP'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST ACCOUNT

RESOLUTION 2009-70 RESOLUTION TO REDUCE PERFORMANCE  
GUARANTEE FOR CREEKSIDE AT DELANCO, BLOCK 1802, LOT 2

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

2009-23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48,  
49, 50 &

53

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC  
CORRESPONDENCE  
DISCUSSION ITEMS:  
1. STATE BUDGET STATUS  
2. NJDOT GRANT OPPORTUNITIES  
ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett