

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 on April 4, 2016

Present: Browne (absent), 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; Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk

PROCLAMATION HONORING THE RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP) Rick Trout, Delanco resident and president and members of the RSVP Program were present.

Trout: Introduced Karen (missed it), the Director, Sharon Gibson, Advisory Board, Susan Kaufman also a Delanco resident. Thank you to the township for doing this. Tomorrow is county recognition day for volunteers. All volunteers are important. Tomorrow is your day. RSVP information and contact numbers will be available in the lobby of the municipal program. Matter of Balance and Take Care of Your Health are two programs. Facebook and website have information about all the programs.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Noll:

- handicapped ramps application advertized next week to award bid in May
- sea walls draft to be forwarded for distribution
- DOT Municipal Aid – didn't get it this year – didn't give out as much money as in the past

Heinold:

- continue to work on affordable housing – in the process of determining the final number

Township Administrator Schwab:

- 2016 budget proposal is on the website. Public hearing on April 18

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

-NJ Transit Police responded to TC concerns regarding the RiverLine – March 30 between 2 and 8pm. Brought in 13 fare enforcement officers and 10 police officers. Detective as well. 2622 riders – 36 summonses for fare violation, 4 arrests – one narcotics, 14 warnings to juveniles. NJ Transit is using Homeland Security money to put 2 officers on the train randomly. Their chief is well aware that they are short - 247 officers for the state; they need 500 to appropriately police the rails. In future, give me the info and I will pass on. They did respond to your concerns.

Fitzpatrick: I saw all the vehicles and officers at Delanco station. It was incredible the number of officers that were there. Good to see that.

DeSanto: They are not stopping there. Will be putting officers on off peak when problems seem to occur.

2.Public Works

- 1.5 patch for potholes
- picking up brush – 5 dumptruck loads.
- fixed two back stops and prepared fields
- Turned leaves at compost site
- Tommy retired Thursday; he didn't want a fuss, but it turned out well.
- Sunday – trees down. 5:45am 2nd and Fennimore – resident's tree pulled down wire and two poles. PSE&G did part on wires. 3rd and Holly – tree went down. 30 feet of root mass. (showed photos to TC) Didn't do too much damage to the house. We were able to get it out without any more damage.

3.Municipal Clerk - none

COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Jass:

- attended Freeholders mtg. Authorized our award for 2015 park development \$62,500 to Delanco. Everyone who applied got something.
- attended Tommy's retirement
- attended Dunkin Donuts' ribbon cutting
- Saturday is Dunes Clean Up starting at 9 – refreshments served and supplies are provided.
- Library has Story Time on the 8th and 15th, One Stroke Painting on the 16th \$7 for supplies – see the website and call to register.

Templeton:

- Attended township safety meeting (JIF) with township employees and JIF. Full agenda – funding for safety related gear, planning wellness day program, reviewed hazards to employees in terms of training and procedures.
- Attended retirement party at Public Works

Dillenbeck:

- Attended retirement party
- Attended Fire Commissioners meeting – new truck – training. Saturday, April 30 annual hoagie sale – we need your support

Fitzpatrick:

- Checked with school regarding budget impact \$42.17 increase for home at \$190,000 – public meeting May 4
 - Meeting with county with Jesse to discuss crosswalk at Vine and county's plan for the bend
 - Rt. 130 plan – Mark Remsa will be at May 2 meeting
 - Historical Preservation wants to put quilt up. John, maybe you can help.
- Fenimore: Need to borrow the school's lift.

Fitzpatrick: Sent Marie an email.

-Interest in Neighborhood Watch at Newtons Landing – a Tuesday or Friday.

Marlene should be here for that meeting.

-Complaints about Whitesell's back end. Talked with Whitesell; they looked at it. I missed their call. When JLUB had them do shrubbery, maybe some have died. Not a pretty sight.

Jass:

-JLUB discussed this. We were concerned and Whitesell was supposed to address.

Martin: Not sure who is addressing it – work split with Whitesell and Dunkin Donuts.

Templeton: While you have them on the phone, can we negotiate an enclosure around dumpsters that 7 Eleven uses.

Fitzpatrick: Had to comply with JLUB

Templeton: They built an enclosure for Dunkin's. Maybe 7 Eleven can improve theirs.

Fitzpatrick: April 16 is DYSA's Opening Day at 9:00. April 17th at 1:00 softball field ribbon cutting. Sent emails to all those who have been involved. If you see a name missing from the list of someone who should be invited, let me know. Softball is where I started here. I played here. We brought our rake and shovel. I coached softball when I had my daughter. Tremendous dream to come true for this sport in town.

-Attended Tommy's retirement. John did a great job setting up.

-Attended Dunkin Donuts ribbon cutting. Owner's entire family there. Sister came from India. They will be a great corporate neighbor. Dunkin Donuts headquarters rep said it was the biggest number he had ever seen at an opening. Hope we continue to support them. Mayor of Delran came as well. Said they will be great for the town. Dunkin did a give away of two 48 inch TVs.

-Mayor's Development meeting information will be shared

-Met with Maureen Barrett regarding the library

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE

Resident of Union: Invitation from Delanco Seniors – Walnut Street chorus will be performing on Tuesday, April 12 at 12. Free pizza. Kids eat with us so we get to meet with the young people.

Resident of (missed street): Lived here for 9 1/2 years at the Point and Newtons Landing. Is there anything to get more lighting at cutoff from Newtons Landing. Very dark at night. Maybe solicitor or administrator could petition the county for additional lighting.

Fitzpatrick: Jesse and I are meeting with a county engineer and I will mention it.

Jass: Many times, people turn the wrong way.

Schwab: We pay for the lighting. County engineers make recommendations, but we pay for installation and ongoing costs.

DeSanto: Coming off of Creek and making a left?

Fitzpatrick: Right around the bend.

Resident: Not close to any resident.
Fenimore: Thought there was supposed to be a light there.
Jass: Maybe when state comes in to put their new building where Motor Vehicles used to be.
Fitzpatrick: We will look into that. I think the pole is there
Schwab: They charge by the light head; pole doesn't matter. Initial cost and then \$33/month
DeSanto: Only accident is people driving through the retention pond. Has happened a few times.
Fenimore: Maybe reflectors would be helpful.
Resident: When you call for an ambulance, what determines whether Delanco or Delran comes out? Delran came to us – over \$600. Delanco is volunteer.
Dillenbeck: We are total volunteer – 6-midnight. One crew. Delran backs us up, but they charge. Payable by Medicare, Medicaide, or your personal insurance.
Fitzpatrick: They charge your insurance. Did you submit it?
Schwab: Our ambulance will soon be charging insurance company as well.
Resident: Has state mentioned plan for their property at inspection site?
Fitzpatrick: I haven't been told of anything.
Resident: Nothing on this side of the county. Also, at the Point, what are the police vs. condo association. We were told by two officers that they had no jurisdiction; another officer told me I couldn't talk to condo association officer. Neighbor or domestic things – where is the police jurisdiction?
DeSanto: Upkeep or maintenance – not police matter. Just like any citizen, you have a right to sign a complaint and submit it to the court.
Resident: Can you intervene if there is an issue?
DeSanto: What is the issue between the board? How they are managing?
Resident: Yes. Issue with neighbor filming my home. I lease. Owner is getting involved. I'm trying to get to the bottom of jurisdiction. Police called; one officer not very nice to us.
DeSanto: Harassment – you have to sign a complaint. I will meet with you.

Resident of Second Street: Creek Road and Newtons Landing Boulevard. Arrows are confusing – people don't stop there. Mention to county engineer.

Jass: I've seen two people get tickets recently.

Resident: Arrows might be confusing. Stop rate might be better without them.

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCE 2016-5 AMENDING TOWNSHIP CODE TO AMEND CHAPTER 222
GOVERNING "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE" 1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET
PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR MAY 2, 2016 7:30PM

PROCLAMATION – 2016 ARBOR DAY- APRIL 29, 2016

PAYMENT OF BILLS ACCOUNT

GENERAL \$ 958,319.08

PAYROLL 72,090.95

ESCROW TRUST 350.00 MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE 278.84 HOUSING TRUST FUND
661.45

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

2016-01 thru 2016-23 and 2016-25 thru 2016-30

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Fitzpatrick: Economic Development wants to present those to the businesses.

Martin: I have the licenses. I will touch base with Marie Reese

Fitzpatrick: John Browne mentioned that.

Reese: I volunteered to deliver them.

CORRESPONDENCE

Lohr:

-State DOT Safe Streets to School application – due June 17, 2016. Tried multiple times for a project.

Fitzpatrick: Chris, can you check to see what we have submitted?

Noll: Very difficult to get that. Will check on what we have submitted in the past.

Lohr:

-Letter from county regarding changes to PILOT regulations.

-Letter – Mark Remsa will present revamp on Rt. 130 corridor

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. PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 50 OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP ENTITLED “LAND USE PROCEDURES” (continued discussion)

Heinold: Prior, someone would go through the whole zoning process through JLUB and then found out HOA regs were in play. Put an ordinance into effect for zoning. Similar issue regarding construction. Trying to make sure that HOA approval comes first. Cheaper to get that first.

Fitzpatrick: We discussed this. Though we would do the same thing as the fence ordinance. Indicate that it may be subject to HOA approval.

Heinold: It’s on the books to get HOA approval for zoning and I’m suggesting it stays that way. That process should be addressed first. Someone could spend thousands to get a variance only to find out it’s not OK with HOA regulations.

Fitzpatrick: You are recommending that we keep the language.

Heinold: Yes. I wouldn’t got as loose as “you may want to check it out”

Lohr: Are we keeping what we have or are we expanding it to cover construction?

Heinold: Someone could spend a lot of money on plans and then find out HOA was required.

Lohr: You can’t include every construction permit – some are interior and not subject to HOA regs and some are emergency.

Templeton: But how should Cindy know what the HOA regulations are?

Jass: The regulations are in the township.

Templeton: Our people don't need to be enforcing their rules. HOA resident should get a letter from their HOA saying that HOA approval is or isn't required.

Jass: What precipitated this was a solar panel project. HOA says approval is required. Township didn't ask for approval letter. It's in the HOA documents.

Templeton: But our clerk doesn't have time to look through all of their regulations.

Heinold: Lot of people haven't been in an HOA before. To Mike's point, there are gray areas – is that the construction office's issue? So, maybe everybody gets a letter from the HOA unless it is an emergency.

Jass: I do remember people coming with letters.

Lohr: That's fine, but when someone asks for a permit, there is nothing in our code to require anything.

Heinold: If we had a consensus that everyone should get a letter from HOA with emergency exclusion, is that palatable?

Lohr: I spoke with construction official. He said we can assist, but we can't have prior approval conditions.

Noll: Can't hold up permit for HOA approval. You give them a recommendation letter in their packet.

Lohr: More and more people are getting forms online, so we can't give them a form.

Fitzpatrick: When they come to pick up their permit, give them the letter. That protects us.

Heinold: Then we don't need to amend the ordinance.

Jass: Can you put the letter on the form? Reason for this was a permit that was issued to vendor for solar panels.

Lohr: After further consideration, I would say to leave it the way it is.

Fitzpatrick: We owe the homeowner a notice that this may be subject to HOA approval.

Heinold: If construction is approved and completed, HOA can write a letter to the homeowner.

Lohr: We put stickers on forms, but can give out letters when the permits are picked up.

Jass: This is good for the future – new development. Those things need to be made clear.

Fitzpatrick: People don't read what they sign. I worked in real estate. And we will be giving homeowners a warning.

Templeton: Could be on Newtons Landing website for those residents.

Jass: We can put something on there.

Templeton: Clarify that our staff shouldn't be berated for permits that are issued. Residents were rude to our employees. It's inappropriate. Not our staff's job to enforce their HOA's regulations.

Fitzpatrick: You can't control that.

Jass: We have to have thick skin.

Fitzpatrick: I'm sure the staff doesn't take it personally, right, Janice?

Lohr: Every day.

2 TOWNSHIP ENGINEER PROPOSAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ROAD REPAIR PROGRAM (continued discussion)

Fitzpatrick: Got copy of Medford Lakes plan. For us to get this plan, it will cost \$12,000.

Noll:

-proposal is for a plan for a 5 year road ranking list – 15 miles of road in Delanco – length, condition, usage, road type, sidewalk, driveways, curb, shoulder... Ranked on cost, usage, etc. Prepare a plan and map. (sample given to TC) Cost estimate for each road. Five year program of what is recommended based on your budget. We would do another one in five years. Traffic sign evaluation – plan was due by June 12, 2014. When you reconstruct a road, you have to replace signs and handicapped ramp. \$10,000+ for plan without ordinance.

Fitzpatrick: If you have a plan, we may be in better position for grant funds. Does it help us?

Noll: More for internal use. Helps with DOT, but not critical. Complete Streets helps there with additional points.

Fitzpatrick: What is the cost (missed this)?

Noll: \$ 4-5,000

Fitzpatrick: We need to start planning.

Schwab: Signs... submitted in 2014 that we would replace when we do the roads.

Noll: May not meet the requirements, but may since no one has said anything. (Missed part of this. Had to leave for a minute.)

Schwab: \$200,000 a year – significant tax rate. You could borrow for it. Anticipation notes. Pain in the neck from a paperwork standpoint.

Fitzpatrick: We've paid them off in the past.

Schwab: But if you are doing \$200,000 a year, it adds up.

Jass: Have to anticipate growth.

Schwab: Could go to permanent financing.

Fitzpatrick: Grants could come back.

Schwab: Medford Lakes plan built in state aid.

Noll: They don't want to spend their money on roads that qualify for state aid.

Schwab: Those would be the ones to do anticipation bonds for. \$200,000 a year will buy less road in five years.

Jass: What you are saying is that you need the plan.

Fitzpatrick: Before I was involved, they did roadwork.

Fenimore: 10 streets were done.

Schwab: Alternative is to take John's list and have Chris's firm do the plans for them.

Fenimore: I think you should do the whole plan. Look at slurry seal.

Schwab: Will it be more expensive to do the signs separately? It seemed like a lot of extra money since they were already there.

Noll: That works great. Saves a lot of money. By the time this is done, your budget will be approved so you will be looking at next year.

(missed who said this) How long do signs last?

Templeton: Until the standards change.

Motion for maximum of \$12,850 for long-range road plan. Passed unanimously.

3. REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS (continued discussion) Shade Tree is to be invited for joint meeting on May 16.

4. REVIEW OF NEW STATE LAW REGARDING COUNTY PARTICIPATION IN PILOT PROGRAMS

Fitzpatrick: Looks like we don't have any PILOTs (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) that require paying the county.cC

Lohr: Says any PILOT after July 2003 is subject to 5% to county. Commercial only or also residential?

Heinold: Will double check – not residential. Historically, Dietz or Price – not subject. New law is to send PILOT deals out to the county.

Schwab: Can we adjust to compensate?

Heinold: We need to talk about what works for everyone.

5. BURLINGTON COUNTY ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM

Jass: We would adopt an ordinance and residents are automatically enrolled and have to opt out.

Fitzpatrick: didn't this come up before? We chose not to do it. Are you suggesting we do it now?

Jass: We just received another letter. Thought we were obligated to look at it.

Fitzpatrick: I went with a third party agreement and those prices went up sky high. I was able to get out. I don't want to sign up our residents for something they have to opt out of.

Templeton: I don't like this idea of signing up the entire town.

Jass: Felt strongly about it the first time. If individuals want to pursue, that's wonderful. No matter what we do with different programs, we always have problems.

Fitzpatrick: We don't get enough residents who are at our meetings or on our website.

Dillenbeck: I don't want to shove something down someone's throat.

Lohr: As a resident, as the program matures and rates get much lower, can we get back in?

Jass: Doesn't say.

Lohr: The auto in and having to opt out ...

TC agreed not to participate

Fenimore: Retention pond on West Avenue becoming an eyesore.

Schwab: Have the file and will get back on that.

Fenimore: Trash, needs to be cut

Schwab: John, get a price from a contractor to do it.

Fitzpatrick: And replace the rails on the fence.

Schwab: Will be asking Chris for proposal for inspection. Condition from operating standpoint – fabric or desilting. We know what it costs to keep it cut, etc. Township Committee has said it will do analysis if they assume costs.

Noll: I'm wary of all retention basins.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett