

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 December 3, 2018

Present: Browne, Ouellette, Dovey, Fitzpatrick, Templeton

Also Present: Mr. Schwab, Township Administrator; Mrs. Lohr, Township Clerk; Mr. Ben Weller, Township Engineer; Mrs. Martin, Deputy Municipal Clerk, Mr. Fenimore, Supt. of Public Works, Chief DeSanto, Delanco Police

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2019 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) APPLICATION

Fitzpatrick: Delanco used to qualify to have roads and sidewalks replaced. Due to the last census, we no longer qualify. We did qualify for senior projects which is how trees were removed and sidewalks were replaced at Newtons Landing.

Weller: Handicapped ramps being submitted. 2nd and Lilac, 3rd and Lilac and 3rd and Edgewood.

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – no comment HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION 2018-119 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND Passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 2018-14 TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2018- PROVIDING FOR AND DETERMINING THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES”

2ND READING BY TITLE ONLY AND PUBLIC HEARING – no comment

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ORDINANCE 2018-14 HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Browne abstained. Passed with the other four voting yes.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

COMMENTS – PROFESSIONALS

Weller:

-Cornerstone Project – rainwater flooded area because contractor didn’t have it connected to basin. Temporary connection was made to correct it for the time being.

-Town hall basin – another cleaning will be done. Contractor needs a stretch of dry weather.

-AC Power site Winzinger – grading was done, but Coopertown Rd had a low spot causing trouble with drainage. They resubmitted it to county and are awaiting approval.

(missed something else here)

Heinold: No comments

COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

Schwab: Based on renewing Field of Dreams contact – meeting canceled and something will be set up in spring. They aerated, limed, shut down irrigation and added compost.

- State passed law - Earned Sick Leave Rules – part-time staff now are entitled to one hour for each hour they work per 30 hours. Those who have hours at their choosing aren't affected.

COMMENTS - DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. Police

- Awarded 100 hrs for Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over – Dec. 7-31st.

- Improved street lighting for Coopertown – ordered street lights – no initial response, but it will take 4-6 weeks for them to get back to us.

-Raised \$470 for Pearson Fund. Officers will be donating and asking businesses to contribute to Christmas project. We will provide clothing and gifts. Please spread the word.

Fitzpatrick: Right past Rossi, truck vehicle seems to be parked half on Burlington and half on the grass.

DeSanto: Falls in the ordinance area.

Fitzpatrick: Ron Holt said it was the police.

DeSanto: Not in codebook. We have to find the ordinance to issue the violation.

Browne: What block? Near my house.

Fitzpatrick: Yes. This is a car near Rossi's Florist. They are more on the grass than the road. I've seen it for two weeks. I'd like to be sure there is an ordinance to enforce that. It's an eyesore.

DeSanto: When they repaved Burlington, they expanded one shoulder and narrowed the other.

Fitzpatrick: It's wide enough to park.

DeSanto: They are trying to avoid sticking out in traffic.

Fitzpatrick: We need to do whatever we have to do to avoid that.

DeSanto: Look into making it no parking if it is too narrow.

2. Municipal Clerk

- Community Development Block Grant due Dec. 21st. Packet was given to Ben to take back to the office.

-Dec. 12 at 7 – Shade Tree subcommittee will be meeting.

COMMENTS - TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Ouellette: No report

Dovey: No report

Templeton:

-Nov. 14 – attended School Board meetkig – long discussion on County High School Security Grant – ineligible to apply. Long discussion on their efforts to highlight inadequate state and federal funding to defray some of the special education costs.

-Working with EMS – ambulance was in an accident. Putting people together to replace the vehicle. Looks like a favorable conclusion. Many days spent on that.

-Joint Insurance Fund meeting – cybersecurity is moving higher and higher on list of claims and damages. JIF has two courses they are mandating that employees take. Erin is doing a fantastic job on that. A private contractor has been retained for a second level of coursework.

-attended public presentation on county trails system – Pennington Park. Routing the trail around the railroad bridge. Crosswalk on north side of the road bridge will be ingress and egress. I asked why they decided to go to the Rancocas Avenue crossing again when we thought it would be safer to use the existing crosswalk which affords a better sight line for drivers. They said it would create more problems and the speed limits are low. I told them the county had purchased the corner property with the idea of keeping the speed limit higher. They are going to go back and talk with highway department.

-DVRPC – meeting regarding sidewalks and trails in Philadelphia – I’m attending tomorrow.

Browne:

-Was in Atlantic City for League of Municipalities conference – attended seminars. If we place a charitable trust in place, a homeowner can make a donation in lieu of taxes, but they can only write off 85-90% on taxes. 350 people were in the room – no one had passed the ordinance or was intending to. I will continue to read up on it.

-From the campaign trail...we have a lot of issues – infrastructure repairs. I will need to get with Jesse and John Fenimore. There are storm drains that a child could fall through. I found a \$100 solution per drain. Eminent hazard for mosquitoes as well. The one by Phil Jenkins house just has water sitting there. Also crosswalk lights – found a vendor – one box and one solar box.

Templeton: I mentioned that to Matt Johnson since the crosswalk is so close to the bridge.

Browne: Attended seminar called What Have We Learned from Amazon? Economic Development Authority of NJ. We have already done all of the recommendations.

-While campaigning – lots of people are violating pet laws in regards to number of pets allowed – 2 dogs and 2 cats. We are going to have to put something in the Beverly Bee.

Fitzpatrick: We have put it in. Residents know. At the school board meeting, one child said they have 10 cats.

Lohr: We send out reminders and blasts. When the state doesn’t do the census any more...

Browne: I rescued a pit bull on the campaign trail. I used my belt because I didn’t have a leash.

-Economic Advisory hasn’t used money. We talked about running an ad in the Doylestown or Philadelphia area to attract business to our area.

Schwab: Send it to us. You are right. The budget included money for Economic Development.

Fitzpatrick: One of the businesses said someone had stopped in regarding a video.

Browne: Had to be put on hold for the moment.

-Trail system – McQuaids wants to be able to put up a fence to delineate his property.

Fitzpatrick: The ordinance covered waterfront property. They have to come in for fence application.

Martin: and survey.

Fitzpatrick:

-Attended DYSA meeting – new officers - Sam James continues as president.

Basketball starting with seven teams- highest number ever. They are working on their budget and Richard will have it in soon.

-Sent emails out to the Point, Newtons Landing and Zurbrugg as per Emergency Management . All residents should sign up for Swift 911 and register ready if you would need assistance during an emergency. Trying to get info out to as many residents as we can. We will set up a staging area, but won't have a shelter unless the county tells us to. County will have shelters and people shouldn't go anywhere without contacting us. We will transport

-Welcomed Santa – Mike and John were there. Children were excited. They do a wonderful job.

-Senior Luncheon Tuesday at the Madison Café.

- I have photos of the flooding on the Rancocas after a heavy rain. Water was in my yard.

-Letter from PA Dept of Environmental Protection – thanks for Alcon Recycling

-Letter requesting extension of (missed it)

Templeton: I just wanted to add that I made it to the gingerbread house event. They all had building permits and everything was done to code.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS SESSION ONE

Resident of Second Street: Two years ago I called the township about a car at 228 Magnolia - car hasn't moved in three years. It gets reported, goes to court and they move it and then it's back. (missed it) Magnolia – car parks in grass and it needs paint. Court was too busy. Doesn't seem to be follow up on code enforcement. I asked for a return call and haven't heard from anyone.

Browne: I saw that house when I was on the campaign trail.

Resident: I've sent pictures. No one seems to care.

Browne: We care.

Resident: Someone parking on the lawn for two years?

Browne: There is a whole criminal justice system.

Resident: It should be easy to fix. There is an ordinance.

Fitzpatrick: The process needs to be improved. The time period needs to be shortened. I asked the committee to consider full time person until it gets cleaned up. I will ask them again.

Resident: His vehicle doesn't have a sticker. People don't know we have a code enforcement program. Regarding cars on Burlington, it's across from the school. There isn't room to park.

Browne: Code enforcement does his field work, but it takes hours when it goes to court.

Jesse, if there is a car with a flat tire on the street?

DeSanto: We sticker it.

Resident of Third Street: When JLUB asks you to change the ordinance, some of you may read or pay attention to it or just trust your professionals. Ordinance 2007-26 – square footage isn't right. I would like to see it rescinded. I'm sure you are going to submit to JLUB and professionals. The professionals work for you. I would like to see you put this on an agenda. I will fill this room. I need something to come up so people can tell you their displeasure. Garage is allowed for maximum of three cars – I have 6 cars and 2 classic classic cars.

Fitzpatrick: It has to do with your lot size.

Resident: There is stuff about impervious material. The restrictions in this are too restrictive. By the zoning in place now, you can't build a garage first.

Fitzpatrick: Maybe you should fill the courtroom before we make changes. Kitty, has anyone else been turned down for a garage in the past few years.

Browne: I have to clarify. It's your daughter's property. If I were sitting on the land use board, I would want to hear from her. How many cars does she have?

Fitzpatrick: I think size has to balance with the property size.

Browne: So you were nonconforming..

Resident: I wanted to go sideways.

Browne: Where would the garage doors be?

Resident: Property is 50 feet wide, garage would be 40.

Fitzpatrick: That's the purpose of the variance.

Resident: I went in as John Q. Public. I was told by a lawyer I should have asked him to come in with me. The only one who drove by was Dennis Germano. Some people on JLUB didn't want it. They shot down another one too.

Fitzpatrick: I thought you said they approved a different size.

Resident: Yes, they approved a two car garage.

Fitzpatrick: I have to do some research. They don't pull numbers out of thin air. We will review with JLUB and their professionals. To me, it's all about the property size.

Browne: At another meeting, you weren't happy with the fee schedule.

Resident: No. I have \$7400 in it now. I feel these requirements are detrimental to average person.

Browne: I would like to put a sky deck on my house. There are things you can't do.

Resident: I would like to fill this courtroom.

Browne: You keep saying that. Are you threatening us? We would love to have more people.

Fitzpatrick: I don't want to second guess the JLUB. You have been to 3-4 meetings and brought up this issue..

Dovey: If he isn't happy and decides to appeal, would it come to us?

Heinold: No – to superior court. Usually planner comes in with recommendations for the master plan.

Martin: We are doing master plan reexamination.

Heinold: Every year at the end of the year, they do a report. Ex. they might report that they are seeing fence variance requests. Board should be advised that this issue has been raised.

Dovey: Before you fill this room, perhaps you should go to the JLUB.

Fitzpatrick: I think we should go there. We should review it and find out the basis of the square footage and if it is fair. I'd like to know how many people have been turned down for a garage.

Resident: I will get a group together and bring them to a meeting.

Fitzpatrick: We can't just change it.

Browne: Or build a smaller garage.

Resident: I already am. In February.

Resident of Pennington Court:

-When Motor Vehicles was built, they broke into the sewer line and the sidewalk.

Who is responsible for replacing the sign?

Fitzpatrick: the state. I am already writing a letter.

Dovey: Sign would have been put up by county.

DeSanto: But contractor should have replaced.

Finan of Sewerage: We can look into that. It is a sewer issue.

Resident: Sidewalks replaced and trees taken down. When are we going to get trees back?

Dovey: Shade Tree doesn't meet until 2019. They are doing their budget request. I would send Bill Matulewicz a list.

Fitzpatrick: They meet the fourth Tuesday here.

Browne: Are you sure that HOA wants trees?

Fitzpatrick: It would be good to have a written request.

Dovey: Need to consider type of tree, etc.

Browne: If you know residents who want trees, tell them to submit a request. We are going to put money in to plant trees.

Fitzpatrick: The ordinance won't be automatically replacing trees. We won't replace until we get requests.

Resident: So I can't plant a tree in my own front yard?

Fitzpatrick: Yes you can.

Resident: My property line is about 2 feet inside of the sidewalk.

Ouellette: If HOA bought trees, they could plant them in their property?

Dovey: Yes

Resident: of Delaware: While Economic Development is working on bringing businesses to town, perhaps you could work with other towns along the river to get us improved internet services. I understand that when Motor Vehicles came to town, what was available here wasn't adequate.

Fitzpatrick: I called Verizon. They said they didn't put Fios there, but haven't told me what they did put there. Can you find out what they put out there, Phil?

Resident of Third: I will find out.

COMMENT AND QUESTION SECTION OF THE MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCE 2018-15 AMENDING CHAPTER 295-4.5 GOVERNING "PERMIT PARKING" AREAS

1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR DECEMBER 17, 2018 7:00pm

RESOLUTION 2018-120 2018 BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS
RESOLUTION 2018-121 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR COOPERATIVE PURCHASING WITH HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL (H-GAC)

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ACCOUNT /Amount

GENERAL \$769,489.29

P A YROLL 148,305.77

Capital 775.00

PUBLIC DEFENDER FUND 350.00

Escrow Trust 18,721.25

MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE 1,740.37

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

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 THE TOWNSHIP CODE AT CHAPTER 220 GOVERNING "SOLICITORS" (tabled from previous meeting- too late in the year to do an ordinance)

2. BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY 2018 – Richard Schwab – 52 of 61 questions answered yes or NA. Need to go through the "no" answers in public session– one about shared services agreement. Asked if we discussed our discussions with authorities – we will in future. One is about a law that wasn't passed yet. Asked if we had ordinance to address flood and storm resiliency – doing it now. Do we have a community development plan with established metrics? tough for communities this size. You need to evaluate your success by the metric. My answer was that it wasn't practical in a small town. Asked if we have dedicated revenues for infrastructure improvements. We don't. Asked if we have discussed electronic bill paying? You aren't saving anything on the scale of a small town. Asked if we have hybrid vehicles – we don't get enough fuel savings because we mostly have public works vehicles and they can't be hybrids. Wanted to know if we have adopted more restrictive ordinances than the state regarding pay to play. We haven't; Moorestown did, but it didn't go so well. Asked if people are getting health

insurance who are working less than 30 hours. We have one person.

Dovey: Does the state follow all of this?

Schwab: No.

3. 2019 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE CALENDAR - REORGANIZATION AND REGULAR MEETING DATES – Reorg and quick regular meeting without reports to sign checks. Meet again on Jan. 14.

Schwab: June 10 and Oct. 21 – can't be here for either of these.

Heinold: If it is a second Monday, I will send someone else.

Lohr: Reorg at 7 with regular meeting to follow. Three Wednesday budget workshop meetings at 3:30.

Schwab: Feb. 11th – budget meetings with boards and commissions.

4. BILLS TO LEGALIZE CANNABIS IN NEW JERSEY S2703 AND A4497

Fitzpatrick: I like what Cinnaminson did.

Browne: If we vote no, we lose our right to collect the 2% tax. If we vote yes, we would be eligible for the tax. My concern is for Jesse. How do you test for PHC?

DeSanto: Someone could test positive, but not be under the influence at the time. For drugs, urine is the best, but you can say no to the test.

Browne: I'm mixed on this. I would want justice if someone I knew was hurt by a stoned driver. As far as the taxes, what they are generating in Colorado isn't even a lot of money.

Schwab: Growers, processors, RLS could end up being a distributor. I'm not advocating for it. Whatever they earn, it's 2%.

Lohr: 4 classes - wholesale, retail, processing, cultivation. You have the choice. You can say no to sales and yes to cultivation as the way the bill is now. You shouldn't do nothing. If you don't, then all four classes are permitted. All of the towns who are passing ordinances will have to redo them. When the law passes, you have 6 months to enact an ordinance. You will be allowed to look at it again in 5 years. Anything you have already allowed will be grandfathered in. It can't be under a PILOT – can't be under a tax abatement program. The law goes to both houses on Dec. 15 – could be fast-tracked –depends on what the amendments are. Some say that the 2% isn't enough. Lots to consider.

Schwab: Master Plan includes this issue. You will be making decisions with them.

Browne: We have anti-drug policies in place for employees.

Lohr: Whole other set of seminars regarding marijuana in the work place.

Schwab: The dispensaries that are doing medicinal now will be the first to be permitted to sell recreational. Each local court will have to expunge records.

Lohr: When this goes into place, there will be lots of training courses which will be reimbursed to municipalities.

Heinold: From a planning perspective, we are a dry town. Maybe production which is all inside might be permitted. The question is where.

Fitzpatrick: Don't you think that would also cause problems?

Heinold: Lots of money in it and a lot in security around it.

Fitzpatrick: Is there enough money that would make it worth it?

Templeton: I think this is like the illusion of a pot of gold for municipalities like gambling was for Atlantic City. We are a dry town. I've seen communities in Washington state that had legalized it – small towns were bumper to bumper smoke shops.

Fitzpatrick: How do you feel about it, Jesse?

DeSanto: It's a scam – money as a trade for morals and values. Colorado has triple the amount of motor vehicle accidents.

Browne: Sounds like they are polling us to see what we will do .

Lohr: It's going to be legalized.

Fitzpatrick: I don't want any of it.

Lohr: When do you want it to come back?

Fitzpatrick: When they pass it.

5. WEST AVE DRIVEWAY APRONS ISSUE

Schwab: Getting back to this person on West Avenue, our contractor did this.

Browne: I was on that street.

Schwab: 404 West. The aprons were replaced.

Dovey: I drove twice.

Browne: I wrote about it in my report. I think it is more than replacing aprons. I would like to walk it with Harry.

Fitzpatrick: I will go with you.

Schwab: We don't have the money now, but will get quotes.

Browne: Question for Doug. Are chickens legal?

Heinold: No. Medford has a pilot program.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by Maureen Barrett