

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/Delanco Board of Health Meeting

– August 15, 2011

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

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Twp. Administrator; Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk; Mrs. Martin, Deputy Municipal Clerk; Mr. Denton, Township Engineer, Mr. Heinold, Township Solicitor, Chief Sacalis, Delanco Police

ORDINANCE 2011-24 Amending Chapter 295 governing “vehicles and traffic” to provide for handicapped parking spaces at 432 Buttonwood Street

Fitzpatrick: Was reviewed by our police chief and recommended

Templeton: Do the applicants understand that these are generic parking spaces? And that anyone with a handicap tag can use them?

Sacalis: Yes

Jass: Once there is no need, if they move, do we have a right to remove them?

Sacalis: Yes, we are making some changes to the ordinance to simplify that process.

*2ND READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – no comment

Passed unanimously

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR GENERAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS - none

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Denton:

-Edwards Ave reconstructions – project close to completion

-Pennsylvania – construction to start tomorrow or next day

-Sinkhole at Pennsylvania and Union – was inspected by camera which indicated it might be 8 ft. deep, but it’s 4 ft. – prepared construction details to get quotes; should be about \$10,000

-Field of Dreams – moving along; parking complete; waiting for PSE&G to move pole

Fitzpatrick: Getting maintenance schedule from Scott Taylor for Field of Dreams.

Looking for contractor to maintain that property so it doesn’t fall under you, John.

Fenimore: You will find it is very expensive.

Templeton: If there is an alternative that you want to do in house, provide that information on equipment and manning to us.

Fenimore: We have two mowers.

Heinold: Rivers Edge matter. You may want to pull from consent agenda.

Fitzpatrick: We can pull it and do it now.

Resolution 2011-90 calling of performance bond for Rivers Edge.

Heinold: At July meeting, a resolution was on that we were putting the developer on notice. I haven’t gotten response from developer or bond company. Developer

wrote a letter to Richard Schwab to say he would start in September. It was to be in the spring... it was to be last year. All we've had is further delay. My recommendation is to pursue this avenue. He has promised September, but this gives us another avenue.

Fitzpatrick: With that recommendation, it's our intention to move forward to call the performance bonds to not stop the ball from rolling.

Heinold: Anyone who wants to speak from the public?

Residents: Trapp Trail is his baby. He has the intention of doing that.

Resident of Rivers Edge: Thanks to the township for being involved in the process. It's obvious that the developer has fed us line after line. There is no opposing factor from the residents in Rivers Edge.

Heinold: Thanks for being good partners and keeping us up on the issues.

Motion passed unanimously

COMMENTS - PROFESSIONALS COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

-Would like to attend conference in September.

-Received 2nd annual best practices form from governor's office. We have to discuss it formally as an agenda item as we did last year. It will be on the September 12 agenda. Fewer questions this time. We need to say yes or NA to 41 of the 50 questions. We will be putting together a report.

-new state law on pensions and medical insurance deductions. Pensions – fourth quarter extra percent reduction Rules for retirement only change for those under 20 years though those over 20 years no longer get cost of living allowance. Medical insurance is a little more complicated. Union contracts expire at the end of this year. Formula for deductions will take effect then.

-Recycle Bank report – 1757 properties have containers; 1173 use them once a month 67% usage rate. 888 residents have signed up for the rewards program. The have a toolbox to try to get more people to sign up for rewards . Costs\$100 a month for the program.

Fitzpatrick: We did some advertising.

Schwab: only 17 signed up.

Fitzpatrick: Could we send that notice to the schools?

Lohr: Yes

Templeton: Does the report show how many points aren't redeemed?

Schwab: Their contention is that though there are many unredeemed points, it encourages recycling.

Templeton: Hainsport is considering dropping the program.

Schwab: We could drop and it may not effect the recycling rate; we should analyze first

- File for Life - \$800 – safety money can't be used; it's for employee safety.

Fitzpatrick: Thought it was \$650.

Schwab: Has to come out of our operating money. We need a motion to authorize

Templeton: Chief, you had talked about that at our safety meeting...

Sacalis: Worthwhile program. Everything is there if they keep it up to date.

Jass: So many seniors

Fitzpatrick: Not just for seniors. You never know.

Motion to fund passed unanimously

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

-Car out back – back and forth with county, judge will sign off; option to make it a DARE thing. It's been sitting for five years. We will work on it and make some decisions. (This was an impounded car, not a Delanco Police vehicle.)

-Safety meetings – New pads for defibrillator ; safety cones with reflectors for public works

Hinkle: Anything else done with the bikes?

Sacalis: Two tune ups and racks for the cars.

2. Public Works

-chipped 7 boxes for brush; cut township owned and two private homes

-swept Delaware and around the bend

-Picked up the sycamore leaves; no choice since they are falling

-Removed two trees – one storm-damaged on Delaware Ave.

-One truckload of TV's to landfill

-2 20 yard dumpsters of concrete – 40 yards

-Ran 19 tires to landfill; removed 5 stumps

-Clean-up day will be held in September after yard sale. There will be metal dumpster and one for large plastic items (milkcrates, kids toys); Public Works will be open from 7:30 – 3:00 Saturday after yard sale

Fitzpatrick: Fire department will plant tree for Colonas, but you can't plant now.

Fenimore: You can if you dig out the stump. I wouldn't plant it in the same spot.

Fitzpatrick: They wanted to know if you would dig it out.

Fenimore: No, we don't have a backhoe.

Fitzpatrick: I'll tell them that we don't have the equipment to take it out. And PSE&G, they were going to move lights; what happened? The things that are sticking up are dangerous. I'll call them.

Fenimore: I called the county on that tree on Burlington.

Fitzpatrick: Walnut and Burlington Avenue – tree branch fell down.

Fenimore: That's the homeowners'. The oak tree. It is dead in there. I'll get Phil to go around there.

Fitzpatrick: County coordinator; combine resources to get rid of paint. There are so many people who ask about it.

Fenimore: You have to drive it down and take it out .

Templeton: My wife and I went last week. She cleaned out the basement when I was away. It's easy as can be to take things there. There are no forms to fill out; they unload it from your car.

3. Municipal Clerk – none

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Lord:

-Met with phone company –
Schwab: Xtel would cut our current bill in half.

Lord:

- Friday summer camp play was well attended
- Aug 30 subcommittee for Rec master plan – meeting with Taylor Designs
- no library meeting in the summer
- School Board – two-year contract for teachers was discussed in executive session; Benke was awarded a two-year contract as principal and superintendent

Hinkle:

- Sewage Seabox – files are in there; enough room for 20-30 years
- Shade Tree annual educational tour with tree export – identifying diseased trees and deciding what should and shouldn't come down.

Templeton: When is the arborist?

Hinkle: It was Saturday. We should publicize it. It's very educational.

Jass:

- Zurbrugg anniversary will be held on Sept 25. Booklet with advertisements from sponsors- \$100 for full page, etc. Listing of your name as a friend \$25. Forms here. Can be dropped off here or mailed to Joe Bussler. Should be a nice day.
- Reached out to Whitesall. Beneficial left. There are landscaping issues. Asked that the plywood be painted and that the shrubs would be trimmed. They have done that. Hope they restripe the parking lot.
- National Foundation for Women's Legislature in Des Moines with Senator Allen on a scholarship. Nondenominational. Met all speakers – Jesse Jackson, Ron Paul, Romney, newscasters from all over the country. Rigorous course. Exciting for me. Hope to put some of the things in an article for the website. This organization doing a great job and I would highly recommended them. Global reach.

Templeton:

- Annual JIF renewal; finally have that completed. Thanks to all the department heads
- Safety meeting with county JIF coordinator; first inspection in the new system. Getting our paperwork in a format that JIF likes and that doesn't complicate things for our employees.
- Regarding County Recycle – keep Habitat for Humanities in mind for construction materials. They are on Taylor's Lane. Get a tax deduction. Check website for hours.

Fitzpatrick:

- Attended Sewer, Shade Tree, and (missed one meeting)
- Shade Tree had a complaint against a resident; asked them to wait until residents are informed of the policy; complaint wasn't in compliance with what we have.
- DYSA bylaws – assisted with rewriting them.
- Received correspondence from Riverside re: Sept 11 parade. Sunday at 4:00 – Three committee members will be attending
- My brother sent this (showed clipping) from NY Times of building in London that

looked just like the watchcase factory. It was burned in the riots. I am forwarding this to the Historic Preservation Committee

Jass:

-Dunes – Went to NJ DEP regarding Dunes on ROSSI list – response is for subcommittee to meet in reference to a budget.

Heinold: Will send out email.

Fenimore: Scott sent me something. Will check tomorrow. Didn't know what he was talking about.

Templeton: We should have the meeting next week.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

ORDINANCE 2011-25 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS PIECES OF CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$50,000 THEREFOR FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND *1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

RESOLUTION 2011-85 REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT

RESOLUTION 2011-86 PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF ANY COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87 CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1985)

RESOLUTION 2011-87 AWARDED CONTRACT FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE TO XTEL COMMUNICATIONS

RESOLUTION 2011-88 RELEASE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR POWERHOUSE EQUIPMENT & ENGINEERING CO., INC. BLOCK 2000, LOT 6.02

RESOLUTION 2011-89 AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION IN THE 2011 BUDGET PER NJS.40A:4-48

RESOLUTION 2011-90 CALLING OF PERFORMANCE BONDS – RIVERS EDGE DEVELOPMENT, PHASES I THROUGH IV

RESOLUTION 2011-91 AUTHORIZING DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT WITH CREEKSIDE AT DELANCO, LLC AND SALT & LIGHT CO., INC. GOVERNING DISTRIBUTION FROM AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND UPON CONDITIONS PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT (Aug 1; Aug 15)

GENERAL \$693,110.78; 142,169.54

PAYROLL 102,386.93; 71,133.31

DOG TRUST 1,115.00;-----

TRUST 5,792.25; 405.00

MCPL OPEN SPACE 4,593.67 ----
Capital Improvement ---- ; 67,494.79
Public Defender ----- ; 337.72
APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 7/11/2011
APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Passed unanimously

Templeton: Asked 2011-91 be pulled for separate discussion. For public record, Mr. Rahankamp sent letter; we were briefed last month by Marybeth Lonergen. I don't have that letter. Maybe someone can provide the reason. The state isn't providing the funding they said they would provide. Is that it?

Fitzpatrick: Marybeth reviewed this in May. We had some comments on other properties Salt and Light maintains in Delanco. Sometimes they are fine and sometimes they aren't. I have the original memo.

Heinold: The genesis was that Creekside pursued state funding, but the state didn't have the money. Creekside does qualify for us and the county. This would change the 3 moderates to two low and one moderate. Secondary issue was concern relative to Salt and Light, so there are conditions tied not just the ones at Creekside, but the ones they already own in town.

Templeton: I have reservations that COAH momentum is still continuing on. We still have a large development coming and an unknown number of requirements. This \$60,000 is about half of what is in the housing trust fund.

Fitzpatrick: It has \$109,000.

Templeton: Under previous programs...Zurbrugg ?

Fitzpatrick: We paid \$37,500 per unit for first two. Close to \$125,000 to them. Paid Aubrey [Living Springs] about \$116,000. John gave us a breakdown.

Templeton: Shifting two from moderate to low income does what?

Fitzpatrick: Helps us.

Templeton: But we still have a large project from Hovnanian

Heinold: We don't know what will happen at the train station.

Fitzpatrick: You have to use those funds within a certain amount of time. I trust Marybeth's judgment. Delanco is to be admired for its plan. We got a letter from the housing officer. They usually don't write something like that. Because our professionals are behind this, I think it's the right thing to do.

Resolution 2011-91 – Passed with Templeton voting no.

Templeton: I'm uncomfortable with this; it's disproportionate to other projects and a shift from what Planning Board approved. Our town doesn't need to be ahead of the class on this one. There is an impact of COAH on community resources which is detrimental to NJ communities.

Jass: I agree with you

Templeton: The state promised they would fund this, but now it's coming out of our pocket.

Jass: Regarding additional COAH units. It's the same impact on the schools regardless on whether we had these units or not.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fitzpatrick: Quiet Zone re Riverline; requested something in writing regarding the plan. Then will set up meeting with John Runyan and NJ Transit for funds to get moving along with that.

Lord: Has anyone heard anything about Boggs Ditch and the drainage in this storm?

Hinkle: No problem

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Resident of Colgate: Anonymous submission to Friday *Courier Post* Backtalk; Why are the taxpayers of Delanco paying for the mayor and deputy mayor receiving paid health insurance when they aren't working 36 hours under Christie's new rules? They have full-time jobs in the private sector.

Fitzpatrick: I did go on the township's this year.

Jass: I don't have a full-time job, and don't work in the private sector. I wouldn't have taken it if it wasn't offered.

Resident: I know that it's legal, but is it moral? Taxpayers are paying for yours, but they aren't paying health costs for people who aren't working. How much is it?

Fitzpatrick: Mine may cost \$6000 a year. I wouldn't have taken it if I hadn't needed it. I've worked hard for this town for 10 years.

Resident: Everyone works hard on the township committee.

Fitzpatrick: It isn't offered to any new people now. The state put an end to that.

Jass: You are asking if I have a need.

Resident: I'm not asking that. Everyone has a need.

Jass: I don't know what mine costs.

Resident: How can I found out?

Schwab: I have that information sitting at my desk.

Resident: I cut this out of the paper. They didn't put their name.

Jass: That information is public.

Schwab: Just stop in to the office.

Resident of Second:

-Health insurance – you more than earn it; don't be bothered by that comment

-Thanks for help with the COAH units; it was a unique situation. We got caught between a rock and a hard place. Let me know if Mr. Pipes doesn't follow through on the maintenance.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. NJDOT TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION (Municipal Aid, Bikeway and Safe Streets to Transit)

Fitzpatrick: Cooper Street from Burlington to Pennsylvania again to get sidewalk. We might be able to get drainage from Hickory.

Lord: Priority is Burlington Ave. unless you think Cooper is more of a priority.

Fitzpatrick: Safe Streets is separate from DOT.

Hinkle: Talked to Dave. He thinks we lost the streetscape because we got Pennsylvania.

Fitzpatrick: Seems silly to start with Cooper if we don't have Burlington done.

Lord: If I can get it extended to Cooper...

Lord: Did a bikepath

Denton: We applied shared bikeway years ago, but we didn't get it. Worked with Ed Devinney.

Fitzpatrick: You can submit as many grants as you want. Let's submit all three.

Hinkle: Let's see what Dave says.

Fenimore: Concrete gutters have to get out of there (missed the street)

2. PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO ADD STOP INTERSECTION – Vine and Ash

Lohr: Request of Chief Sacalis; Stop would be on Vine

Ordinance 2011-26 – First reading – Sept 12 public hearing- Passed unanimously

3. FRONT YARD REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

Fitzpatrick: Phil sent me this sometime ago. I get a lot of complaints from residents regarding what people do on their front porches. Phil suggested improving our code to include front porches. I'd like Doug to look at this.

Heinold: I can look at it. My concerns regard yardsales.

Hinkle: Though some people have yardsales every week.

Schwab: Could restrict to once very six months.

Fitzpatrick: That's too much policing.

Heinold: Parking on the lawn. Problem about what constitutes a lawn. We just did snow removal and want people to get off the street. People could park on the lawn during snow.

Fitzpatrick: (missed this)

Heinold: Last one is vague

Fitzpatrick: I would like to see swimming pools in the front yard in it. I don't think they belong in the front yard.

Jass: I'm very uncomfortable about this

Fitzpatrick: Ride around town.

Jass: I have. I had a choice when I moved into a planned community. Some of the things in here are extremely specific and you aren't giving people a choice.

Fitzpatrick: I thought you and Thom were going to work on this together, but since you didn't, I did. For some properties, there isn't anything you can do since there isn't anything on the book. It enhances your property. If your neighbor has shower curtains draping everything or living room furniture outside.

Jass: You asked for opinions and that's mine.

Fitzpatrick: Years ago there was no code. When you take pride in your home and your neighbor doesn't...

Jass: We have a lot on the books that isn't enforced.

Fitzpatrick: We'll have Doug bring something to us and have the committee consider it.

4. Recreation parks and hours of operation

-Submitted by Rec in January.

-Mike considers the ends of the streets where we have park benches parks. They would close at dusk. I don't agree with that.

Hinkle: I don't agree either

Templeton: What is the reason that rec wants to align everything to hours of 9-9?

Fitzpatrick: You answered Keith's email. He sent this again two weeks ago. Keith's letter: Rec has been self-policing the basketball courts. Bulk of problems of the court start at the beginning of nightfall. Trashcans are dumped all over. Cans have been chained to the fence, but still dumped. Vehicles on the court. Surface has been abused. Therefore; fences and chains were installed. Recommend that township move forward to make all park hours 9-9.

Templeton: All of the property of the township is available. Therefore no land in this town is designated as a park.

Fitzpatrick: I don't know.

Hinkle: Gateway Park is.

Templeton: There's no list in the code.

Fitzpatrick: There was an incident at Gateway Park. They were playing baseball. A neighbor called the police, I didn't call. They were quite abusive. The officer told the youth that the park was closed.

Templeton: Mr. Lietizio wants to limit those areas due to trash and vandalism. If there are recreational areas in town with the same problems, you should consider doing the same there. If you drive along Delaware there are beer cans, trash, repeatedly it's a hangout. Right after the basketball court was closed, youths showed up at 10:30 at night bouncing a basketball. I've taken pictures of the graffiti and the neighbors have had their property vandalized and broken. Kids get a bad name in this town. It's just a few knuckleheads. When Mrs. Rossi brings people through to look at homes, it's an embarrassment to have our town look like this.

Fenimore: They took the back block off the new park on Burlington Avenue to make a skateboard ramp.

Fitzpatrick: I would take the recommendations of John and George and all of our committee members. If you feel that the ends of those streets are included, we would have to put signs on them so people will know. Let's come up with a full list and the township committee can vote on them.

Jass: We would need to have a conversation with police department. We have to get something on the books.

Sacalis: We need something in place.

5. Handicap parking space request

Fitzpatrick: If she would make a K turn, she could do it.

Sacalis: She requested a spot last year, and I denied it. She has a spot. We are down to two spots, it leaves us one spot for residents and the store. She is handicapped and has health issues.

Fitzpatrick: She could do a k turn out there and park alongside her house.

Sacalis: I talked to her about that. I am at a loss. As far as her being able to turn

around, it may create a real hazardous situation. 99.9% of the time, she is parked there. If it was in another area, I would probably give it to her.

Fitzpatrick: Some of the residents use the Gateway Park parking. She can't see. The other one that we turned down has her own handicapped parking right behind her house. I think we should grant it.

Sacalis: She's been in the hospital three times in the last years.

Hinkle: She needs to understand that other handicapped people could use it. I think we should grant it.

Lord: We aren't taking a spot away from another resident.

Lohr: We will be able to do this by resolution in future and remove those that aren't being used.

Fitzpatrick: John and George should put their heads together and come up with a list of spots that aren't being used.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett