

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 – October 17, 2011

ROLL CALL: Hinkle, Jass, Templeton, Fitzpatrick (Lord was absent)

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

COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR Schwab

1. Public Service is ready to do cross-creek work under the Rancocas. Their plan has changed. They will drill underneath, stage the assembly of the pipe on Buttonwood for a day or two, but the road should only be closed for one day. They will mill and pave from Burlington down Rancocas, Buttonwood, everywhere they disturb. Preconstruction meeting next week. A letter will be distributed to residents after input from Township Committee.

Fitzpatrick to Township Committee: Please forward and share your comments

Schwab:

-RiversEdge developer starting on Turtle Court this week.

Fitzpatrick: My concern is that he owes us money. What about the back bills?

Schwab: We will be in court. It's \$10,000. Doug will have that information. The alternative was to hold off on having anything done there, but we don't want to do that because of the residents. We want it to get done and paved so we can plow.

-Tax Assessor's monthly report came in.

-2012 budget request for information went out to the departments.

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

-Take Back NJ Drug – Oct 29 from 10-2pm - old prescriptions can be taken to the police department for proper disposal

-report on cameras will be ready for next month

2. Public Works-

Fitzpatrick gave John's report – he was disappointed that the fire company didn't burn more of the pallets at Fall Fest.

3. Municipal Clerk –

-Saturday . Nov 5 10-12 noon Annual Rabies Clinic

-Trash contract with South Jersey Sanitation expires at the end of November.

Recommending that we extend for the final year of the contract. About a \$1500 increase over this year.

Fitzpatrick to Lohr: Please put on the agenda some presentations for people who were helpful with the mansion day for November meeting.

Lohr:

-Township table at Community Day – met new residents – nice event

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Hinkle:

- Shade Tree – received a few calls regarding the man in the white car looking at houses – he’s doing a tree inventory.
- Sewerage - Meeting on flooding on Hickory – some short and long term suggestions. Study cost \$3500.
- Mock election – Thursday Oct. 20. 9:00 am Senator Diane Allen will address the 40 7th graders. Eric will give the police tour

Jass:

- Recreation – I’d like to defer to Keith since Thom isn’t here.
- History Committee- next year new project
- Fall Fest was successful

Templeton:

- Thanks to Marlene Robinson for manning the Environmental Advisory Board table for Community Day. She had people make a wish list. Seems the most popular item to list was to clean up Boggs Ditch.
- Joint Insurance Fund – training for elected officials available

Fitzpatrick:

- Attended Walk to School Day
- Attended Historical Preservation Advisory Board – putting Diggs presentation on DVD. Good way to protect our history
- Attended Community Day with the Women’s Club
- Met with DYSA officers as per their request re bylaws.
- Attended 5K run
- Attended Fall Fest – new residents involved. Kids who were involved in the scenes were excited and did a great job.
- News release from DEP – be cautious of deer on the road. Use your bright lights. Don’t tailgate. Don’t swerve to avoid the deer; you will cause another accident.
- Beverly church is serving “meals of love” – served 70 guests last time. Notice will be placed on the website.
- got a letter from American Planning Association proclaiming October Community Planning Month. We could do this proclamation and send it to our planning board
- Letter from Dept of Transportation re: agreement of execution for Pennsylvania Ave. Project is already done.
- Letter from Bob Dovey (spelling?) interested in Sewerage Committee. Sewerage Authority will do an interview.

Sacalis:

- FEMA is going through town to inspect. We have ID’s from the five people who are working. If you have questions, just call.

Templeton:

- I happened to catch one of the FEMA people. They are going to addresses that had pre-registered. They are also going to adjacent properties. If they see a garden hose coming out of a basement, they stop.

Jass:

-Question regarding lights.

Schwab: Janice and I called.

Fitzpatrick: I recommend Keith Murphy.

Jass: I had spoken to people from (missed this).

Sacalis: Regarding the street lights that are out, there is a resident that has a problem too.

Templeton: They are replacing the fixtures with sodium lights on Delaware Ave. If we ever do find someone who answers the phone, we shouldn't be paying for the lights that aren't lit.

Schwab: There is something wrong with the billing too. We have held up paying for them.

Jass: We're still trying to get info.

Templeton asked to have 2011 106 pulled from consent agenda for discussion.

106 – Middlesex School Board, right?

Schwab: They are authorized to deal with anyone.

Templeton: Are we required to buy anything else there?

Schwab: No. We found out about this when we were buying our tractor.

Templeton: That includes their 2.2% surcharge and doesn't interfere with the electrical deal that we have.

Schwab: We did this to have one more option.

Jass: Only question I have is that there is no date. Number 3 in the contract. It says, "effective one year." If you have to cancel, there is no clause to say when you have to cancel.

Fitzpatrick: It's just a mower.

Jass: But if you did electric or gas, there is no date.

Schwab: We get this from other places – they ask if we are looking for anything and would like to go out to bid for a quantity deal.

Templeton: It's basically Costco for municipalities.

Lohr: It's like the agreement we have with the county each year.

Schwab: The contract on the mower was extended. It's a leftover.

Templeton: As long as we aren't locked into something.

Schwab: No.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION 2011-105 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR THE NJ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FOR EDWARD AVENUE
RECONSTRUCTION

RESOLUTION 2011-106 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF
DELANCO TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION 2011-107 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF A MOWER FROM STORR TRACTOR EQUIPMENT CO. UNDER THE MRCPS CONTRACT # 65MCECCPS BID#MRESC10/11-16 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A.40A:11-1 ET SEQ.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$274,362.16 PAYROLL 69,323.62 TRUST 2,048.00

RECREATION DEVELOPMENT 1,350.00

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 9/19/2011 & 10/3/2011 *were removed from agenda since Fitzpatrick didn't get a chance to review them*

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE – none

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Keith Letizio Delanco Recreation Commission

-Fall Fest – John did a great job preparing. We sold 167 tickets and 376 hot dogs. All the kids who bought a wrist band got unlimited hot dogs. Deitz and Watson gave hot dogs. (missed the donator of the rolls.)

Jass: Older children worked the trails in the evening.

Fitzpatrick: I meant to bring my shirt.

Lohr: “What creeps across the Dunes in Delanco”

Letizio: Shirts are getting more inventive.

-New project is to focus on the front of the mansion on the river lot. The people from the mansion have been dragging out chairs from the trash. We'd like to put out park benches and tables like those at the concession stand.

Fitzpatrick: Talked to John – sidewalk needs to be replaced and tree needs to come down.

Letizio: Talked to John – We want to focus on the two driveways that come out from the mansion and have the tables and chairs there. It would keep people in the center and won't look like the tables belong to the houses that will be there.

Proposal for five benches and three tables. Style of tables and benches – concrete.

Tables weigh 1,000 pounds. John would like to see cement pads to simplify mowing to avoid mud.

Fitzpatrick: All the benches should be on concrete pads.

Letizio: \$5400 for benches and tables, \$2600 for the concrete – includes delivery.

Fitzpatrick: Bench with a little more style would be nice in front of the mansion.

Letizio: We're afraid of someone coming with a truck for them.

Fitzpatrick: Gateway Park – benches are powder coated – been there and are bolted down.

Letizio: We can look at that.

Fitzpatrick: They need to be a little more comfortable. It's a little bland for the mansion to sit on cement slabs.

Letizio: Looked at the ones on the street ends – 120lb. We don't want to cement them in in case the whole area gets redeveloped. If they are on slabs, you could still

move them around.

Hinkle: It concerns me as a safety factor.

Letizio: We wanted to add trees along the old tree line on the river side.

Fitzpatrick: You'll block the view.

Letizio: If you spaced them every 35 feet, you won't block the view. History and shade tree committees are going to make recommendations based on pictures.

John is recommending adding cement pads to foot of each bench at street ends.

Total cost \$10,500. This tree is buckling the sidewalk - \$2800 to take the tree down including the stump.

Fitzpatrick: That's a great price.

Letizio: It's leaning into the street, so John says it has dead stuff up there.

Fitzpatrick: Has shade tree looked at it?

Hinkle: Not yet.

Letizio: We would lose one tree and gain six. Price is \$10,000 for 5 ft wide sidewalk with handicapped curbing at end of Union and in the middle across from the driveway. The current sea wall on this side (*I couldn't see the photo*) is a hiding spot for kids. There is a tree rotting in the ground behind it. Water is washing away the wall. Contractor advises taking it out. It will open up the area. For sidewalk, tree, and this wall, we are hoping the township will find some money to work together.

Fitzpatrick: I think rec still has money.

Letizio: Can we use the Safe Walkway grant?

Schwab: You have to have destinations that you are walking to.

Fitzpatrick: We could apply to the county for a grant. Let's see what happens. We need to get the tree and sidewalk taken care of. We should have Dave Denton take a look at the estimates. I can't imagine he would get a great deal.

Letizio: If we could move forward on the trees and get the first bench for the carriage rides.

Fitzpatrick: Tree is first.

Lohr: With the numbers you are giving – we need at least another quote. You are required to solicit at least one more quote.

Templeton: Can Keith act?

Schwab: Yes

Templeton: I'd like to press on with that. The tree is an issue and so is the sidewalk.

Schwab: If you want to authorize up to a certain amount, he can move forward.

Fitzpatrick: Just give the numbers for the sidewalk

Letizio: \$975 for the wall, \$2800 to have tree removed, and \$10,000 for the sidewalk.

Lohr: Seems like you are under the bid threshold.

Fitzpatrick: \$14,075 total. How much for each pad at the end of the streets?

Letizio: \$1750 for all of them.

Lohr: AT \$17,500, you have to go to public bidding.

Schwab: If one contractor does all of it and you stay under it, you're fine. You can authorize me up to \$17,500, we won't have to come back to you.

Passed unanimously

Templeton: Don't forget the fence.

Letizio: Talked with John about putting a barrier – posts with a sign. He didn't recall anything on JIF.

Templeton: When they were here on the Dunes, I made them look at that lot. They wanted some kind of signage or a fence to define the end of the public space. – minimal – to keep people out of the rubble. We don't want to create another playground apparatus that someone will be climbing on.

Fitzpatrick: John will be at the November meeting.

Letizio: \$3500 for ballards and a sign attached to every other one.

Fitzpatrick: We need a plan and for JIF to approve it.

Resident of Perkins Lane in Edgewater Park:

1. Why wouldn't this township send a letter to FEMA regarding Boggs Ditch? I understand that you don't people that get affected. It seems that we are being ignored, but are bearing the brunt. We flooded and had a lot of mold damage - \$5000 in recovery costs. In newspaper report, the mayor said she was unaware of any damages.

Fitzpatrick: They asked me about Delanco. Through the hurricane and the extra rains, I knew of no one who had excessive flooding in Delanco. That's what the reporter asked and I answered her. People in town were flooded, especially on Hickory. Regarding the letter of intent – it would commit us to \$150,000 to pay a portion of the work. It is not our property or our responsibility. There have been meetings going on for years. Joan has worked with NJ Transit, the National Cemetery, Edgewater Park, and the freeholders. The cemetery replaced sod and storm drains – they don't have covers. Sod has washed down there. The township shouldn't pay a cent. NJ Transit has to do some substantial work there. If FEMA is getting involved, that's good. I can't commit \$150,000 to a grant we may get back; Edgewater's contribution was \$20,000.

Resident: Living on the border of your town and having no consideration for your neighbors. I don't know if you were here when NVR and Rahenkamp came in. I petitioned when NVR came in. We knew any problem would come back to us. The development has happened. Have you gone to the developers? Do you have any violation notices to have them clean up their part of the ditch? It's clogged there.

Hinkle: It would have to start at the river and needs to be dredged. There is so much silt there. The only people who can do that are the Army Corps of Engineers. Our engineer went out to the culvert and it was clogged. Called NJ Transit; they didn't clean it out. Now they say they will. NJ Transit is as broke as a lot of agencies. They have to fix it. If they don't, they won't have anything.

Resident: I have to check with my neighbors before I do anything on my property. Development in your town went on full force. We've been here before.

Fitzpatrick: I don't remember NVR being in violation.

Resident: Wouldn't you think of going to those people?

Hinkle: All that sod being put in there isn't good. I mentioned it to Congressman Runyon. Linda has already contacted him

Fitzpatrick: We had beaver dams removed.

Templeton: We paid for that.

Resident: NVR (missed the rest of this)

Templeton: They aren't required to come to us. They get their permit from DEP. I was on the planning board when that development got that permit. We had no option. We can't stop it. Our only option was to tell that developer to build them elevated.

Resident: Where does the runoff from the condos go?

Fitzpatrick: Rivers Edge

Hinkle: The last flood – people had water who never do

Resident: Water table keeps rising. We thought it was a good time to piggyback on the grant.

Fitzpatrick: It's \$150,000.

Resident: I could lose a \$300,000 home

Jass: We got a day and half to consider with our notice from Edgewater.

Fitzpatrick: I don't care what Edgewater's administration says, we have been working cooperatively for a year. The committee members didn't have time to consider the letter in a meeting. We have worked very hard and these entities have to fix it.

Fitzpatrick: Have you applied to FEMA?

Resident: Yes.

Fitzpatrick: It's a joke that our town's share is \$150,000.

Resident: We've been here before.

Fitzpatrick: I know. We took care of the beavers and it is flowing fine.

Resident: It's never been the same since NVR. We live right alongside NVR. There's always water and mosquitoes.

Fitzpatrick: I think residents should attend a meeting with those entities. We did take it on our own to clear out the beavers and clear it out

Templeton: Four years ago we had the county come in and clear it out.

Fitzpatrick: We are doing what we can, but to commit \$150,000. There's no way Call Rae Hutton at NJ Transit. The pipe isn't big enough for the water to flow out to the river.

Hinkle: Our engineer is on vacation. When he gets back, he is contacting NJ Transit.

Resident: Will that be public record.

Templeton: Yes

Resident: When we came here a couple of times, we felt like we were being shunned.

Fitzpatrick: Mr. Anderson was here and spoke.

Resident: There were people who wanted come because they were ignored.

Hinkle: We had three meetings in our conference room.

Fitzpatrick: I suggested to Linda that she contact Runyon. It's nice to get a grant.

Templeton: The argument is the federal easement around the water flow. We're dealing with four large bureaucracies. Four years ago, the permit had been lost at DEP for four years.

Resident: I'm not happy with the development.

Fitzpatrick: We don't have any control over the developers.

Jass: Their planning board has housing as well.

Templeton: ne more step – committee should generate a letter to all those entities, Diane Allen and Runyon.

Resident from Edgewater (2nd): After your engineer gets his results, can we start these meetings again? That is the answer. It has to be cleared from one end to the other. I know that Corps of Engineers has jurisdiction. That's going to be the answer.

Jass: Last series of meetings... we would remove beavers which we did. NJ Transit would clean it out. Also contacted Bridge Commission.

Fitzpatrick: Best thing is to send the engineer's report to schedule a meeting to come up with a resolution. If NVR or Creekside has caused it, DEP should be involved. DEP authorized them and when someone comes in with that permit, you can't turn them away.

Hinkle: Water from Creekside has its own retention ditch. It doesn't go to Boggs Ditch.

Jass: One question that was asked of DEP – Do you look at surrounding areas when you give an approval? They said no.

Fitzpatrick: We'd be happy to arrange a meeting, but we can't sign that letter of intent.

Resident: You mentioned Boggs Ditch on your report.

Templeton: This was from Community Day.

Fitzpatrick: It looks like it was the same person who wrote it four times.

Resident of Perkins in Edgewater (3rd): Thanks for everything you did. John Adler was helping us. When you own the land, you are responsible. You have to maintain over the easement. Boggs Ditch runs from cemetery, by NVR and out to the river. Somebody owns it and pays taxes.

Fitzpatrick: We were told the federal government owns it.

Resident: We have an easement on our driveway for public service, but we still have to maintain it.

Fitzpatrick: When I first got on committee, I was told we couldn't do anything with Boggs Ditch since the federal government owns it. Burlington Avenue is owned by the county.

Templeton: Creekside Development owns from NJTransit to Burlington Ave. East of tracks, it is NVR.

Resident: We are all on septic systems.

Fitzpatrick: That's why you need to call the federal government. Our engineer has been working on this at Delanco's expense. We are trying to help you. I've not had one complaint from residents.

Resident: We have the striped mosquitoes.

Hinkle:: Call the Mosquito Commission.

Resident: West Nile was found in Beverly.

Fitzpatrick: The letter came up so fast without a recommendation from our professionals. Our engineer contacted us from his vacation.

Resident: Go to Google maps and you will see all of the big trees that have fallen over the last thirty years. It's really bad from railroad track to Perkins behind NVR.

Once it gets cleaned out...

Fitzpatrick: Your talking to the entities is the best thing to do.

Resident: Can you write a letter to FEMA that says you support us?

Templeton: We had a huge engineering report for the grant letter with no way to evaluate it.

Resident: A nice letter would be great.

Hinkle: I have a history of Boggs Ditch. I'll make a copy for you.

Another Resident of Perkins Edgewater (4th):

-Worked in dewatering – very familiar with silting in of the stream. *Did a demonstration using the furniture in the room to explain the groundwater and the silting.* Properties are affected – mold, water, mosquito.

-My past comments - we expect our government to protect our interest and properties. If you block a stream, you are in violation of some law. We need the government's help. I'm not asking for you to put up the \$150,000. We need a government agency to stand behind us. As individuals, we can't get things going.

Fitzpatrick: We have been doing that. We have called the meetings.

Resident: When was the last meeting?

Resident (from audience): August of last year

Resident: What do we have to do? We're here out of frustration.

Hinkle: I'm as frustrated as you are about Boggs Ditch.

Fitzpatrick: We were told that NJ Transit was going to fix the culvert.

Resident: The pipe isn't the problem. My 35 years of experience, there's silting and a vegetation mat. It's like trying to push water through the sponge. It's a thirty inch pipe which should be fine. There's an issue with Burlington Ave to railroad and to the river. We think there is a debris problem at the river.

Fitzpatrick: It flowed over Burlington Ave. NJ Transit hasn't done what they were supposed to. Our Public Works supervisor has been working here for 30 years. He says it needs to be dredged. Meetings can't start until Rae Hutton gets down here. Joan will be in charge of those meetings.

Templeton: Why don't we offer to host a meeting in November?

Fitzpatrick: I would like Dave's input.

Templeton: It would be good to get those people all in the same room.

Hinkle: Not until we get the report of the engineer.

Fitzpatrick: I'm going to let Joan handle it.

Templeton: Let the Corps of Engineers' engineer do a study.

Resident: Maybe a little publicity wouldn't hurt.

Fitzpatrick: They called me since they were at your last meeting.

Resident: Problem with Perkins Road being blocked in the middle of the night – road blocked in case of emergency. Deliveries are going to your town. Our Police Chief asked us to call in when we notice it. My wife called and chief came out. If you get info, let us know. I'm a former fire chief in Delran and concerned in case of an emergency.

Wanted to ask the chief if you are allowed to hunt in town.

Fitzpatrick: Up to property owners.

Lohr: Nothing in the code; we defer to Fish and Wildlife code. Bow and arrow regs were just relaxed. You can be very close to a private residence.

Resident of Perkins Lane in Edgewater (5th): Man from FEMA was surprised that he

had no knowledge of Boggs Ditch. You said you can't prevent a developer... Vittorino changed the ordinance to allow the developer to do what he wanted to do. His comment was that the ordinances were 40-50 years old. You do have some control. The person who did the environmental study was the same company that did the ground work. He was working for NVR which was a conflict. They changed the flow of that ditch. If you change one acre of wetland, you have to create two somewhere else.

Fitzpatrick: What happened in 2003, that portion of Creek Road was a redevelopment zone. It is to bring business into town.

Resident: It doesn't matter who gets hurt.

Fitzpatrick: It gives the town flexibility to offer a PILOT deal for taxes.

Resident: They took 100 acres of trees down. They suck up a lot of water.

Fitzpatrick: I don't know how DEP signed off on that.

Jass: We appreciate your coming in, but what's in the past is in the past. We have to move forward. We have to abide by what the state says.

Hinkle: To clarify, we had a meeting with FEMA at Edgewater Park.

Resident: NJ Transit rents that line.

Templeton: They purchased from Conrail who now leases it.

Hinkle: Going to suggest that we have the first meeting at Edgewater and next meeting here.

Fitzpatrick: We'll try to get the entities.

Resident: If you want to walk down, we'll show you.

I spoke in the public session about the hours for the street ends, mentioned the damage people have had, the large groups of roaming young people(up to 20 in a group.) I said that on my way home from the last meeting, there were young people on every street end. They now have three hours in the dark before the street end would be closed. I stated that I had heard negative stories about young people from at least four different sources. One was that a group was rocking the mailbox in front of the post office to see if they could remove it from its bolts. The response from Chief Sacalis was that he will ask the force to step up the patrols after curfew. In the past, the police have picked up some youths. Their parents were annoyed that they were picked up. Some youths weren't picked up from the police station by their parents for a couple of hours. Some of the youth were disrespectful to the police and to their parents. When the cases go to Mt. Holly, they get a slap on the wrist. Chief Sacalis said that our town is changing. Mayor Fitzpatrick said she would like to see the curfew enforced to get the word out that you would be picked up. She would like to be able to get some community service out of offenders. I said that there was probably a bigger conversation that needed to happen. We need to decide as a community what we want our town to be.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SOLAR FARM PROPOSAL – Status of RFP –(missed this)
2. 2012 MEETING SCHEDULE CALENDAR

I left at this point. It was 10:00.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. REGIONAL MARKET SURVEY Mark Lohbauer
 2. STATUS OF ORDINANCE FOR PARK REGULATIONS AND HOURS OF OPERATION
 3. REVISED PROPOSED ORDINANCE FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
 4. UPDATE – ORDINANCE TO AMEND REGULATIONS FOR SHADE TREE PROCEDURES
 5. AUTHORIZE RFP ADVERTISEMENT FOR 2012 PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS
- ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett