

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 November 9, 2015 started at 7:30

Present: Ciancio, Templeton, Jass, Dillenbeck, Fitzpatrick

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

Moment of silence for Veterans Day

Fitzpatrick: Bob Hinkle was recognized for his service to our country in the *Burlington County Times*. I took over the student program from Joan Hinkle who is here tonight.

****ANNOUNCEMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF WALNUT STREET SCHOOL STUDENT ELECTION WINNERS****

****OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO WALNUT STREET SCHOOL STUDENT ELECTION WINNERS**** by Mrs. Lohr

Fitzpatrick: Congratulations to newly elected officials.

Excerpts of student speeches:

1. Fly the Delanco flag and hire more crossing guards, no guards at the further side of Delanco, not safe. More sports and camps through school. Senior citizens – social events.
2. Bring back cooking, boys' and girls' softball, talent show fundraiser for new books for library, more events around the community, fall fest. Impact Club can host more events. Will put in time and hard work.
3. Help DYSA with lights at Field of Dreams to play later and safer. Help police department through neighborhood watch. Animal control – program for free microchips for pets.
4. Animal Control number isn't easy to recall – should be something easy to remember when you need it for stray animal. Maybe 856 461 PETS. Town growth will lead to need for more ambulances and fire trucks. More volunteers will be needed.

*****SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS*****

RESOLUTION 2015-117 HONORING THOMAS SHIELDS

Fitzpatrick: Mr. Shields at Walnut Street School has worked with Mrs. Hinkle or myself for ten years. (Also presented envelope from Women's Club)

RESOLUTION 2015-118 HONORING HEATHER PHILLIPS

RESOLUTION 2015-119 HONORING KATHARINA RADCLIFFE

Passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 2015-12 AMENDING CHAPTER 295-38 GOVERNING "ONE-WAY STREETS"

*2nd READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING

Heinold: Holly Street – backing up what already exists by ordinance

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ORDINANCE 2015-12

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 2015-13 AMENDING CHAPTER 295-4.5 GOVERNING "PARKING PERMIT"

AREAS *2nd READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ORDINANCE 2015-13

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Dillenbeck: No;

All others: Yes Passed

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

- Received assessor's monthly report
 - Recreation Facilities Subcommittee – Wed with DYSA and Rec. Staff, Kate and Marlene
 - Budget transfer resolution – three or four areas where we need to move small amounts of money around. Predictions made a year ago can't be perfect so we need to do this at this time of year..
 - Departments' budgets are due Nov. 18 to discuss in January
 - Notification of JIF \$18,337 dividend – can be applied to 2016 assessment bill as we have in the past. Mayor can sign to authorize
- Motion passed unanimously

COMMENTS – PROFESSIONALS

Engineer:

- Signs installed at Rivers Edge this week
 - 2015-124 proposal for engineering for handicapped ramps grant
 - Phase Three Field of Dreams almost complete – waiting for some items to come in
 - DEP re: Sea wall waiting response on preapplication
- Templeton: Are the parking lot lights at Field of Dreams fully operational?
- Kirschner: 3 are dusk til dawn
1 – switch concession stand
- Templeton: Is that what is needed? Chief?
- DeSanto: Other townships say we need some lights for the cameras.
- Templeton: New generation LED – thought there would be less spillover to residents on Creek Road. Perhaps there is a cut off shade that could be ordered.
- Jass: Under the impression that motion detector lights at concession stand were sufficient. Was there a change?
- Fitzpatrick: Yes, due to camera
- DeSanto: Needed to ID tags on vehicles entering driveway

Heinold:

- Continuing to work with Superior Court on affordable housing re third round.
- Township was sued in federal court by My Father's House due to denial of variance. Can't comment since it is in litigation.

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

- Camera system for Field of Dreams – looking at expandable system. Two proposals for same type of technology – will see what the best bang for the buck is. Will report to subcommittee.
- Halloween/Mischief Night resolution worked well. Recommend an ordinance. It would be a big help.
- Altercation at light rail station. NJ Transit Police are responsible – 9 people were charged. Captain of that division very open to working together and curtailing negative impact of light rail.
- Police Department has new Facebook page. Some info will be posted. Please “like us.”

2.Public Works

- Cut West Ave, Field of Dreams

- removed 7 trees trimmed 31
- filled potholes
- all compost was removed from compost site - 300 truckloads were removed – went to local farmer who loves it. County took some.
- helped out for 5k run
- picked up brush after last brush pick up – won't pick up any more
- leaf pick up – they haven't really fallen yet – will pick up rain or shine

Templeton: Chipper blade that you showed me. Want to talk about that?
Fenimore: Brush has stuff in it. Nicks and pieces that were out of the blade were unbelievable. Blades need to be changed every week. Rocks and nails going through the chipper. Luckily nobody got hurt.
Fitzpatrick: Thanks to you and crew for all you did for Gateway Park and for two crew members who worked that day.

3.Municipal Clerk

- Rabies Clinic was held – 70 dogs and cats. Free vaccination. If you missed it, can go to other town's clinics.
- Redesigning the website. Should be easier to navigate and will enhance transparency by making it easier to see documents. Will be able to pay your taxes online when finished.

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Templeton:

- Not used to seeing a room full of people. This is great.
- Mr. Mersinger sent me an email so I was able to hear student speeches. It brought back nervous memories of running for student council in seventh grade. Congrats to all who participated. Very impressed with students.
- Attended library book club. Check out their calendar. It's a Not That Kind of Book Club. Some people think libraries are outdated and have been replaced by the internet, but that is like seeing things through a telescope- you can see things in great detail but you miss the wider view. That's what libraries provide.
- Safety meeting – grant funding from JIF
- Halloween – we had over 200 trick or treaters at our house but no stragglers after the cut off time. Thanks to police for putting the word out.
- Municipal Court – Jen Esposito is the consummate professional. Well regarded in the county reappointed to Burlington County Court Administrator Association – President of that organization. Also been appointed corresponding secretary of Court Administrator Association of New Jersey – state-wide. Brings much experience to our community. If you see the light on when you come through, say "Hi" to Jen.
- Election on Tuesday – full slate of candidates. Campaign was noteworthy – about people and local issues. As a participant, enjoyed meeting our neighbors and new people in town. Ran into Mr. Brown and Mr. Dovey while we were walking. It takes a lot of work to run and serve, but the community is fortunate that we had full participation.

Jass:

- Attended Joint Land Use Board
- Attended 5K – thanks to John for his work and attended Woman's Club meeting
- Attended DYSA fundraiser
- Attended Comedy evening at fire house
- Recreation Dec. 5 Santa Parade and sales of carriage ride tickets. After that evening, sold at John Brown's Jewelers. Dec. 13 Gingerbread Houses

All will be in the township blast. Rec's website will be changed as of the first of the year and will be part of the township website.

Dillenbeck:

- Comedy Night was a success. Another one in March.
- Fire Commissioners meeting – truck should be delivered in Feb. Received I beam from 911. Will be dedicated on Sept. 11, 2016.
- Community Day and Fall Fest – thanks to Stephen Lohr for persisting in recommending that we combine.
- Thanks to John Browne for getting reelected. He had a 12 year vacation. Last time we purchased an ambulance. It is now 12 years old.

Fitzpatrick:

- Went to fire house to see steel beam come in. Emotional night. They worked for 18 months to get this for Delanco.
- Burlington County Times* covered student elections. Worked with these students.
- Attended 5k run. Impact Club helped. Many students ran.
- Sports program near and dear to my heart. Attended DYSA's fall fest. Mr. Mersinger attended with his wife.
- Attended Light the Night at Methodist Church. Packed. Monitored fish tank.
- Attended comedy night.
- Performed two weddings.

Ciancio:

- Attended Joint Land Use Board
- Attended Shade Tree – they do an excellent job reviewing needs of the township. Mentioned emerald ash borer which is threatening ash trees throughout the state. Trying to limit the impact.
- Burlington County has Raising of America program – attended planning meeting and will be one of the facilitators. Event will be held at United Way. Exploring how strong start for children leads to a stronger, more equitable America. If you are interested in attending this Friday including members of the public, I will get you registered.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE

Resident of Rancocas: On consent agenda, Zurbrugg Mansion amendment. Have been staying aware of the proposed change to the plan. Went to Joint Land Use Board – subcommittee. Not sure why it's on the consent agenda, since there have been no details discussed. Willow side – two houses facing Delaware with further setbacks than originally stated and then two houses. That was the third amendment. What is the fourth?

Heinold: Mike indicated that he was going to pull that from the consent agenda. The developer had approached the Township Committee and asked for a change on the back corner from two units to smaller four units and to push the front two closer to Delaware Avenue. Referred to standing subcommittee of Joint Land Use Board. Subcommittee wasn't pleased with plan and impacting sightlines at mansion on Delaware and separation of units overall. Four in the back would be a strong visual barrier. Proposal was rejected. Subcommittee would support the change from two units in the back to three smaller units. Increase of square footage, but not significant. That was the recommendation back to us. They would still have to go back to the Joint Land Use Board for approval.

Ciancio: Do students have any comments?

Student: Is the microchip for pets a possibility?

Ciancio: We consider everything. We see how it would occur and if we can actually implement it.

Lohr: I can check with the vet who handles our rabies clinic.

Student 2: Hoping I can help out with the talent show.

Mersinger (superintendent in audience): We are having a talent show after a two year hiatus. Students and parents have been asking for it.

Resident of Union Ave: I heard one of these young people mention seniors. I am president of senior club. If you want to work up programs for us, let us know. Sergeant Hoffman is the speaker this week.

Resident: Under the train bridge is graffiti on the wall. Would like to paint over that as a local artist.

Dillenbeck: Belongs to light rail.

Ciancio: Make request to NJ Transit.

Fitzpatrick: I have contact.

Resident of Delaware: As the president of the Delanco Public Library Board of Trustees, we are so pleased to have such a great staff. These women have brought this community together. Library is functioning like a community center – attendance is up. Families drop in and hang out. We had over fifty people for Made in Delanco. Thank you for recognizing our staff.

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLUTION 2015-120 PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF ANY COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87 CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1985)

RESOLUTION 2015-121 2015 BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

RESOLUTION 2015-122 AUTHORIZING CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES INCURRED BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS FOR THE NEW JERSEY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES CONVENTION

RESOLUTION 2015-123 REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT

RESOLUTION 2015-124 AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR HANDICAP RAMP REPLACEMENT PROJECT (CDBG GRANT PROGRAM)

PAYMENT OF BILLS ACCOUNT

GENERAL \$1,207,256.12

PAYROLL 122,821.36 UNEMPLOYMENT FUND 5,144.00 ESCROW TRUST 39,145.22

MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE 8,763.97

AMOUNT

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSE 2015-52

APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR USE OF MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM
Connie Brady – WSS 8th Grade Dance Committee (3rd Tuesday of each Month until complete)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – Passed unanimously

Correspondence: Letter of resignation from Kathleen Quinn from Recreation Commission due to move
Acceptance passed unanimously]

Removed from consent agenda at Templeton’s request:

RESOLUTION 2015-125 AUTHORIZING FOURTH AMENDMENT TO EXISTING REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT ON ZURBRUGG MANSION PROJECT

Templeton: I have questions because this just appeared in the agenda. There was no report from the subcommittee. You covered the basic parts. Previous amendments - 24 to 27 units in mansion. This is regarding open market townhouses. Says, “Developers has faced marketing challenges for units 9 and 10.” Not sure why that is a factor.

Heinold: 9 and 10 have been constructed. Developer is concerned about constructing similar units that won’t be waterfront. The waterfront units are sold though not constructed.

Ciancio: Fourth amendment – everything stays the same as last amendment except change from two to three units. Setbacks stay the same as the third amendment.

Heinold: Increase in number

Jass: Is it 3600 to 2400 or 3000 to 2400? Making it slightly larger.

Templeton: That’s regarding the triplex. What is the financial solution? What about the developers payment for each unit?

Heinold: Going to increase but not sure if we negotiated out the 12,500 per unit. Developer is willing to make contribution.

Templeton: It would be nice if that was all finished and here before voting. Developer has painted himself into a corner building 9 and 10 and turned satisfactory project into a problem project. Glad that subcommittee has pushed back on that and is keeping the set back as recommended by Secretary of Interior Just because tax credit has expired, you shouldn’t be able to do whatever you want. People of our town and country contributed to the tax credit– doesn’t mean he can ignore that.

Ciancio: Made the decision for the town, not the developer.

Fitzpatrick: Land Use Board recommended 4 be changed to 3. I wasn’t in agreement. Wanted to see how that would benefit. Scott Taylor explained that would be a better project. That came from our subcommittee.

Jass: Within resolution, can we be more specific in regard to contribution as per Mr. Templeton so we have some teeth.

Heinold: Glad to with direction. I will circulate what the ratio will be and circulate to committee.

Ciancio: Will bring it back on Nov. 23

Templeton: I think it’s important to have a completed agreement with all of the work that has gone into this plan.

Resident of Rancocas: Appreciative of tabling Zurbrugg. When you get to the discussion regarding fences, will you open up to public. Mine is just the size of the gates.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION TWO
COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. DELANCO EMS PRESENTATION FOR NOV 23RD AGENDA

Fitzpatrick: email from EMS – strategic plan through 2020. Squad wants to do a slide presentation.

2. STATUS REPORT – PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE AT CHAPTER 110-13 GOVERNING “FENCES AND WALLS”

Heinold: Some discussion relating to Delaware waterfront property from street to river. Code only provides for living fences. Residents have desire to do something more. Was referred to JLUB. Michelle Taylor did analysis. Working on a draft for first reading for next meeting.

Ciancio: Michelle received DEP information and presented to JLUB.

Resident of Rancocas: Width of gates mentioned as 4 feet.

Fitzpatrick: Gate can't be closed as per DEP. Some existing homeowners just remove the rail to mow. Gates that are existing are nonconforming.

Ciancio: intent is to accommodate residents' concern and DEP

Resident: four foot fence wouldn't allow resident to have access to water.

Jass: Here is the report. You are welcome to have it.

3. STATUS REPORT - PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE AT CHAPTER 222 GOVERNING “PROPERTY MAINTENANCE” AND CHAPTER 190 GOVERNING “GRAFFITI” PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Lohr: Main issue is what is allowed on a front porch. Kate has been taking the lead on that.

Fitzpatrick: Bill and I haven't had a chance to meet yet. Will be tabled until December.

AMENDING CHAPTER 234 GOVERNING “RENTAL PROPERTY”

Heinold: Court case – our current rental inspection on one and two unit facilities can no longer inspect annually or charge a fee. State hadn't authorized it. Committee feels it is important to do so to maintain housing standards in town. Can amend ordinance to address concerns from court case. Possible that court will be reversed. One thought was to exist each section. I think the League of Municipalities will be able to get this reversed.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION – REQUIRING ELECTED OFFICIAL TRAINING (JIF)

Schwab: State Best Practices – each year they ask and we say we don't have a requirement since we can't throw people out of office if they don't attend. Instead of an ordinance, you can do a resolution. Our solicitor can do an annual group training thing in January that would cover everything.

Fitzpatrick: Even the JIF meeting we attend would qualify.

Heinold: Tough time of year with budget meeting. I would do free of charge for an hour or hour and a half. 6:00 time frame before another meeting.

Schwab: Do the resolution in January. Will put it together.

Ciancio: Thanks to student representatives for participating.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett