

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 – February 6, 2012

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

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

ORDINANCE 2012-1 “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO PROVIDING FOR AND DETERMINING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES” \*2ND READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2012-1 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – no comment HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Passed unanimously

\*\*\*PROCLAMATION\*\*\* READ ACROSS AMERICA AND READ ACROSS AMERICA-NJ

RESOLUTION 2012-38 SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE PROGRAM OF THE NEW JERSEY EMPLOYER SUPPORT GUARD AND RESERVES – Supporting employment programs for those who have served.

Passed unanimously

COMMENTS - PROFESSIONALS COMMENTS

Solicitor - Heinold:

-Dunes matter – Army Corps of Engineers continues to consider the property for dredge spoils. Both committee and subcommittee have been working in opposition to the dredge spoils. We have requested and received proposal of \$5,000 – 10,000 to have an attorney who specializes in this area of law review this case.

Passed unanimously

Engineer - Denton:

-poles for Field of Dreams – PSE&G need to relocate solar panels. New contact for Verizon for new supervisor who will look at it and expects to be done in two to three weeks after that. Then contractor can complete all work. Contractor has punchlist for refertilizing and reseeding in March.

Jass: If poles aren't removed, how much impact?

Denton: Contractor just needs a week to complete.

Fitzpatrick: Could they do that now?

Denton: Yes, with this weather. Report of Field of Dreams is on discussion items

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR Schwab;

-Field of Dreams – got call from Green Acres – we could borrow more by Feb. 15. This committee didn't seem to be interested in further borrowing.

Fitzpatrick: When we received the second grant for \$125,000 from county, committee agreed to complete with funds from open space fund.

Schwab: Rivers Edge Homeowners have asked us to take over the street lighting bill as per the law. We get a discount. We need to authorize our solicitor to speak with their solicitor regarding past obligations.

Passed unanimously

Schwab: Tax assessors report received. Budget workshop will be held next Monday and on the 27<sup>th</sup>

Templeton: Public is invited

## COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

### 1. Police

-Sheriff Stanfield called to see if we could host a Senior Citizens Academy one afternoon for six-seven weeks.

All Township Committee members were in favor.

-John's guys are working on sign replacement. There are some areas that will need additional stop signs.

-Thursday, March 1 - Cops and Lobsters at Red Lobster. Some Delanco officers are interested in doing it.

-Street lights are already listed for discussion later in the meeting.

Hinkle: They are terrible.

### 2. Public Works

-74 cubic yards of brush – 157 trees trimmed- removed 2 trees – removed stump – filled three containers from collected Hawk Island recyclables. Clean up of Hawk Island proposed for March for Clean Communities.

Hinkle: CUPHI

Fitzpatrick: Women's Club

Fenimore:

-JIF seminar

-three new sign poles by ball field with new breakaway signs.

-new arrow sign at end of a Larchmont

Fitzpatrick: Saw PSE&G on Burlington

Fenimore : Saw them taking new lights off and putting the old lights on

Fitzpatrick: I'm talking about the two poles that were to be moved for the next phase of the streetscape. I arranged that three years ago.

Fenimore: I've met with the guy a couple of times. Met with him in December to show him what to remove. Public Service has been busy.

Templeton: Re clean up on Hawk Island. Is there a possibility to have a clean up at the Dunes? It is all township property whereas Hawk Island is mostly not township property.

Fenimore: Hoping to get a group of people who are willing to go out periodically to different areas of town. We could use the Clean Communities money.

Fitzpatrick: May want to hold it in March due to the weather possibilities.

Fenimore: April can be worse.

### 3. Municipal Clerk

-Block Grant Advisory – next round for which we will be eligible will be due in the fall.

-Atemis system – online, internet records management training with Kitty.

Denton:

-(missed location) small job – should save to go with another job. Will get a better price.

### COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Fitzpatrick:

-Senior Citizens – program on health by chiropractor – covered dish on Feb. 14

-Reorg for Historic Preservation Advisory Board – Joe Bussler will be president

-Attended service for Tony Canone. He was the chemical engineer who developed Kraft pudding cups.

-Attended Fire Commissioners meeting – election Feb 18 2-8pm. Two people are running for commissioner. Banquet on Feb. 25 honoring a member for 50 years of service.

-Town Watch program – Edgewater Park has an advisory program

Templeton: JIF response to Town Watch. They won't cover it and they don't sanction anything.

Fitzpatrick: We will decide if it's going to be advisory. Researched with League of Municipalities.

Jass: George had some ideas. Confer with him.

Fitzpatrick: I will. He is our chief.

Hinkle:

-Shade Tree reorganization – new requests for tree removal.

-Sewerage Authority – reorg Feb. 14

-Met with code enforcement officer regarding vacant houses that have gone to the dogs. Coming up with an ordinance to take care of this.

Lord:

-Joint Land Use reorg – no change in leadership

-School Board pushing off discussion regarding moving the election and will discuss this month.

-DYSA – still determining opening day

-DYSA and Rec. – working on another open day at Walnut Street gym for some activities – Thursdays until March- 7:30-9:30 for Rec programs

-Rec subcommittee on open space – Delaware River Heritage Trail is in the planning phase. Also brought up Rancocas Greenway. Not part of the program, but willing to help. NJ Conservation Foundation was also there and will help with open space.

Grant from U.S. Soccer Foundation not granted. Equipment costs fall back to Rec.

Templeton:

-Joint Insurance Fund – extensive training program which is computer-based. Has been trying to get the information they have regarding Delanco straightened out.

Police and EMS and employees will be able to attend events online. We need to maintain records in house. All of this is insurance driven. Training aims to keep employees safe and reducing injuries. Emphasis on commitment to safety. Asking Township Committee to sign a commitment now; resolution will follow

-Municipal Court session – full house - interesting view of the community. It makes you proud to see the patience and understanding of our staff to folks not having not their best day. Amazing how many people are driving around without licenses. Be careful. There are always too many drug-related infractions. We’re no different than any other community in the country. The war on drugs is right here. Bear that in mind.

-Dunes – Corps of Engineers and State have identified the Dunes as a dumping site. It would be a permanent dumping site – 250,000 yards of material that would come out of our town by truck. That’s why we are fighting so hard and working so hard. There are phone numbers on our website. Please contact your officials.

Jass:

-JIF breakfast

-Municipal court

-Historical Preservation meeting – light turnout. Still determining project.

-Movie Night this week at the library – Limit on number.

-Cooking class at fire house on Saturday – see Rec on website.

-Meeting with mayor and deputy mayor – 2-3 Vinney’s Pizza this Saturday.

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**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

**ORDINANCE 2012-2 CALENDAR YEAR 2012 MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) \*1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR MARCH 5, 2012 AT 7:30PM**

**RESOLUTION 2012-39 APPOINTING TEMPORARY DEPUTY MAYOR**

**RESOLUTION 2012-40 ISSUANCE OF CONTRACTS TO THE MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER TO PROVIDE OFF-SITE INSPECTION SERVICES**

**RESOLUTION 2012-41 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO FOR THE PROVISION OF ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES**

**RESOLUTION 2012-42 ADOPTING MANDATED SIGN MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**RESOLUTION 2012-43 RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY HOUSING AND MORTGAGE FINANCE AGENCY HOUSING AFFORDABILITY SERVICE (HAS) FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE RE-SALE OF OWNER OCCUPIED AFFORDABLE UNITS**

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$1,267,055.19 PAYROLL 132,783.70 UNEMPLOYMENT FUND  
7,289.01 DOG 6,181.75 TRUST 10.00

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO EXECUTE FORM FOR AERIAL MOSQUITO CONTROL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 1/6/2012, 1/9/2012 & 1/9/2012 (Board of Health)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Resident of Second Street: About 1 ½ years ago, Robbins Way was dedicated. There was a discussion for improvements there. Anything happening?

Hinkle: Marlene sent me comprehensive information on that area. It suggests that we need to clear out the gulch from time to time which we do. She has quite a bit on there and it has to go around to all the different people ...

We had in mind a trash can, a bench, and to let people know that they can get down to the river there.

We wanted to put a fence up there.

Resident of Shipp's Way: Asking for a waiver for two dog limit. Death in the family due to an auto accident so they took in the family members' dog. HOA is using the township ordinance – limit of two dogs. Daughter is helping out.

Fitzpatrick: It's so good to see you, Jean. It was an awful tragedy that you went through.

Resident: Much surgery. Advice: If you know you can't stop in time, take your foot off the brake. We went to the Homeowners board for mediation. They won't consider anything the mediation committee recommended. We get a letter once a month. They try to fine us even when the dog isn't there. Letter asked for proof that the dog doesn't live there. Letter states that family member has been observed walking three dogs at a time.

Fitzpatrick: As a member and a pet owner, I can't understand why you can't get a waiver. I don't see any problem with it.

Heinold: I have to look at the ordinance. We have to enforce it, ignore it, or amend it. It's our ordinance to enforce it; not the HOA.

Resident: The dog is part of my mother's estate. I am responsible for this animal.

Heinold: I'm not sure what the entity is hanging its hat on. It's our ordinance.

There is no authority for them to issue fines.

Jass: What parameters (to Doug)?

Heinold: We could get copies of the letters. They are overstepping their jurisdiction.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CORRESPONDENCE – Lohr

-PSE&G letter – 2012 projects and plans for the year; Denton will respond

-Emily Smith – summer camp director will not be seeking that position this year

Jass: Accepted with regrets.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. PROPOSED ORDINANCE – AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE AT CHAPTER 216 GOVERNING “PARK AND PUBLIC PROPERTY REGULATIONS”

Jass: Forwarded to Dunes subcommittee and Rec as well.

Heinold: My report pg. 3 – some issues to discuss. Rec’d an email from the mayor from Keith regarding some concerns– they may not still be open. County regs permit smoking. Do we want to permit or overall prohibit smoking?

Jass: Isn’t there something from the state. Thought there was no smoking on public property.

Heinold: We generally have taken the approach to prohibit on our properties.

Templeton: Smoking prohibition might be advisable – brush fire would be tough to get hold of in proximity to the houses.

Heinold: All agree?

Fitzpatrick: Is this from your subcommittee?

Jass: Yes. It was submitted to Doug.

Heinold: Took this, county regs, and compost into consideration.

Fitzpatrick: (missed this)

Heinold: Bicycles would be allowed.

Fitzpatrick: If you have ever been walking a dog on a trail and the kids come up behind you...I can’t see bikes being out there.

Letizio: We’re giving an area back when we are trying to get people away from 7Eleven and the skateboard park.

Templeton: It’s not about taking away; it’s what’s appropriate. Trails have curves and sharp corners. Bikes are OK on county paths with a good line of sight.

Fitzpatrick: You can’t operate them properly without a bike path.

Letizio: What’s there now is perfect for mountain bikes.

Fitzpatrick: We want people to come in there to see nature. You can add a bike path. The two together don’t work.

Hinkle: It’s dangerous.

Templeton: The left side might be doable for bikes; the east side for pedestrians. We can walk the trails again and look at it.

Jass: I understand the concerns. The committee said those things had to come back to the Township Committee for review. I feel it is dangerous to have the bikes. I was just there the other day, and a guy was coming on a motorized bike and he wasn’t moving. I had to get out of the way. I’m not in favor of having bikes there.

Fitzpatrick: There are too many safety issues. The purpose of opening it was for people to walk out there and see the beauty. The kids you want to open this up to have been illegally riding their bikes on the basketball court, 7Eleven, and skate park. They aren’t out there for a leisurely ride. The whole purpose was to have people see this jewel.

Hinkle: I don’t think the bikes should be there.

Lord: There should be something there for bikes, but they shouldn’t be shared. Not only 15 year old kids would want to ride there; adults would too.

Fitzpatrick: I've never seen anyone riding bikes on a nature trail and I've been on many of them- John Heinz or Brigantine...

Jass: Consensus of the committee?

Templeton: Not in favor of bikes now. We need to walk before we can run.

Lord: Not in favor of bikes.

Jass: Not in favor of bikes.

Heinold:

-Feeding of wildlife is prohibited.

Jass: If other suggestions come back from the committee, I will forward.

John and George were given the ordinance.

Lord: Removal of materials - who would authorize that?

Heinold: Will fix it.

## 2. NJ SEM (SUSTAINABLE ENERGY) UPDATE

Jass: Went out to bid - Natural Gas 46% saving from last year. Going out to bid in April for electrical.

## 3. STREET LIGHTING ISSUES - NEW CREEK ROAD

Sacalis:

- PSE&G met with us months ago. (passed diagrams to Township Committee). Two plans were presented. (I didn't follow all of this since I didn't have the diagram. Basically, there would be four lights.)

-Other street light issues - Faxes to PSE&G - 57 street lights are out in town. Since July, 100 lights have been reported. 15 are chronic. They were in town last week. There's a defect in these heads, but they won't admit it. Most of the lights with the green heads that have blown out; once they fix them, they seem to be fixed. Not sure what the issue is. Can't get any answer from them. It takes two or three weeks for them to come out.

Templeton:

-I'd like a copy. I want to get a credit or rebate. I will pester them too.

Schwab:

-We've all contacted multiple people.

Jass: How do we feel about going back to the old lights?

Schwab: Our bill is weird. They changed the bill as they changed the lights. It changed every month. Their billing is worse than the maintenance.

Templeton: Not a big cost benefit.

Schwab: The induction lights aren't a win-win.

Fitzpatrick: When they proposed this, we agreed - can we change it? There hasn't been a significant change. We agreed to do an area so we could evaluate it. They just did what they wanted to do. We've had complaints and they aren't working. We need to protect the interest in our town. They didn't do anything they were supposed to do.

Jass: We shouldn't be charged for it since we only agreed to a small part of town.

Schwab: We will try to bring someone in before you.

Sacalis: The ones that we were shutting off, they are putting a red cover over them. I haven't seen any. We may have an issue with residents calling about lights we have had shut off.

#### 4. FIELD OF DREAMS PLAN (as submitted by Township Engineer)

Denton:

-Completing phase 1 – phase 2 consists of building with concession, storage, restrooms, and pavilion. Building is pre-engineered. Bid could be in April. Contacted First Industrial or Sanitary Protection to find out the cost to connect.

Jass: I will reach out.

Denton:

-Will need to convince county that we aren't changing the use – just accommodating people at the four soccer fields so we don't have to prepare a traffic study.

Jass: What about county planning board?

Denton: They meet once a month.

Fitzpatrick: Feb. 16 subcommittee meeting regarding use of the fields. The field should not be used any sooner than it should be as decided by Denton and Taylor. We said originally that the fields were going to be used for the first time in October. It would be nice to have phase 2 completed before the use. Safety issues of construction during use.

Denton: Fields could be open. Building would be enclosed in temporary fence anyway for security.

Jass: Does estimate include alternate plan if we can't hook up with First Industrial?

Denton: Includes hookup with First Industrial. If you had a special event, you would have to negotiate with county as to how many gallons to provide. Design could reflect use on heavy use days without adding to the footprint.

Jass: Would it impact multiuse fields?

Denton: I don't think you would have a problem.

Jass: You think we could go out to bid in April?

Denton: Yes.

Jass: Can we move forward with Dave with provision of going to septic if we can't connect?

Templeton: First Industrial is going to be difficult to deal with anyway – they are a holding company in Florida, but we shouldn't abandon that in favor of septic.

Jass: Can we move forward?

Fitzpatrick: We need to look into the hookup and get that answer.

Denton: Design doesn't take a long time.

Fitzpatrick: Regarding Hickory Street - \$20,000 with \$9,000 in engineering.

Schwab: That has to go through the budget.

Fitzpatrick: Are we putting it in the budget?

Schwab: Yes. (back to Field of Dreams) Do you want him to proceed with balance of design?

Jass placed a motion to move forward.

Fitzpatrick: We are meeting Monday. We can authorize then and do it the right way.

Jass: I didn't know there was a right way. Let's move on.



5. NEW LAW – ALLOWING CHANGE OF DATE FOR SCHOOL ELECTIONS

Heinold: Township Committee or School Board needs to take action by Feb. 18.

Lord: Boards are considering moving it to November.

Heinold: Cost of not having the separate election is a cost-saving. Incentive is that the 2% cap would be placed on school board and wouldn't need a budget referendum. If they are over it, it would have to be on the ballot.

Templeton: Just on the portion that it exceeds the cap.

Heinold: Tight time line. We need to be sure we are getting that info in advance of Monday night.

Lord: Is the committee in favor of moving forward?

(round of yeses – not sure who said what)

Templeton: I'd like to hear from the School Board first and then we'll take a whack at it.

Heinold: Template from school board ordinance.

Jass: Anything from public or rec members wish to comment on Field of Dreams?

ADJOURNMENT

*Submitted by Maureen Barrett*