

These are my personal notes. For an official transcript of this meeting, please go to the Delanco Township Municipal Building at 770 Coopertown Road.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – March 20, 2017

Roll Call: Dovey, Fitzpatrick, Jass, Templeton, Browne

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Twp. Administrator; Mr. Fox, Twp. Engineer; Mr. Heinold, Twp. Solicitor; Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk; Mrs. Martin, Deputy Municipal Clerk; Chief DeSanto, Delanco Police

Moment of silence for residents who have passed away recently.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – VERIZON SERVICES

Jennifer Young, Verizon Government Representative

Young: Asked to come as a follow up to previous Tilson appearance regarding nodes.

Templeton: I was one of the ones who had some question about cell system Tilson talked about. We have great difficulty with copper landlines. We are on a good run of connectivity right now. Not reliable - frequent outages - wind, storm, squirrels. Verizon techs are helpful and knowledgeable. They say that Verizon isn't putting anything into maintaining the system. Fios is advertised here, but we are still just about at Morse code. DSL at my home - there and not there. This morning in and out. Bill still constant. Difficult to report through the phone tree - on hold, you hear offers for Fios, but it's not easy to get what we have serviced.

Young: Was speaking to resident before the meeting, More than happy to look into specific service issues. Can have team look at township report rates.

Templeton: That's the problem - no data. I find that it's hard to report. I've flagged down a truck in town.

Young: Did you call 800 number?

Templeton: If it's out, I can't do it on the internet. Seems like a fragile system. We are paying top dollar. As for the speed coming out of the pipe - doubtful it's what it is advertised at. Verizon isn't supporting its techs in the field.

Young: If you are OK with it, I will get home contact info and follow through.

Jass: Many people that have that problem.

Young: Our service comes from a central office. With one phone number, we can identify the area. If I get a few numbers, I can look at the area.

Jass: Please go back at least a year.

Fitzpatrick: Verizon has come out to me several times. I was told the lines were wet under a manhole cover. There was an improvement for a very short time. I had to turn it off and on several times tonight. When you call, hold time is substantial. On hold for 45 minutes.

Resident: Takes 5 days to come out and check it when it is out.

Resident 2: Took 10 days for them to come out when I had my elderly mother.

Browne: I have corporate-wide responsibility.

Schwab: We put the nodes request on hold, but from our perspective, there is no hurry, but Verizon Wireless wants to be able to do whatever it wants.

Jass: Regarding nodes, is Verizon being more active with relays because Verizon is targeting 5G?

Young: Not an expert on that. Company is interested. Municipal consent was to allow us to place nodes in the right of way, not necessarily a relay. Provides additional concentrated service in smaller areas.

Jass: What is Verizon's target - overall picture?

Young: Municipal consent put before you is the first step. Not sure of timeline in Delanco for rollout. Tillson is available to answer very specific questions.

Jass: When they put the box in with the main antenna on the top, I wanted to know what the locations were. They couldn't seem to answer - said Verizon would know. My concern was the nodes - if there was a tree in the way, will they chop the tree? We are a Tree City. How would that work? If we had an accident on the corner, Verizon would have to come out. Wanted to know about the waves - like a cell tower. Safety issue.

Tillson couldn't answer. You want us to put our name on a blanket that is for everyone.

Young: I will take those questions back. I don't think they determine locations until they do the survey.

Fitzpatrick: That was one of our major concerns. How can you ask us for consent to place the nodes, when you don't know where you are going to put them? We need to know to determine safety issues that may be involved. Tillson was asking for a blank statement for permission to put these on the poles.

Young: Most poles are joint use poles.

Fitzpatrick: How can we approve this without a plan? If we could look at the plan, we could say this isn't the best place.

Dovey: They will put where they need coverage.

Fitzpatrick: They can do the plan without the easement. They can do the signal check and then the plan.

Dovey: Will Fios ever come to Delanco? I just dropped Verizon DSL. Seems like some kind of deal was made with the state. We thought it was going to be put in all over. Small towns in South Jersey- Verizon corporate is looking to set up a wireless service. Wondering if this will enhance that or not. Friends in Verizon corporate office.

Young: Fios - in NJ, started building in 2004. Looking at cable franchise as a whole. Concern about the town by town process and through that process, would all portions see Fios. Territory-wide franchise through the state -passed in 06 and renewed 6 years 6 municipalities + 10 counties. Had to meet a time deadline. Unfortunately, this town wasn't part of that bill. No promise that we would build in every community. Fios is widely advertised even outside of served area. Still going to maintain your current service. Will take it back with me.

Templeton: Just got an email that email is no longer going to be serviced by Verizon.

Young: Verizon bought AOL. Customers will continue to receive email through verizon.net. Difference is how you go into that email as online portal. Email will go through AOL.com. Nothing about the email will change.

Templeton: The email said you were getting out of the email business.

Young: We aren't getting out of the email business. We are continuing to get some of that feedback. Trying to continue to clarify.

Schwab: Bottom line is no Fios is coming. It's done. No expansion?

Young: Not abandoning Fios - continuing to provide where we are already offering it.

Fitzpatrick: What about the service that isn't that good to begin with? Are they going to abandon that? They aren't taking care of the necessary repairs.

Young: Will take a deep dive into Delanco - cables. We will come up with a plan.

Browne: Happy with my Verizon services. Landlines are going out. Young people don't use them. Only need it for alarm system. Modems go out and we reset. Glad to have satellite TV.

Resident of Delaware: Moved in- had two lines due to internet. When one was out, one worked. Not now. Continues to be an issue - 2001 new trunk line. Only improvement to copper was across the street from here. Your company won't install new trunkline. Fix this town before you fulfill wireless streams. Just rehabbed a home - 6 people come out to fix it. On hold with customer service for 3 hours. We were glad that our tenant didn't want a landline. Fix what we have. It's been a corporate decision not to maintain the copper.

Resident 2: I'd like to get rid of the landline. I don't want to pay for it because you won't maintain it. I'd like a price cut that reflects the poor quality of DSL that I have.

DISCUSSION ITEM – TRAFFIC CONTROL ISSUES AT AREA OF BURLINGTON AVE. AND WASHINGTON STREET

Fitzpatrick: Living on Rancocas and exiting on Washington - lots of almost accidents - can't see due to trucks parked on each side. Worse in bad weather. Recently friend who picked me up almost got hit. I have talked to residents on Rancocas - all in favor. Talked to some residents on Orchard. Orchard and Walters - resident is hoping for a four-way stop. One resident concerned that it would make more traffic for Walters. Was a concern about increased traffic on Rancocas. Already traffic there as people drive down there anyway for the view. Chief DeSanto is in favor.

Resident of Burlington Avenue - easier for me to keep it two-way, but interested in seeing how one-way would work out. What would be the procedure to put it in place? No problem with boat traffic.

Fitzpatrick: Two cars coming in different directions - you have to pull over. Main concern is getting out.

Resident: Even though it would be easier for me to keep it as it is, I would be in favor.

Jass: Distance of turn from Burlington to (missed it)?

DeSanto: To make it safe as a two-way, we would have to remove parking which is at a premium.

Jass: Still enforcing 25 feet?

DeSanto: Yes, painted.

Browne: Seems like a no-brainer.

Lohr: Introduce at April 3 and have it for April. Have a draft ordinance and discuss. Introduce then or later.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS - none
SESSION ONE COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED
TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCE 2017-7 AMENDING CHAPTER 110-3 ZONING MAP 1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR APRIL 17, 2017 7:30PM

RESOLUTION 2017-55 AUTHORIZING 2016 BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFERS

RESOLUTION 2017-56 AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES APPOINTMENT FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL – EMPLOYMENT LAW ATTORNEY

1

RESOLUTION 2017-57 TO CANCEL PROPERTY TAXES DUE TO TOTAL VETERAN EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30a

RESOLUTION 2017-58 FOR REFUND OF PAYMENT PAID IN ERROR FOR PROPERTY TAXES AND AUTHORIZE AMOUNT TO BE PAID TO THE DELANCO TOWNSHIP SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION 2017-59 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BURLINGTON COUNTY FOR COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974

RESOLUTION 2017-60 AUTHORIZING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE DELANCO TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE BURLINGTON COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND OTHER PARTICIPATING MUNICIPAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN THE RIVERFRONT POLICE CHAPLAINS RESPONSE TEAM FOR POLICE CHAPLAIN SERVICES - tabled - some details still need to be worked out with JIF

PAYMENT OF BILLS ACCOUNT GENERAL

P A YROLL. \$ 57,998.25

CAPITAL FUND \$83,197.23

ESCROW TRUST \$8,416.00

MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE \$124.03

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2/1/17, 2/6/17, 2/13/17

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES

2017-1, 2017-2, 2017-3, 2017-4, 2017-5, 2017-6, 2017-7, 2017-8 & 2017-9

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 1/23/17 & 2/27/17

Motion by ____ seconded by ____ to approve the minutes of 1/23/17 and 2/27/17

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Recreation Commission: Fence line tree planting at Field of Dreams

Jass: This should be reviewed now since Shade Tree had trees balled and are ready to dig holes. Shade Tree rep came to Recreation.

Fitzpatrick: Didn't know the extent of it. Thought Township Committee should be advised if they were planting 200 trees.

McFadden: Want to plant 25 trees. Two years ago, questions about Shade Tree were getting a grant for trees for Coopertown Road. Now we have learned that they want to plant on the park property to get away from phone lines. Met with Shade Tree a week ago. When it was determined that the trees were to be on the inside of the fence...they are small starting out, but Rec Commission doesn't feel that is the correct type of trees. We are trying to end the cycle of "go ahead and put it there and we will deal with it later." For us to be told about it a week before and the township hasn't heard of it either. Not the right time. I feel bad that they have purchased the trees without coming to us or to the township. Sycamore - top-rooted, heavy leaves. Draw water and soccer fields are irrigated.

Jass: Fields - water runs from 9 at night til 9 in the morning from a well. Two years ago, talked about memorial trees. At that time, Rec sent a letter to township. We don't have a landscape plan.

McFadden: Rec is not against trees.

Browne: Did you meet with Shade Tree over the last two years?

McFadden: No

Jass: Asked to call Scott and Mr. Matulewicz said he was going to call Scott as well.

McFadden: We aren't prepared for this now. Shade Tree already has power lines and water mapped out.

Fitzpatrick: One of my concerns- Shade Tree mentioned that the watering in the irrigation system at Newtons Landing caused the roots to come up. We were going to come up with a plan.

McFadden: As it stands now and from email and conversation with Bill is that there are going to be persistent in planting them.

Templeton: So we send a letter.

Browne: Did you copy Shade Tree?

McFadden: No. Ok to share my letter. We did offer alternate locations at Field of Dreams. We aren't completed - haven't decided on all of the fields. We really don't have anything here. Offered some locations at West Avenue. When we found out they had purchased, asked if they could call and switch to something that roots straight down. The answer was no - they are already purchased and bagged.

Jass: Originally to be in the right-of-way. All of a sudden, it's like "we have the trees and we are going to put them there."

McFadden: Can't speak for them. Maybe the county didn't want them due to wires. Recreation doesn't feel that it is right at this time.

Jass: Question for Richard - when were you aware?

Schwab: Contacted regarding purchase order. Bill told me that they had cleared it with Rec.

Templeton: Matter at hand, direct contact with Shade Tree so they aren't planted this weekend. Need to call Shade Tree and send a letter.

Fitzpatrick: Quite a few trees have been removed at West Avenue. They could go there.

Dovey: Shade Tree needs to meet with Rec.

McFadden: We had to investigate those types of trees ourself.

Jass: Initial process is that those trees are at Pennington Park.

Dovey: Don't think county will approve. They don't want trees.

McFadden: Wanted you to be aware. We need time. We just don't want to throw things in.

Jass: I will send it right now.

S. Lohr: We aren't anti-tree. Not ready right now. Has been discussed at subcommittee level. Want the right type at the right place.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Township Administrator

-Accessor Report received

-Budget to be introduced at next meeting - info on website

Department Heads:

Chief of Police

-Feb. 1179. 147 tickets, 87 warnings, 5 accident, 36 investigations, 19 arrests.

-Engineer helping to develop an ordinance - additional parking for Newtons Landing for visitors.

Schwab: Similar to Rivers Edge.

DeSanto:

-2017-60 -met with other chiefs - riverfront response team - if chaplain is appointed by this department, we would do workers' comp. Walsh believes that volunteers aren't covered. Contrary to info I had received. Response team is a good idea. We will figure it out.

Supt of Public Works

Municipal Clerk

-Community Development Block Grant - \$78,000 on track for funding - ? regarding home loan for income-eligible to do sidewalks - might be covered if property owner is responsible for sidewalks, but once you take that money, you have to take your whole home up to code. Have to weigh the cost benefit.

Fitzpatrick: Would they ask our zoning officer to go out and certify that it is up to code?

Lohr: Don't know.

Fitzpatrick: Will you ask?

Lohr: Yes

Township Committee

Templeton:

-JIF March 29 - officials seminar - meeting tomorrow afternoon

-meeting with Singleton's staff regarding seawall project

Dovey:

-Sent emails on Shade Tree and rules so we can work on new Shade Tree Ordinance

Fitzpatrick:

-Attended Board of Ed meeting - option 1 \$54 per household; there were two options.
-Board of Ed scheduling meeting with Riverside Board of Ed - more than 50% aren't attending Riverside. Good thing that there is a subcommittee. Very positive about that. Students were recognized for citizenship, band and chorus.
-Seniors canceled due to snow

Jass:

-Will attend meeting with Mike at Singleton's office.
-Joint Land Use Board - two developments about the trees. Upshot was that Mr. Germano didn't think that we could do that. Lawyers will be talking.
-Attended League of Women Voters - presentation for young people
-Board of Ed preliminary budget - on school website. Average house \$189,000 - increase \$84.53. Looks like \$20,000 per student.
-Parking spaces at Newtons Landing - working with Jesse - brought up in 2003
-Attended Rec meeting - discussed trees. Scheduled concerts. Easter Egg Hunt April 8 at 1:00.

Fitzpatrick: Church is having one this year.

Jass:

-Books vs. Badges
-Attended Freeholders meeting - April/May decision on grants
-Attended library - sewing project - hip purses. Lot of fun. Got me back to my sewing. Thanks to Marueen for job well done. Young people did a great job. They had to follow written directions.

Browne:

-our solicitor has been elected president of Burlington County Bar Association.
-Improvements at Kansas - this was in my mailbox.

Lohr: Specs called for 4 in sidewalk. Did they do core samples? Take pieces to see? When was that done?

Browne: Shade Tree meets Wednesday. Maybe Rec should have a member go to that meeting once a month.

Jass: We are all volunteers. We all devote a lot of time. I can appreciate time and effort Shade Tree has put in and what Recreation does with all of these events all of the time throughout the year. When we are asking them to go to another meeting, that is a burden.

Browne: Lack of communication. I thought we were good to go.

Fitzpatrick: What about the Township Committee? We should have been aware.

Browne: I am their liaison.

McFadden: No grant. They took the money out of their budget.

Browne: Meeting with Marlene, Walters, NJ Transit regarding easement.

-Spaghetti dinner - fire house fundraiser upcoming.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett