

## **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – SEPTEMBER 21, 2009**

7:30 PM MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 770 COOPERTOWN ROAD., DELANCO, NJ 08075

**ROLL CALL:** Devinney, present; Hinkle, present; Jass, present; Templeton, present; Fitzpatrick, present

**Also Present:** Mrs. Lohr, Municipal Clerk, present; Ms. Zimmermann, Deputy Municipal Clerk, present; Michelle Taylor, Township Planner

### **FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Fitzpatrick led the 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. Written notice has been mailed to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post and published in the January 5, 2009 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**

- reported that the Township received a letter from Marlene Robinson regarding the Township owned property at the end of Magnolia Lane.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### **ORDINANCE DEVELOPMENT FOR MASTER PLAN**

Mayor Fitzpatrick asked Michelle Taylor, the Township Planner to do an introduction and to make some recommendations on the issues that have the most severe consequence to the Township if they did not pass the ordinances to implement the Master Plan. Mayor Fitzpatrick stated that she would like to set up a sub-committee to be more detailed on these issues with two members from the Township Committee and three members of the Joint Land Use Board.

Michelle Taylor began her presentation bringing attention to one section of the Master Plan that concerned other zoning ordinance recommendations on page 44. Michelle went over a list of Township properties noting their recommendations. Mrs. Taylor suggested that the best way to address the recommendations is to form a sub-committee to prioritize them.

Mayor Fitzpatrick went over everything on the list and commented on certain properties. Deputy Mayor Joan Hinkle stated that she and Committeewoman Marlene Jass had a few concerns with issues on page 45 regarding maintenance and homes that are vacant and boarded up and questioned what the Township could do about it. Mayor Fitzpatrick had concerns about front yard and porch property maintenance. Marlene Jass had concerns about the boarding up matching the same color as the house so it wouldn't look so bad.

Michele Taylor interjected that the issues the Township Committee members are making comments on are property maintenance issues and not related to the Municipal Land Use Laws.

Mayor Fitzpatrick concluded that the Township Committee should review the property maintenance codes and talk to Ed Schaffer and Doug Heinold to implement some stricter standards.

Mayor Fitzpatrick stated that she wants to set up a sub-committee to start working with the Planning Board to implement and prepare the ordinances in addition to working with the Township Solicitor.

Committeeman Marlene Jass suggested for the lighting standards, doing an ordinance on any new construction for the lighting with a shoe box design.

Michele Taylor asked the Township Committee if they could send a draft of the things that they have already worked on. Mayor Fitzpatrick noted that since the planners have already done them, there is no need for the sub-committee to review them. The Township Committee Members can individually review them and make their comments to the Planner.

Committeeman Mike Templeton questioned the Fisher Canvass property business and why Ms. Taylor was so concerned with this. Ms. Taylor stated that she wanted to make sure that if something happens to the property that it remains with the same use and zoning classification.

Committeeman Ed Devinney agreed that the ordinance should be amended to require a zero percent light intrusion on all adjoining residential properties.

Mayor Fitzpatrick concluded that she thinks that they should have two members from the Township Committee and set up a sub-committee with the Planning Board and review what is left and what they haven't done and bring back recommendations to the Township Committee. Committeeman Mike Templeton and Committeewoman Marlene Jass volunteered to sit on the sub-committee. They talked about having three members from the Joint Land Use Board.

## **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Fitzpatrick opened the meeting to the public.

1. Marlene Robinson, 1416 Second Street, commented that she brought ten copies of her proposal for Township owned property at the end of Magnolia Lane. Mrs. Robinson stated that the idea is to let the public know that there are many parks at the end of each street and then to possibly add the Township owned property at the end of Magnolia Lane. Mrs. Robinson suggested making that the one place in the Township where people have access to the Delaware River. Mrs. Robinson stated that they have thought of ways to do that in a manner that would not be expensive to the Community. Mrs. Robinson stated that Boys Scouts and Girls Scouts have helped in the past at the Pocket Park areas. She also indicated that other residents have expressed interest to help make this area accessible to the public.

Deputy Mayor Joan Hinkle stated that she discussed the parking at this site with the Acting Township Administrator and the Chief of Police regarding the no parking signs. A discussion ensued regarding the property and how it is being used.

Mayor Fitzpatrick suggested getting a copy of Mrs. Robinson's survey and also a copy of the survey of the resident on the other side of the gulch. They also discussed the fencing issues at the property location and removal of the trees. They also discussed a name for the piece of property.

Mayor Fitzpatrick noticed another resident in the audience, Mr. Talavera and asked him if he was still interested in doing work for the Census in Delanco Township. Mayor Fitzpatrick asked Mr. Talavera if he wanted to attend the Census meeting on September 30, 2009 at the Municipal Building.

Mrs. Robinson commented that she knows people that are looking for available space where there are little stalls where people can sell their wares and exhibit their artwork.

The Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Janice Lohr stated that she would like to do a block ad for the Townwide Yard Sale this weekend and asked the Township Committee for approval since the amount is over the amount requirement. The Township Committee members agreed.

The Municipal Clerk also asked if anyone would be attending the League of Municipalities Convention so that she could pre-register them.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Joan Hinkle, seconded by Ed Devinney to adjourn the meeting.

**ROLL CALL:** Devinney, yes; Hinkle, yes; Jass, yes; Templeton, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes

Janice M. Lohr, RMC  
Municipal Clerk  
September 21, 2009