

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

December 5, 2012

Chairperson Laurella 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 Laurella led the flag salute.

The Clerk took roll call and members present included, Mr. Lauermann, Mr. Spatola, Mr. Stanzione, Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Laurella.

Mr. Casella appeared on behalf of Solicitor Testa.

Minutes

The Clerk presented the minutes from November 7, 2012.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauermann, to accept the minutes as written. The Committee Approved.

Departmental Reports

The Clerk presented Departmental Reports from the Construction Office, Zoning/Housing Officer, Tax Collector, Treasurer and Fire Marshall.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to accept and file Departmental Reports. The Committee Approved.

Resolutions

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-167 Resolution Extending Fourth Quarter 2012 Tax Payments.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to adopt Resolution #12-167. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-168 Resolution Amending Previously Adopted Transfer Of Funds Resolution.

The Clerk stated there was a duplicate transfer from a line item that was already used, so they needed to amend the transfer from a different line item.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to adopt Resolution #12-168 Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-169 Resolution Opposing S-2/A-1171 Encouraging The Sharing Of Services And Making Appropriations.

The Clerk stated in the Committee's packet was a copy of the bill which she received at the recent County Clerk's Association, this matter was discussed and the League of Municipalities has not agreed this bill in its present form as it forces the Town's that are not under Civil Service to fall under the guidelines of Civil Service, and if your Town has decided to go for shared services, and the Town votes it down, your State Aid will go down.

A discussion regarding this bill, and what it means was held among the Committee.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to adopt Resolution #12-169 Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-170 Resolution Denying Application For Transfer Of Person To Person Liquor License By Eugene Bryant.

The Clerk stated they have had discussions about this liquor license in the past, it is the old BJ's Lounge on Irving Avenue. The Clerk indicated that the gentleman who bought the license at the auction of the Division of Taxation, has not followed through on his twelve page application. The Clerk indicated she received the report from the State Police and the financials that are necessary for the investigative process were never provided and they sent a report stating they did not recommend a proper transfer.

The Clerk stated in the mean time, ABC has written asking what the status is and until they get something from the Municipality they are not going to move along with the process.

A discussion regarding this liquor license was held among the Committee.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to adopt Resolution #12-170. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-171 Resolution Appointing Ronald Shinn Full Time Public Works Manager.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to adopt Resolution #12-171. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-172 Resolution Approving Release Of Performance Bond Posted By Michael Adiletto In The Sum Of \$1,320.00.

Mr. Laurella stated this process was started last year and Mr. Adiletto went in front of the Zoning Board.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauermann to adopt Resolution #12-172. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-173 Resolution For The Transfer Of Funds.

The Clerk stated there was an additional Transfer of Funds, which is to accommodate the computer time clock for the EMS, because right now it is difficult to control because it is done via fax. Mr. Stanzione asked where the money was being transferred from. The Clerk stated it was being transferred from EMS Salary and Wages because there was sufficient monies left in that account.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauermann to adopt Resolution #12-173. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-174 Authorizing Exclusion Of The Public From A Meeting Of The Township Committee On Wednesday, December 5, 2012.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauermann to adopt Resolution #12-174.

Old Business

The Clerk presented Reports From Department Chairpersons.

Mr. Spatola stated the Recreation Committee had its Breakfast with Santa and it went extremely well, a lot of the Recreation Committee members were present and every one pitched in and helped out. Mr. Spatola indicated Mr. Montgomery did an excellent job playing Santa to approximately 160 children. Mr. Stanzione stated that it was about 160 people total.

Mr. Montgomery stated everyone should have received a copy of email correspondence he had with the gentleman of South Jersey Industries, what they are offering is a program where they review the electric bill for every building the Municipality has, then they send in an evaluator, and he tells the Committee everything that is needed to improve our systems. Mr. Montgomery indicated an application for each building is filled out, the Municipality pays 30% of the cost South Jersey Industries pays 70% of the cost and it is usually a five to six (5-6) week turn around from the moment the Township gets started with the process.

Mr. Montgomery stated he has already sent the copies of the electric bills for the four building, so the process has gotten started, now they just have to get the application to him and they will be in touch as to when they will be out to evaluate.

Mr. Laurella stated he hopes everyone has had a chance to look at the shutters. Mr. Laurella asked if everyone was pleased with the shutters, the Committee stated they were, so now they can move forward with the shutters for the Municipal Building.

New Business

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Recommendations to Personnel Policies And Procedures Manual.

Mr. Spatola stated that himself and Mr. Montgomery had a meeting regarding the Policies and Procedures Manual, they sat down and reviewed the entire manual and picked out several things to make changes. Mr. Spatola indicated to the Committee they can look over the changes that Mr. Spatola and Mr. Montgomery want to address, and how to address them and at the next meeting they can discuss the changes.

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Reduction Of Public Officials/Employment Practices Liability Premium Through The ACMJIF.

The Clerk stated that in the Committee's packet was a check list, or options, if at all possible it can be afforded, to reduce the deductible and the co insurance on the Employment Practices Liability insurances. The Clerk indicated that now they are paying thirty two hundred dollars (\$3,200.00) as part of the regular JIF assessment, to reduce the deductible and to reduce the co pay it would be about nine hundred thirty dollars (\$930.00) one time payment, or if we wanted to reduce the co insurance it would be an additional six hundred and nine dollars (\$609.00). The Clerk stated that right now the JIF deductible is twenty thousand (\$20,000.00) and the co insurance is twenty percent (20%) of a the first two hundred and fifty thousand dollar (\$250,000.00) claim.

The Clerk stated that the Risk Management Consultant has said because the Township flies under the radar, he recommends to reduce it, if the Township could afford to. Mr. Stanzione asked by paying \$930.00 what would that make the deductible. The Clerk stated it would make the deductible ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) as apposed to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) and no co insurance.

A discussion regarding the Liability Premium was held among the Committee.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to pay the additional \$928.87 Premium on the Policy. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Preference For Receipt Of 2012 JIF Dividend.

The Clerk stated that in the past the Township has taken the check as a lump sum, which can be done or the monies could be credited to the 2013 JIF assestment, which is about sixty five thousand dollars (\$65,000.00) or it could be applied to the dividends of the Township.

A discussion regarding the JIF Dividends and what should be done was held among the Committee.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to apply the JIF dividend check toward the 2013 Credit Assessment. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Date for Annual Reorganization Meeting.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauer mann to set Wednesday January 2, 2013 at 7 pm, for annual Reorganization Meeting.

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Date For Special Meeting For End Of Year Payment Of Bills.

The Clerk stated this is done every year to pay any remaining bills for the year.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola setting December 27th, 2012 at 3:30 for End of Year Payment of Bills.

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk stated additionally there were calendars for January and February 2013, trying to get some dates together for budget work shop.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to set Budget workshop dates for January 30th, 2013 at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

The Clerk presented Application For Instant Raffle Tickets For The Year 2013 by Deerfield Township Elks Lodge #733.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to approve application by Deerfield Township Elks for instant raffle tickets for the year 2013.

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

Communications

The Clerk stated there were no Communications this evening.

The Clerk presented Resolution #12-175 for The Payment Of Bills.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to adopt Resolution #12-175. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

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

Mrs. Laurie Janika, 807 Cedar Street approached the Committee and stated that in September her neighbors dog, a pit bull, chased after her daughter as she was trying to get out of the car. Mrs. Janika indicated she called the State Police and they came out and spoke to the neighbors regarding the dog. Mrs. Janika stated the neighbor came over and apologized for the incident. Mrs. Janika stated a week later she again called the State Police and Ron's Animal Shelter, who in turn told her she had to sign a complaint. Mrs. Janika indicated that the dogs got out again in the middle of the night and killed her cat, and her daughter who heard the commotion, witnessed the mauling of the cat.

Mrs. Janika stated that she did call the State Police and they did nothing, the neighbors were in her property arguing with herself and her husband, so their daughter called the State Police again and they came back out and had them go file a complaint. Mrs. Janika indicated that she did not understand why Ron's Animal Shelter wasn't doing anything about the dogs, and that Ron Sutton told her she had to go to Upper Deerfield and sign a complaint. Mrs. Janika states she goes and they hand her a thick book and is told they are not allowed to give her any legal advice so she has to look up the statutes in the book. Mrs. Janika stated that after she worked on her complaints for over a week were worthless because Ron gave her definitions not statutes.

Mrs. Janika stated that she refiled her complaint and then gets a court date for January 14th. Mr. Spatola stated that date is pretty fast, and Mrs. Janika stated now when she is living in constant fear, and her son takes out the trash with a baseball bat.

Mr. Laurella asked if Ron Sutton checked to see if their dogs had tags, and Mrs. Figueroa stated he did not because it was the end of the year and nothing could be done.

A discussion regarding the neighbors dogs, complaints made, and all situations regarding neighbors, was held among Mrs. Janika and the Committee.

Mr. Casella stated to be probable cause, allegations should reference the citation and statute of the Ordinance that the actions of the perpetrator fit those specific actions.

A discussion regarding the statutes was held among Mr. Casella, the Committee and Mrs. Janika.

Mr. Casella stated that when Mrs. Janika makes her complaint she has to be specific in what was being done if not the complaint is not acceptable. They have to know what statutes are being violated.

Mrs. Janika asked what could be done about Ron Sutton doing a bad job. Mr. Laurella stated she was the first complaint and the Committee needs to talk to him about this incident. Mr. Laurella indicated that he believes as dog warden he has more authority to do what needs to be done than the Township does. Mrs. Janika stated that in her opinion Mr. Sutton is worthless because he is not educated in anything.

Mr. Laueremann stated that he knew about the situation with the dogs and with Ron Sutton that is why the resident was at the meeting. Mr. Laueremann indicated that Mr. Sutton said because it was the end of the year, that she would be better to wait until the beginning of the year to file her complaints.

A discussion regarding the filing of complaints was held among the Committee and Mrs. Janika.

Mr. Spatola stated that he represents the Township as Liaison to the Municipal Court, and there will be a meeting and he would like to find an answer as to why the Clerk of Upper Deerfield deemed her information insufficient and if she has the right to do that, and then Mr. Spatola will let Mrs. Seifrit know and she will relay the message back to Mrs. Janika.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to close the meeting to the Public. The Committee Approved.

Mr. Montgomery stated he drove by the park the other day and noticed that there was graffiti on an out house door, so he informed the Public Works Manager Ron Shinn to see what he could do about cleaning it up. Mr. Montgomery indicated that Mr. Shinn called him back and told him that it is a lot worse than it looks. All across the back boards is gang graffiti. Mr. Montgomery asked Mr. Shinn to call the State Police so they could take a report and maybe confirm what the markings were, but they didn't know what it was, or had an opinion and filed a report and off they went. Mr. Montgomery stated that coming to the meeting this evening it is dark and there are people pulling into the parking lot of the park at night, so maybe a couple of options should be considered. One being changing the hours of the parks in the winter, because no one needs to be at the park after dusk, or have someone patrol it. Mr. Montgomery stated he spoke to someone who stated they saw the same markings in Vineland, and Mr. Montgomery's fear is that they are trying to come here and mark this territory as their own, and he would hate to have something built up and then there is a serious problem.

A discussion regarding park hours, creating Ordinances and enforcing the park rules was held among the Committee.

Mr. Casella stated if the Township was going to change the hours, they should make the Ordinance and put the appropriate sign up.

A discussion continued regarding the park, it's hours, getting State Police to patrol the park at night was held among the Committee.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to go into Executive Session. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Laueremann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to resume the Regular Meeting. The Committee Approved.

Mr. Laurella stated that the position for Emergency Management Coordinator had to be advertised.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to advertise for OEM Coordinator. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauer mann	Yes	Mr. Montgomery	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Laurella	Yes
Mr. Stanzione	Yes		

Mr. Lauer mann stated that the cell phone service that the Township pays for is way too much and it's service is lousy. Mr. Lauer mann stated more often than not, if he wants to get in contact with Ron Shinn he has to call him on his personal cell phone. Mr. Lauer mann indicated that Mr. Shinn has Verizon and it is more reliable than Sprint, so they should look into a different cell phone carrier. Mr. Montgomery stated that someone from Verizon is supposed to be contacting the Township regarding a cell phone plan.

Mr. Montgomery stated that they are moving along with Verizon and Comcast and are expecting to hear from them and if they do not hear anything from Verizon regarding the phone system then they will move forward with Comcast and see what they can do. They have waited to long and have to get this phone system moving forward.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery to adjourn the meeting. The Committee Approved.

Cosmo Laurella, Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Karen Seifrit, Clerk
Township of Deerfield