

REGULAR MEETING  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 16, 2019

Chairperson Danna called to order a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Deerfield, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey, at the Municipal Building, 736 Landis Avenue, Rosenhayn, at 7:00 p.m.

Chairperson Danna led the flag salute.

Chairperson Danna asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of the young lady and the incident that happened at the festival.

The Clerk took roll call and members present included Mrs. O'Brien, Mr. Stanzione, Mr. Brago, Mr. Terrigno and Mr. Danna.

The Clerk presented Resolution #19-104 Authorizing The Exclusion Of The Public Of A Meeting Of The Township Committee To Be Held On Wednesday, October 16, 2019 As It Pertains To Pending Litigation. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to adopt Resolution 19-104. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Brago	Yes		

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to go into Executive Session per the Resolution. The Committee approved.

Mr. Brago made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to reconvene the regular meeting. The Committee approved.

As a result of Executive Session, Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to authorize the Mayor to execute a Settlement Agreement with regard to pending litigation. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Abstain	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Brago	Yes		

#### Departmental Reports

The Clerk presented the departmental reports of the Zoning/Housing Officer, Treasurer, Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Coordinator. Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to accept and file the departmental reports. The Committee approved.

#### Resolutions

The Clerk indicated that there were no Resolutions for this evening.

#### Old Business

The Clerk presented Reports From Department Chairpersons. Mr. Terrigno stated that during the Harvest Festival there was a temporary stop sign run over and it was replaced. Mrs. O'Brien noted that the Township will be meeting with Michael Fralinger of Fralinger Engineering to discuss the plans for the playground. She further noted that the Township and attorney Michael Fralinger will be meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss the food truck Ordinance with invitations being extended to Mr. Casper, Mr. Speranza and Mr. Casella.

The Clerk reminded the Committee that the Land Use Board is still looking for someone to fill a vacancy. She also noted that bid openings for Garrison Road will be happening on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 10:00 am and Deerfield Township School's Trunk or Treat Event will be held at LoBiondo Park on Friday, October 25, 2019 from 6pm to 7:30pm. The Clerk noted that Mrs. Rossi, who is coordinating the event, will be reaching out to make sure that they get a booth, parking cones and the lights are turned on for that evening.

As to animal control, Mr. Brago indicated that over the weekend a resident was using their property to park cars and a person who parked on their property was bit by that resident's dog. He further indicated that the animal control officer investigated the matter and reported it to the State Police.

Mr. Brago noted that the Harvest Festival was held over the weekend and everyone is aware of what happened at the event. Mrs. O'Brien stated that the Recreation Committee did an excellent and the public works supervisor also did an extraordinary job managing the staff and the Township is grateful for the leadership the Recreation Committee showed this weekend. Chairperson Danna indicated that he received telephone call from Governor Murphy's office extending his condolences to the family, Township, family and friends of the little girl and provided his personal cellphone number in case the Township needs anything. He further indicated that he received a telephone call from the Captain of the Vineland Police Department extending condolences and offering assistance. Mrs. O'Brien stated that she spoke with the Governor's office on Sunday and received permission to lower our flags.

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Limited Management Study For Deerfield Township. Mr. Terrigno stated that he received a proposal from Dan Mason to do a limited management study. He further stated that the study would include a review of the budget, job descriptions, salary ordinance, efficiency of departments and more shared services with neighboring towns. Mr. Terrigno indicated that Mr. Mason would come in and look at all that and see if we are missing something or something we could use in the shared service department. He further indicated that it could take of a couple of days. Mr. Terrigno noted that it is up to the Committee if they would like to hire or the matter could be tabled for further discussion. Mrs. O'Brien indicated that she is aware of other municipalities that have used his services and inquired whether the Township should reach out and see how those municipalities made out and whether they had significant savings. Chairperson Danna inquired whether Mr. Mason could come in and make a presentation. Mr. Terrigno indicated that he and Mr. Brago met with Mr. Mason and a presentation would not be relevant and would be more fees. Mr. Brago recommended getting a list of municipalities that have used Mr. Mason and getting in touch with those municipalities. Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to table the discussion. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Brago	Yes		

#### New Business

The Clerk presented Discussion And Motion Regarding The 2019 Best Practices Inventory. The Clerk noted that this is an annual process from the State. She further noted that she forwarded the results to the Committee. The Clerk indicated that the number of affirmative answers for 2019 is a minimum of 33 and the Township has answered 39.5 questions in the affirmative and will receive all of our State Aid. Mrs. O'Brien asked if there was a plan to have those questions the Township did not meet met in the coming year.

The Clerk noted that some of the questions just don't apply to the Township but the others are being looked into to make them affirmative in the coming year. Mrs. O'Brien asked if those questions not answered could be given to personnel for the coming year's discussion. Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to approve the 2019 Best Practices Inventory for submission. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Brago	Yes		

The Clerk presented Approval Of Raffle Application From The Cumberland County 4-H Advisory Committee For An Off Premises Raffle On February 2, 2020. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to approve the application. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Brago	Yes		

Mr. Brago also wanted to mention that the Electric Halloween event will be taking place at Southwind Winery this weekend. He noted that the zoning officer has met with the event manager and everything should be squared away with them. Mrs. O'Brien wanted to make sure that the noise ordinance is adhered to. The Clerk noted that the zoning officer did meet with the manager of the event last week and they are fully informed as to what their requirements are.

#### Communications

The Clerk stated that there were no communications this evening.

The Clerk presented Resolution #19-105 for the Payment Of Bills. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #19-105. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mrs. Danna	Yes
Mr. Brago	Yes		

#### Public Comment

Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago, to open the meeting to the public. The Committee approved.

Gloria Jost came before the Committee. Mrs. Jost inquired whether the Township had any more information as a result of the last meeting. She noted that someone had questions about the toxins. Mrs. O'Brien stated that the resident did write out her questions and they were submitted to the Township. She further stated that a letter has been drafted and is being reviewed by the Committee. The Clerk noted that the email was received from the resident and forwarded to Synagro with a copy to the Improvement Authority, but those questions have not come back answered by Synagro and confirmed what Mrs. O'Brien noted and that a letter has been drafted and will be sent out to DEP with the Township's and resident's concerns.

Mrs. O'Brien noted that she provided the Clerk with the note from Mrs. Jost with the contact information for the gentleman Mrs. Jost spoke with at DEP. Mrs. Jost indicated that a letter was sent to Mr. Velaquez of the CCIA on April 23, 2019 and that the letter noted that if there is a project already in the works the applicant should contact

his office to see where the applicant should proceed. She further indicated that she was curious if Mr. Velazquez ever did that. Mrs. Jost noted that DEP does not have much information so far and that Synagro has not submitted all the documentation required so far. Mrs. Jost stated that she will be calling DEP every week. Mrs. O'Brien thanked Mrs. Jost and noted that the Township has to rely on DEP and their expertise as they are the governing body to protect and make sure things are done properly.

Mrs. Jost thanked the Committee for following up.

Jenna Harvey of 661 Morton Avenue approached the Committee. Mrs. Harvey stated that she had some questions about the incident at the festival. Mrs. Harvey questioned who was part of the decision making in resuming the activities on Sunday. Mr. Terrigno stated that he believed that it was a consensus of the majority. Mrs. Harvey stated that she and her family attended the festival and were there during the confusion and panic that followed after the incident. She further stated that she is a member of the Board of Education and was given insight as to how the staff would be responding to this incident.

Mrs. Harvey stated that she felt it was troubling that the festivities continued on Sunday and more troubling that the fireworks continued that night. Mrs. Harvey indicated that as a community the Township failed the family mourning the loss of their child. She further indicated that as a neighbor in close proximity to the Festival that next year it looks very different. Mrs. Harvey noted that she felt that the Township can do better. She further noted that the music, food and coming together as a community is great but asked the powers that be please consider that trauma and that it can be deep seeded. Mrs. Harvey stated that she came to the meeting this evening to express her view and noted that she wanted to express some other considerations the Township might want to see.

Mrs. O'Brien wanted to note the trauma Mrs. Harvey spoke of and indicated that the Committee did reach out to Mrs. Kula at the school to make sure that she had the resources needed. She further indicated that they spoke to the State and other local schools and asked for people of the community to share that there are ongoing resources for those children and adults that witnessed something they never should have had to. Mrs. O'Brien stated that the Township is trying to do its best and wanted to commend Mrs. Kula for doing an extraordinary job in coordinating that effort. She further stated that Mrs. Kula was available immediately and did a phenomenal job in reaching out. Mrs. O'Brien also acknowledged the assistance from Cumberland Regional and the CCTech to help where they could.

Mr. Brago stated that he was at the school today for the fire prevention program and he spoke with Mrs. Kula and several staff members and Tuesday was a "good day" because of the work that Mrs. Kula put in to arranging for extra staff and substitutes that so that regular staff members could be there for the children. He further stated that the counselors brought in for the staff, children and parents were second to none and reiterated that Mrs. Kula did an outstanding job.

Joanne Kowalski of 559 Bridgeton Avenue came before the Committee. Mrs. Kowalski asked if fireworks are going to be added to the noise ordinance now that they are legal in the State. Mrs. Kowalski stated that she has a neighbor that launches them 10 to 15 minutes at a time whenever they want. She further stated that she had animals and they get upset. Mrs. O'Brien noted that the noise ordinance does note that the cut off is 11:00 pm and if it does happen at night and anything after 11:00 pm should be report to the State Police as they are the enforcing agency. Solicitor Testa noted that the general provisions of the noise ordinance, as it exists, should cover that issue as if it happens after the hour set forth in the ordinance and if its excessive noise the State Police should be contacted. Mr. Terrigno indicated that he read that there is a State statute that

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indicates that fireworks can only be set off from certain times. Solicitor Testa stated that he would look into the State statute. Mrs. O'Brien asked Mrs. Kowalski to leave her contact information with the Clerk. Mrs. Kowalski stated that they are setting the fireworks off right from the back door.

There being no further comment from the public, Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to close the meeting to the public. The Committee approved.

There being no further business, Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to adjourn the meeting. The Committee approved.

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Rudy Danna, Jr., Chairperson  
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

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Karen Seifrit, Clerk  
Township of Deerfield