

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 12, 2011

– 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, Lt. Desanto, Delanco Police; Mr. Fenimore, Department of Public Works

Fitzpatrick read Gov. Christie’s proclamation regarding Patriot Day in NJ – Sept. 11, 2011

Moment of silence in memory of those lost on Sept. 11, 2001

ORDINANCE 2011-25 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS PIECES OF CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FOR DELANCO; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$50,000 THEREFOR FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (riding mower and blower for Public Works)

*2ND READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING

Jass: Is this in anticipation of the new fields?

Fenimore: Yes

Jass: Do they meet the requirements that Scott [Taylor] set up?

Fitzpatrick: I thought it would replace an existing mower.

Fenimore: We have one that is 10 years old and one that is 15 years old, so it is needed anyway.

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – no comment HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 2011-26 AMENDING CHAPTER 295-40 GOVERNING “STOP INTERSECTIONS” *2ND READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING

Fitzpatrick: These recommendations were from Chief Sacalis - Vine at Ash Street

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC –none HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Passed unanimously

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR GENERAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Scott Miller (Distributec partner): My brother and I have a new project. I brought it to the mayor and she asked me to present it to the board. We would like to build a solar field behind the municipal building on land we already own. There would be no direct cost to township and we would provide discounted rates for the township long into the future. This building will suit PSE&G’s requirements.

Fitzpatrick: Bob Miller donated the land the municipal building is on. They are on the agenda for the next meeting. I thought if anyone had questions, they could ask so Scott is prepared for the presentation.

Templeton: How much land and how much power?

Miller: Four acres – 680 kilowatts. For this building it would be 200 kilowatts.
Jass: For a solar field, it has to be near the building.
Miller: There is another neighbor who is interested.
Jass: I'm assuming that you saw the bills; we have a discount now. Are you looking for a long-term contract?
Miller: Yes, can be set up different ways. The price should never exceed your best discount.
Schwab: Did you look at public works building?
Miller: Yes, it's not worth it because there isn't much draw and because of the travel distance of the energy.
Jass: Would you need additional ground for the switch?
Miller: A small room or free-standing inverter. Connection box to the back of the building.
Templeton: The agricultural use would be over.
Miller: Yes
Templeton: There won't be corn, but it won't be asphalt or paved?
Miller: No
Jass: Will you have a plan for the angle of the panels when you present?
Miller: Yes
Jass: Will it be moveable?
Miller: Not practical in a northern climate.
Lord: Will you be coming before the Joint Land Use Board? I'm not sure what that zone allows.
Fitzpatrick: Doug, did we add something for solar?
Heinold: No.
Lord: Solar is an inherently beneficial use, so it should be OK.
Fitzpatrick: Would you email Laurie (JLUB) so we can let Scott know what is required in advance?
Lord: Sure.
Templeton: Your main building – do you have any solar on the roof right now?
Miller: Solar on the roof is a judgment call by the building's owner. I was always against putting thousands of holes in our roof.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

COMMENTS - PROFESSIONALS COMMENTS

Township Engineer Denton:

-Edwards – punch list items, but almost complete

-Pennsylvania – curb and sidewalk done – should all be done in a few weeks.

Jass: Have gotten some complaints about the workmanship. There are piles of dirt and they are not coned off. It's a hazard.

Denton: They cleaned it up. They put back organic material.

Jass: Some of it is a safety hazard. If someone could go out there, that would be appreciated.

Denton: Field of dreams – waiting for public service to move the pole. They were delayed by the storms.

Jass: Rec assumed the entrance would be wider. The poles that were moved don't seem to be according to the original plan.

Denton: Drive is 25 feet – county standards as dictated.

Jass: Did we pay in advance to have the poles moved? They aren't in the place indicated on the plan.

Denton: You have to pay in advance.

Jass: Didn't we pay \$32,000 and one pole is moved about 2 feet?

Fitzpatrick: The distance doesn't have anything to do with it.

Jass: Did the county determine the fact that the poles didn't need to be moved the original distance? or PSE&G?

Denton: PSE&G – they said if they had to be moved again, they would do it at no cost.

Jass: Who keeps track of that?

Denton: We could get something from Doug

Jass: My point is the \$32,000

Fitzpatrick: We would still have to pay.

Jass: Not to belabor a point, they didn't move them by plan or by the county plan, so our plans didn't mean anything?

Denton: I was very upset that they didn't move them to where we wanted them to be.

Heinold: Once we get the poles moved, we need to raise the issue of financial responsibility and whether it was appropriate to charge us.

Denton: Pennsylvania sink hole – lowest bid \$4,700. They will repair the pipe and backfill just below the asphalt.

Fitzpatrick: The contractor needs to repave that.

Denton: They will do an overlay.

Fitzpatrick: Question – email regarding letters for the bike path. They need letters from organizations in town. Said to address letters to the township. I didn't understand that. I'm going to write a letter to the township that I am in favor of the bike path.

Denton: They are looking for letters from other organizations. It doesn't make much sense for you to write the letter.

Templeton: Letters in support are part of the grant application.

Denton: Committee members could write "To Whom It May Concern"

Fitzpatrick: due by Sept. 27th.

Jass: Rec concern – swimming pool at Hickory where the basketball courts are. Have you looked at the integrity of the court and the skateboard park?

Denton: I don't think it would do anything.

Hinkle: Biggest problem is the sewage pipe.

Denton: It sends all that water down the pipe and we pay for it.

Jass: My concern is that there is a certain amount of time things are supposed to last.

Denton: That area is on the 500 year flood zone. We received so much rain that the ground is saturated. We don't really have a low tide and the high tide is higher. I think we need to be sure that the pipe is clear. I don't think there is much you could do in those storms, but with smaller storms that would help.

Fitzpatrick: Hickory – there is a stream under there. I want John to make a list of

areas where there is no place for water to go other than in people's basements. I've lived in Delanco my entire life and have never seen the Babe Ruth field flooded. I feel like there is something we need to do to check into additional drainage. There may be grants to help.

Denton: There may be something we could do without an exorbitant amount.

Fenimore: When we did that street, the county put in an 8 in. pipe. All the water is trying to get across Cooper to Hickory Street drain. That's a tidal gate, so when the tide is up, it closes and water can't go in. Years ago, we had roots in the drain on Poplar. They were cleaned out and it was better for a while.

Hinkle: How did Robbins Lane make out? How about Boggs?

Fenimore: No problems. Nelly's Pond is holding all of that water and there is nowhere for it to go.

Denton: If it's an overhead pipe, it could be fixed.

Fitzpatrick: I thought there was a pipe in Nelly's.

Fenimore: I'm flooded out; Jesse's flooded out. It's only happened two times since I've been there. People need to understand that when they blow their grass out into the street, it goes somewhere.

Fitzpatrick: Should people be noticed?

Fenimore: When I see it, I send them a notice. Next time, I send Phil.

Fitzpatrick: It's not usually the contractors. It's the residents.

Templeton: On the bike path, will we see what will be on the street before the paint goes down? I went to a presentation on this several years ago. What was depicted here is different. I was wondering if we could get a crack at what is on the street or next to the street.

Denton: Yes

Heinold, Township Attorney:

-Rivers Edge – service on the bonding company. Return call from underwriting department. Making some progress.

-attached to solicitor's report – we talked about a list of items that Phil wanted to take a look at. I'm supplying that - not for any action tonight. Some things are already addressed in the codes. Sent this to Phil. Once item is graffiti. I tried to keep it as simple as possible. Obviously, it tends to be minors – obligation to the parents. We could put it on the October agenda.

Fitzpatrick: I would like to see Phil's comments before we actually move forward with it.

- TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

-FEMA storms – Janice will handle this in her portion of the meeting

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Public Works

-Brush - 9 trees came down in the storm – 3 were street trees and some were in the park. Two residents' trees blocked the street and we cut it to there.

-So busy from storm. No chance to take the leaves out. County is taking the wood chips.

- Clean up this week – electronics, plastics (toys, crates, etc.) – Saturday at Public Works building
- Before a storm, we have bad areas. We street clean ahead in the bad areas.

Police Lt. Desanto:

- Basketball courts – trash and bullying by kids from out of town. We closed it. Keith said it was up to the police. We’re going to open it every other day.

Fitzpatrick: It is locked at dusk. I wonder if the police could lock it one night when the group is still there. Tell them that you are locking it and they should take the trash with them. If you could do it once a week, I thought it would be a good idea. Maybe better lighting.

DeSanto: Keith going to a presentation for a portable camera. This week it would be open every other day and then next week it would be open

- Man-hours from hurricane

3. Municipal Clerk Lohr

-Attending FEMA meeting for public reimbursement. Township has received calls about individual assistance. Affected residents have 60 days from the event to register with FEMA. www.disasterassistance.gov There is a difference with public and individual reimbursement. Help with application is available through Assistance Center in Clayton. Another closer Assistance Center may open.

Jass: Ron Holt gave me a list of people the fire department pumped out. We discussed sending letters regarding help to those people through town.

Fitzpatrick: There are some people who didn’t use the fire department. We’re putting it in the *Beverly Bee* and on the website.

Lohr: www.nj211.org has a relief and recovery assistance guide. It suggests that you contact homeowner’s insurance and leads back to the FEMA website. It’s important that people register as soon as possible.

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Lord:

- Thanks to public works and police for service during and after hurricane.
- Email from tax assessor – his report. If committee has any changes, let me know.
- Library and school board meeting this week.
- JLUB – parking lot – (missed who this was) solar panels in the parking lot where the trucks part; saves 20%
- Attended Riverside 9/11 ceremony; well done
- (missed the last thing)

Hinkle:

- Thanks to all for work on Irene
- Shade Tree is reviewing new ordinance in reference to enforcement
- Sewerage is tomorrow

Jass:

- Thanks to Mark Schmitt, police, public works, EMT’s and explorers. I was there for
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almost 24 hours. Delanco is lucky to have the support of these entities and our young people. It gave me hope.

-Mansion – 25th – anniversary – decoys – speaker – trolley to watchcase in Riverside

-Rec. – harvest dance – Walnut Street School

-9/11 event with Kate and Tom in Riverside; well done

Templeton:

-Yesterday was about the 2,900 who died that on September 11, 2001. Since then 6, 204 military personnel have died and 44,372 have been wounded. The impact of all of that on the families has spread well beyond one day 10 years ago.

-Appreciation to all of our service departments during the travails of the last two weeks. Lucky that phone and power stayed on. Most reassuring was sitting in the meetings with Emergency Management Board. The key thing was we were able to provide all the services within Delanco. Sometimes people depend on someone coming in, but in the initial phases, you have to depend on your own resources. We sleep easier and are thankful.

Fitzpatrick:

-Emergency Management Team and first responders – thanks to Mark for coming to the plate as coordinator. Meeting before the hurricane with all departments. The after meeting was just as important. County representative commended Delanco's team for a job well done. It's amazing to see how people come to work together.

Each department should be recognized at a meeting and be proud of what they do for this community. I rode to 9/11 ceremony with Miquel – we are so many young people who are replacing those who are retiring. The ceremony was well-planned, dedicated; they read the prayer from Bob Bellan's death card. "God Bless America" at the end. Riverside, Delran, Delanco, and Beverly. Printed program.

-email from Marty Goldberg – Responders pushed their car out of the way. James Ray even gave them a ride home.

-Dave, does Abundant Life have anything to do with the flooding out on Creek Road?

Fenimore: It floods out.

Templeton: The storm drain isn't at the lowest part of the road.

Jass: County was out there pumping when I left one morning.

Templeton: The storm drain is uphill on that road. There is nothing at the bottom.

Fitzpatrick: That should be something that Dave should look at.

-Beverly church – 3rd Monday of each month – serving Meals of Love free to anyone who needs them.

-We should discuss Ed's letter. We will get to it in discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION 2011-93 AUTHORIZING HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE AT 307A BURLINGTON AVENUE

RESOLUTION 2011-94 ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

RESOLUTION 2011-95 REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT

RESOLUTION 2011-96 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR THE NJ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FOR EDWARD AVE.
RECONSTRUCTION

RESOLUTION 2011-97 APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND
EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE MAPLE AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.
(MUNICIPAL AID)

RESOLUTION 2011-98 APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND
EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE COOPER STREET FROM PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE TO
HICKORY STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (SAFE STREETS TO TRANSIT)

RESOLUTION 2011-99 APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND
EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE DELAWARE RIVER HERITAGE TRAIL
SHARED ROADWAY BIKEWAY PROJECT. (BIKEWAY)

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$831,473.17 PAYROLL 137,855.13 TRUST 33.75 UNEMPLOYMENT FUND
82.50 PUBLIC DEFENDER 151.00

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 8/15/2011

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

Lohr: Just Mr. Devinney's letter

OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION OF PARK REGULATIONS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

Ed is suggesting dawn to dusk. My recommendation would be dawn to 9:00. They are recommending dawn to dusk. I had asked John and George to get together and make a list of what they would consider a park.

Fenimore: Didn't get to it with the storms.

Fitzpatrick: Discussion regarding ends of the street. If there were a group there drinking and boisterous, I would call the police. Some of these people need to be picked up. If you see this, the residents should call the police immediately.

DeSanto: Even if they are above age, we have the open container law.

Fitzpatrick: Joan had a suggestion as well.

Hinkle: Union was always a problem. I rode down when it was dark; at the end of every street there is good light.

Devinney: There is a presumption that lighting controls crime.

Fitzpatrick: We need to catch them and a few of them need to be charged. We have laws in town. As far as the parks, are we in agreement for 9am – dusk?

Jass: I am in favor of dawn to dusk for all township property. If you want to deter children from congregating, it gives the police teeth. It makes it easier for the police.

Hinkle: Any other streets a problem?

DeSanto: Yes, Walnut is a problem. Complaints there.

Fitzpatrick: I don't know about dawn. It's early to open the park.

DeSanto: People sit down there early with a cup of coffee. You may want to have different hours at the street ends.

Fitzpatrick: I don't feel you should be chasing everyone. The police should use their discretion. The police should be called.

DeSanto: You just need to call us out.

Fitzpatrick: I can't see opening the basketball court at dawn.

Fenimore: Would it be hard to send a letter to the residents down there to please call the police?

Fitzpatrick: I'd be glad to.

Fenimore: Our property is starting to get brushy. Walnut Street is perfect. You can get under the sea wall and down by the landing.

Jass: I would like us to move on this. 9-dusk. We include the ends of the streets as township property.

Hinkle: No, I don't think so. Then it would need to be on the ROSI list.

Fitzpatrick: If there is someone disturbing the peace of someone enjoying their home, there is something the police can do.

Templeton: We could do a split in hours. For active recreation areas, 9-dusk; for passive recreation areas – West Ave, nature trails – dawn to dusk. There are lots of runners and walkers early in the morning. Doug may want to get in this. If you specify an hour, and then say turn a blind eye to someone sitting there, you can't do that.

Jass: Clarify

Templeton: There are a lot of joggers and they sit there. If someone is walking a dog at six in the morning, there's no problem, but you don't want someone bouncing a ball at 7 in the morning at the basketball court.

Fitzpatrick: How would that work?

Heinold: Break it down.

Jass: What do most towns do?

Heinold: Most towns are only concerned about the active parks. I haven't seen the same issues that you have here in the passive parks. That's something you are going to have to talk about and develop. Like what Mike said.

Fitzpatrick: It makes sense.

Heinold: We can't only enforce in some spots.

Templeton: We seem to be in agreement about dusk. It makes it easier for the department if they glance in, they can ask people to leave.

Heinold: Any games at night?

Fitzpatrick: No.

Heinold: Get George's input. Ordinance for the October meeting.

Fitzpatrick: Maybe we can get that information. We could do first reading on Sept. 19.

Lohr: Could adopt for Oct. 3rd.

Fitzpatrick: Let's make sure that everyone is on board so we don't have to change it. So John and George are getting some information together and getting them to George.

Speaking of parks, that butterfly bush needs to be cut at the Scout park. Ed, it looks like we will be able to move along on that.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS MEETING-no comment CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. REQUEST TO PLACE SIGNS FOR CHURCH FAIR (First Moravian Church of Riverside) Passed unanimously

2. 2011 BEST PRACTICES SURVEY - MANDATORY REVIEW AT PUBLIC MEETING
ADJOURNMENT

Schwab: Governor's office is requiring this. We did well – 88% yes. I gave you the memo indicating items for which we answered “no” – issue of mandatory courses, how we handle (missed it), financial checks and balances because we are part-time. Other one is people under 35 hours and part-time elected officials being eligible for medical benefits. Recommendation of more frequent safety inspections; formal joint yearly meeting between township and board of education, backup for electronic storage. Absence from meeting policy – may want to adopt; cafeteria plan for health benefits. Contracts for employees have been sent. Police officials going to advance training is being done.

Any of all of these items may be (missed it)

Templeton: What do we need to get our money from the state?

Schwab: We got 41; we need 44

Fitzpatrick: I think every one of us attended training for new elected officials. It's important that people attend the first one.

Templeton: Trenton is just catching on. We're ahead.

Fitzpatrick: I go to a seminar now and then by the Bar Association. The first one I think everyone should go to. We have all gone.

Fenimore: Rich from Willingboro – the lights were sold for \$10,000. They can't pick them up until you guys get a check. Did we buy extra lightbulbs?

Fitzpatrick: I have no idea. We really have too many lights around this building.

Jass: Old business – lights on Creek Rd. from Edgewater – Light between Distributec and Creek Road has been out. We need a light there. Deitz and Watson has told its people to utilize that road. We should move forward with two lights.

Fenimore: We have a list of the lights that are out.

Fitzpatrick: We were supposed to put up three lights.

Fenimore: Wasn't there a right of way?

Fitzpatrick: Make a note so we get those lights taken care of.

Submitted by Maureen Barrett