

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – SEPTEMBER 17, 2007**  
7:30 PM MUNICIPAL BUILDING 770 COOPERTOWN ROAD, DELANCO NJ

**ROLL CALL:** Devinney, present; Fitzpatrick, present; Hinkle, present; Templeton, present; Ouellette, present  
**Also Present:** Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Janice Lohr

**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 September 14, 2007 editions. Written notice has been posted on the official bulletin board of the Township of Delanco at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

**ORDINANCE 2007-12**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DELANCO, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, CANCELLING CERTAIN FUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES HERETOFORE PROVIDED FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS AND REAPPROPRIATING A PORTION OF SUCH FUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES FOR OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS**  
**\*1ST READING BY TITLE ONLY AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR OCTOBER 1, 2007**

Mayor Ouellette read the ordinance by title and gave a brief explanation.

Committeewoman Kate Fitzpatrick commented that she was confused about this ordinance because she felt that the capital items had already been discussed at a previous meeting. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated her concerns about where the money was coming from for these items. Ms. Fitzpatrick expressed her concern with leaving nothing in the capital account for any road emergencies. A discussion ensued regarding the allocation of monies. Committeewomen Fitzpatrick and Hinkle repeatedly referenced a three hour meeting where these items were discussed and voted upon and they can't understand why the issues are changing. Committeeman Mike Templeton stressed the point that it was prudent about how funds are appropriated and that the Township not incur more debt. Mayor Ouellette stressed the fact that we need to allocate the money for the street sweeper before the bid expires. Committeewoman Joan Hinkle expressed her concern about the monies owed to Delran for the salt barn.

Motion by Kate Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ed Devinney to introduce Ordinance 2007-12 on first reading by title only and set the public hearing date for October 1, 2007 at 7:30 PM.

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

## **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Ouellette opened the meeting to the public.

1. Marlene Jass, 4 McCay Way, questioned the \$203,000 bond and asked if there is any excess or the money isn't utilized, does another ordinance have to be initiated to move it around. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick clarified the amount to be \$157,199.43 and stated that it was previously bonded money. The Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Lohr explained that the Township Committee is using previously authorized funds and reassigning them. Mrs. Jass asked what the approximate interest rate is for the bonds. Mrs. Jass expressed her concern for the condition of the Zurbrugg Mansion roof and stated that she feels the problem should be addressed. A discussion ensued regarding the roof repair.
2. Harry Litwack, 217 Maple Avenue, asked if the \$135,000 was prioritized in any way. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the money is not prioritized and the balance of the bond is dedicated for the Municipal Building or Public Works facilities. Mr. Litwack stated that there is a communication problem with township information and that the acoustics in the Court Room are horrible. Mr. Litwack commented about the sidewalk on Burlington Avenue and asked why both sides have not been completed. A discussion ensued about the bid for the streetscape project. Mr. Litwack inquired about the "Field of Dreams" proposed projects. Mr. Litwack asked why there weren't any lights at the skate park. Mr. Litwack asked if they ever looked into purchasing bicycles for the police officers. Committeewoman Joan Hinkle stated that we already have them. Mr. Litwack inquired about the Juvenile Panel and was given an explanation by the Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Janice Lohr.
3. Steve Schofield, 400 Burlington Avenue, questioned Kathy Elliott's role with Delanco Township. Mr. Schofield asked the Township Committee members how much time they and the Township Administrator have spent dealing with the Zurbrugg Mansion and felt that time could be better spent on other important Township functions. Mr. Schofield stated that he would like to see the Mansion "gone". Mr. Schofield stated that he is not happy with the Township professionals. Mr. Schofield wanted it put on the record that his level of respect for Mr. Heinold, the Township Solicitor went through the roof at the last meeting with the way he handled the problem with the recreation shed for the Recreation Commission. Mr. Schofield stated that he was not happy with the Code Enforcement Officer, the Township Administrator, Birdsall Engineering Company, and the current Township Engineer, Mr. Denton. Mr. Schofield capitulated and suggested getting additional help, perhaps a secretary, for the Township Administrator.
4. Marlene Jass, 4 McCay Way, commented that the short time that she has been here and through the transition when Newton's Landing first started she doesn't think that Newton's Landing would have gotten where they are without a person like Steve Corcoran and his expertise. Mrs. Jass stated that she has seen an increase in the number of children on the skate park without helmets. Mrs. Jass asked if the Police Department could police the skateboard park more frequently.

## **MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

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

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **• PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2007-115 SUPPORTING THE BURLINGTON COUNTY BRIDGE COMMISSION “BURLINGTON LEASE BANK” PROGRAM**

Deputy Mayor Ed Devinney read the proposed resolution to the public. Mr. Devinney commented that just because the money is there; it doesn't mean that you have to go and borrow it. However, Mr. Devinney stated that if you do have to borrow the money they should try and get the lowest and best possible terms available.

Committeeman Mike Templeton commented that he did not understand why this was put on our agenda on such short notice and felt it was a very strange situation. A discussion ensued.

Committeewomen Fitzpatrick and Hinkle agreed that it would be in the Township's interest to do this. Deputy Mayor Ed Devinney commented that if it offers more opportunities and more competition in the area of municipal remedy that it can't hurt the Township to participate. Mayor Ouellette commented that it allows the Township another avenue to borrow dollars from a source that has pooled dollars together to get better interest rates. Committeeman Mike Templeton commented that this resolution was put before us by the Burlington County Bridge Commission to lobby the Freeholders and he is very skeptical and feels that "it is clearly an advertisement for the Bridge Commission and it should not be in front of us right now".

Motion by Joan Hinkle, seconded by Kate Fitzpatrick to adopt Resolution 2007-115.

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

### **RESOLUTION 2007-115 SUPPORTING THE BURLINGTON COUNTY BRIDGE COMMISSION “BURLINGTON LEASE BANK” PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Burlington County Bridge Commission has proposed a new lending program called the "Burlington Lease Bank" (Burlington Bank) which has the potential to provide low cost tax-exempt financing for local government entities including municipalities, school districts, fire districts and other governmental entities; and

WHEREAS, this proposed program is designed to accommodate governmental borrowers seeking to lease/purchase equipment and certain improvements including public safety equipment and vehicles, computers, maintenance equipment, and other capital items; and

WHEREAS, this program will provide taxpayers with benefits not currently enjoyed under traditional bonding or commercial lending programs including easy access to tax-exempt financing, a simple application process, no 5% down payment, short turn-around time for loan processing, low interest rates, and no costs of issuance; and

WHEREAS, the Burlington Bank will offer local governmental entities a mechanism to assist in efforts to reduce expenses and hold the line on property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Delanco does hereby strongly encourage the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders to take any and all action necessary and as soon as possible to approve the "Burlington Bank" to assist us in providing tax relief to our residents.

**CORRESPONDENCE – Municipal Clerk – Mrs. Janice Lohr – Nothing to report**

**COMMENTS – TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Joan Hinkle** - Committeewoman Joan Hinkle stated that the water bill for the past two months at Gateway Park has been \$533.00 for the fountain and sprinkler system. Mrs. Hinkle stated that she went to Gateway Park and there is nothing wrong with the fountain. However, she noticed that it was leaking like a sieve at the water meter. Mrs. Hinkle called John Fennimore and told him to shut the water off immediately until they can straighten it out with the water company.

**Ed Devinney** – Nothing to report

**Kate Fitzpatrick** – Nothing to report

**Mike Templeton** – Nothing to report

**Mayor Ouellette** – Nothing to report

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Ouellette opened the meeting to the public.

**MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

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

Ed Devinney announced that the Hawk Island Clean-up will be on Saturday, September 22, 2007 at 9:00 AM.

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  
September 17, 2007