

The following are my personal notes, not official minutes. For official minutes, see the Delanco Township website or visit the township offices at 770 Coopertown Road.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – September 20, 2010

ROLL CALL: Hinkle, Jass, Lord, Templeton, Fitzpatrick

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Twp. Administrator; Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk; Ms. Zimmermann, Deputy Municipal Clerk; Mr. Fenimore, Public Works; Chief Sacalis, Delanco Police

Schwab

-state checklist – received guidance from state – there will be some percentage. Still waiting for more detailed guidance from the state.

Fitzpatrick:

-Attended mayors' summit – discussed best practices – We get credit for shared services. We should come out with 100%.

COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police -

-Operation Take Back 10-2 municipal building – collection of expired prescription drugs.

-Oct. 10 – Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

2. Public Works

-Still working on leaves at compost site. Moved 10,000 cubic yds of leaves. Will ready area for fall fest. County is to come in for leaves.

3. Municipal Clerk – no comment

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Lord:

-At Library meeting, asked Katrina if she had a background check. She hadn't and isn't covered through the school. Board authorized payment if it is required. Some nuances still to be discussed.

Hinkle:

-Attended mayors' summit – very impressed – attendees could ask governor questions.

-Oct. 5 – mock election day at Walnut St. – 49 7th graders.

Templeton:

-Close out meeting with Mr. Walsh regarding JIF. Third meeting and annual review

is done.

-Environmental Advisory Board hopes to have the Dunes open for public access. It doesn't seem to be on the agenda

Fitzpatrick: We can add it and you can say whatever you want to say,

Fitzpatrick:

-Attended Seniors meeting on Tuesday – covered dish

-Mayors' Conference at governor's mansion. Gov. Christie is an incredible governor. He's very accessible and wants to work with us. He's the first governor I have access to. I get a response from someone in 20 minutes. Best practices will impact efficiency as to how things run. It's a good tool for future improvement. Delanco should do well. Governor did answer a few questions, but had to leave. He was going to the Firemen's Convention in Wildwood, but his cabinet stayed and answered questions. I asked about shared services. We have found that sharing services doesn't benefit a township. One township has to pay the benefits. We have stopped some of our shared services agreements because by hiring the person back part-time, we don't have to pay for benefits. They will accept that as shared services. There was one community with 600 people and that person was upset with best practices. The DCA rep said to consolidate.

Hinkle: Lt. Governor spoke and gave us her cell phone number.

Fitzpatrick: It's nice to be able to reach them. It's encouraging. It's the first time in my nine years I've been able to do that.

Proclamation honoring the 223rd birthday of the Constitution of the United States.
Passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 2010-14 AUTHORIZING GRANT OF EASEMENT TO PSE&G FOR TOWNSHIP PROPERTY BETWEEN INTERSECTION OF BUTTONWOOD STREET & RANOCAS Avenue AND RANOCAS CREEK
1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR OCTOBER 4, 2010

RESOLUTION 2010-104 REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT

RESOLUTION 2010-105 CANCELING TAX BALANCES FROM 2009 FOR PROPERTIES REMOVED FROM TAX DUPLICATE BY TAX ASSESSOR

RESOLUTION 2010-107 RESOLUTION TO CANCEL TAX PENALTY FOR NEW RESIDENT FOR YEAR 2010

RESOLUTION 2010-109 ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$146,173.48 PAYROLL 69,340.74 TRUST 7,788.42

DOG TRUST 95.00

Passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 2010-106 RESOLUTION TO CORRECT ASSESSMENT ERROR ON SUBDIVIDED LOT FOR TAX YEAR 2010 (removed by Fitzpatrick: There's something wrong with the amounts.) There was a discussion, but I didn't catch the beginning of it.

Lohr: Should say minus \$56,100 \$46,1000 about \$1,2000(I didn't catch the exact amount.)

Fitzpatrick: Was this by appeal?

Lohr: Could be something the assessor found in review. Owner could have come in.

Templeton: We could ask the assessor.

Lohr: We can have Joe come in.

Tax Assessor joined the meeting in progress: On review, we discovered that the land value had been doubled in error. There isn't any other means available to adjust the taxes. It is regarding to property that was subdivided.

Passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 2010-108 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF LETTER INSTRUCTING PSE&G TO CONDUCT STREET LIGHTING UPGRADE PROJECT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO (pulled from Consent by Templeton)

Fitzpatrick: George completed the survey with a thorough report. PSE&G will receive it so they can remove those lights. Mike sent a memo to PSE&G.

Templeton: I didn't get a reply.

Fitzpatrick: If we don't do this, we will have to do this on our own.

Templeton: PSE&G has a program since they are required to change out mercury vapor lights. They have a funding source for the change out. They want to change out the different levels of lighting we have for induction lights. They are already in Beverly. It's more energy efficient. In comparing a 100 Watt Mercury Vapor + 40 Watt induction light –energy savings with only a 10% change in output.

Hinkle: How much would we save?

Templeton: \$77,000 is the cost for street lighting now. My question for PSE&G... they had proposed exchanging one for one. What if we converted everything to the 40 watts? We could save \$6,400 annually. If we don't participate, they need to know what induction light we would want if we had to replace broken lights. My question was if we could replace them as we need them. The underlying point is that I didn't

want us to get locked in in this five year agreement. We have 349 streetlights - 175 mercury vapor.

Fitzpatrick: Some of them would be removed. George, are there certain lights that are brighter for a specific reason?

Sacalis: Different types of lights in town.

Fitzpatrick: Is there a reason?

Sacalis: Some of the areas involved may have two or three lights in close proximity if it is hazardous. Duplicate lights could go. I think the brightness would make a difference.

Templeton: 175 mercury vapors seem to be at intersections and 100 watts are midblocks. Lots of variants – lights age, etc. Wasn't much difference in brightness between 175 and 100. In Beverly where they have the induction lights, it seems dimmer, but there is less glare since the light isn't in your eyes. It's more usable light.

Jass: They don't have any trees. We have a lot of trees. You see the globe through the leaves of the trees. You may need the brighter lights at certain areas.

Sacalis: Who trims around the lights?

Fenimore: Public Service

Sacalis: There's one at Princeton that you can barely see.

Templeton: My question for PSE&G is how much time we have to compile a list? The survey Mr. Devinney and I compiled was to see what we had. As George said, we do have duplication. Do we have 60 or 90 days to get public input?

Fitzpatrick: We don't have 60-90 days. They said if we could get this in quickly, we could be included for funding

Hinkle: I think we should do it

Fitzpatrick: We should authorize this to get on the list.

Templeton: I think we should be open to any resident's comment.

Sacalis: We talked about streetscape. Newton's Landing Blvd. has double lights. Removing them would help. Rivers Edge has a lot of waisthigh lights and streetlights alone are adequate. I don't know if it is feasible to change the double headed ones at Newton's Landing.

Fitzpatrick: We should authorize this subject to reply to Councilman Templeton's question. We need to authorize for 40 watts. I would like to see George's report go out and have those lights removed immediately. If we can change over all of them to 40's, that is what we should do.

Templeton: I would like a statement be added that we could add a listing of additional lights if we needed to.

Fitzpatrick: Could you ID the ones that were mercury vapor?

Templeton: Yes, Mr. Devinney and I worked on this a year and a half ago. We've had this list and couldn't get it out for public discussion when we weren't under calendar pressure from PSE&G. You steadfastly refused

Fitzpatrick: No, it didn't. I asked them to be submitted.

Templeton: Mr. Murer last week admitted that he never answered the phone. You

had two committeemen who worked on this and you blocked it.

Fitzpatrick: I felt that police and public works needed to review it.

Templeton: You blocked it from the review.

Fitzpatrick: They are in charge of safety.

Templeton: The report merely pointed out what was there and what it cost. The public could have had input.

Fitzpatrick: We've done it. We have two professionals who have reviewed it. There are residents who might want a light removed because it is glaring. If George said it stays, it stays.

Vote: Templeton asked to hear the amendments – 40 watt bulbs, acceptance of Chief Sacalis's report, and the opportunity to amend the list before installation.
Passed unanimously

OLD BUSINESS:

Fitzpatrick: Emailed Marlene to let her know I gave some small posters to Marlene Jass for our bulletin boards. Getting info through county recycling coordinator regarding vinyl impression. Trash cans are grated and we want them to hold up when they are attached.

Resident of Second St: Can I contact the group and let them know it's in the works?

Fitzpatrick: Yes, we will recognize them at a meeting

Resident of Rancocas: What was the title search for the property on Rancocas Ave?

Fitzpatrick: Our solicitor has indicated that we own the property.

Resident: It's creating a lawsuit on the township's money.

Fitzpatrick: We own the property.

Resident: I've already proven we pay taxes on the land.

Fitzpatrick: I can't answer your questions. You are in an adversarial position. If you want answers, you need to stop your questions and listen. We were told by the tax assessor that you haven't ever paid taxes on that land. Mr. Heinold reviewed.

Resident: He never gave you my tax bills.

Fitzpatrick: He doesn't supply us with every piece of paper. He gives us a letter.

Resident: Why not?

Fitzpatrick: Can you wait until after the meeting? I want to discuss something you said about me and I don't think it needs to go on the record.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CORRESPONDENCE

-Passed Affirmative Action Audit – agent came down . Thanks to Marie publicly for all of her time.

Fitzpatrick:

- Sat. is yard sale – Sept . 25 – same day you can take outdated prescriptions
- Oct. 9 11-3 Community Day at the Firehouse

Discussion:

Templeton: While George and John are here, it's good to see what the committee feels about making the 30 acres at the Dunes available to the public. Some varying uses with the compost. There is a Dunes subcommittee, which will be evaluating this. I wanted to get input on the idea.

Jass:

-Before we go there, there is a subcommittee from Joint Land Use Board, Recreation, John, George and members of Township Committee. Master Plan doesn't include activities that would take place there. There was a meeting and it was recorded. Tom is introducing Creek Road alignment amendment and will be introducing one on the Dunes. Scott Taylor will make a presentation.

Templeton: Can we see it?

Fitzpatrick: There are issues – how to patrol? How to insure? What area will be off-limits? Like the compost. A budget needs to be put together. Marlene is calling a subcommittee meeting.

Templeton: I don't want to see it languish. The subcommittee was formed, but didn't meet until we got the letter from dredging.

Jass: That was never on the backburner. It's unfortunate that you haven't been able to attend any of those meetings.

Templeton: I just don't want it to be forgotten.

Fitzpatrick: Rec is in charge of all the facilities.

Templeton: I hope it takes a different direction than what Mr. Taylor presented which reserved a space for dredge spoils. It's Delanco Township property and we should utilize it.

Fitzpatrick: I agree, but the Army Corps has proposed using it. You need to discuss it with JIF

Templeton: We've already had that discussion. Do you want to open it or do you want to sell it to a developer as you did two years ago?

Fitzpatrick: You are lying. I never said the word sell.

Jass: Please come to the Joint Land Use Board.

Resident : What would be the volume of trucks to the compost area? What would be the access to the roads? It would be a good idea to have a general idea as to how many trucks?

Fenimore: What vehicles? We're open 7-3:30 for composting. After that, people could walk up there.

Hinkle: There is a lot to think about.

Jass: Safety is foremost.

Fenimore: Biggest thing is a quad that goes up there. It's like their own park. They wreck the trail doing doughnuts and burnouts. George and I have talked about it.

Once they see the police at the gate, they come down. By the time the police open the gate, they are gone. I know they are coming in from Beverly. George is working on it. This is the first year we aren't going to get mudded out. We already had a kid get killed up there. They make ruts like you couldn't believe.

Fitzpatrick: I stopped walking on Hawk Island with my dog and saw them. This was years ago. I told the guy that really neither of us had a right to be there. The guy wanted to know where he could take his kids.

Hinkle: Are there any parks that allow it?

Sacalis: Yes

Fenimore: They have a perfect spot to get in from Beverly. They do doughnuts right on the road.

Sacalis: Can we put poles in every few feet?

Lohr: They get in the back of our house.

Fitzpatrick: Do you ever hear them?

Lohr: When John blocks off one end, they find access down another end.

Hinkle: Call Gail and ask for permission to do that.

Fitzpatrick: I will email her. I have a light from Marlene at Second and Union.

Templeton: Mr. Leitizio requested that light be moved. I'm not sure which one is there.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett