

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

Township Committee Dec. 7, 2009

Devinney, Hinkle, Templeton, Fitzpatrick, Jass

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Acting Township Administrator, Mr. Heinold, Twp. Solicitor; Janice Lohr, Municipal Clerk; Karen Zimmermann, Deputy Municipal Clerk; Mr. Denton, Township Engineer; John Fenimore, Public Works ; Phil Goffredo, Code Enforcement; Sgt. DeSanto , Delanco Police

ORDINANCE 2009-17 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TOWNSHIP'S DEVELOPMENT OF

PENNINGTON FARM PARK LOCATED AT BLOCK 2100, LOTS 12 & 12.01 ON CREEK ROAD IN DELANCO, APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$300,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE

TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

\*3rd READING BY TITLE ONLY

Fitzpatrick: Bond will not be sold; paid through Open Space at about \$20,000 a year. We collect about \$100,000 a year. We will still have funds available for projects or to purchase. Joan got the tape from the last meeting so she is aware of what was said on the record.

Reopened to the public:

Resident of Pennsylvania Ave : 65 year resident. Played and coached on these fields. Public works struggles to keep the fields active. Time to do what we can for the children. Having served on the board, I understand the problems you deal with.

Resident of Kansas : In support of the fields for the best interest of children and sports department. Town keeps adding population and we need to support that. For every action, there is a consequence. Volunteers provide equipment, but we need the fields. Our kids don't have the experience of full fields. Money is there.

Resident of Laurel : Thanks to those who came out. I support the fields. We have a committed board and membership. We have a strong level of support and that needs to be part of your decision. It takes many.

Resident of (missed this): Kids who are engaged in sports aren't involved in criminal activity. These kids will look at the best interests of the community since they were in sports. We need fields so kids don't get hurt and coaches don't get frustrated.

Resident of Illinois : Started soccer in Delanco in 1968. Went to tournament last week – amazed at enthusiasm of kids and parents. I travel and still play. Other towns have tremendous facilities. Delanco has always been in the forefront of soccer. We're lacking compared to other towns. Our fields don't do

justice for the kids. It won't be any cheaper later than it is right now.

Resident of Rancocas: Fields will happen if you bond now or use the open space money. I think it's smart business to take the \$300,000 now to get started. How much is the overall project?

Fitzpatrick: \$509,000 for two fields. Fields, parking, widening the road. Everything was taken into consideration. There may be some items that aren't required. It's one full size field and one smaller field.

Resident of Maple: We have to go with this. The sports association has improved 110%. They need the fields. I watched them set up a van to sell snacks and play on two fields that aren't equipped. The field on West Ave. is a disgrace. Ultimately the goal is 4 soccer, 2 baseball fields and a concession stand. We're asking to start with this. Money previously bonded for these fields disappeared. This \$300,000 is just for these fields.

Resident: of (missed it): Article in *Burlington County Times* regarding complex in Westhampton. 28 acres –(read a list of many fields – you may want to Google this for the full article). You should ask for a \$600,000 – they just did

Resident of Delaware (me): Do businesses who get a PILOT deal pay the Open Space Tax?

Fitzpatrick: I don't know.

Hinkle: Don't know.

Heinold: No, they don't.

Resident: I am urging you again as I have on behalf of the library, to keep us all in mind when you approve PILOT deals. Every time a business gets a deal, the people behind me don't.

Rollcall

Hinkle: Yes

Devinney: Yes

Jass: yes

Templeton: Emotional issue – talked to people in town – people were split 50/50. Walked lots of neighborhoods and saw lots of lock box. Sat in on municipal court – homeless man was arrested for stealing a cupcake. Tough times. There's sticker shock on the price, but there is an advantage since contractors are looking for work. We can get a bigger bang for the township buck. Growth of town means we should look at our listing for Green Acres of available recreational space. Many people want to have the Dunes on that list. That area is vulnerable to being sold or used for a sewer plant. If you let 35 acres go, that's a lot of houses. You'll be back to bonding to expand classrooms. Affordable housing obligation is 140 affordable units under state mandate. Residents have until Friday to comment. I would urge you to take an interest. We have to look farther down the road than next week or year. This is one of the few times we can get more bang for the dollar and I support this action

tonight.

Fitzpatrick: Yes

#### COMMENTS – PROFESSIONALS

Denton :

-A pleasure to work here this year. Best wishes for the holiday season.

Heinold:

-Commend Ed Devinney for his service – a fine man.

#### COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Fenimore:

-On our third pass through the town. We don't stop – work in the rain. Our biggest problem is brush under the leaves – contractors. Impact on the equipment. Received new chipper. Will try to sweep every street before Christmas

-Maintenance of the fields – These last couple of years, a lot of young blood in here. You have to utilize this to help establish what this town needs. Fields are worn out – you can't share soccer with a baseball field. You can guarantee we will maintain the new fields.

Fitzpatrick: We appreciate everything you do.

#### COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Devinney:

-Attended Fire Commissioners Meeting – tax will be going up 4%.

Fitzpatrick: Do they have to publish a budget?

Devinney: Yes

Fitzpatrick: We should request a copy.

Hinkle:

-Great deal of respect for Ed – fair and objective and we will miss him

Templeton:

-Thanks to Ed for 4 years of service – source of calm and wisdom for the committee. Appreciate his guidance.

-Safe and happy holiday season.

Jass:

- Saving good-byes for the 29<sup>th</sup>
- DYSA had Thanksgiving games – beef and beer – great turn out
- Historic Preservation – reorganization Jan 6 – working on. Fitch and Fletcher – hit the history button on the website.
- Still openings on boards – deadline is coming up – submit a letter of interest.
- Carriage Ride from Mansion – see signs.

Fitzpatrick:

- Governor’s Excellence Awards – went to see Delanco student receive her award
- Santa Parade and Tree Lighting – more children- Delanco is becoming a young town again.
- Attended DYSA’s beef and ale
- Thanks to Ed – he will be here for Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> – pleasure to serve – he is a gentleman and an informed member who votes accordingly – appreciate his professionalism and kind manner. Wish you success and will miss you.

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCE 2009-19 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO PROVIDING FOR AND DETERMINING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES”

\*1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR DECEMBER 29, 2009, 7:00pm

RESOLUTION 2009-145 SPECIFYING THE SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES WITHIN THE DELANCO

TOWNSHIP

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$547,986.32

PAYROLL 76,930.58

CAPITAL 31,556.00

TRUST 1,882.50

MCPL OPEN SPACE 4,940.00

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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Resolution 2009- ? to amend Historical Advisory Board and Joint Land Use Board – Township Committee’s appointee to serve for one year rather than three years.

Passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 2009-18 VACATING UNIMPROVED PORTION OF DELAWARE AVENUE \*

\*1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR DECEMBER 29, 2009, 7:00pm

Jass: No, intent of town going back and reviewing documents....vision of town was to keep the property in the domain of the township.

Rest voted yes

Fitzpatrick: We need to do this to end litigation that has been going on for a long time.

Lohr: Meeting for Dec. 21 will be on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Resident of Pennsylvania : Thanks to Ed for service. Lots of people in town don’t understand what people on Township Committee deal with.

Resident of Third: What is 2009-18? Paper street?

Heinold: Basically, existing roadway. The way the road sat, we didn’t have a connection to the last house. Township in 2005 tried to acquire the property, but owner didn’t want to sell it. Went to eminent domain up to state appellate. Township was trying to keep the connection to 323 Delaware . Gap where Delaware ended on tax map. They are going to get access on 2<sup>nd</sup> street . Litigation has been costly and cumbersome for township.

Resident of Riverside : Received letter from DYSA – not allowed to coach due to an incident that happened. Things were made up about me. I asked for by-laws. By-laws weren’t followed. I wasn’t given a right to speak. There was a conference call and they made a decision. When I approached Rich, he hung up on me. I deserve to be heard. I have parents who are willing to write letters. Rich said my coaching was pathetic. My team won every game. My parents love me. I wasn’t given the time to speak. I have the Recreation Committee policy and procedures for discipline. What can I do? It

was about a birthday party. After the game, there was an argument. That's what it's about.

Fitzpatrick: Refer to attorney...

Heinold: DYSA is a separate entity.

Resident: Recreation Committee procedures were given to me.

Fitzpatrick: DYSA has by-laws. Recreation information...at one time DYSA was controlled by Rec. 2001-2002 they separated to allow Recreation to offer more things in town. We work together since Recreation owns the facility. You should have gotten the DYSA rules and should appeal to them.

Heinold: You will have to refer to them.

Resident: Thanksgiving tournament was great. We teach kids about friendship and fun. There were rules for that tournament. Jesse brought in a child from Edgewater Park – told every kid to lie and say his name was Joe and not to say that he was from Edgewater Park. That kid didn't pay to play in Delanco. That kid played. People confronted Jesse and Rich. It's your responsibility to put your foot down and say it's not right.

Fitzpatrick: I wish we could do more for you, but this isn't the forum.

Resident: If I have to seek council, I will. It's a shame that you have an organization that could go somewhere, but....

Resident of Burlington : Can you explain procedure of paying the open-space?

Fitzpatrick: It's to purchase or maintain open space.

Resident: I understand. Who manages it?

Fitzpatrick: Bob Hudnell

Resident: Who approves the bills?

Fitzpatrick: Township Committee

Resident: \$4900 in consent agenda out of open space?

Templeton: Waterfront development permit.

Fitzpatrick: Application to have work done at Zurbrugg

Resident: Recreation minutes from Oct. 8 – fence monies to come out of open space funds. Did they have to ask permission?

Jass: Yes, and it was approved. Fence is where batting cage is. Portion was open – ball would go into the play area.

Resident: What determines whether it comes out of their budget or open space?

Jass: Normally, expenses are anticipated in their budget. This came up and we didn't have it in the budget.

Fitzpatrick: Recreation established an ordinance for new development in town. Developers paid into and account, but it is now frozen due to litigation. Went to Supreme Court, so our ordinance no longer applies. We've frozen the funds – about \$90,000. We will be able to replenish the open space account.

Resident of Delaware (me): With trash pickup once a week, the cans on Delaware are full in three days. Right now, the can on Walnut is full and there is a bag beside it.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CORRESPONDENCE

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. 2010 Township Committee Meeting Schedule

Devinney:

-Thanks for the nice comments. I'd encourage people to get involved for a couple of years. We need good people.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett