

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – WORKSHOP SESSION – APRIL 30, 2007
7:00 PM MUNICIPAL BUILDING 770 COOPERTOWN ROAD, DELANCO NJ

ROLL CALL: Devinney, present; Fitzpatrick, present; Hinkle, present; Templeton, present; Ouellette, present

Also Present: Twp. Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran; Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Janice Lohr;

Others: Twp. CFO, Mr. Robert Hudnell; Twp. Auditor, Mr. Robert Stewart; Chief of Police, Chief Parsons; Supt. Of Public Works, Mr. John Fenimore

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 written notice has been posted on the official bulletin board of the Township of Delanco at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Ouellette opened the meeting to the public and informed the public that this is a workshop session and is different from a regular Township Committee Meeting.

Jerome Resnick, 83 Pennington Court, commented on the note Committeewoman Fitzpatrick posted on the internet regarding suggestions for the Township to save money. Mr. Resnick stated that he used to live in Moorestown and they only had one trash collection per week for most of the year and two during the summer months.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

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

2007 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION

Mayor Ouellette stated that he has received information and requests from different departments and summaries pertaining to the budget. Mayor Ouellette stated that there is a lot of work ahead to bring the numbers closer and asked the Township Auditor, Mr. Bob Stewart to enlighten the public on the numbers they will be looking at.

The Township Auditor, Mr. Bob Stewart recapped what had transpired at the last meeting. Mr. Stewart stated that the budget was prepared by the Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran, the Township CFO, Mr. Robert Hudnell and himself. Mr. Stewart stated that when they put the numbers together with the various departments in addition to the revenues with the new ratables, that the tax impact on a home would be about \$371.00 on the average Township home assessed at \$241,000.00. Mr. Stewart stated that the cap will also play into the figure amount. Mr. Stewart stated the Township is \$469,000 over its cap. Mr. Stewart stated that the Township Committee has two choices: cut the budget by \$469,000 to get within cap or below cap or appeal the \$469,000 and go to the state Local Finance Board and ask for approval to exceed the cap. Mr. Stewart commented that as you cut the cap, you will be reducing the tax increase also. Mr. Stewart stated that they are using one million dollars of surplus, whereas they used 1.5 million last year. Mr. Stewart stated that they did not put back 1.5 million but actually lost \$500,000 of operation during the year. Mr. Stewart recommended that the

Township use no more than one million dollars unless they do the deferred school tax method. A discussion ensued.

The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran suggested that the Township Committee establish the ground rules for what they would like to achieve out of operating expense and have a plan to go about the balance. A discussion ensued as to what services could be cut or where they could charge more money for services. Some of the items suggested and discussed were:

- increase fees for services
- Municipal court fines
- rental fees
- business licenses
- trash pickup reduced from twice a week to once a week
- clean communities grant and recycling tonnage grant

Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick asked the Township Administrator how many businesses were in town. Mr. Corcoran stated that there were 225-230. Mr. Corcoran stated that those fees have already been collected for 2007.

The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran added that acting Governor Codey signed into law the requirement that any work done on Municipal property must meet the fair labor rates which will have an enormous impact on municipalities.

The Township Committee discussed the money owed to the Delanco Sewerage Authority. Committeewoman Joan Hinkle stated that the Delanco Sewerage Authority deferred the \$75,000 payment from Delanco Township for this year. The Township Administrator, Mr. Corcoran stated that the Township Auditor, Mr. Stewart can take the \$75,000 out of the budget and move it over for payment due in 2008.

Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick stated that she reviewed the Recreation Commission report and that they could reduce their budget by \$12,225.

Committeeman Mike Templeton asked the Township Auditor for clarification on the deferred school tax plan. Mr. Stewart explained the advantages and disadvantages of this method. A discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 2007-72 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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, and contract negotiations. Subject of said session will be made public when and if the personal privilege of privacy of all personnel is waived.

Motion by Ed Devinney, seconded by Joan Hinkle to adopt Resolution 2007-72.

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

Motion by Joan Hinkle, seconded by Ed Devinney to return to public session.

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

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

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

Janice M. Lohr, RMC
Municipal Clerk
April 30, 2007