

The following are my personal notes, not official meeting minutes. For official minutes, please go to the Delanco Municipal Building, 770 Coopertown Rd.

Delanco Township Committee meeting March 17, 2014 started at

Present: Ciancio, Templeton, Jass, Dillenbeck, Fitzpatrick

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Township Administrator; Mrs. Lohr, Township Clerk; Mrs. Martin, Deputy Township Clerk; Chief DeSanto, Delanco Police; Officer Mack, Delanco Police

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

COMMENTS -TOWNSHIPADMINISTRATOR

- Budget public hearing April 7, 2014

-Assessor's report received

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

-Chief DeSanto introduced a new hire – Officer Mack formally introduced to committee and public. He has 17 years of experience with Camden City and worked in Beverly. Known for his professionalism; treats people like they are his neighbors. Will be a great asset to the department; shares its values. Understands there is always something to learn.

Officer Mac: Glad to be here.

-April 26 – take back prescriptions day in the lobby of municipal building from 10-2

-Feb. report – 29 523 calls 12 arrests, 4 accidents, 5 burglaries. Burglaries are up this year. Trying to be more proactive to stop that from happening.

-Code Blue shelter has closed for this year. It was an internal decision in the shelter. Expect to hear about 2014-15 plans from the county.

Fitzpatrick: Mr. Trout said that Mt. Holly may take it on. Usually they are in place for two years; his was there three years.

Jass: 523 calls in one month. What is the average other years?

Desanto: Don't have that with me. Included people who called for help and any action an officer takes on duty is also counted as a call, ex. checking the parks. 40% increase over the last ten years. Calculation is a little different. More people in town, more people in need.

Templeton: Burglaries –forced entries or acts of opportunity?

Desanto: Both forced entry and unlocked motor vehicles. Keep your vehicles locked. Burglaries fluctuate. Detective Hoffman has some fingerprints and is following up.

Dillenbeck: In same area?

Desanto: Scattered, but in same general area. Still working on it. People want to say it's the light rail, but we don't have that evidence.

Fitzpatrick: Some of the things that happen, some from Riverside and some from Delanco. The ones on Pennsylvania Ave may be from RiverLine.

Jass: Would you say most in the past and now are local?

Desanto: Not all local, but ones we stopped in the past were individuals from town and out of town.

Fitzpatrick: Crime is up everywhere.

Desanto: Not a reflection of Delanco itself. Breakdown of the family – need to reinforce morals and values. Societal problem – see it in the paper every day. We have to be prepared to handle what comes our way.

2. Municipal Clerk

-Township Committee waived late fees for pet licenses due to weather. Positive feedback from community.

-Office is experiencing OPRA requests for oversize plans. Our staff has to go to Staples. We've had seven in the last two weeks. Cost of over \$1000. The requests can be time-consuming. Large requests can bring the office to a standstill. Lots of increase in volume.

Ciancio: Can we charge?

Lohr: We have to charge our costs, but we can't charge for our time.

Fitzpatrick: What plans? I know Dietz and Watson.

Lohr: After the fire, we closed Cindy's window for several weeks so she could work on that. Now it's Jevic facilities, RiversEdge, Burlington County Muslim Association.

Fitzpatrick: I would volunteer to run plans out to Staples since I'm not working full-time.

Lohr: Thank you.

Templeton: OPRA requests have a clock. Some of these seem to be nice to have vs. required – business vs. legal action.

Lohr: The law says for immediate contracts, vouchers – five days. We can request an extension from requestor. To prep it can take a few days. Most of the times we get the extension. Rivers Edge is over \$1000. Cindy has spent days pulling, sorting, counting, calculating the price. After hours of work, a requestor can say, "Never mind," and then we don't get a penny.

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Templeton:

-Meeting with Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, which was previously working on alternative energy model ordinances which I forwarded to JLUB and fire commission. This meeting – they had a grant from Dept. of Energy to bring the group back together– was mostly planners who were trying to streamline the approval process for solar installations. I sent information that was publicly available re: Deitz and Watson fire. Talked with Chief Holt and Fire Commissioner Randy Johnson prior to the meeting. The array on the roof did inhibit action and resulted in loss of the building. The DVRPC wanted to come up with a streamlined template. I went through what we have gone through regarding every piece of paper on that property having to be provided.

-Attended library presentation on Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. The library is having various speakers coming in. Worth checking the library website.

-Attended JIF training seminar dinner with rest of Township Committee

-Attended School Board Meeting

-Happy St. Patrick's Day. Enjoy the literature and music that the Irish culture brings.

Fitzpatrick:

- Watched the St. Patrick Day's Parade – dancers were in grammar school – wonderful.
- Adam did a great job in the police presentation.
- History Board is working on signage and display cases. Boost display will be at library until April. Also looking at company that did informational signs at NJ Transit stops to get them for Delanco.
- Attended Senior Meeting- Presentation on Code Blue and the food pantry they are working for. I will leave a list of needed items in the lobby.
- JIF dinner was informative – overview of coverage. Presentation on ethics by attorney from Doug's firm. Attended many, but this was the best.
- Missed Board of Ed. meeting – didn't realize they would still be meeting after the JIF dinner. Phil Jenkins will give us an update in a few minutes. Reached out to Cheryl Smith regarding Black Seal coverage for the library.
- RiverRoute meeting- Marlene Jass is vice chairman – informative- updating plan for 12 municipalities – sent out a survey, which had 52 responses from Delanco (under 6%). We can use Survey Monkey to see what people want to have in town. The results were (in order) Safety, affordability, family, distance to work, quality of schools. Lot of people concerned about quality of schools. We should do our own survey.

Ciancio:

- Library Board meeting – detailed plan for activities and events geared to bring residents into the library.
- Police and Public Workers – negotiations still in progress.
- JIF presentation – beneficial to hear scenarios that one must keep in mind when serving on TC
- Senior Meeting –

Jass:

- Attended Recreation – finalized plans for clean up day April 12 at 9 at West Avenue Trails – free lunch to workers/ Easter Egg Hunt April 19. Rec has been doing Survey Monkeys – calculating results for master plan./ Adopted policies for summer camp – go to Delancorecreation.org for registration
 - Attended Senior Meeting – Ric Trout was emotional about the shelter
- Fitzpatrick: I think he is worn out.
- Jass: This past year has been very taxing.
- Attended JIF meeting – for each one of us who attends we get \$250 – we got \$1250
 - RiverRoute meeting held in Delanco – sent survey results to TC and Mrs. Lohr – Lot of economic activity here.
 - Attended Diane Allen's installation today – installed to Women Legislators as Chairman. Honor to be there. Steve Sweeney welcomed her as did the Lt. Governor. Our senator is on the national level.
- Fitzpatrick: Flyers for West Avenue Trails. Why aren't we getting flyers for the other activities?
- Jass: These just came out.

Fitzpatrick: I didn't get one for the Flower Show. Are you still in charge of putting them in the bulletin boards?

Jass: no

Lohr: We didn't get one for the Flower Show.

Fitzpatrick: I would like any flyers that come out. Who is doing the bulletin boards?

Lohr: Marie. We will put flyers in your mailbox

Dillenbeck:

-Everything I attended was already reported.

-Survey Monkey – safety being number one fits with what we are doing regarding the police department. Received comments from citizens concerned about the shelter. Was impressed at what he was doing. Hopefully someone else will pick it up.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE

Jenkins from School Board:

-Working on budget

-Negotiations coming up

-Interim superintendent there now. Very professional. Started with 30 candidates- 10 were not qualified; interviewed 9, now down to 3 – interviewing. Hoping we can get another superintendent in place soon.

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Consent Agenda

ORDINANCE 2014-4 " AMENDING SECTION 150-3 OF CHAPTER 150 GOVERNING
"CONSTRUCTION CODES, UNIFORM - FEES
1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR APRIL 7, 2014

ORDINANCE 2014-5 AMENDING CHAPTER 295-4 AND 295-32 GOVERNING
"PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES" AND SCHEDULE OF "NO PARKING" AREAS
*1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR APRIL 7,
2014

RESOLUTION 2014-49 2013 APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFERS
RESOLUTION 2014-50 RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEPUTY MAYOR
PAYMENT OF BILLS
ACCOUNT AMOUNT
GENERAL (CURRENT) \$87,794.81 PAYROLL 60,468.93 PUBLIC DEFENDER FUND
345.35 TRUST 7,971 MCPL OPEN SPACE 1,764.22

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1/13/2014 & 2/10/2014
APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES 2014-1 thru 2014-12; 2014-14 thru 2014-17
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

- DOT – 2014 Safe Routes to Schools Programs – open to all municipalities to encourage children to walk and bike to school safely.
- DOT – Transportation Alternative Program – grant money to improve facilities for bicycles and pedestrians, landscaping, historical, environmental mitigation. (There were more items. I missed some.) Hybrid program.

7:00 in Conference Room on Monday 3/31 – published Emergency Management Meeting

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION TWO-
none

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

REVIEW OF SAMPLE ORDINANCES REGULATING GARAGE/YARD SALES

Fitzpatrick: Reviewed and came up with different ones that I liked. Liked Moorestown's and added some things from Palmyra. Delran's is good too. Registration required should be through Police Department. How else would they know how to enforce it?

DeSanto: Should go through Phil. Fine would come from there and that is the deterrent. We have cut back our clerical staff.

Fitzpatrick: Moorestown's says owner of premises has to attend. Exceptions were included. If you are selling one or two things through an ad, that is excepted out. Enforcement through zoning officer. Wording in Palmyra's stated violations and fines so if it goes to court...

Desanto: That would be up to the judge.

Fitzpatrick: States no new merchandise can be sold. That would help with one of the problems we have. Some of it is from storage units. Also liked that you needed to display the license issued.

Desanto: Phil can come in and say it's registered.

Fitzpatrick: Limited to 2 per year in addition to town-wide. Town-wide wouldn't require a permit.

Ciancio: Wasn't the primary motivation the number of sales?

Fitzpatrick: Yes.

Ciancio: Did we draw a consensus on a number?

Fitzpatrick: Thought four was good. I would be glad to put it all together on one and circulate it.

Dillenbeck: What I'd like to see is – certain individuals in town sell bicycles. I don't consider that a yard sale.

Fitzpatrick:

Jass: How is this going to work?

Fitzpatrick: Phil is only here two days.

Ciancio: Have to remember what the motivation was. Concerned about year-long sale that is really a business.

Fitzpatrick: Causes traffic issue.

Jass: Phil can't enforce it.

Fitzpatrick: Maybe they can register with the township. We can give a list to police.

Ciancio: Part of the enforcement is generated by complaints.

Fitzpatrick: Town watch for that?

Ciancio: Ordinance that would work to identify the major offenders.

Dillenbeck: Kate, put it together and then meet with Phil.

Lohr: Many towns allow Sat/Sun as one sale. Moving sale wouldn't count.

Dillenbeck: I remember a store at home that was always going out of business.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett