

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 7, 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. Danna, Mr. Stanzione, Mr. Brago and Mrs. O'Brien.

Minutes

The Clerk presented the minutes of January 3, and January 17, 2018. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to approve the minutes as written. The Committee approved.

Closed Session Minutes

The Clerk presented the Closed Session minutes of January 17, 2018. Mr. Brago made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to approve the minutes as written. The Committee approved.

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noted that the Closed Session minutes would not be released to the public until the reason for them remaining closed is no longer applicable and the Solicitor has had an opportunity to review them.

Resolutions

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-67 Appointing Frank R. Spatola, Jr. As Alternate #4 To The Recreation Committee. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to adopt Resolution #18-67. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-68 Appointing Placido (Pepi) Dragotta As Alternate #2 To The Land Use Board. Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to adopt Resolution #18-68. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-69 Amending The Chairperson For The Subcommittee Of Recreation And Land Use Board Member (Class III Member) Previously Appointed At The Reorganization Meeting Of Township Of Deerfield. Mr. Brago made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stanzione to adopt Resolution #18-69. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-70 Granting Final Approval Of The Sparacio(2) Application To Sell Development Easement. Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to adopt Resolution #18-70. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-71- Resolution Authorizing The Exclusion Of The Public From A Meeting Of The Township Committee To Be Held On February 7, 2018 Pertaining To Contract Negotiations – Harvest Lane And Personnel. Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to adopt Resolution #18-71. Roll Call Vote:

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

Old Business

The Clerk presented Reports From Department Chairpersons.

Mr. Danna stated that with regard to streets and roads he noted that he and Mr. Terrigno went out and there are few streets with lights that are out and should be on and they're not. He further stated that there are few streets with trees that need to be trimmed back and they'll bring a list to the next meeting.

Chairperson O'Brien stated that with regard to the down wires at the intersection of Garton and Richards Roads there was a tractor trailer that had jackknifed at that intersection and the reason for that happening was because the line was down. Chairperson O'Brien noted that the lady who came to our last meeting had called her and Chairperson O'Brien told the lady to file a complaint with the State Police. She further noted that State Police came and took care of that and they now aware of the situation and it's a problem. Chairperson O'Brien also noted that within 4 days of that happening the wire in front of her house was pulled down and across the road and the State Police had to come out as it was blocking the road and had to be removed.

Mr. Danna added that when Mrs. O'Brien called him he went out and the truck had taken a wide turn and ended up in the field because of the wire. Mr. Stanzione inquired if there was problem as to someone stealing the wire. Chairperson O'Brien confirmed and that someone is pulling them down and stealing the copper.

As to building and grounds, Mr. Danna stated that the Township has received quotes on the heater, new security cameras for the garage and we're trying to locate one outfit who can do it all as to cameras, security system and phones. He also stated that with regard to the power surge a couple of exit lights got knocked out in the garage. Mr. Danna suggested that the Township hire an electrician to check the panel in the garage and make sure that it is grounded properly. Mr. Danna also noted that we have received three quotes for the camera system for the garage and for a couple of additional cameras for the municipal building. He further noted a quote for repairs to the bush hog. Mr. Danna indicated that there is a quote to repair the bush hog for \$1,900 and another quote for \$4,000 for a new unit and it fits the tractor better than the current one. Mr. Stanzione reminded everyone that the Township is still on a temporary budget. Chairperson O'Brien agreed and noted that the security system is at the top of the list. Mr. Brago indicated that there is a person in town who can do the fire, burglar alarms and cameras. Chairperson O'Brien asked Mr. Brago to get with Mr. Danna with regard to the recommendation.

Mr. Brago reported on animal control. Mr. Brago indicated that 2 cats have been taken to the SPCA since the last meeting. He further indicated that as far as the matter with the SPCA the fee schedule for the municipalities should be out by March 1st and currently there is some discussion going on as to who is going to do the investigations into animal cruelty. He noted that the SPCA was looking into having the Sheriff's Department or local police departments, but there seems to be some push back as there would be the development of a bureau within the respective departments. Mr. Brago stated that the laws are up for interpretation through the SPCA's lawyer.

Mr. Danna recommended sending flowers to the funeral of Andrew Pizzo. Mr. Danna noted that Mr. Pizzo's wife, Laura Pizzo, was a long time Committeeperson. Chairperson O'Brien reminded everyone that being on this Committee is not just the time of the individual but it also takes the support your family and the loss of Mr. Pizzo will be felt in the community and we appreciate all that he did to allow Mrs. Pizzo to serve the community for so many years in the manner that she did.

Mr. Terrigno noted that at the last meeting he brought up about the parks. Mr. Terrigno stated that he found out which ones are in Green Acres and which ones are not. He further stated that he would like to pursue unloading the only property that is not Green Acres, Lincoln Square East. He further stated that it is an undersized lot with all the setbacks. Mr. Terrigno felt that if the Township could put that property on the books it is taxable property and savings on maintenance. He noted that the Township would still have 4 other parks with total acreage of 15.5 acres.

Solicitor Testa stated that if it's going to be a sale of the park it's going to have to be put on as an Agenda item and put it up for a vote. Chairperson O'Brien clarified that the vote would be as to whether or not to sell the property and go through the steps to sell it.

Mr. Danna stated that there is a piece of Township owned property at Maple and Pine and there is an individual interested in that property. He further stated that he told the individual that he would bring it up at the meeting and see what the procedure would be. Mr. Terrigno indicated that there are 17 properties that the Township owns and 6 are on Harvest Lane. Chairperson O'Brien noted that in our budget meeting the Township would have to allow for the funds to put those properties up for sale. Solicitor Testa noted that the Township would do by auction just like the others and it's a matter of advertising costs and things of that nature. He further noted that there wouldn't be a lot of costs involved as the Township already owns the property unlike the others that needed to be foreclosed upon. Solicitor Testa stated that there can be a minimum bid on the properties and reserve the right to reject and all bids. Discussion was held regarding the hiring of an appraiser and auctioneer unless done "in house". Chairperson O'Brien asked the Clerk to put together a list of the properties available to be sold at auction and list of costs associated with that process.

Mr. Stanzione indicated that the problem the Township is going to run into is that any landlocked properties will only be worthwhile to the neighboring properties. He further indicated that the Township went through the process of trying to give the property away to the adjoining property owner. He noted that the adjoining property stated they didn't want to pay the additional taxes even though they're already using the property. Solicitor Testa indicated that the Township could send a letter stating that the individual is an adjoining property owner to some Township owned property and ask if they would be interested in the property. Mr. Stanzione noted that if there are 2 adjoining property owners the property could be split 50/50. Mr. Terrigno stated that he would leave what he has with the Clerk for copies to be made for the rest of the Committee.

New Business

The Clerk presented Approval Of Raffle Application – Deerfield Township PTO – Off Premises Raffle- Drawing To Be Held April 5, 2018. Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brago to approve the raffle application. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Letter To Fire Company Regarding Ambulance Staying In Township Except For Emergency Calls. She noted that Mr. Stanzione and Mr. Danna asked that it be put on the Agenda for consideration by the Committee after discussing the matter with the Fire Chiefs. Mr. Stanzione stated that he and Mr. Danna met with the Chiefs and asked that the equipment not leave the Township during the day. He further stated that the Township does have paid staff and there have been a few complaints that our ambulance has been in the next town over. Mr. Stanzione indicated that he and Mr. Danna agreed that there is no reason for the ambulance to leave as there are 2 delis in town or they can bring their lunch. He further indicated that the staff is being paid and it would be terrible if something happened right at the corner and the ambulance was in Bridgeton or Vineland. Mr. Stanzione noted that they ask that our equipment stay in our Township. He further noted that this applies to volunteers as well as paid staff.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Danna to send a letter to the fire company indicating that the ambulance is to stay in the Deerfield Township except for emergency calls. Roll Call Vote:

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

Communications

The Clerk stated that there are no communications this evening.

The Clerk presented Resolution #18-72 - For The Payment Of Bills. Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno, to adopt Resolution #18-72. Roll Call Vote:

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

Public Comment

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

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

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

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

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

The Clerk noted that Mr. Stanzione was no longer part of the Regular Meeting and as a result of discussions in Executive Session, Mr. Danna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Terrigno to hire an independent investigator as to personnel matters and to authorize the Solicitor to contact 2 law firms as to availability to do the investigation.
Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Abigail P. O'Brien , Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Karen Seifrit, Clerk
Township of Deerfield