

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 5, 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 took roll call and members present included Mr. Terrigno, Mr. Stanzione, Mr. Brago and Mrs. O'Brien. Mr. Danna was absent this evening.

PRESENTATION: Honoring Fred Loatman, Jr.

Chairperson O'Brien welcomed the fire department and asked the Chief to come up and speak about Mr. Loatman. Chief Mark Cifaloglio came before the Committee and stated that this is the first time in his 14 years as Chief that he had the honor to present such an award as this. Chief Cifaloglio indicated that in the early morning hours of August 8, 2018, Mr. Loatman on his way work came across a motor vehicle accident in the 500 block of Kenyon Avenue. He further indicated that the motor vehicle was on fire and the driver was in and out of conscientiousness. The Chief noted that Mr. Loatman noticed the vehicle was on fire and rescued driver. He further noted that he had conversation with Mr. Loatman upon arriving at the scene. Chief Cifaloglio stated that he and another member of ambulance squad attended to the victim who was later flown to a trauma center and has recovered.

Chairperson O'Brien asked Mr. Loatman to join her and Chief Cifaloglio at the podium. Chairperson O'Brien stated that she was honored and proud to be part of this presentation and that heroics like this don't happen every day. Chairperson O'Brien read the Township's Proclamation into the record honoring Mr. Loatman.

Chairperson O'Brien also presented Mr. Loatman with a Certificate of Commendation from the Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Chief Cifaloglio presented an award to Mr. Loatman for his heroic and selfless act of bravery on the morning of August 8, 2018.

Chairperson O'Brien thanked the fire department for their heroism and bravery every day and protecting our Township and keeping everyone safe.

Minutes

The Clerk presented the minutes of November 7, 2018. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to approve the minutes as written. The Committee approved.

Closed Session Minutes

The Clerk presented the Closed Session minutes of November 7, 2018. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to approve the Closed Session minutes as written. The Committee approved.

The Clerk noted that the Closed Session minutes will not be released to the public until the reason for them remaining closed is no longer applicable and the Solicitor has had an opportunity to review them.

Departmental Reports:

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

Ordinances:

The Clerk presented Ordinance #2018-10 – First Reading Of An Ordinance Adopting An Amendment To The Redevelopment Plan For The Township Of Deerfield (Bridgeton Avenue Area). Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to adopt Ordinance 2018-10 on first reading and to Wednesday, December 19, 2018 for second reading, public hearing and final adoption. Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolutions

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-163 Resolution Appointing John F. Schaffer As Firefighter/EMT. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #18-163. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-164 – Refunding Overpayment of Taxes. The Clerk noted that both the homeowner and mortgage company paid the taxes on the property and the Township was returning the taxes to the property owner. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #18-164. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-165 – Authorizing The Execution Of Agreement To Provide Municipal Animal Shelter Services. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #18-165. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-166- Authorizing Interlocal Service Agreement Between The Township Of Deerfield And Upper Deerfield Township With Respect To The Provision Of Construction Code Services. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to adopt Resolution #18-166. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-167 – Approving Tax Abatement For Cedar Rose Realty, LLC. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #18-167. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-168 – Authorizing The Exclusion Of The Public From A Meeting Of The Township Committee To Be Held On December 5, 2018 – For Matters Concerning Personnel. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #18-168. Roll Call Vote:

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

Old Business

The Clerk presented reports from Department Chairs. Mr. Terrigno stated that he went with public works manager, Ron Shinn and saw some potholes and also got in touch with Atlantic City Electric to turn off some street lights that are not necessary. Mr. Brago inquired as to streetlights that are supposed to be on. Mr. Terrigno stated that he was not aware of which ones those were, but if Mr. Brago has the pole number he can give it to Brenda and she can do it online.

Mr. Brago gave an update on the Breakfast with Santa. He noted that it was an amazing event and the Recreation Committee did a great job. Mr. Brago stated that there were about 150 people in attendance (adults and children). He further stated that pictures are posted to the Township's Facebook page and thanks to Melody Montgomery for all the pictures. Mr. Brago also noted that the extra food was returned to the Acme. He further noted a thank you to Tina Truitt for all the shopping and public works for getting everything ready and cleaned up.

Mr. Brago stated that the bushes at LoBiondo Park have been cut down and cleaned up and the stumps have been ground down. He further stated that some tree work has been done in the Township before the winter starts.

Also with regard to Recreation, Mr. Brago announced that the Township has purchased two brand new swing sets. One for LoBiondo Park and the other for Eugenia Johnson Park. He noted that they are 3 bays each for a total of six swings each to be erected in the Spring.

As to fire and rescue, Mr. Stanzione noted that there is a problem with lights on one of the vehicles. He stated that he and Mr. Danna went and checked it out and that lights just need to be ordered and replaced. Mr. Stanzione indicated there was a request form but it wasn't signed until he and Mr. Danna checked them out.

Mr. Terrigno inquired as to the time frame for another truck. Mr. Stanzione stated that he and Mr. Danna have been discussing that and are looking into a new chassis instead of a whole new truck. Mr. Terrigno noted that there is a required maintenance and inspection, but didn't want to see a lot of money going into a vehicle that the Township would be getting rid of.

Chairperson O'Brien noted that the Township did close on Harvest Lane and sent the Deed for the old landfill to the CCIA. She further noted that those properties have been actively taken care of and hopefully get them back on the tax books as soon as possible.

Mr. Brago inquired as to the Lincoln Square property and Mr. Terrigno inquired if the deeds were together. The Clerk stated that she reached out to Green Acres, but they didn't have anything. Solicitor Testa indicated that his office got everything they had at the County as far as they could go. He further indicated that it was several hundred pages, but the Township will need to proceed as indicated at the last meeting and do the quiet title action.

The Clerk presented Motion To Approve The Township's Holiday Schedule. The Clerk noted that there is a checklist of State, County and Township holidays. Mr. Terrigno noted that at a previous discussion the Township wasn't sure which way the Township wanted to go in following the County or State schedule so that there is some uniformity. He noted that the Township's schedule is different from both the State and the County. Mr. Terrigno noted that the Township has Lincoln's Birthday. Chairperson O'Brien stated that the discussion was for the Township to be open on Lincoln's Birthday. Mr. Brago inquired as to whether there would a substitute for the day and was it only for discussion this evening. The Clerk stated that it was a motion to approve amending the Township's holiday schedule to remove the Lincoln Birthday holiday and replace it with an extra personal day for all full time employees to be used with the calendar year.

Mr. Terrigno questioned whether the Township should follow the State or County schedule or have our own path. Chairperson O'Brien noted that the Township is closed the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. Discussion was held among the members to amend the holiday schedule to remove the Lincoln Birthday and follow the County schedule as to snow or emergencies. Mr. Brago made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to remove the Lincoln

Birthday holiday, give another personal day to be used within the calendar year and follow the County schedule as to emergency closures. Roll Call Vote:

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

New Business

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Preparing Proclamation In Support Of School Choice Week (January 20 – 26, 2019). Chairperson O'Brien stated that she does not have any more information on this matter and it appears to be an awareness initiative to School Choice as students in New Jersey have options as to where they attend school and you no longer have to attend school that is in your district. She further stated that it seems to be an opportunity to raise awareness for parents and there are options for their children in K through 12 education. The Clerk noted in the email there is a proposed Proclamation.

Chairperson O'Brien indicated that it appears to be a blanket email that was sent to all the mayors of all the municipalities in the State. She further indicated that she does not believe in making Proclamations or Resolutions without knowing the benefit to the Township. Mr. Brago asked if the matter could be tabled until more information can be obtained. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to table the discussion regarding the preparation of a Proclamation in support of School Choice Week. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Proposed Resolution In Opposition To Sanctuary State/Cities. Mr. Terrigno indicated he found it interesting that the Governor wants to give sanctuary to illegal aliens and therefore putting them ahead of our own citizens and that he found that disturbing. He further indicated that the proposed Resolution outlines that New Jersey has high property taxes, need to reduce spending and make our citizens a priority instead of doing things for illegal aliens.

Solicitor Testa stated that the proposed Resolution speaks for itself and it's a decision the Committee would have to make whether or not you want local law enforcement to cooperate with ICE which is one of the things sanctuary cities/states does not support and they are not going to allow law enforcement to ask the immigration status of someone who might stopped during a motor vehicle stop. He further stated that the proposed Resolution does have merit in not wanting to be a sanctuary city but it's up to each individual.

Mr. Terrigno indicated that he found this proposed Resolution through Jackson Township, New Jersey. He further indicated that he believed Wall Township has also adopted such a Resolution and that 2 local municipalities are also considering such a Resolution.

Mr. Stanzione felt that the Township needs to look into it more as he did not want to see Deerfield hurt in some way. He also did not want to see the Township hurt by not adopting a Resolution. Chairperson O'Brien agreed with the merit of the Resolution and making sure our residents come first. Chairperson O'Brien noted that the Township is not considered a sanctuary city at this time and this Resolution doesn't provide any benefit to the Township except our saying to the Governor that Deerfield does not support his decision.

Mr. Terrigno stated that he felt that if enough towns get together and produce Resolutions of this type then it will show the Governor that perhaps he shouldn't do this and the people of the State don't want this. Mr. Terrigno noted that his grandparents immigrated to this Country legally and they weren't better than anybody else. He further noted that if Governor Murphy makes New Jersey a sanctuary State than anybody can come here and get free college tuition or any other benefits as opposed to people who came here and did it the right way. Mr. Terrigno stated that our citizens should come first above anybody else.

Chairperson O'Brien did not feel that it's relevant as to who lives where, who works where or who's in our schools, but rather whether the Township wants to oppose the Governor and not whether we want to be a sanctuary city. She did not feel that anybody on the Committee wants Deerfield to become a sanctuary city but we don't have to say to the Governor that Deerfield opposes you.

Mr. Brago asked for clarity and asked whether the Sanctuary State has actually been passed. Solicitor Testa stated that the Governor has issued a directive as well as the Attorney General. He further stated that a directive cannot be reversed but the Resolution says we want the State Police and other law enforcement agencies to enforce State and Federal law as it exists now and the Governor and Attorney General are saying don't enforce the law as it exists now. Chairperson O'Brien noted that immigration is under Federal jurisdiction and not the State's.

Mr. Stanzione questioned if the Township objects and it gets passed the Township is still included. Solicitor Testa agreed that it's not going to change the law and the directive is in effect and the Resolution is just saying that the Township does not approve of the directive as the Township wants the Federal immigration authorities to get information.

Chairperson O'Brien stated that she did a lot of reading on this and wants to make sure that it handled properly and that the Township is on the right side of this for the Township. She further stated she's not sure what the benefit is to the Township. Mr. Terrigno indicated that it would show our residents that the Township is with them and not the illegal aliens. He further indicated that he feels he needs to stand up against this and as a Township we can't handle any more in our school system or our society as a whole when our own constituency are suffering in their own right and it's not fair to treat our constituents as second class citizens.

Mr. Stanzione agreed with Mr. Terrigno, but also noted what Solicitor Testa stated and that the Governor is going to do what he wants to do. Mr. Stanzione suggested a letter in protest, but Solicitor Testa felt the best way would be by Resolution. Mr. Brago stated that he does not disagree and a majority of America is working hard for what they have and want in the future. He further stated that Deerfield has a lot of blue collar individuals who work hard every day and to give things away cannot be supported.

Mr. Terrigno felt that if enough municipalities could get together and do these Resolutions it will resonate to the Governor's office.

Chairperson O'Brien noted that she is meeting with CDC next week and would like to see what the other towns are doing. Mr. Stanzione noted CDC has a lot of municipalities joined together and it would be stronger coming from a group that is united than just one municipality here or there doing a Resolution where a Resolution from CDC might be stronger as a group.

The Clerk presented Date For Annual Reorganization Meeting – Motion To Set Wednesday, January 2, 2019 At 7:00 p.m. Mr. Brago made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to set Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. for the annual Reorganization meeting. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented End Of Year Payment Of Bills Meeting. She noted that there is an annual end of year meeting to pay bills. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to set Monday, December 31, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. for end of year payment of bills. Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Brago noted that through Facebook someone reached out and asked if the Township could look into the trees in front of the old Eatmor Market. He further noted that they are not in Deerfield Township but he responded that it is in Salem County and on a State road. Mr. Brago agreed that it is very difficult to see. Mr. Brago asked if we could pass that along to someone.

Communications

The Clerk stated that there are two communications this evening. The Clerk read thank you notes from Linda Ferrara, a longtime volunteer of the Harvest Festival and Captain John Esker of The Salvation Army. Ms. Ferrara thanked the Committee for recognizing her at the Harvest Festival for her years of service and Captain Esker thanked the Committee for the donated food leftover from the Festival. Mr. Brago made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to accept and file the communications. The Committee approved.

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-169 For The Payment Of Bills. Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago, to adopt Resolution #18-169. Roll Call Vote:

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

Under New Business, Chairperson O'Brien noted that CDC is meeting next week and prior to that meeting asked if they could get a consensus of the Township's intention to continue with CDC. Chairperson O'Brien recommended continuing with CDC as there will be no increase in fees and have been very helpful in several real estate transactions the Township has gone through and it's also a nice opportunity for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to keep their fingers on the pulse of what is happening in the other local municipalities.

Public Comment

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

Jake Botticello, Committeeman of Pittsgrove Township, came before the Committee. Mr. Botticello stated that he is also working with Michael Tarr and the company Research Analytics Group and they are negotiating to buy the old CCTEC building. He further stated that he did not come to say anything this evening just to make sure everything went well with the Ordinance and answer any questions with regard to the redevelopment area. Mr. Botticello indicated that he is working with Anthony Desantis who owns the Eatmor Market and they are dealing with fire suppression issues. He further indicated that he speaks with Mr. DeSantis quite often and will address the matter of the trees with him. Mr. Brago noted that they are not overgrown they are just blocking the visual needed to see properly at the intersection. The Committee thanked Mr. Botticello.

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

Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to go into Executive Session per the Resolution this evening. Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to reconvene the Regular Meeting. The Committee approved.

As a result of Executive Session, Mr. Terrigno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to readvertise the Land Use Board Solicitor position. Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Stanzione wanted to add to Mr. Brago's comment regarding the swing sets and that hopefully by the end of the month the Township will hear about the DCA grant. He also wanted to confirm that when the swing sets are ready to be installed they are installed the correct way. Mr. Brago fully agreed. Chairperson O'Brien hoped to receive the grant, but in the meantime the Township should spend the money for these type of things when we have it and it's something we're working towards to improve our parks and get them back in order.

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

Abigail P. O'Brien, Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST: _____
Karen Seifrit, Clerk
Township of Deerfield