

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

February 15, 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 was at a Joint Insurance Fund Meeting in Ocean City, and the Deputy Clerk, Cheryl Tramontana, filled in for her.

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

Solicitor Testa was in trial and Robert Casella, from the firm, filled in for him.

Departmental Reports

The Deputy Clerk presented reports from the Construction Office, Zoning/Housing Officer, Tax Collector, Treasurer and Fire Marshal.

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

Resolutions

The Deputy Clerk presented Resolution #12-91 Authorizing The Award Of A Contract to Diamond Construction In The Sum Of \$134,218.50 For The Construction Of Sidewalks On Irving Avenue In The Township Of Deerfield (\$105,528.50 plus \$28,690.00 Alternate #1).

Mr. Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauer mann, to adopt Resolution #12-91. Roll Call Vote:

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

Old Business

Mr. Lauer mann stated that they are placing the speed trailer where they need to put it as far as the problems in the Township are for speeding in the morning and night. He stated that Mr. Montgomery and himself are moving forward with the phone project but it is taking more time than they thought it would and they are also looking into consolidating the phone services here with Verizon. He stated that it seems to be that through Municipal Service in a branch of their company the Township can receive free service in this building and at the Fire Hall, so in the future the Township could see a significant amount of savings by them providing us the free service.

Mr. Stanzione stated that on Bridgeton Avenue the other day around 10:10 a.m. he was over there when school let out at the Vo-Tech and witnessed two (2) cars passing the buses at the same time and when they got in front of the bus they stayed in both lanes until they almost got to Greenman Avenue. He stated that they were racing down the road.

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Mr. Spatola stated that the Joint Court started last week and we are anticipating great things from this. He stated that it was quite jammed and is not going to say there will not be some things that need to be ironed out but he will be looking into this a little deeper and keep track of it and bring a report each meeting to the Committee.

Mr. Stanzione stated that Recreation is doing fine along with the Fire Company. He stated that the Fire Hall is trying to get together with their Billing Firm so they can have a meeting and move on with their paid Fire Services.

Chairperson Laurella stated to Mr. Stanzione that years ago they both served on the Fire Committee with Comcast and they were supposed to get free Internet and computer at that time for the Seniors. Mr. Stanzione stated that he did not remember this but Mr. Montgomery stated that what Mr. Lauermann and himself were working on now would cover the Senior Center also.

Chairperson Laurella stated that at the last meeting the Committee had a discussion over the drainage problems on Garton Road. He stated that a resident was at the meeting and talked about a couple of retainage basins that were flooding over. Chairperson Laurella stated that the next morning he contacted Fralinger Engineering Services and spoke to the Bob Mulford, the Engineer for our Township and he sent a letter to both property owners that had the retention basins. He stated that one of the residents was out the next day after receiving the letter and the other one was out there a few days later and most of them are working on them. Chairperson Laurella stated that he also did a little investigating on Garton Road and after looking at the Tax Map it shows a drainage easement from Clover Hill Drive to Garton Road a matter of ten (10) feet. He stated that he drove by the properties and it does not look like there is a drainage easement there and all the ground is as smooth as can be from one property to the other. Chairperson Laurella stated that the Township does not know what they will have to do but they might have to try to find records of that subdivision stating about the drainage easement and if it was supposed to be deep or just a swail. He stated that he contacted Mr. Patitucci who was at the last meeting and explained a couple of things to him and told him that he spoke to the County Road Foreman and they would like to set up a meeting with two Township Committee people, two people from the County, one would be the Road Supervisor and the other their Engineer and possibly getting a Freeholder there with a couple of residents of that area to meet on site.

New Business

Chairperson Laurella stated that everyone had received a letter from our Auditor stating that the Township Committee needs to come up with figures for what they would like to spend out of Capital for next year to take out for the roads or any other problems we might want to consider doing.

The Committee agreed to submit their recommendations to the Mayor by February 24th, 2012, and then have the Administrator type out a list of their requests with prices to give to the Auditor to see what can be taken into consideration. Chairperson Laurella stated that they would only be requests because the Township has to watch the Sunshine Law.

Communications

The Deputy Clerk stated that there were no communications this evening.

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The Deputy Clerk presented Resolution #12-92 for the Payment Of Bills.

Chairperson Laurella stated that there was a bill in question at the last meeting by Mr. Stanzione and he does not know if the Committee wanted to pay this bill tonight or if it is something that needs to be looked into more since the gentleman is on a trial basis right now. The Committee decided to wait on paying this bill.

Mr. Stanzione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to adopt Resolution #12-92. Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Mr. Patitucci, from 729 Garton Road, came before the Committee to let them know that the residents on Garton Road are appreciative for what they are doing. He stated that if any Board was going to make something happen with the water problem on Garton Road it would be this Board. Mr. Patitucci stated that he wanted to let the residents know that they are getting some action done. He stated that along with what Mr. Laurella has done and some of the other Board Members, he has spoken to the County and Mosquito Control regarding Lummis Mill Branch. Mr. Patitucci stated that this is what he believes would help everyone from Parvins Mill Road on up to Richards Road because there are some tributaries that drain and go down and cut over through some residents properties and goes directly to Lummis Mill Branch. He stated that some of the drains that cross the road have been closed off by whoever and the water does not drain anywhere and after talking to the landowner at the Nursery he has no problem with giving the right of way to take drainage through to Lummis Mill Branch as long as it goes to the branch because the last time they had anything opened they brought it to his field and it flooded his farm.

Chairperson Laurella asked Mr. Patitucci to remember to bring this incident up when they meet with the County. He also stated that he would like Mr. Patitucci to set up some dates and then when he tries to meet or call the County they will get the dates to them to see what day they can meet along with a couple of Township Committee Members and himself. Chairperson Laurella stated that he does not think that this is a Streets and Roads problem this is a drainage problem but they will meet with the County when they can meet with us.

Mr. Patitucci stated that this issue had took place before back in 1970 with Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Patitucci's Father and they got the run around, it got policial and then everyone backed away. He stated that whoever was running the Township at that time sort of pushed everything to the County and did not want to know anything about it and the County tried to push it up to the State and it just created a big circle. Mr. Patitucci stated that there seems to be a lot getting done now with this Committee and wanted the residents that were out in the audience to know this along with the point that Chairperson Laurella made about us having to help ourselves too.

Mr. Stanzione stated that the Township is asking that if Mr. Patitucci or anyone else sees something being done illegally or you think it is, please contact anyone of the Committee Members and they will get someone out there to look at it.

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There being no other comment from the public, Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauermann, to close the meeting to the public. The Committee approved.

There being no other business to come before the Committee, Mr. Stanzone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to adjourn the meeting. The Committee approved.

Cosmo J. Laurella, Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Cheryl Tramontana, Deputy Clerk
Township of Deerfield