

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 May 19, 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

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – MAY 19, 2014

7:30 PM MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 770 COOPERTOWN ROAD, DELANCO, NJ 08075

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

COMMENTS -TOWNSHIPADMINISTRATOR

(I missed the very beginning of the meeting.)

Schwab: *(In progress...)* Discussion of engineering costs and estimate for construction of Rancocas and Washington, next block would be number 2 and third number 3. Bids by July 30 – construction to start in August – will take 6 weeks.

Fitzpatrick: Get John involved. He filled part of it for the walk.

Schwab: Audit report – no comments for the first time. Impressed with how we keep our records. Report will be available for action June 9 meeting

-Assessor – Burlington County Plan for reassessment – 2016. When we finalize our cost, we will see the balance of the special appropriation to hold for future. We have to set aside some money in case there are appeals.

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

-216 Buttonwood request for handicapped parking – will check out before next meeting

-Officer Frank Ambrifi received award from Burlington County prosecutors at ProCop banquet – Delanco well-represented.

-Officer Ambrifi to receive another award on May 28 at another banquet.

-Checked out Union Street's unevenness before parade. If it's not paved prior to parade, we will cone off that area of the street. It is near the curb.

2. Municipal Clerk

Lohr: Audit – findings, recommendations section, and the summary distributed to Township Committee. Full audit is available for Township Committee to peruse prior to signing affidavit at June meeting.

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Templeton:

-Joint Insurance Fund. Safety meeting this afternoon – four or five a year with department heads. We get two grants totaling \$2900 to purchase consumable safety items – first aid kits, safety glasses, etc. EMS purchased high visibility jackets on this round. Nancy Bray handles claims in addition to her full-time job. Two park benches were destroyed due to accidents. JIF didn't pursue, but Mrs. Bray did and

got reimbursement for several thousand dollars to replace. Lots of paperwork and phone calls involved in that effort.

-Mediation meeting on June 12 on the Dunes – Dept Attorney General, Mrs. Jass, Mr. Heinold.

- Township office has had a lot of people who have been out for a variety of reasons. Wishing all those out a speedy recovery. In the last few years, we have really sharpened up what we do with members of staff each doing many jobs. With one person out, that load magnifies. Mrs. Lohr, Mrs. Martin, and Mrs. Sicibio have been doing a lot of work to pick up the slack with the help of some members of Township Committee.

Fitzpatrick:

-Attended Historical – swore in Peter Frist

-Attended Board of Education – they introduced budget – 2% increase. Because they refinanced debt service, average increase is \$12. Introducing new technology and programs. Joe Mersinger was introduced as the new superintendent. He grew up in Florence and understands river towns. He was superintendent in Mansfield and is looking forward to working here. We will miss Cheryl Smith – one of the most incredible women I have ever met.

-Attended I Say Yes Salon military wives makeover. Some of these women have children and their husbands are deployed. They looked beautiful and they were thrilled. One woman had seven children.

-Attended 60th anniversary party for Joan and Bob Hinkle

-Attended senior luncheon at Madison Café.

-Attended Vic Vittorino's Walk for Breath.

-Attended Frank Amfibi banquet – Two other people received an award – Julia Vickers who did the Heimlich and saved a life. We recognized her here by a proclamation. Delanco was well-represented.

-Walk-through at Field of Dreams – made notations. On May 31 at 11:00, building will be dedicated.

-Local students mentioned in sports section in Burlington County Times. They make us proud. They start in our youth sports program. It leads them on their way.

Jass:

-Attended Joint Land Use Board

-Attended Senior luncheon-

-Attended exit audit meeting

-Attended school board event

-Attended I Say Yes makeover event. They were at Living Springs doing makeovers on the seniors for Mothers' Day.

-Attended ProCops banquet – covered by Action News

-Birding at the Dunes with Dave Atkins

-Attended Victor's Walk for Breath

-Attended Field of Dreams inspection

-Summer Camp at Pearson School – 6 weeks – deposits being excepted – K-5. Info on Delanco.org - Extra Care – before and after care for working parents.

- Thursday is concert at Hawk Island
- Memorial Day parade

Ciancio:

- Attended Joint Land Use Board – reviewing of plans of mosque
- Auditor’s report meeting – significant that township received kudos for record-keeping and accuracy. Staff should be commended. Rare that there are no recommendations for improvement.
- Mayor, Mr. Schwab, and I met regarding police contract
- Attended I Say Yes Makeovers, Seniors, and Field of Dreams meeting
- Library is continuing their efforts to make everyone aware of what they provide. Unique program so patrons can try electronic readers.
- Shade Tree – (missed name) recommended to fill unexpired term. Motion passed unanimously

Dillenbeck:

- Sewerage audit recommended raising connection fee by \$5. Delanco is in good shape. Discussed getting Hickory Street water table lowered. Approached with pump idea. They will consider it.
- Parade May 25. Weather is supposed to be nice.

Scoutmaster of Troop 19 introduced the members of the troop. Boys are working on citizenship badge and therefore were in attendance at the meeting.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE – no comment

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCE 2014-7 TO AMEND “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO PROVIDING FOR AND DETERMINING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES” *1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR JUNE 9, 2014

RESOLUTION 2014-62 SPECIFYING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES WITHIN DELANCO TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION 2014-63 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH THE DELANCO POLICE BARGAINING UNIT REPRESENTED BY THE DELANCO POLICE ASSOCIATION

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT AMOUNT

GENERAL \$ 62,638.07 (CURRENT) PAYROLL 74,993.93 DOG TRUST60.00 TRUST 52,627.10 MCPL OPEN SPACE 14,303.00

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Passed unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE

Lohr:

- 1. Letter from NJDOT – 2014 municipal aid grant for \$196,000 Washington and Orchard
- 2. DEP Green Acres funding grants due by July 31
- 3. VFW post invitation for Sunday June 8 at Ferry Street in Riverside for the opening of their new building

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION TWO
 Resident of Union: Looking at Residents of Delanco Facebook page. I Say Yes Salon is requesting that we vote for them for service award. They do a lot of work – free haircuts for kids, work with seniors, go to people’s houses.

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1. REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF PROPERTY TAX LATE FEE INTEREST 719 Delaware Ave.

Fitzpatrick: \$28.

Templeton: No objection.

Motion passed unanimously

- 2. UPCOMING BOGG’S RUN/DITCH MEETING IN EDGEWATER PARK – Marlene Jass will attend.

Jass: Worked previously with Boggs Ditch. Edgewater Park is putting this together. Will report back to committee.

BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL PARKS DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Fitzpatrick: Grant for \$250,000 for phase 3. Meeting Wednesday here with subcommittee. This phase will be A and B. Want to be sure everyone is on the same page. Ready for submission by June 13.

STUDY OF PARKING REGULATIONS/ORDINANCE FOR RIVERS EDGE DEVELOPMENT

Fitzpatrick: John and I went through it. Talk with Jesse and Ron Holt. Need to get together to take a ride on the fire truck.

STUDY OF PENDING PERMIT PARKING ORDINANCE – still under study

Fitzpatrick: It’s important to put on the table. Forget it. Public has expressed concerns. Public calls the police department when there is an issue. That’s my suggestion. It’s opened up a huge can of worms. The ordinance shouldn’t be brought forward.

Ciancio: I agree with that assessment. We were adding a layer of bureaucracy to a situation that didn't require it.

Templeton: It's interesting. Talked to some neighbors. After reading through the draft ordinance, their objections disappeared.

Fitzpatrick: Wish they were here.

Templeton: That area has historically been a problem area. It was a tool to give our police to enforce some degree of civility down there. As we studied it, it moved to permit parking as the only means of determining who should and shouldn't be there. The experience of living there and with what goes on late at night we heard from some residents. Street ends are hang outs. At some point you have to draw the line that you won't let your town slip away from you.

Fitzpatrick: We're not doing that.

Templeton: People have to realize that we're not just making laws willy nilly. There is a community common good. If you want a part of town that is attractive to a particular clientele and activities, then that's one decision. If you want to attract new residents to town, there are choices you have to make.

Fitzpatrick: Every person indicated that people call the police and they responded. There has never been a problem. Police would have to issue parking tickets. One resident uses different vehicles all the time. I feel that after listening to those residents, we were trying to do something for them. Residents all commented on how quick the police came. If someone causes a ruckus, call the police. They have problems at Hawk Island. I listened to what the residents said.

Desanto: The benefit of the ordinance is that it does allow the police to be proactive. To leave the signs up without an ordinance, I am against that.

Fitzpatrick: Have you written ticket?

Desanto: Yes.

Fitzpatrick: Without an ordinance.

Desanto: Yes, used (missed this)

Jass: Incident on Cedar. Twice I have tracked down police and sent them down.

Desanto: Take the signs down if you aren't going to do the ordinance. The signs gave us the ability to approach someone and let them know they are illegally parked. There is parking available off the street. My true concern is that people may game the system. We are offering a benefit to the people who live there. You have to be reasonable.

Jass: Are you going to rev up the enforcement for the summertime?

Desanto: We will patrol as we always do.

Jass: Up to residents to call.

Desanto: Yes

Jass: Residents will have to be more diligent.

The ordinance will be on the agenda for the June 9th meeting.

STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT OF ORDINANCE REGULATING GARAGE SALES

Dillenbeck: New draft today

Fitzpatrick: Same as last meeting – only change is that no permit is needed for town-wide yard sales. As of last meeting, people were supposed to send comments to

Janice and Doug. I think we should list it for first reading. Still getting questions about yard sales on a permanent basis.

Ciancio: I sent comments in regard to definition of yard sale.

Jass: My only comment was to add "new" and "used"

Fitzpatrick: Add that. Do you remember your comments, John?

Ciancio: I would have to go back and look.

Jass: Garage sale ordinance would allow two town-wide yard sales and then allows two additional ones through a permit from township clerk for a total of four per year.

Fitzpatrick: There was no previous ordinance.

Lohr: Not in our code.

Lohr: Daniel Mark Properties – 239 Vine Street – requesting waiver late fees for rental registration due to the fact that property was in the process of being sold. They thought they were renewed or would as units became occupied, but our ordinance doesn't say that.

Jass: How many units?

Lohr: 8 - \$60 per unit

Jass: Isn't that up to real estate people?

Dillenbeck: Handled at closing. It's a business.

Templeton: It's a business.

Request is denied. Passed unanimously

Open to the public (third session)

Resident of Oakford: As a person who lives on Second and Oakford, that ordinance affects us. If there is a problem or a suspicious person, I call the police. I called for a robbery and the police got them. Second Street is the perfect place to hide. Permits are a bit of an overkill. Leave well enough alone. Doesn't affect people in the middle of the block.

-Thanks for kind of finishing Maple Avenue. It's been such an eyesore and a hazard. For someone in a wheelchair I don't think you could navigate those corners. Now the sidewalks are all ramped. I challenge you to walk the sidewalks. Why they couldn't just level them is beyond me? To put all of those curbs on Delaware and then a brand-new regular curb on Second Street.

-I Say Yes was wonderful and the news was there. I put those ladies in there as a real estate agent. Breath of fresh air for Delanco.

-Investors responsibility for rental fees – not the realtors

-Thank you for everything you do.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett