

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MARCH 28, 2018

Chairperson O'Brien 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 O'Brien led the flag salute.

The Clerk noted that Mr. Brago was absent this evening and excused.

Departmental Reports

The Clerk presented the departmental reports of the Zoning/Housing Officer, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Fire Marshal and Animal Control. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Danna to accept and file the departmental reports. The Committee approved.

Ordinances

The Clerk presented Ordinance #2018-2 – First Reading Of An Ordinance To Exceed The Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits And To Establish A CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14).

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to adopt Ordinance #2018-2 on first reading and to set Wednesday, April 18, 2018 for second reading, public hearing and final adoption. Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolutions

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-87 – Resolution Confirming Governing Body Certification Of Compliance With The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to adopt Resolution #18-87. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-88 – Resolution To Introduce The 2018 Municipal Budget By Title Only. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Danna to adopt Resolution 18-88. Roll Call Vote:

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

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DEERFIELD IN THE SUM OF \$1,950,557.44.

Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Danna to adopt the Introduction of the 2018 Municipal Budget of the Township of Deerfield and to set Wednesday, May 2, 2018 for public Hearing and Adoption of the 2018 Municipal Budget.

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

Old Business

The Clerk presented Reports From Department Chairpersons.

Mr. Terrigno indicated that he has obtained to proposals for a new phone system that will save the Township approximately \$7,000-\$8,000 in phone service. He further indicated that it will be basically the same system we have now with automated system with voice mail and an app to get phone calls directly to your cellphone. Mr. Terrigno stated that he will get copies of the proposals to the Committee.

Mr. Terrigno stated that Mr. Brago reached out to him and stated that Mr. Brago has spoken with Ambulance Billing Company and they would like to come down and make a presentation to the Township.

Chairperson O'Brien noted that she wanted to thank Atlantic City Electric for keeping the Township updated during the last storm. She further noted that the Township experienced a lot of outages and they were kind enough to share with the Township, at regular intervals, updates on each municipality and what they were doing to get service restored as quickly as possible. Chairperson O'Brien stated she wanted to go on record that the Township was most appreciative of the updates.

Chairperson O'Brien indicated that she received a telephone call from a resident asking about an update on the accessibility of solar for the Township residents. She further indicated that she spoke with Mr. Velasquez at the CCIA and he assured her that things are on target to have their service removed from the grid by the end of the year, regardless of whether the data center is up and running or not. Chairperson O'Brien noted that Mr. Velasquez did caution that Atlantic City Electric has not committed that the CCIA's removal from the grid would rectify the current grid limitations or our residents ability to connect. She further noted that she has followed up with Bert Lopez who is the representative for the Township and Mr. Lopez has stated that the situation needs to be studied by an engineer. Chairperson O'Brien requested a meeting with Mr. Lopez, the engineer and with Mr. Stanzone. Chairperson O'Brien stated that she would like to get something in writing from Atlantic City Electric as to when our residents will have access to solar.

Chairperson O'Brien also noted that at the last meeting a resident inquired about a property on Richards Road and that she communicated with the zoning/housing officer. She further noted that the zoning/housing officer is aware of the property and has sent notice and is in the system.

Chairperson O'Brien stated that she is working with Tony Riviera at the CCIA to see how the Township can use its tonnage grant money to offset the well at the CCIA.

Chairperson O'Brien stated that she put a call into Kim Nance at the State regarding the water at Willow Street and Morton Avenue on Landis Avenue and has not yet heard back from her.

New Business

Mr. Terrigno stated that the last storm devastated the road into Danna Estates. He further stated that he has obtained proposals to cut the trees back, taken down the broken trees and re-establish the right of way. Chairperson O'Brien inquired if Mr. Terrigno had reached out to the County. He stated he had not as the County is short on manpower. Chairperson O'Brien felt it might be worthwhile as they may have access to storm recovery funds if their public works cannot help us out.

Chairperson O'Brien stated that as a result of the last storm there is not an effective way to communicate with our residents when there is an event like this and we don't have access to alter our website. She further stated that Committeeman Brago brought it to her attention that the Rosenhayn Fire Company is using a Facebook page to keep residents informed of what is happening in the Township. Chairperson O'Brien noted that she gave Mr. Brago information during the storm and he relayed it through the fire department's Facebook page. She further noted that Mr. Brago suggested that the Township have a Township Facebook page as an opportunity to use social media to update our residents on what we are working on, different incentive opportunities (as to storm shelter) and wanted to bring it up before the Committee for comment and the Solicitor's advice.

Solicitor Testa stated that there is no prohibition and it could be done. Chairperson O'Brien noted that Mr. Brago administers several Facebook pages for organizations and he assures Chairperson O'Brien that if someone from the public wants to post on the site it needs to be approved and it will be controlled.

Communications

The Clerk stated that there were no communications this evening.

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-89 For The Payment Of Bills. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Danna, to adopt Resolution #18-89. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stanzone	Yes	Mr. Terrigno	Yes
Mr. Danna	Yes	Mrs. O'Brien	Yes

Public Comment

Mr. Stanzone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno, to open the meeting to the public. The Committee approved.

Keith Myers, 1017 Laurel Lane (Danna Estates) came before the Committee. Mr. Myers stated that he appreciates everything that has been done at Danna Estates, but it is currently a hazard. Mr. Myers asked for a timeline as to when the work will begin to clean up the road. Chairperson O'Brien stated that there is emergency money in the budget that will allow the Township to get the work done as soon as possible. Mr. Myers stated that residents were out that evening with chain saws and tractors helping to remove the trees. Mr. Stanzone appreciated the participation, but noted that the from a liability stand point for the Township that cannot happen. Mr. Myers noted that no one could get in or out of the neighbor. Mr. Terrigno noted that the residents were doing what they could until the Township could get storm money and do what needs to be done. Mr. Stanzone indicated that the Township needs to get in touch with the State and if there are funds available then the Township can start and then get reimbursed.

Mr. Myers inquired as to why something wasn't done prior. Chairperson O'Brien noted that in conference calls with Atlantic City Electric that municipalities are encouraged to aggressively cut back trees around powerlines. She further noted that the reality is no one could have anticipated the storm and the ice event prior to the snow event took down trees that otherwise would not have come down. Chairperson O'Brien agreed that it could have been done better but this was something that was above and beyond anything that could have been anticipated. She did note, however, that the Township is very aware of the situation in that area and Mr. Terrigno has been working around the clock to try and get that solved as soon as possible.

Mr. Myers noted that his property line is 15 feet from the street and wanted to know what he could do to clean up his area. Solicitor Testa advised that Mr. Myers

should not be cleaning up the entire roadway but could clean up in his yard and leave the rest to the Township.

Mr. Terrigno noted that within 2 weeks there will be something done in the area.

Michael Speranza, 977 Laurel Lane came before the Committee. Mr. Speranza stated that he had issues with Pittsgrove Township. He further stated that Pittsgrove did come out and help Mr. Shinn with that section, but overnight 3 more trees fell and could not get into the development. Mr. Speranza indicated that he call Cumberland County 911 who then call Salem County 911 and indicated that they would not be sending anyone until 6:00 a.m. He further indicated that he called Salem County and was told he was on his own. Mr. Speranza stated that he was able to move the trees with his tractor. He further stated that he called Committeeman Copare of Pittsgrove Township who noted that there is some type of friction between Salem County and Pittsgrove Township. Mr. Speranza noted that it is unacceptable that no one from Pittsgrove Township could assist in opening the road that evening.

Mr. Terrigno noted that Mr. Shinn is in the process of reaching out to Pittsgrove to see what they are planning to do with their section of Danna Estates as the Township cannot afford to pay for everything in Danna Estates. He noted that Deerfield is in the process of communicating with them. Mr. Speranza noted that it appears that Pittsgrove just pushed the trees out of the road as their answer to the situation.

Mr. Stanzione asked Mr. Terrigno to reach out to Pittsgrove and to OEM to see what is happening and if there is going to be any money available and we can get started and get reimbursed.

Discussion was held regarding circumstances and the situations of the storm and the responsibility of municipalities to remove trees in their areas.

John Murphy, 995 Laurel Lane addressed the Committee. Mr. Murphy thanked the Committee for their response in dealing with the situation at Danna Estates. Mr. Murphy noted that the Township is going to trim back, but there is potential in the future to look at some of these trees and there is a lot of danger. Mr. Terrigno indicated that a professional crew will be coming out and doing the work.

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

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

Abigail P. O'Brien, Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Karen Seifrit, Clerk
Township of Deerfield