

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – APRIL 28, 2008

7:30 PM MUNICIPAL BUILDING 770 COOPERTOWN ROAD, DELANCO NJ

ROLL CALL:

Devinney, present; **Fitzpatrick**, present; **Hinkle**, present; **Templeton**, absent; **Ouellette**, present

Also Present: Mr. Corcoran, Twp. Administrator; Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk; Ms. Zimmermann, Deputy Municipal Clerk

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Ouellette led the flag salute

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Please be advised that proper notice of this meeting has been given in compliance with the Sunshine Law in the following manner. Written notice has been mailed to the Burlington County Times and the Courier Post and published in the January 7, 2008 editions. Written notice has been posted on the official bulletin board of the Township of Delanco at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE – Municipal Clerk – Mrs. Janice Lohr

- received a letter from the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders notifying the Township of the option to participate in Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Programs for Fiscal Years 2009-2011.

Motion by Kate Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ed Devinney to notify the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders that Delanco Township would like to participate.

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes; Hinkle, yes; Templeton, absent; Ouellette, yes

Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick wanted to put on record that an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer had misquoted her. Ms. Fitzpatrick expressed her disappointment in the article. A discussion followed regarding the article in the Philadelphia Inquirer about the Mansion and Delanco Township.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Ouellette opened the meeting to the public

- Marlene Jass, 4 McCay Way, asked if the Township was using any open space tax for the budget.
- Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick stated that if money was used from the open space tax, that it was important to make provisions that the money be returned. Ms. Fitzpatrick expressed her concern that the public could raise issues about the use of the money.
- Marlene Jass, 4 McCay Way, stated that the Mansion is not considered historic. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the Mansion is not listed on the Historic Registry; however, it is historic to Delanco.
- Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick commented that there should be a resolution at the next Township Committee Meeting to make sure the money from FEMA is put back into the open space tax fund.

A discussion ensued about the budget cut to the Delanco Township Library.

- Steve Schofield, 400 Burlington Avenue, questioned how much money was available in the open space tax fund. Mr. Schofield asked if the open space tax fund could be reduced.

A discussion ensued regarding the open space tax fund.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Since there were no further comments or questions from the public, Mayor Ouellette closed the meeting to the public.

PREPARATION OF 2008 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran asked everyone to refer to the latest copy of the proposed budget dated April 16, 2008.

- Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick had a concern about the \$100,000 proposed to be taken out of surplus and stated that she felt it should be put back – she is concerned about revenue increases in the budget
 - Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran, commented that the Township Auditor, Mr. Bob Stewart was very concerned with the surplus and he felt we should put money back in surplus
 - Committeeman Ed Devinney stated that he had concerns about specific expense items
 - Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran said that Governor Corzine may come back with 75% but in property tax relief
 - Kate Fitzpatrick stated that the Township is at 9.6 cents with the budget
 - Township Auditor, Mr. Bob Stewart suggested waiting to introduce the budget
 - Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran stated that the budget meets both cap requirements
 - Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick stated that if we don't get more money from the State; the Township will have to cut positions like other towns are doing – she suggested asking the department heads to cut back or they will have to cut personnel
 - the consensus of the Township Committee members was to wait to introduce or until the State asks us to do so.
 - Mayor Ouellette questioned the increase in electric use – Township Administrator; Mr. Steven Corcoran stated it was almost the same as last year
- A discussion ensued regarding the street lights and their cost.
- Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick suggested that the new developments use sodium lighting rather than mercury lighting
 - Mayor Ouellette questioned the solid waste item on the proposed budget
 - Committeewoman Joan Hinkle wants to have the recycling carts discussed in the May 5th Township Committee meeting
 - also for May 5, 2008 Township Committee meeting – appointment of Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick as Deputy Mayor so that she can perform a marriage
 - Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran discussed the PERS requirements for the Police Department - \$25,000 for each police and goes back five (5) years

Motion by Joan Hinkle, seconded by Ed Devinney to authorize acquisition of recycling carts from the County.

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes; Hinkle, yes; Templeton, absent; Ouellette, yes

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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1. Marlene Jass, 4 McCay Way, commented that if Delanco received 75% back from the State, it would bring the budget to 6% (about \$46,907 per penny)
2. Steve Schofield, 400 Burlington Avenue, questioned how grants were done and suggested that a resident could do it. Mr. Schofield also suggested “trade” residents in the Township volunteer to install the electric for the Recreation Building. Mr. Schofield also suggested having a “wish list” put on the Township website for Township needs.

The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran stated that he has taken out all treatments for the grass areas at the Township Municipal Building and suggested getting volunteers to fertilize the areas.

3. Phil McFadden, 410 Maple Avenue, asked if the insurance company had evaluated the Skate Park.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Since there were no further comments or questions from the public, Mayor Ouellette closed the meeting to the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 2008-66

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Delanco in the County of Burlington, state of New Jersey does hereby declare itself to be in executive session pursuant to Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act in order to discuss matters of personnel, contract negotiations, potential litigation and land acquisition. Subject of said session will be made public when and if the personal privilege of privacy of all personnel is waived.

Motion by Joan Hinkle, seconded by Ed Devinney to adopt Resolution 2008-66.

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes; Hinkle, yes; Templeton, absent; Ouellette, yes

Motion by Kate Fitzpatrick, seconded by Joan Hinkle to return to public session.

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes; Hinkle, yes; Templeton, absent; Ouellette, yes

Motion by Kate Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ed Devinney to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes; Hinkle, yes; Templeton, absent; Ouellette, yes

Janice M. Lohr, RMC
Municipal Clerk
April 28, 2008