

DELANCO TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – April 2, 2018 7:00 PM MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 770  
COOPERTOWN ROAD, DELANCO, NJ 08075

Roll Call: Dovey X Fitzpatrick X Ouellette X Templeton X Browne X Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Twp. Administrator X Mr. Noll, Twp. Engineer X Mr. Heinold, Twp. Solicitor \_\_\_ Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk X Mrs. Martin, Deputy Municipal Clerk X Mr. Fenimore, Supt. of Public Works X Mr. DeSanto, Police Chief.  
X Others: Harry Fox, Township Engineer

FLAG SALUTE SUNSHINE STATEMENT: Please be advised that proper notice of this meeting has been given in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act in the following manner: Initial written notice was mailed to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post and published in the January 3, 2018 editions. Notice of change of meeting start time was subsequently published in the March 23, 2018 editions. Written notice has been posted on the official bulletin board of the Township of Delanco at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Special presentation for Women’s History Month—postponed? No one came to do the presentation

Proclamation- National Service Recognition Day

Mayor Fitzpatrick acknowledged the national service provided by AmeriCorps members Senior Corps members who are tackling tough problems and working to strengthen communities and proclaimed this National Service Recognition day.

Comments and Reports:

Professionals:

Harry Fox: I’ll start with the seawall project-- we have the design all complete for the environmental study. There’s a habitat for the mussels in the area at the end of Oakford Ave. Apparently so we need to see how the state is going to handle that now. Once we submit plans we’ll know what the state has planned. Next, all resident’s properties/sidewalks have been repaired that were on the list. We still have 15 blocks we can use so now we’re going to go back and see what other lots we can replace. We replaced curb on Saturday at Walnut Street School. The asphalt went down today but it was wet when they did it. If there’s any settlement that occurs they’ll be responsible for it and they’ll come back and put a top coat.

John Browne- what about the ponding issue at walnut and Burlington are we still addressing that?

Fox: John went out and patched it up, he also spoke with the crossing guard that brought this up and she said its good now. We determined there’s no real reason to tear it all up and replace it then.

Jesse DeSanto : ill follow up with the crossing guard. It may still need to be replaced.

Fox: We had the bid opening for the road improvement program—pricing was pretty good, we’re going to leave off the alternates. Its Fenimore down to Rivers Edge, then West Ave down to the Dunes. Cornerstone is putting in foundations and slabs, stormwater and sanitary work. The project is moving along now so we’ll start to see a lot of activity soon.

Richard Schwab: I received the assessors monthly report. As a supplement to Harry's report I got the draft for the complete streets plan—ill pass it along to all of you. The report lays out what we'll be expected to do for future road work which could improve our chances for approval for grant money.

Jesse DeSanto: We've been looking into the issue of whether stop signs should be placed on the corner of orchard and vine & second and walnut—John Fenimore was going to give recommendations. We're going to make a resolution to support the campaign to stop distracted drivers tonight we'll have 15 days straight of 6-hour enforcement. Mr. Thompson gave me the information for the JIF training. I have some officers, sergeants and above signed up to go. I also received court order giving authority to seize a car.

Mike Templeton: please give me the VIN and plate numbers

John Fenimore: We've put down 2.5T of patch from bad weather, 3 storms requiring plowing we did 2 passes down every street, we've chipped 21 boxes and still adding onto it, it normally takes us 3 months of chipping to get that and we accumulated that much in just 2 weeks' time. All throughout town trees were down. Newtons landing looked like a bomb went off. 32 trees along the blvd, 15 need to come down. 5 big trees, 1 went into the swimming pool so we had to remove that. The Dunes trail was a nightmare there had to be 15 trees on the trails themselves and 50 that are in the woods down but those can stay since they don't present any danger. It's been a challenge winter but we're getting through it. Brush and leaf pickup starts the next 2 weeks. The townwide cleanup is Saturday 7-3p. Bring your tv's, tires, etc. I went to shade tree and gave them a list, 1104 hickory that's a flatiron repair I can handle. The one on Colgate Is between wires so I can't do that. 517 and 3rd shade tree seemed like they wanted to save it but I was able to stick a fork into it easily. It's a \$2400 tree it has to come down. Quite a bit of damage. I have to compliment fire department they came out in the snow storm trouble getting down streets—they went around testing and clipping wires that were down. They were a huge help.

Kate Fitzpatrick: I have 2 boy scouts that need community service hours—they're going to cleanup debris at gateway park, can you drop off some trash bags so they can fill them up?

Fenimore: yea, I was also contacted by the leader and the boys are going to do the pocket park and ball field cleanups, too.

Janice Lohr: I'll go through the fliers, John mentioned community cleanup this Saturday 7-3p at public works. Delanco's first free shredding event will be here Saturday at the front parking lot. 8-3p residents can bring confidential papers to be shredded and just need to show ID. This Saturday, rec is having the rescheduled Easter Egg Hunt it starts at 12:45p at Pearson School. April 7<sup>th</sup> the Women's club having trivia night, they have 1 or 2 openings at tables they can fill. April 21<sup>st</sup> is the Spring townwide yard sale, call in by Friday April 13<sup>th</sup> to be listed on the map. April 28<sup>th</sup> the police department is having prescription drop off for national take back day. Mike- has the environmental advisory board announced a Dunes Cleanup day? Mr. Fenimore has the dunes been reopened? Should I send an email blast?

Templeton: date for cleanup at Dunes still TBD

Fenimore: yes it's reopened

Fern Ouellette: The Library went to the school board to discuss the electronic message board. They are still waiting on response from school board.

Bob Dovey: Shade tree had meeting, thanks to John for being at that meeting. Looking forward to being able to attend most meetings. He had a list of 9 properties and have added 2 more that need to be looked at and taken down. Newtons landing 15 out of 33 trees may need to come down. Also going to be asked to come up with replacements and now streets look bare. Hopefully he'll come up with recommendations and we can diversify and resolve some of these issues. Ordinance for shade tree—we met with Janice and Richard to go over what we came up with. Its in draft form, Richard has not yet provided comments they both had good ideas we're looking forward to final product and will meet with shade tree and land use before bringing to council.

Mike Templeton: I attended the monthly and quarterly JIF safety seminars, 3 hours of information couple committee members went to seminar last week. Accreditation last week, good refresher on that. JIF being very active on the cyber activity as far as best practices, 1 guy putting out best practices guide on this. I know its late notice for me telling you, but the annual JIF safety breakfast is next Tuesday the RSVP is due tomorrow. Nice breakfast, award ceremony there's nominations from this municipality here. EAB extension from ambiguity in grant they received. Whether we had to expend the funds or unlimited funds. Liz Matestat working with John Fenimore on the no idling signs. School board introduced school budget—next wed is the regular meeting. May 2n is the budget meeting. The school report card was just released. I've been working on grant for living shore lines I gave you all info I collected—at our next meeting I may be asking for resolution to support grant application. May be a combination of living shore line solutions that may be usable and functional near Zurrburg mansion. Attending a seminar next Thursday. Lead we get is the DEP is more agreeable if we partner with groups like that.

John Browne: John you and your staff were phenomenal, as a resident, thank you for picking up my brush constantly. Jesse the stop signs the crossing guards hold up are great, much better. I would like to point out one improvement we need to make—northern side of Burlington and cooper street. The stop line is very tight next time you redo the lines it should really get moved back a bit. Last month I attended the freeholders meeting. I've been talking about library funding, attended recycling tour with Ann Moore, the facility is so great. We're doing so many things wrong as a society its incredible to see and fully understand why the small caps, the straws, the lids of a tuna can etc can't go through the system. We have to remain stewards of the land. I attended JIF dinner with Kate and Mike this year a lot of what was discussed we have already experienced learning the hard way. I'm proud of our administration we're well protected from a lot of the cyber attack issues they discussed.

Kate Fitzpatrick: I attended the JIF management seminar not only did we receive education we also got \$250 for each committee member that attends off our insurance policy. Thanks to Mike for setting that up. DYSA opening day is April 13<sup>th</sup> as long as the fields dry out.

#### MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE:

Resident Phil McFadden 410 maple ave: I have a question in reference to the budget, are we discussing it before it gets adopted?

Fitzpatrick- yes, you can discuss it after its been introduced.

Resident Jack Davis 44 Pennington Court: I received my statement for homestead benefits and the rebate has gone down is there anything from the township? Fact that state didn't put enough money in

the budget 2 years ago is why I get less? It has nothing to do with the municipal funds? (correct) how many people in Delanco get this benefit?

Fitzpatrick- I don't, you have to qualify. It's based-on state return when you file it, some people receive it, some people don't

Resident Jack Davis: I pay \$682/yr more this year than last. Between what's raised in taxes for last year to this year and what I've lost its going to affect me \$682 more.

Fitzpatrick—for the year or the quarter?

Jack: for the year. You get a benefit or a rebate that's applied to one of the quarters. Last year I got 700+ off this year was only 300+. Just making a point that a number of people are getting less.

Closed to public.

#### ORDINANCE 2018-7

AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE AT CHAPTER 256 GOVERNING "TAXATION" \*2<sup>ND</sup> READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ORDINANCE 2018-7

Fitzpatrick: let's review this-- we are amending our own ordinance to comply with language for when a fee can be charged for duplicate tax bills. Its just housekeeping. We're just updating our ordinance accordingly to comply with the law.

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Browne seconded by Templeton to adopt Ordinance 2018-7 on second reading Roll Call:  
Dovey X Fitzpatrick X Ouellette X Templeton X Browne X

#### CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

("Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion. Any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in full in the minutes.")

#### ORDINANCE 2018-8

AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE AT CHAPTER 50 GOVERNING "LAND USE PROCEDURES" AND CHAPTER 100 GOVERNING "SUBDIVISION OF LAND" REGARDING PERFORMANCE, MAINTENANCE AND RELATED GUARANTEES \*1<sup>ST</sup> READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR APRIL 16, 2018 7:00PM

#### RESOLUTION 2018-50

SUPPORTING THE 2018 UDRIVE.UTEXT.UPAY. DISTRACTED DRIVING CRCKDOWN APRIL 1-21,2018

RESOLUTION 2018-51

AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF OUT OF SERVICE OFFICE EQUIPMENT

RESOLUTION 2018-52

AWARD OF BID AND CONTRACT FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

PAYMENT OF BILLS

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
CURRENT FUND	\$ 888,252.12
PAYROLL	81,081.34
DOG FUND	70.00
ESCROW TRUST	2,089.75
MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE	688.33

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS LICENSES 2018-14 THRU 2018-26

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA Motion by Ouelette seconded by Dovey to approve the consent agenda Roll Call: Dovey\_\_X\_\_Fitzpatrick\_\_X\_\_Ouellete\_\_X\_\_Templeton\_\_X\_\_Browne\_\_X\_\_

John Browne: I have one question on Resolution 2018-50 supporting this what are we paying for this?

Jesse DeSanto: It's a reimbursement grant to reimburse for the crackdown. 128hrs state reimburses for \$55/hr. if officers sign up for 20 day window their rate is set at \$55/hr. It started for next 15 days its 6hrs per day for an officer dedicated.

INTRODUCTION OF 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET RESOLUTION 2018-53

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET AND SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 AT 7:00PM

Schwab: Everyone has access to budget message this year compared to last. With addendum including best practices which takes numbers and makes all sorts of comparisons over the years. In addition, over last few years we have been required by state to provide "user friendly" budget. May be of value it's a little disjointed and more like what the state wants to collect. Everything on website. Public hearing may 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Public hearing may 7<sup>th</sup> then its up to the state to adopt it just making sure we followed processes. Budget message goes into detail to point out key areas on spending side. PD and public works dept, cost for engineers to work on road programs, construction departments, we had to do a number of things. Very little borrowing but we had some last year so there's an increase in debt service. We also had the house fire which cost \$50k to have the house demo'd and hopefully we'll get that money back for the record it shows up as a budget expenditure without anything offsetting it this year. We had reductions—this is the first year that state held benefits have stabilized so we were able to budget less. Savings makes a difference that's a 1 year benefit. Same with pension payments- They're 3 years behind so wen we get actuarial amount this year from 3 years ago. We are paying off bonds so that interest keeps dropping. That's why we weren't concerned with increased debt service. It frees up money for

capital improvements and supplementing the road improvements grant. We had available surplus of 1.5mil surplus has grown but now stabilized. Auditor says you appropriate what you can recover. Court fines up because of more activity. All said and done tax levy 121k and assessed value is lower because we had some properties go from taxable to tax exempt. We don't have the income yet from many of the properties at high point—we'll get more PILOT money. Proposal in this 1.053per hundred 3% higher than last year. 190k for average property. A little over \$59. Impact ranges are listed too plus a history of the tax rates.

Open space tax trust fund there's detail how that's spent—operating our parks, the green acres grant has helped. Someone has to do the design and development. Mostly for maintenance of our existing facilities.

Fitzpatrick- I want to point out that the last couple years we received \$150k into our surplus as a result of budgeting for our 12 police officers. We didn't need those funds because we didn't hire or someone left. That 150k is not coming now. When you anticipate using surplus you must be careful you don't use more than what you can bring in. that's one reason we lowered the amount from 950 to 900. I've seen budgets only one that went in at 0%. The consequences of that catch up to you. At one time we were at raising the budget .18cents fern and mike were here. It was really a difficult time for us it eventually causes problems. At that time, we split it, 1 year 9% and the next year 9%. We dealt with property values, a reassessment lowered our property values.

Motion to introduce 2018 municipal budget

Motion by Templeton second by Ouellette

Roll Call: Dovey\_\_\_ Fitzpatrick X Ouelette X Templeton\_\_\_ Browne\_\_\_\_\_

The Introduction of the 2018 Municipal Budget has gone through.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

None

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

Resident Carl Turucci 55 Pennington Court: I see development on lower income apt complex but nothing yet on Hovnanian how is that going to affect the taxes in upcoming year with kids going into the school system causing increase in taxes there.

Fitzpatrick- I expect there will be children

Browne- the school board did take into consideration the kids and had a calculation for a number of years

Fitzpatrick- when joe miller did bond referendum he was very precise in every piece of property in Delanco that could be built out for families. Adding those additional classrooms would cover any possible addition in families, forever. A lot of people were against it the first 2 times but it finally passed the 3<sup>rd</sup> time

Fitzpatrick-Hovnanian tract changed to senior housing rather than family and the family units in workforce are 64 apartments, one will be management on site and they didn't anticipate a huge number of children because many of the people moving into that housing could be college students.)

Resident Carl Turruchi- so we can conclude that the development building being built before the senior housing that the tax impact shouldn't be so bad.

Fitzpatrick-yes

Resident John Rankamp 1700 second st – We have a problem in this town of bad schools and high taxes. Doesn't help for conventional housing. People do when they buy our houses are complaining about the high taxes. We should go back to 0 based budgeting. Joe Miller is totally wrong on projections for rivers edge. Numbers were bogus and were not compared to any demographic I'm aware of. He was dramatically wrong the increase never happened. The community of Delanco is aging including the youths. 120k doesn't sound like much but when there's 50+ foreclosures in town it does matter.

Fitzpatrick-How many homes have you sold at high point?

Resident Rankamp: All but 3. One advantage we have are the HOA fees are much lower than other areas.

Resident Jack Davis 44 Pennington Ct: Back to the Hovnanian property, when they get permission to build it's a 5 year deal? Will they have to come in again for approvals again?

Browne: approvals they have now are done, if they don't change anything then they're fine as is

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

Discussion Item:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE CODE TO DELETE CHAPTER 178 ENTITLED FIRE PREVENTION AND AMEND CHAPTER 179 PROVIDING FOR A FIRE SAFETY CODE.

Lohr: Brought by fire official, lots of duplication. The other part of ordinance then updates our fee structure for those fire fees.

Schwab: that's exactly it, we had conflicting fees and duplicate sections

Motion to Introduce first reading by title only Proposed Ordinance 2018-9 at the April 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 meeting.

Motion by Dovey, Second by Templeton

Role Call: Browne X Dovey X Ouelette X Templeton X Fitzpatrick

Browne: I while back I brought up the trap and release program for feral cats. We got an email today about it and I'm wondering if there's enough interest to move forward?

Schwab- you need a local group

Dovey- I'd like to see it as a discussion

Fitzpatrick- do we want them to come out and do a presentation first? We can ask them to come to the second meeting in May the 21st, Janice can reach out to them

Templeton: I want to say one last thing, go to the school board meetings—one way to help this community grow and improve is by improving upon the schools and showing the school board we are invested in this. Even if you don't have kids it affects us all. Be in the room.

Fitzpatrick: Mike is right, I was at the last school board meeting and out of 45 students only 25 are going to riverside high. Its important they hear the voices of the community. I have to formally request a copy of their budget. I will email Joe Mersinger if I need to do an OPRA statement.

Resident Marlene Jass: I reviewed and did an OPRA.

Resident Steve Lohr- The next public meeting is April 11<sup>th</sup> and the public hearing on budget is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bring them a copy of this budget show them what its supposed to look like, professional, thorough. There's other board members that would have liked to release to the public but administration had an ego. Said if "she" wanted a copy of the budget "she" can request it as the mayor of Delanco.

ADJOURNMENT