

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 April 7, 2014 started 7:32

Present: Ciancio, Templeton, Jass, Dillenbeck, Fitzpatrick Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Township Administrator; Mrs. Lohr, Township Clerk; Mr. Noll, Township Engineer; Mr. Heinold, Township Solicitor; Chief DeSanto, Delanco Police; Mr. Rahman, Tax Accessor; Mr. Inverso, Township Auditor

2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET-PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

RESOLUTION 2014-52 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL BUDGET READING BY TITLE ONLY Passed unanimously

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Resident of Third Street: You still plan on hiring officers. Moved here because I like it and see how it has changed. Increased population. Sat where you are and understand what is involved in the budget. This will increase my taxes. I think it is something needed and I am in favor of paying for it. When I come home, I want to feel safe. I'm all for it.

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC ADOPTION OF 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION 2014-53 ADOPTION OF 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Templeton: Thought there would be more discussion since our professionals are here for the public.

Jass: considering that professionals have been available to the public for questions previously...

Templeton: Had hoped for more open discussion since this is a critical budget. Hoping it would be aired out at this meeting tonight. I'm in support of the budget, but had hoped for discussion with the public since this is a critical phase in the town's direction and future.

Dillenbeck: Concur that we should hear from the professionals

Inverso: Budget increased. (*mentioned the numbers here, but they went by too quickly for me to catch. The budget is available at the Municipal Building.*) Had to defer school taxes. We are within the amount permitted. We could defer more in the future if we had to do that.

Fitzpatrick: When we introduced the budget, Richard went over it in detail. There was a time when we thought we would have to do a referendum for the police budget. With the economy what it is and with the taxes being what they are even after reassessment, it didn't seem like a good idea. That doesn't mean that we may need to do a referendum a few years down the road when the economy is better. We didn't think a referendum would pass, and we need the police. The RiverRoute survey indicated that the number one priority is safety.

Resident of Pennington Court: As a total value for town after reassessment, did it go up or down?

Rahman: Went down 20%

Jass: Our budget meetings have been open to the public. It's not as though this hasn't been on the table for a while.

Lohr: Tonight is the official hearing for the budget, but all the prior meetings were open to the public as required by law.

Jass: Since we have an audience tonight, please look at the calendar and be aware of what is going on. We are open and transparent.

ORDINANCE 2014-4 AMENDING SECTION 150-3 OF CHAPTER 150 GOVERNING
“CONSTRUCTION CODES, UNIFORM - FEES”

*2ND READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING – no comment

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Passed unanimously

Jass: Happy since we need the state fees.

ORDINANCE 2014-5 AMENDING CHAPTER 295-4 AND 295-32 GOVERNING
“PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES” AND SCHEDULE OF “NO PARKING” AREAS
HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Resident of Teal Court: We knew this day was going to come, but there are growing families with more than two cars. What do we do since there is no plan for public parking? When we bought our homes, I didn't think about that. In one way, I'm happy because it is chaotic the way some people are parking. A lot of homeowners and renters too.

Resident of Teal Court 2: Voicing opposition to the ordinance. Parking problem. 20-25 cars for designated area. Right now there are 40-45. It's not feasible or workable. There is no guest parking. I've lived there since 2008. No one told me that there wouldn't be parking on the street. For five years, no one enforced the no parking. Suddenly sprung upon us in 2014. Where can these other cars park? Can we park on Burlington Avenue or do we need to drive in circles until one of the 25 spots become available? I foresee a major issue. We all want our home values to be high. We all expect adequate parking in the suburbs. It's unfair, unjust and not right. If the Township Committee wants to enforce this ordinance, provide an alternative. We may want to sell. Future homeowners won't want to buy there and it will hurt every one in town. This ordinance acts like a tax because it will penalize the current homeowners.

Resident of River Lane: Agree with the points the others made. We can block our own cars into our own driveway, but the ordinance says we can't. We need to develop an alternate plan prior to this ordinance. It will cause intercommunity issues with people fighting for parking spots. Have you thought of making it one-way streets throughout?

Fitzpatrick: (missed this)

Resident of Teal: Engineer came out to look at land by fence and is developing a plan to bring before JLUB. He is bringing us back an estimate. He said it is possible and he could get double the spots. It will be a financial issue as to whether the homeowners want to pay for it.

Templeton: Do we know what the rough estimate is?

Resident of Teal: Expensive due to ripping up concrete. Need to contact Taylor Designs.

Resident: Property values have dropped. Costs will be passed on to you. You approved this plan without ample parking. Now five years down the road, we will be incurring these fees to an engineer.

Fitzpatrick: I understand. Have been out there many times. That development was a legal remedy suit. It was approved before I got on committee thirteen years ago. It was because we had no COAH. He was permitted 366 – you have 266. The plans went to JLUB and were approved. Whether they were restricted from approving certain things, I don't know. Since then, we have had developers come in and say they only need one parking space. We don't approve them. This Township Committee has been stuck with this plan for 20 years. When it first went up, it was traumatic for the people who lived here because it didn't look like Delanco. They had grass where there wasn't even any water. It looks beautiful now. A lot of things have happened. The parking issues came with the development and we couldn't enforce until the streets were turned over to us. We almost had to litigate them to pave the streets. The parking issues are to benefit the residents for safety vehicles to get through – fire truck or ambulance. When people started moving in, I went out there for a wedding. I rode around waiting for someone to leave and ended up blocking the groom's driveway. Should we wait for the alternative before passing an ordinance?

That is something we need to consider.

Resident: Won't reiterate what other residents said. In terms of safety – fire – they come during Christmas. I've had to call the fire department and they came and turned on Shad Court. Not sure what problems they've had. Work in Center City and streets are very narrow. They park on the streets and still get plowed. Even if we had those extra places, some vehicles just stay parked for days and days. Whether we have 50 more spaces, it won't solve the problem.

Resident: Development has twice the space of a Philadelphia street. Fire truck comes around every Christmas with no problem. Snow removal – could have a sign that says if there is a snow event, don't park here.

Resident of Falcon: Suggestion is the same for snow removal. Have seen fire truck and ambulances go through. Having visitors is an issue. We hang over on to the sidewalk. I'm willing to walk a little farther to have an area.

DeSanto: Signs were put up by my request. They are to clarify areas of no parking – we didn't create new no parking areas. Trying to help people understand what areas are restricted. Sympathize that it hasn't been enforced, but have to deal with the problem. The day's got to come one day or another. If they decide to push this off and find a solution, I'm willing to wait. Snow removal – people who have driveways will park there, but others will be towed if there is a sign that you can't park during snow. With no parking areas all the time, you avoid this. If Township Committee wants to work for a different solution, ...None of us here had any input into the plan.

Jass: I can empathize. Lived in Newtons Landing since 2008. We had the same issues that you do because of where the mailboxes were on our driveways. That's why I'm here. It's hard to remedy what is approved by JLUB. I was in the same situation as all of you – looking at documents. Your idea of having the association

look into a solution is a good one. I read every single line when someone gives me a piece of paper to sign. I would suggest that we table it for now and reevaluate.

Noll: History on what we did at Committee's request. Better defined signage. We came up with 17 more spaces than that approved by JLUB on the original board. You will have to do additional improvements.

Heinold: In NJ, affordable housing laws originated with Mt. Laurel decision. When a developer came into town, they could file a builder's remedy to send an area's established density through the roof contrary to its master plan. Many towns across the state were forced to deal with a developer who had the upper hand.

Fitzpatrick: There is a minimum requirement for parking and the minimum is what passes. It's for a household. Then it was 2. It's not realistic. Most families have more cars. If you ride around the old part of Delanco, you will find cars on both sides of the street. One-way streets might be a solution. We've done that in other parts of town. Rather than have you pay additional fees. Towns are strapped to do that due to the minimum standards. I understand what

Jass: RSIS – state regulations – one parking space for your household is your garage – your pad is another. We sit and argue at JLUB. We discuss the width of the streets. We'd like to do something but we can't. If we oppose a builder, we end up in court. Then we get more density because the builder gets more from the court.

Resident: Number of signs is an eyesore

Jass: Are there more signs than in the plan?

DeSanto: Yes, wanted it to be clear. Developer was going to stripe out spots on River Lane. I said to use that money for additional signage so people would know where they could park

Jass: Board sent out emails?

Resident of Teal: Yes and it's on the website.

Fitzpatrick: What do we do to remove this since it's a second reading?

Heinold: If we carry it to a future date, it defeats the purpose. If the intent of the committee is to take no action at this time, table it tonight without a new date.

Procedurally it just dies. We would start the whole process again.

Lohr: A motion to table implies it will be brought back.

Heinold: We are reserving the ability to revisit the ordinance in the future.

Vote to table:

Ciancio: It's clear that dealing with an issue like this – two issues – create a reasonable approach to parking for residents and Township Committee has a responsibility for public safety and snow removal. As we go through the revisions, we need to take both under consideration. Comments show weakness of the current ordinance. Agree to table, but would like us to be cognizant to address this issue and not let another year or two go by.

Dillenbeck: 15 years in the emergency squad. Understand and appreciate people coming out. Don't let this issue be the only one that brings you out to a public meeting. Giving your imput works.

Templeton: What happens in the meantime? Let HOA continue with their efforts?

Fitzpatrick: Yes. Look into one-way. Subcommittee – police, EMS, John, residents.

Resident: Can we take down the signs?

Fitzpatrick: Leave them up. It won't be enforced.

Dillenbeck: Subcommitee – asked John Ciancio and Kate Fitzpatrick.

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

TOWNSHIPADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

COMMENTS AND REPORTS: COMMENTS

Heinold:

-Decision on Dunes litigation regarding claims of tide line. Doesn't have anything to do with federal government or actual dumping. Court upheld state's claim. We will put something up on the website. Appealing to appellate division.

Motion to appeal passed unanimously

Brief comment regarding continued use of site by township. Line is complicated. We have previously been successful before Judge Suter. Nothing in current ruling would restrict use of the site. Current programs will remain in place.

Noll:

-Field of Dreams – Phase 2 complete except for sealing and minor electrical by end of next week. Phase 3 – meeting with Taylor for plan

-Maple Ave – no start date from contractor but will be by the end of the month.

-Crossings at Delanco Station – working on sidewalk solution.

Jass: Field of Dreams – bathroom side open– recommend that we do a walk-through to be sure things are the way they are meant to be. Builder has to be more responsible. Keys were in the door.

Fitzpatrick: Email from Harry that CEO maybe next week. Walkthrough with everyone who needs to be there. I don't think the water is running.

Jass: People have been out there.

Fitzpatrick: Chris, will you contact the developer?

Noll: Yes, surprising to me that it was left open.

Schwab:

-Thank you for adopting the budget

-Field of Dreams – Taylor put out proposals for turf maintenance – one year with two optional years – due April 10.

-Received tax assessor's report.

-Tom Casey – zoning officer temporary appointment

Passed unanimously

1. Police

DeSanto:

-March – 720 calls – 20 arrests

-April 26 10-2 take back prescriptions

-State FOP lodge awards – Medal of Honor and Purple Heart to one of our officers.

2. Public Works

Fenimore:

- Was on planning board with the three developers coming in. It was like a snake's nest. I talked about where you would be able to put the snow. You can't put the snow anywhere without pushing it into someone's car.
- Picked up brush. Will do another pass for leaves.
- This month - most asphalt put out since I've been here. Fixing sinkholes.
- Prepped ball fields.
- Four stop signs, one dead end and one street sign.
- Oil pan on truck replaced.
- We get money from Beverly and Edgewater for our leaves. Saw a contractor in Moorestown who brings machine in to tear up leaves. \$3000, then \$2500 for next pass. Will use money from Beverly and Edgewater. Rows of leaves looked great. Easier to flip the piles for the next pick up.
- Beavers are back. Saw one at stream by compost. Water starting to back up; took care of that
- This Saturday, clean up at the Dunes.
- Big cracks in asphalt at Field of Dreams
- Dillenbeck: Beavers – water backs up to Beverly National Cemetery. Need to keep it cleaned up.

3. Municipal Clerk

- Deputy Municipal Clerk – Completed 4 out of 5 classes – received 100 on her test.
- office is busy

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Templeton:

- Thank you for allowing time for budget discussion
- Attended Emergency Management Meeting
- Working on Joint Insurance Fund property inventory – I will put out the changes, but they won't be finalized until June. Walked around new building to be sure everything was included
- Attended an author talk at the library last week. Lots of good things at the library.
- Check Rec Calendar – lots of good things coming up

Fitzpatrick:

- Attended Fire Department's meeting to explain why Deitz and Watson's donation of \$50,000 went to the commissioners since they paid \$70,000
- Opening Day – April 12 for DYSA
- Attended Walnut Street School play – like to attend these
- Attended Emergency Management Meeting
- History Board – Boost display extended to Memorial Day – more flyers for their anniversary.
- Seniors meeting tomorrow at 12 – covered dish
- Attended Women's Club Trivia night fun - \$3000 to help organizations and people in town.
- Clean Communities – have you sent anyone?

Fenimore: Hit bad areas.

Fitzpatrick: End of my street is disgusting.

Jass:

- Attended Walnut School play – wonderful
- Attended Walnut Street School – April 16 @ 7:00
- Attended Emergency Management, DYSA, and Trivia Night
- Clean up starts at 9, Sat. 4/12– free refreshments
- May 3 Dunes third anniversary – Raptors and Reptile show at 11:00/ birdhousing/ microhike/ face-painting/ Boy Scouts campsite/ demo by Emergency Management
- May 8 Astronomy night at Dunes – 8 pm and (missed one)
- attended meeting for Bicycle Heritage Trail. Talked about criteria for phase 2 – types of bikes, bike path designs. Grant for safe routes to schools.
- Attended Freeholders meetings. Presentation for county open space. \$5 million initial grant – 114 grants – another grant coming up for this year. Deadline in June. Freeholders intend to continue on.
- Saw Liz Matulewicz sing with Philly Pops at the Kimmel Center.

Ciancio:

- Attended Shade Tree Commission – new member recommended
- Article from *Burlington County Times* – School board association – Harry Litwack – Vice president for resolution was named – recognizing quality of the board and their efforts.
- Emergency management – impressed by people who come together in an emergency.
- Meet the Mayor was held.

Dillenbeck:

- Meet the Mayor – four times a year. Open to all for informal discussion over refreshments. Very informative. John and I have enjoyed it. Met in Rivers Edge last June and found out about the problems we have that weren't brought to our attention. Met at the library.
- Saturday, April 12 at 8 – fire house comedy fundraiser. Young explorers need new uniforms since they aren't the same size as we gave them uniforms at 14. \$20/ticket. Providing soft drinks and snacks. BYOB.
- April 26 Town-wide yard sale – hoagie sale at fire house. Made that morning. Start selling at 9. Sell 600. Hopefully good weather.
- Clean up the Dunes on Saturday
- Emergency Management – Community Emergency Reaction Team – training for regular people – when we need help. Ex. resident wanted a female with her. Had to call a friend to help out. We need somebody who will stop in and visit with elderly to make sure they are OK.

Jass:

- John and I attended JLUB. Someone had come in with changes. Public came out. JLUB used public input of those who come out.

Lohr:
Mark Schmitt resigning April 6. Accepted – Passed unanimously

Dillenbeck:
-Appoint Mr. (missed his name) to Shade Tree
Passed unanimously

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE
Resident of Delaware: Thanks to Marlene for representing us on the bike trails. I know you will keep in mind that we don't need thousands of signs or paint on streets that don't have paint now so that bicyclists can find the pretty places in town. They don't seem to be having a problem now.

Resident of Third:
-There is a storm drain in front of my house that doesn't tie into anything. Fills up with water and doesn't drain. Can be filled and the pitch on the road changed so that it doesn't keep filling up.
Mr. Noll will take a look at that.

Resident:
-Thank you to Mike and Mr. Heinold for your work on the Dunes. Important that we keep as much open space as possible. Citizens for WANT would like to work with you. Let us know what we can do.

Jass: Citizens for WANT will have a table at the Dunes.
Resident: It's no secret what the state wants to do. Is the area the state owns big enough?

Heinold: It depends on who you ask. State wants to be able to point to a map and say they have provided a site. Army Corps is different.

Resident: Important that you appointed subcommittee for RiversEdge. There is a difference when the vehicles come at Christmas and an actual emergency. Who is liable if something happens if we allow parking where it isn't allowed in the meantime?

Heinold: Committee has taken a reasoned approach. They aren't turning a blind eye. It is a concern long-term.

Resident: You know you are from Delanco when Facebook page... 1300 people there. Dunes are mentioned as one of Delanco's many playgrounds. Important to keep it for future generations.

Jass: Could you put a link on your RiversEdge website for the Dunes?
Resident: Sure.

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCE 2014-6 CREATING CHAPTER 295-4.5 TO GOVERN "PERMIT PARKING" AREAS *1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR MAY 5, 2014

RESOLUTION 2014-54 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BURLINGTON COUNTY FOR COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974 FOR YEARS 2015-2017

RESOLUTION 2014-55 SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE JERSEY MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM - -pulled from agenda and not adopted at Templeton's request

RESOLUTION 2014-56 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH JOHN RAHENKAMP ON HIGH POINT PROPERTY

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL (CURRENT) \$691,117.11 PAYROLL 110,750.89

PUBLIC DEFENDER FUND 345.35 DOG TRUST 30.00

TRUST 16,808.13RECREATION DEVEL 858.68 MCPL OPEN SPACE 848.17

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3/3/2014 & 3/10/2014

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

2014-13, 2014-19, 2014-20, 2014-22 thru 2014-24, 2014-26, 2014-30 thru 2014-34

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

-email from Shade Tree with the resignation letter.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION TWO – Resident of Third Street: 56 with John Rahenkamp

Heinold: Highpoint property sits in front of Newtons Landing. Development proposed. We were working for better maintenance. Through Mr. Ciancio's efforts, breakthrough. It's been mowed and a significant amount of maintenance was done. Resident: Still three stores?

Heinold: Additional zoning for 14 residences.

Fitzpatrick: Not the same size as Newtons Landing.

Jass: Age-restricted

COMMENT AND QUESTIONS

SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. NJ DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAMS

Lohr:

-Safe Routes to Schools

-(missed this) – historic, bicycle paths, pedestrian

Jass: matching grant?

Noll: Not a lot of money and difficult to get – need a wow project.

Fitzpatrick: a drive on Washington Street would wow you

Noll: applied for municipal aid – whenever the state figures out the budget. Should know in May

Fitzpatrick: We put in for Washington and Orchard. Sidewalks on Burlington Avenue by West Avenue. Sidewalk totally eroded.

Jass: Do we have shovel-ready projects?

Noll: No, you need plans for them to be shovel-ready.

Jass: Seems like they want shovel-ready projects and the time is so short.

Noll: They require plans, letters of support, cost estimates.

Fitzpatrick: We did a list of streets that need to be done.

Noll: Will get together with John.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett