

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 August 4, 2014 started at 7:40pm

Present: Ciancio, Templeton, Jass, Dillenbeck, Fitzpatrick

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Township Administrator; Mr. Noll, Township Engineer; Mr. Heinold, Township Solicitor; Mrs. Martin, Deputy Township Clerk; Mr. Fenimore, Supt. of Public Works; Chief DeSanto, Delanco Police

**\*\*MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF HARVEY MORITZ\*\*\***

**\*\*INTRODUCTION AND OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW POLICE OFFICER – Joel (*Missed his last name. The acoustics are horrible in that room.*)\*\***

DeSanto: Joel has a long history of public service - volunteered since he was 14 - Riverside/Delanco Fire/EMS

Received scholarship to BCC – pursuing Associates Degree in criminal justice

Lifelong Delanco resident

Motion to appoint passed unanimously

**COMMENTS AND REPORTS: COMMENTS -TOWNSHIPADMINISTRATOR**

-Trying to set up buildings and grounds subcommittee 12<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> Marlene, John, Janice, George, and me. Mike can't make either date.

-Trees with problems on paper streets – behind people's houses, but property owners will take care of if we abandon the paper street. Legal and engineering costs. Certain rules – when you abandon, you have to offer it to adjacent owners but if it's buildable, you need to (*missed it*). Now the property is being used by residents though they know where the property line is.

-Assessor's report received

**COMMENTS - PROFESSIONALS COMMENTS**

Hienold: None

Noll:

-Laurel Street CDGB grant– started at Union and working to Walnut. Sidewalk

-Washington and Orchard - \$196,000 state grant - 15% for inspection and testing.

Recommendation - table resolution until we see how funds work out. Don't want to leave money on the table.

Schwab:

-2012 budget ordinance – John had identified areas he wanted to do. May be some funds there.

-Do we find \$20,000 to avoid losing money?

Fitzpatrick: Thought that budget was \$50,000

Schwab: Some used on Hickory

Fitzpatrick: Washington and Walter?

Noll: Washington. Alternate Orchard between Washington and Vine.

Fitzpatrick: \$157,000 just for Orchard?

Noll: yes

Fenimore: Vine and Orchard are the worst two intersections we have.

Noll: If you just award the base grant, you can add other things as changes.

Schwab: Can you jump to the Vine from what we are doing is the question?

Fenimore: Have put out so much patch there. Gutters from Walters to Vine are starting to fail there and will just get worse.

Noll: Application was for all of Washington and all of Orchard. We just didn't get enough money to do all of it.

## DEPARTMENT HEADS

### 1. Police

-July 21 met with Noll, Ciancio, Schwab and RiverRoute to discuss traffic flow study to address future problems on Coopertown and Creek. Brought up pedestrian safety. We brought up a lot of points and got some positive feedback. They are planning to improve traffic flow. We noted it was difficult for cars to turn on to Perkins from Burlington.

-Mr. Fenimore got template for signs for streets perpendicular to Delaware. Then I will send notice to residents to get permits.

-Thanks to Fenimore and crew for help with a limb hanging over wires so we didn't have to block Burlington Avenue.

### 2. Public Works

-picked up brush – hammered on the storms – around town three times. Problem with dump truck, got it back and fuel pump went – on recall, getting fixed.

-three trees fell – removed stumps from previous storm. Had to wait for Public Service. Luckily resident knew where the gas line was.

-Cut all township properties 4 times, cut Dunes 3 times, dragged ball fields, fixed mounds. Cut open field next to Field of Dreams

-Public Service came in and took down a tree on Colgate for patient resident. Part of tree was over a wire. They broke three sidewalk blocks. Their guys get days off or they have to pay for them themselves if they break the sidewalk. Verizon owned the wire.

-Drain on Chestnut Street behind Walnut Street has roots growing through it – Roots 24 price \$2000 to get through there. Always ran, but is now backing up. Need to talk to Richard.

-On Colgate, sidewalk heaved. When they did the street, they were supposed to put expansion joints every four blocks. They put in a dummy one. May have been from the heat. That was another engineer's supposed inspection. \$200 a block and both need to be replaced. Harry Fox asked to know who did that job. Can be cut with a concrete saw. I don't have the saw or the time to do it. I don't know what to tell the resident.

Jass: Did he just fudge the whole thing?

Fenimore: May have.

Schwab: We can find the contract and make a claim against the contractor for fraud.

Fenimore: Still waiting for a couple of sign posts.

Fitzpatrick: At DYSA meeting, they said you did an excellent job with the fields this year. They can't thank you enough.

Fenimore: Email me directly with issues instead of hearing from three other people. The biggest problem is that there is only sand, no soil. Will always be a problem in front of the nets. Was going to get sod – peat moss or compost in the bottom of the hole, starter fertilizer, bought certified grass seed that is used at Fort Dix. It is very strong once it gets established.

Jass: Rec has gotten signs that the fields are resting and to stay off. Recreation spent money on the nets for practice. They weren't used and they left them out so they were destroyed. They can't use the same spot all the time.

Fenimore: Moving the nets is good, but (showed two metal pieces) imagine running over these with the blades. Imagine if a kid fell on this.

Jass: They try, but they have numerous coaches. Working on better communication. You do a great job.

Fenimore: Three trees ready to come down on the field. Will need to bring bucket truck in.

Jass: Our property or county's?

Fenimore: Not sure, but a kid could get hurt.

Jass: Survey, Chris?

Noll: Don't know.

Fenimore: By fence that comes up to the line of trees.

Schwab: Plan should show that. Parking lot issue?

Fenimore: Will be an ongoing problem – proper base wasn't used. Gave Richard the quote.

Schwab: Harry indicated that that type of asphalt is recycled and needs to be driven over to seal it. Two winters that it wasn't used.

Noll: State requires 15% recycled material so quality of asphalt isn't as good. Put down properly. It's just the material.

Schwab: Price for crack filling and perhaps a top coat when the other contractors are here for phase 3. We don't have a maintenance bond. We might have anticipated that an asphalt surface would last for twenty years, but we may have to do it more often.

### 3. Municipal Clerk - none

#### COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Templeton:

-Attended concert at Hawk Island

-Attended art show at carriage house on Sunday. Nice collection there.

-Toured the model of the Zurbrugg townhouse. Happened to be a prospective buyer there and my wife and I were talking about all of the things that we have going on in town. When we deal with so many problems up here, we forget that so many things work well. Townhouse is very nice. Been a long time coming. Lot of work from committee and everyone else.

-Worked on Dunes – Discovery deadline – gathering information for the litigation.

Attended some meetings regarding Dunes

Fitzpatrick:

- DYSA – pig roast postponed for low turnout.
- Babe Ruth display mentioned in *Beverly Bee* and *Positive Press*. Visit our library. Lot of great things there.

Jass:

- Concerts have been wonderful. Best attendance ever all year. Another one on Wednesday, August 13 – Philly Rock and Soul at Hawk Island Marina. Steve Constantine is the last one.
- Attended art show at carriage house. Nice to have Susan Coleman exhibit.
- Met with NJ Transit. Noticed that lights on railroad bridge were out for some time. Hazard to boaters. Lights are back on. Also talked about Boggs Ditch. Attended meeting with Edgewater Park. NJ Transit said they would have their staff and engineer check and will report back to me next week and to Linda Dougherty. Boggs Ditch – NJ Transit is going to meet with Assemblyman Singleton and Linda Dougherty. Some residents had concerns about safety issues on train. When they see something on the train, they don't know who to contact. I will give out contact info from Ms. Hutton at the concerts – you can text when there is a problem.
- Met with Freeholder Giordano regarding empty properties in town. Reached out to Mark Remsa. Put a call in to NJ Back to Action Don Newman and Lauren Newman to see how they can help Delanco find buyers for those properties.
- Camp has had great registration. Ends on Aug. 15. Took many field trips – swimming, Johnson's Farm, Fun Plex. Extended time from 9-3.

Ciancio:

- Attended Board of Ed Meeting for Kate – looks like we are heading in the right direction
- attended RiverRoute Plan meeting with Chief
- Attended single stream recycling workshop – informative. We take for granted that it is a simple process, but it is not. Information will be coming out from them.
- Attended Shade Tree Commission to review status of trees and requests from residents.

Dillenbeck:

- Townwide yard sale – Sept. 27. Hoagie sale at fire house
- Community Day – Oct. 11 from 11-3, then on the same day, we are having a comedy night at the Fire House - \$25/each BYOB – adults only
- Fall Fest on Oct. 18
- New fire truck is being built
- Police department hired new officer; Still in the market for several more. Chief is interviewing as we speak

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

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLUTION 2014-87 SPECIFYING THE SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES WITHIN DELANCO TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION 2014-88 AUTHORIZING SALE OF SURPLUS TELEVISION TO LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES OF BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION 2014-89 RESOLUTION ADOPTING HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
GENERAL (CURRENT)	\$1,273,380.89
PAYROLL	111,255.67
DOG TRUST	10.00
UNEMPLOYMENT FUND	25.44
TRUST	21,942.50
MCPL OPEN SPACE	12,249.99

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES- 2014-29  
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Passed unanimously

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Schwab: Resolution 2014-91 for salaries for public works as represented by Communications

REPORT OF RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR WASHINGTON STREET & ORCHARD STREET\_PROJECT –  
RESOLUTION 2014-90 AWARD OF BID AND CONTRACT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO WASHINGTON STREET AND ORCHARD STREET UNDER A NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT

CORRESPONDENCE

-letter from Peter Canton who had come before JLUB to demolish a home at 430 Delaware Avenue. During hearing it was found that the concrete pad encroaches into township right-of-way. Owner was advised to come to Township Committee for permission to encroach. We just received this correspondence. I do not have the attachments. He is asking if the Township Committee will allow that.

Placed on agenda for the next meeting.

Schwab: Should solicitor draft the appropriate document?

Jass: Think there has been a change. Reach out to him

Martin: This came in today

Heinold: In case I'm not here to discuss, was this an existing condition that will continue?

Martin: He was demolishing and rebuilding so the preexisting condition would be gone

Heinold: JLUB issue?

Ciancio: Very tiny area.

Heinold: Charge to escrow?

Martin: No discussion of cost.

Heinold: Charge to escrow. Do you want me to prepare resolution in anticipation of approval?

Ciancio: Very likely to approve, but not speaking for other members.

Noll: I looked at it. Had no safety issues. Obviously long-standing.

Fitzpatrick: Been there for years.

Dillenbeck: Don't see anything wrong with it. Draft resolution

#### MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION TWO

Fenimore: Recycling is coming. People who didn't get cans, need to call the county.

Ciancio: People may be turning in the yellow buckets.

Fenimore: We will have to discuss that. Maybe one Saturday. I can use a lot of them for inserts on trash cans.

#### COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

##### 1. Watchdog Walker

Fitzpatrick: We tried to do town watch, but it didn't pan out. Police chief then didn't think it would work here. Edgewater Park is doing this program. If I prepare a blurb for our email blast, if people are out walking dogs or just walking and they see something suspicious, they should call the police. I know that Bill and Karen are doing it.

DeSanto: We do have daytime burglaries. Helpful during the day as well. Call 461-1515.

Fitzpatrick: It keeps a record of the call as well.

##### 2. Painting the Town

Fitzpatrick: Bordentown City – students are painting where the gutters are. They need to be painted again - even if some citizens just want to clean up the grass.

Jass: Go street by street and have a day?

Fitzpatrick: Was going to reach out to Cub Scouts first. Maybe they can do some of this. Would be coordinated by John. Yellow where there is no parking could be repainted.

Fenimore: Used to do with community service.

##### 3. Tax Payment Program – WIPP

Dillenbeck: Tax collector Lyn Davis come up with a program to allow the residents to pay taxes by credit card.

Schwab: Costs us \$1200 a year to have the service. It's one more outreach for people. Calculates late costs for delinquent payers. Can be helpful with a part-time tax collector. There is another system – automated payments that authorizes township to take it out of bank accounts. More paperwork here and more reports. More successful when staff is here full time. Can be more of a burden. Not budgeted this year, but bills are going out now. Might want to wait until budget discussions later.

Fitzpatrick: Last report, she still has \$2000.

Schwab: Major cost to print out and pay the bill so that will be zeroed out. Once you start it, you have an annual cost. It's a dollar vs. benefit kind of thing. She can show you what you would see on the screen.

Dillenbeck: Discuss and see what happens

Jass: Put it on the agenda for budget for next year. Good service  
Templeton: Talk about it in October or November.  
Schwab: Will be considered for 2015 budget.

Schwab: Riverwinds HOA wants to disband. They need the township to agree to take responsibility for the basin. They are OK if we bill the 18 of them.

Jass: Wouldn't all of the residents have to be notified since it is an HOA?

Schwab: We can't pay for their solicitor. I asked for details. I don't know if statute says we have a right as a township to say yes or no.

Fitzpatrick: We still bill them and then lien it if they don't pay.

Jass: They have to get signatures from the rest of the residents.

Schwab: They feel that it would be cheaper if we do it. We are then intimately involved.

Fitzpatrick: I reached out to Jackie twice and again today.

Schwab: Nobody there wants to be a board member. They don't want to be involved. In an HOA if people don't pay, they have to chase them themselves.

Ciancio: I don't think they should view us as approving this. We should not be in the business of running HOA's.

Fitzpatrick: Does the law say that if they disband, we have to take it?

Heinold: There are too few homes. What the HOA is responsible for is not exciting.

Jass: Developer is asking that the 14 new homes at Newtons Landing be absorbed by that HOA. Need 67%(*not sure I have that right*) of signatures.

Fenimore: Grass is getting very high.

Dillenbeck: Needs fence, resilted...significant cost.

Fitzpatrick: Need to find out if it is our responsibility

Heinold: Will do

ADJOURNMENT

*Submitted by Maureen Barrett*