

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MAY 18, 2016

Chairperson Danna 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 Danna led the flag salute.

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

Departmental Reports

The Clerk presented the departmental reports of the Zoning/Housing Officer, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Emergency Management Coordinator and Animal Control. Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sparacio to accept and file the departmental reports. The Committee approved.

Ordinances

The Clerk present Ordinance #2016-5-Second Reading And Public Hearing Of the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laurella to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2016-5. The Committee approved.

There being no questions from the public, Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sparacio to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2016-5. The Committee approved.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sparacio to adopt Ordinance #2016-5. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Resolutions

The Clerk presented Resolution #16-94 – Resolution Awarding A Contract To Spartan ER For The Purchase Of A Rescue Truck. Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sparacio to adopt Resolution #16-94. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #16-95 – Resolution Adopting The Township Of Deerfield's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laurella to adopt Resolution #16-95. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #16-96- Resolution Amending The 2016 Municipal Budget To Insert A Special Item Of Revenue And Appropriation In The Amount Of \$7,119.72 From The Clean Communities Grant Program. Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to adopt Resolution #16-96 Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

The Clerk presented Resolution #16-97- Resolution Authorizing The Exclusion Of The Public From A Meeting Of The Township Committee To Be Held On May 18, 2016 – Relating to Personnel. Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sparacio to adopt Resolution #16-97. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Old Business

The Clerk presented reports from Department Chairpersons. Mr. Spatola noted that Youth Night will be held on June 6, 2016. He further noted that Recreation was currently reviewing the posters and essays in relation to the Youth Night event.

As to Finance, Mr. Spatola stated that there will be an exit conference on May 25, 2016. He further stated that the conference will outline any recommendations and findings as a result of the audit.

Mr. Spatola stated that there is a Proclamation this evening in appreciation of EMS Appreciation week. He further stated that he spoke with Jason Scythes who indicated that he would try and have someone at the meeting this evening to accept the Proclamation, however, no one was able to attend and we'll hold the Proclamation until the next meeting.

In relation to fire and rescue, the Clerk presented the Resolution to move ahead with the purchase of the rescue truck and the final price is \$604,000.00.

With regard to buildings and grounds, Mr. Spatola stated that he was asked to work with Mr. Laurella on a building project. He further stated that they met with the Township Engineer and he came up with some prices. Mr. Spatola indicated that the Engineer provided a price of \$8,600 to do the specs, review and drawing in connection with the renovations and repairs. He further indicated that there is an additional price of \$5,000 in connection with consultation and handling any issues in connection with the project and to make sure that things are done correctly. Mr. Spatola stated that he would like to see the project move forward. He further stated that some prices were obtained by Mr. Laurella from the Engineer in connection with the proposed project. Mr. Spatola asked that the Committee consider another meeting with the Engineer to further confirm the specs for the building.

Mr. Sparacio indicated that he and Mr. Laurella will be meeting with Freeholder Quinn and his co-chair with regard to speed limit signs and Vineland Avenue.

Mr. Laurella followed up on the information presented by Mr. Spatola and the building project. He stated that he would like to see the Township have a nice building, but the Township needs to be conservative with its funds. Mr. Laurella reiterated that an additional meeting will be held with the Engineer.

In addition to Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Laurella indicated that speed bumps have been in ordered for near the senior center.

Mr. Laurella stated that the issues with the street lights is still pending. He further stated that the individual involved with this has been out sick. He further stated that he had a discussion about possible LED lighting.

Mr. Spatola indicated that last evening he, Mayor Danna and Ron Shinn attended a meeting with 2 members of the school board, the Administrator and Business Administrator and maintenance person to discuss the purchase of the push box by the school in connection with out purchase of the tractor. He further indicated that the idea was well received and the members present would bring it back to the full board for their consideration. Mr. Spatola stated that he indicated to them that paying for the box could be stretched out and would be a considerable gesture by the school. He further stated that there are people in the community who feel the Township does too for the school on the tax dollar and the school should do some things for themselves and other members of the community who feel the opposite and the Township should do everything. Mr. Spatola indicated that the School Board's budget is very tight and don't have a lot of room financially. Mr. Spatola noted that he did inform the school that if they could not do this, the Township would continue to plow their snow.

Mr. Laurella stated that the school should not purchase the box and the Township should just purchase the box. He further stated that the Township should purchase the box and not be beholden to anyone and do what we want with the box. Discussion was held regarding snow removal.

Chairperson Danna questioned Mr. Laurella regarding the property on Pine Street and having Tony Brago fill in the hole on that property. Mr. Laurella stated that the Township did receive a price from Mr. Brago, but the Township has to decide what properties they want to clean up. Chairperson Danna stated that there is an open septic on the property. He further stated that there are a couple of young kids that live next door to that property. Mr. Laurella indicated that he would have public works take him over to the property and see what can be filled in. Discussion was held regarding the filling of the septic.

The Clerk presented Update Discussion Regarding Report From Michael Fralinger, Esquire Regarding Sparacio Property And South Shiloh Avenue. Chairperson Danna stated that this matter has gone on long enough and the Township should consider the request to vacate the road. Mr. Laurella agreed that the road should be vacated. He noted that he asked the railroad about it and they said they don't want it, but that would have to be put in writing. He further noted that the offer needs to be made and if the railroad doesn't want than the entire portion can be given to Mr. Sparacio. Discussion was held as to why that portion of South Shiloh was not vacated with other portions back in 1985. Mr. Spatola asked what the recommendation was from our attorneys. Solicitor Testa stated that his office had an opportunity to review the documentation from Mr. Fralinger. He further stated that his office is making 2 recommendations, the first, that 49.5 feet of South Shiloh Avenue can be vacated and should avoid the railroad right-of-way. Solicitor Testa indicated that the second recommendation would be to refer the matter to the Land Use Board for their recommendation. Solicitor Testa stated that Mr. Duffy can review it and if he has any questions or clarification he can or Mr. Fralinger can do that. Mr. Laurella noted that it would be South Shiloh from Spruce Street to Greenman. Discussion was held regarding adjoining property owners to South Shiloh. Additional discussion was held regarding paper streets and the cost involved in vacation of those streets. Solicitor Testa recommended to get this matter referred to the Land Use Board and get it cleared up.

New Business

The Clerk presented Discussion Regarding Quote From Fralinger Engineering Regarding Lean-To And Metal Roof For Public Works Garage – Motion to Hire Fralinger Engineering to Prepare Specifications And Conduct Inspections In Connection With Lean-To And Roof. The Clerk noted that the matter has already been brought forth by Mr. Spatola. The Clerk inquired whether the matter was going to be tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to table this matter until June 1, 2016. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	No	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

The Clerk presented Approval Of Application From Farm Credit East For Use Of LoBiondo Park On Sunday, June 5, 2016. Mr. Spatola stated that an application has been received in a timely manner and all the required documentations are in place. He further stated that the event should be about 6 hours and ending before dark. Mr. Spatola noted that the event is to celebrate their 100 year anniversary. He further noted that they will also be renting from the Fire Hall and using their facilities that day. Mr. Spatola stated that the event will be having a band and will require the use of the stage as well as the electric and that will be turned on prior to the event. Mr. Laurella suggested the closing of Morgan Street for use during the event. Mr. Spatola stated that the applicant will be directing traffic to the back of LoBiondo Park and that no parking will be in front of the Fire Hall. Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sparacio to approve the Application from Farm Credit East for use of LoBiondo Park on Sunday, June 5, 2016. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Mr. Laurella noted that the Committee has been talking about purchasing the land behind the municipal building for about 2 or 3 years. He further noted that he has applied to the County Planning Board who would only be able to provide about \$50,000. Mr. Laurella suggested that the Township look into a grant to purchase the ground. Discussion was held regarding the grant writer and reaching out to him to see what, if any, grants were available to purchase the property.

Mr. Laurella also noted that there needs to be a new liaison to the senior center as he will no longer be the liaison.

Communications

The Clerk stated that there are no communications this evening.

The Clerk presented Resolution #16-98 For The Payment Of Bills. Mrs. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to adopt Resolution #16-98. Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Public Comment

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

Mr. Vernon Lee came before the Committee. Mr. Lee stated that he wanted to come before the Committee regarding his previous appearance and the discussion regarding the Rosenhayn Park. He further stated and outlined the discussions regarding the money to redo the park and get the basketball court resurfaced. Mr. Lee noted that nothing has been done and nothing has been done to renovate any of the parks. He further noted that the basketball court at Rosenhayn Park could be "capped" and that would be less expensive than trying to dig up the court and redo the whole thing. Mr. Lee also stated that he requested horseshoe pits, but nothing has been done. Mr. Lee also made some other suggestions about a walking park.

Mr. Spatola noted that the most important thing is that the young people have a safe place to play. He further noted that the Committee has tried 2 or 3 times in the last couple of years to accommodate Mr. Lee's request, but the Township keeps hitting road blocks. Mr. Spatola stated that the Committee has tried, but failed. He further stated that Deerfield does have 2 regulation basketball courts that are close and can be used. Mr. Spatola suggested to Mr. Lee that the children he represents could and should use the courts at LoBiondo Park.

Mr. Lee indicated that he was told that the Township was going to budget for the court, but then the Township decided to try and get a grant. He further indicated that the grant was going to be used to upgrade LoBiondo Park. Mr. Lee stated that no maintenance has been done in the parks. He further stated that there is old equipment that is just an accident waiting to happen.

Mrs. O'Brien questioned whether the demand for courts exceeds what is available. Mr. Lee agreed. Mr. Lee said nothing positive is getting done.

Mr. Laurella noted that some of things brought up by Mr. Lee should be addressed by the Recreation Committee. Mr. Laurella agreed that some of the equipment is old and should be taken care of. He also noted that not everything asked for can be gotten, but there are some things that can be upgraded.

Discussion was held regarding Green Acres and grants that could be obtained through the Green Acres Program. Mr. Laurella noted that you can apply for grants, but it doesn't mean you'll receive it. He further noted that it took 2 tries to get the grant for the senior center.

Mr. Lee reiterated that the Township could "cap" the court and create a better playing surface. Mr. Laurella reiterated that some of his request should be brought forth to the Recreation Committee.

Mr. Spatola stated that it is true that there have been discussions over the last 2 years regarding the courts. He further stated that the Township has come up against some road blocks with the grant. Mr. Spatola indicated that the grant was for ADA compliance and even though we asked how we could make the court part of the project we still lost the grant. Mr. Spatola reiterated Mrs. O'Brien's comments and indicated that he would bring up the request to resurface the court with the Recreation Committee. Mrs. O'Brien thanked Mr. Lee for his suggestions and noted that Mr. Spatola would bring them forth to the Recreation Committee.

The Committee thanked Mr. Lee for attendance at tonight's meeting.

John Stanzione came before the Committee. Mr. Stanzione just wanted to make a couple of suggestions and asked that the Committee to check to see what part of Shiloh belongs to the County (north or south or both). Mr. Stanzione suggested that someone could reach out to the Improvement Authority and ask if they would plow the snow at the school should it become too much. Chairperson Danna and Mr. Spatola agreed and noted that there were plenty of loaders around to move snow. Mr. Stanzione noted that the Committee sold an asset and some of that money should be used to purchase the property behind the municipal building and also take some of the money and take \$10,000 and blacktop the court over at Rosenhayn Park.

John Barbagello asked about a pole barn. Mr. Laurella stated that the Township is working with the engineer and there are prices for a pole barn and lean-to and that after it is reviewed a recommendation will be made to the Committee. Mr. Barbagello asked if the lean-to would be completely enclosed and Mrs. O'Brien stated that the lean-to would come off the existing structure and the intent was to get the equipment and assets of the Township out of the rain. She further stated that a pole barn would be completely enclosed and the lean-to would be open on three sides with a fence around the area. Mrs. O'Brien noted that the intent was to get the assets out of the weather. Mr. Barbagello stated that he felt that the Township should get a pole barn and keep everything safe and enclosed.

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

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

Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Sparacio	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Mr. Danna	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien to reconvene the regular meeting. The Committee approved

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. O'Brien made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to adjourn the meeting. The Committee approved.

Rudy Danna, Jr., Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Karen Seifrit, Clerk
Township of Deerfield