

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – WORKSHOP SESSION - JUNE 25, 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; Deputy Municipal Clerk, Karen Zimmermann

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.

1. Kevin McLaughlin, President of the Delanco Library Board, stated that he was present on behalf of the Library Board. Mr. McLaughlin presented a petition of signatures in support of the Delanco Library. Mr. McLaughlin also presented a document indicating the amount of people that use the Delanco Library.
2. Lee Hettinger, 520 Ash Street, reported that his children told him that there was a possibility of the Delanco Library closing and stated that the library is a good place for the children to go and he wanted to show his support for the library.

Deputy Mayor Ed Devinney clarified that it was never an issue to eliminate the Delanco Library. Mr. Devinney stated that the State issued a mandate to the Townships that they devote a considerable larger amount to the library. The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran elaborated on the statutory mandate.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

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

RESOLUTION 20007-90

APPOINTING MUNICIPAL TAX ASSESSOR (Tabled from June 18th meeting)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Delanco, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey that:

Section 1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-148, Lawrence Ozzie Vituscka is hereby appointed Municipal Tax Assessor for a term of four years from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2011.

Section 2. The municipal tax assessor shall hold a tax assessor certificate as provided for in P.L.1967, c.44 (C. 54:1-35.25 et seq.) and shall have the duty of assessing property for the purpose of general taxation.

Section 3. Lawrence Ozzie Vituscka was granted a Tax Assessor Certificate by the State of New Jersey, and is qualified to perform the duties of Municipal Tax Assessor for the Township of Delanco.

Motion by Joan Hinkle, seconded by Ed Devinney to adopt Resolution 2007-90

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, yes; Hinkle, yes; Templeton, no; Ouellette, yes

2007 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Ouellette reported that the Township Auditor was able to work out a compromise with the Local Finance Board in Trenton regarding the funding of the library. Mayor Ouellette explained that the \$53,000 appropriated for the Delanco Library was outside our cap and has now been moved inside of cap.

RESOLUTION 2007-91

RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2007 BUDGET (AID TO LIBRARY)

INSERT

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2007 was approved on the 7th day of May, 2007 and;

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and;

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget, now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Delanco, County of Burlington, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2007 be made:

<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
(A) Operations – within "CAPS"		
General Government Functions		
Aid to Library		
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$53,000.00
Total Operations {Item 8(A)} within "CAPS"	3,128,810.30	3,181,810.30
Total Operations Including Contingent – Within "CAPS"	3,131,310.30	3,184,310.30
Detail:		
Other Expenses (Including Contingent)	1,584,341.62	1,637,341.62
(H-1) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes within "CAPS"	3,223,590.15	3,276,590.15
<u>Appropriations</u>		
(A) Operations – Excluded from "CAPS"		
Aid to Library	\$53,000.00	
Total Other Operations – Excluded from "CAPS"	570,395.70	\$517,395.70
Total Operations – Excluded from "CAPS"	586,873.35	533,873.35
Detail		
Other Expenses	372,083.03	319,083.03
(H-2) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Excluded from "CAPS"	1,138,873.35	1,085,873.35
(0) Total General Appropriations – Excluded from "CAPS"	1,138,873.35	1,085,873.35

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for his certification of the 2007 local municipal budget so amended;

It is hereby certified that this is a true copy of a resolution amending the budget, adopted by the governing body on the June 25, 2007.

Recorded Vote: **Ayes** (Devinney, Fitzpatrick, Hinkle, Templeton, Ouellette

Nays (

Abstained (

Absent (



HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO 2007 MUNICIPAL BUDGET UNDER RESOLUTION 2007-91

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Ouellette opened the hearing to the public.

1. Jack Hoefle, 44 Pennington Court, reported that he was at the last meeting and was amazed at all the conversations and asked if it will have to remain under the cap every year from now on. Mr. Hoefle asked if the additional money required under statute for the library applies to Delanco Township. Mr. Templeton stated that according to his contact in Trenton, Delanco does not fall under this statute. Mr. Hoefle asked if we would be in the same position next year or can this be resolved by budget time next year.
2. Kevin McLaughlin asked if the legislation remains the same, will the one time increase in the cap be a permanent solution for future years or just for this year.

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

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

Motion by Mike Templeton, seconded by Kate Fitzpatrick to adopt Resolution 2007-91

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

Mayor Ouellette reported that he, Committeeman Mike Templeton, Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran and the Township Auditor, Mr. Stewart went up to the Local Finance Board in Trenton for the cap waiver that was granted. The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran explained the cap waiver and the budget process.

- Committeewoman Joan Hinkle stated that they worked hard on the budget and should have started earlier, but she doesn't like this budget and can't vote in favor of it.
- Deputy Mayor Ed Devinney stated that he agreed with Committeewoman Joan Hinkle and he doesn't like the budget either and feels that the public will not appreciate it because it will increase the taxes on an average house in the amount of \$240.00. Mr. Devinney felt that the best option was to vote for the budget and that departments will continue to scrimp and save to boost the surplus for next year.
- Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick stated that she can't vote for this budget. Ms. Fitzpatrick indicated that she felt that more could have been done and that each department should have been brought in and scrutinized and that some of the raises that were given should have been lower.
- Committeeman Mike Templeton stated that this was a first time process for him and this

has been very difficult. Mr. Templeton stated that he spent a lot of time and reached out to many people to try to do the best thing for the people of Delanco.

• Mayor Ouellette stated that our cash flow was good this past year and the Township was able to cover the cost of the Mansion without borrowing money. Mayor Ouellette stated that the Township has no surplus and must try to rebuild this in the future. Mayor Ouellette stated that we are looking at a 22 cent increase in the municipal taxes. Mayor Ouellette stated that he feels we should approve the budget as it stands and look to 2008 for adjustments that need to be made.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

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

The Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Janice Lohr explained the different scenarios for amending or adopting the budget. Mrs. Lohr stated that the Township Auditor, Mr. Bob Stewart stated that the Township Committee could continue to amend the cap waiver items to further amend the budget. A discussion ensued. The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran stated that the State wants a permanent fix to the cap situation. Mr. Corcoran stated that in order to do this, there must be a referendum for all the residents to vote on increasing our cap permanently for a certain amount.

Motion by Ed Devinney, seconded by Mike Templeton to adopt Resolution 2007-92 as amended.

Roll Call: Devinney, yes; Fitzpatrick, no; Hinkle, no; Templeton, yes; Ouellette, yes

The Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Corcoran suggested that the Township Committee form a sub-committee for the 2008 budget and start after Labor Day.

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

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
June 25, 2007