

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
JULY 19, 2017

Chairperson Spatola 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 Spatola led the flag salute.

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

Departmental Reports

The Clerk presented the departmental reports of the Zoning/Housing Officer, Tax Collector, Treasurer and Fire Marshal, Construction Office and Emergency Management. Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murphy to accept and file the departmental reports. The Committee approved.

The Clerk presented the Public hearing With Regard To The Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program – Presentation by Mark Blauer of Blauer Associates.

Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to open the public hearing for the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. The Committee approved.

Mark Blauer came before the Committee and presented the most recent budget and report from Fralinger Engineering for the project to be resubmitted for Frank LoBiondo, Sr. Park and Rosenhayn Park. Mr. Blauer stated this is the same application the Township has submitted over the last 2 years. Mr. Blauer reminded the Committee of the issues DCA had with the walkways which have been resolved and noted that the Township was eligible last year but DCA just didn't have enough money to fund all the projects. Mr. Blauer noted that applicants this year are faced with an increase in the Match Obligation. He noted that a 5% match went to 10%; a 15% match went to 20%, etc. Mr. Blauer stated that the maximum grant is \$400,000.00 and if the Township receives such an amount it will be the obligation of the Township to spend \$40,000.

It was noted that the budget is \$420,000 according to Fralingers and they believe the old budget is still adequate. The breakdown would be \$381,000 and the Township match would be \$39,000 on a \$420,000 project. Mr. Blauer stated that the proposal is for ADA compliance in both parks but the difficulty will be who will be applying in competition with the Township. He further stated that DCA funds about 50% of the projects that are eligible.

Mr. Blauer indicated that the purpose of the hearing this evening is to get the one required public hearing out of the way and is part of the Township's obligation to apply. He further indicated that the Township has passed the required Resolutions, advertised the necessary notices and received the report from Fralinger. Mr. Blauer stated that the Township application will probably be one of the first to be submitted in early August as all the applications are due by September 15, 2017. He further stated that DCA is hoping to make the announcement of awards during the 3rd week of November, but that doesn't usually happen and the announcements have been made in December. Mr. Blauer noted that DCA has given partial grants at times, and has worked with Fralingers to give DCA options. If they fund one over the other you can go back another year and apply for the other park.

Chairperson Spatola noted that recently the Township has had the basketball court at Rosenhayn Park repaved so the photos in the report from Fralingers on pages 11, 12, 13 and 14 are not accurate. Mr. Blauer stated that the photos will need to be removed

from the report. Mrs. O'Brien indicated that Rosenhayn Park is still in need of accessible parking and an accessible playground and those are still relevant but the condition of the existing basketball court has been improved. Mr. Blauer stated that these are deductions that need to be made. Chairperson Spatola noted that the court is a regulation size basketball court but it does not encompass any ADA means of access to it. Mr. Blauer stated that most of the elements at the park will still be needed it's just the report cannot have obsolete photos. Chairperson Spatola recommended that Bob Mulford of Fralingers be notified in order to have the report corrected.

Mrs. O'Brien noted that the report indicates a proposed Kids Builder playground at the Rosenhayn Park, but in the LoBiondo Park proposal there is no similar playground system for that park and could such a system be included. Mr. Blauer stated that it's not about a matter of money but who is benefiting. He further stated that anything that you do to specifically comply with ADA is eligible. Mr. Blauer noted that LoBiondo Park lacks an ADA compliant playground unit and that can be added. Mrs. O'Brien noted that none of the existing playground equipment at LoBiondo Park would qualify as ADA compliant. She further noted that the ADA compliant playground is something the Township would like at LoBiondo Park, if it is compliant, for accessibility of the residents. Mr. Blauer indicated that he needed to reach out to Fralingers and see about having a similar unit at LoBiondo Park and as there will be some "freed up" money from the basketball court area at Rosenhayn Park.

Mr. Stanzione stated the intent was to apply for the grant and make these parks ADA compliant and apply again for a third park so that they would all be ADA compliant. Mrs. O'Brien indicated that LoBiondo Park is the largest park in the Township and if the Township does have to prioritize a need it would seem that LoBiondo Park would not get what it needs for accessibility. Mr. Stanzione stated that the proposal does include walkways to the basketball court, hockey rink and tennis court. Mr. Blauer noted that there is nothing precluding the Township from reapplying in future years for unresolved issues. Mrs. O'Brien asked if there was a specific amount of money the State contributes to this program. Mr. Blauer stated that the amount varies as to what Congress wishes to appropriate and the budget is down to \$6,000,000 this year. He further stated that about 25 projects are awarded with that money. Mr. Blauer indicated that DCA tries to make smaller awards in order to accommodate as many requests as possible. Mrs. O'Brien indicated that that she appreciates the consistency of the projects but was concerned about the equal distribution of funds for the projects. Mr. Stanzione noted that the money difference was due to the establishment of LoBiondo versus the facilities at Rosenhayn Park.

Mr. Stanzione indicated that he reached out to Freeholder Carol Musso who obtained a letter of support from the County and to the local group homes to receive letters of support from them so that they can bring their residents.

Mr. Blauer stated that he needs to get in touch with Fralingers to update the report to adjust the photographs and adjust the budget as necessary. Mrs. O'Brien suggested that perhaps there is a playground system that can accommodate both parks and utilize the proposed walkways. He further stated that he will have Fralingers reach out to the Clerk or the Mayor after they examine what needs to be changed.

There being no comment from the public, Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murphy to close the public hearing. The Committee approved.

Resolutions:

The Clerk presented Resolution #17-114 Authorizing The Exclusion Of The Public From A Meeting Of The Township Committee Of The Township Of Deerfield On

July 19, 2017 Pertaining to Contract Negotiations. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to adopt Resolution #17-114. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Murphy	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Spatola	Yes
Mr. Danna	Yes		

Old Business

The Clerk presented Reports From Department Chairpersons. Mr. Murphy reiterated that the basketball court has been resurfaced and lined and is being used. He stated that the public really wants to thank everyone for getting this done. Mr. Murphy also noted that he has witnessed some cars driving across it. He suggested that some guardrails be added. Mr. Stanzione stated that is part of the grant the Township is applying for from DCA.

As to Vineland Avenue, Mr. Murphy indicated that it was not a pleasant site to go down that road and there are still some issues that need to be fixed. Chairperson Spatola stated that the Township needs to have correspondence with the County Engineer as to whether or not they are done or not and if so then we need to meet with them with our concerns. Mr. Murphy stated that one of the drains near the Wenger Farm still has a bag in it and the drain is on the south side.

Mrs. O'Brien noted that with regard to the basketball court, in the proposal for the grant the parking area only allows for 2 concrete car stops so the Township will need to do something about that.

Also with regard to Rosenhayn Park, Mr. Stanzione stated that the Township has a couple of picnic tables ordered that will be cemented in and installing a horse shoe pit that will still be under the amount of money appropriated for this project.

Mrs. O'Brien noted that the driveway project was finished today and that the coating for the driveway was a temporary fix with the anticipation that it will last 3-5 years at which point it will be revisited.

As to Vineland Avenue and Greenman, Mr. Danna stated that the new drainage worked out well in that location and the residents at the corner did not have any water in their yard.

New Business

The Clerk presented Approval For Gypsy Moth Survey. The Clerk noted that in the packets this evening was a letter from the Department of Agriculture asking if the Township would like to have a gypsy moth survey done. She further noted that there would be no cost to the Township, but would only need to provide 2 copies of the tax map. Chairperson Spatola noted that in the past the gypsy moths were horrendous but in the last 10 years it has slacked off, but if their willing to do that the Township would at least have a report. The Committee approved submission of the request for the survey.

Communications

The Clerk stated that there was a communication this evening from Andrew Pizzo, Jr., Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township. The Clerk read the letter into the record where by Mr. Pizzo indicates that due to personal reasons and time constraints he can longer be effective in the position. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murphy to accept and file the communication. The Committee approved.

The Clerk presented Resolution #17-115 For The Payment Of Bills. Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to adopt Resolution #17-115. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Murphy	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Spatola	Yes
Mr. Danna	Yes		

Public Comment

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

Gerda Hoerl of 537 Richards Road came before the Committee. Mrs. Hoerl stated that on her street the farmers take too much of the right-of-way and there is a lot of flooding, even on the dirt road which isn't part of the road. She further stated that due to the way the farmers plow there is a ditch and the water runs like a river to the curve. Mrs. Hoerl noted that the neighbors can't even get to the road without going through a puddle even though it has stopped raining as the water sits there. Mr. Stanzione stated the next time there is a hard rain the Township will come out and look at the area.

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

As to the letter of resignation from Mr. Pizzo, Mrs. O'Brien asked if Emergency Management Coordinator was an appointed position and who appoints that position. It was indicated that the position is appointed and the Township Committee appoints the individual. Chairperson Spatola stated that he spoke with Mr. Pizzo when he received the letter from him at another meeting he was at and asked him if he was going to stay on and complete his term for this year and then the Township could go on to seek out his replacement. He further stated that if Bill Miller, who is the Deputy OEM Coordinator, is not interested in the position than there is also a retired OEM Coordinator from the Sheriff's Department, who has showed great interest and he would like to do this. Chairperson Spatola indicated that the Township would approach Mr. Miller first and if that jump is not something he wants to do, than we will reach out to the other individual. He further indicated that Mr. Pizzo's resignation is effective immediately but is willing to stay on and take care of things until we get someone else.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to go into Executive Session per the Resolution of this evening. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Murphy	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Spatola	Yes
Mr. Danna	Yes		

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Danna to reconvene the regular meeting. The Committee approved.

As a result of Executive Session, Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, second by Mr. Danna to set the minimum bid for the Harvest Lane properties at \$175,000 and to advertise for bids in the Vineland Daily Journal, the Atlantic City Press and the Courier Post. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Murphy	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes	Mr. Spatola	Yes
Mr. Danna	Yes		

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

Frank R. Spatola, Jr., Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Karen Seifrit, Clerk
Township of Deerfield