

REGULAR MEETING
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

June 15, 2011

Chairperson Stanzone 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 Stanzone led the flag salute.

The Clerk was at a Joint Insurance Fund Meeting in Avalon, and the Deputy Clerk, Cheryl Tramontana, filled in for her.

The Deputy Clerk took roll call and members present included Ms. Musso, Mr. Spatola, Mr. Laurella, Mr. Lauer mann and Mr. Stanzone.

Departmental Reports

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

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to accept and file the departmental reports. The Committee approved.

Ordinances

The Deputy Clerk presented Ordinance #2011-6 For Second Reading And Public Hearing Of An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 69 Of The Code Of The Township Of Deerfield Entitled "Construction Codes, Uniform" Setting Fees For Construction Permits.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso, to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2011-6. The Committee approved.

There being no comment from the public, Mr. Spatola made a motion seconded by Ms. Musso, to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2011-6. The Committee approved.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to adopt Ordinance #2011-6 On Second Reading, Public Hearing And Final Adoption. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Lauer mann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzone	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Resolutions

The Deputy Clerk presented Resolution #11-116 Approving Release Of Maintenance Bond Posted By Temple Beth Hillel In The Amount Of \$2,879.16.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laurella, to adopt Resolution #11-116. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Lauer mann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzone	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

The Deputy Clerk presented Resolution #11-117 Approving Alcoholic Beverage Licenses For The 2011-2012 License Term.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to adopt Resolution #11-117. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Lauermann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzione	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Old Business

Ms. Musso stated that she wanted to let the Committee know that there was going to be a continuation with Youth Week tomorrow and Friday. She stated that the school is going to have their Fun Day and if anyone from the Recreation or Township Committee could go for a few hours and serve Rita's Water Ice it would be greatly appreciated. Ms. Musso also stated that they would be having two half days sessions this year with Kindergarten through Fourth grades on Thursday and Fifth through Eighth on Friday.

Mr. Lauermann stated that in reference to the Testing Well at the Old Landfill Site they are moving forward on this issue. He also stated that the speed limit trailer that the Committee has been waiting for will be repaired and ready by the end of June so hopefully the Township will be able to move this around the Township and control some of the speeding we have on the south side of Deerfield Township in the Carmel area.

Ms. Musso stated that Mr. Laurella, Maintenance Supervisor, contacted her today in reference to the trees that were purchased from Jules Perlstein and would like to know if the trees could be placed at the Vineland Park where the fence is coming down. Mr. Laurella stated that this would be a great idea because originally there was more fence there but a lot of it has been cut down. The Committee agreed.

Chairperson Stanzione stated that the Rosenhayn Fire and Rescue are operating and the Ambulance Squad is now billing for picking up and taking to the hospital. He stated that the Township has not received any funds but the amount is pretty high and once the funds start coming in the Township could bring it up for discussion at another meeting and will have an idea exactly where they are at and where it is heading.

Mr. Laurella stated that at the last meeting he had mentioned having some type of ceremony on Veteran's Day and he would like to know what the Committee's thoughts were about having something on for this day in November. He would like to have a little ceremony out front and get a speaker and maybe a flyover because there has never been anything done since the monument has been installed about twenty years ago, and believes this would be a wonderful thing to do. He would like the Committee to start planning something for this Veteran's Day in November and Mr. Spatola stated that he would like to be on the Committee if they have one and he believes Ms. Musso has some good contacts with the County as far as organizing and soliciting stuff like this.

Ms. Musso stated that they have the County Veterans' Commission and she could contact Diana who handles this and have her put this on the calendar.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Chairperson Stanzione stated that a couple meetings ago the Township had addressed a family in town that wanted to start a rose garden in memory of his wife. He stated that the Committee had discussed this but never had made any decisions on this. Chairperson Stanzione stated that he would like to consider out in the front of the Township's Memorial right here at the building the Township could start a stone pathway that the individual's could purchase for a certain amount and it would include the name, birth date, etc. and start the pathway around back to the sidewalk.

Mr. Spatola stated that Chairperson Stanzione was correct that we had discussed this and he agrees that this would be a good idea and that we should start pursuing this immediately and possibly be ready for the Veterans' Day ceremony this year.

Chairperson Stanzione stated that he would like everyone to think about this idea and at the next meeting move forward and get everything together and also have the family that wanted the rose garden have the opportunity to put the first stone in.

Mr. Lauermann stated that in reference to the pathway for the monument he wanted to tell the Committee that what is done is that there is a complete walkway put in which serves a purpose for the people to walk out and makes it safe for them to walk around either way to the monument. He stated that, as the people want to memorialize a family member you would pull a paver and replace it with one that they purchase with a name or saying whatever it may be.

New Business

Mr. Laurella stated that there are two cul-de-sacs in the Danna Estates and he consulted with the Township Engineer and he recommended that the Township do a base and then three more inches of a certain type of blacktop and then two inches of a finished type blacktop. He stated that he gave the information to our Township Maintenance Supervisor and he went back to Brago Excavating who was our lowest bidder the last time and with the addition that needs to be added, Brago Excavating price would be One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) more for doing the two cul-de-sacs. Mr. Laurella stated he would like to recommend that the Township proceed with this but before doing so the Township will have to take the money out of the Capital Account and appropriate it. He stated that he would like to have this on the next agenda for the first reading to appropriate it.

Therefore, Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso, to appropriate the amount of \$10,700.00 from the Capital Account for the paving of the two cul-de-sacs in Danna Estates and have the first reading at the next meeting scheduled for July 20th, 2011. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Lauermann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzione	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Mr. Laurella stated that after discussing the drafting of an ordinance pertaining to installation of Solar Panels by Commercial or Residential Applicants with Mr. Duffy at the last Land Use Board Meeting he stated that the Township should not waste any time on it. He stated that Mr. Duffy stated that sooner or later the State is going to come down with rules on the Solar Paneling in the State.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Mr. Lauermann stated that what is happening now is that we are getting a little bit of a pushback from utility companies. He stated that they are getting a little apprehensive about allowing residents in areas where there are large amounts of solar rays hooking up to the grids. Mr. Lauermann stated that as a residential project you want to send electricity back to the companies but they are being a little resistant now and this is why the State is starting to look into this.

Ms. Musso stated that the Clerk should have given everyone on the Committee a copy of an e-mail that Mayor Albert Kelly sent in reference to the fireworks for the Fourth of July night. She stated that they are asking the western part of the County since most of the people in the area go to Bridgeton to watch the fireworks, if each Municipality will contribute to the fireworks for July 4th. She stated that we were in question if this was allowed to be done and our Township Clerk sent a request to Carol McAllister, our Auditor asking if the Township could do this from municipality to municipality and her response was that yes the Township can do this. Ms. Musso stated that Mrs. McAllister stated that Deerfield could give funds for the fireworks display, which is being called a donation, but is like a service to the residents that can be part considered as current fund expenditure. She stated that she asked Karen Seifrit, Township Clerk, is there was a expenditure item and she stated yes that in our line item budget the Township has a line know as Celebration of Public Event that was done a few years ago for another event. Ms. Musso stated that there are funds available in this account and the Township could take some of this out of there.

Mr. Laurella stated that he would like to know if the Board can afford to give anything at this time being that we just raised our taxes upward four cents which will be reflected in August. He stated that he has not seen a four-cent increase on Local Purpose Taxes in the Township or any other increase since he has been on the Committee. Mr. Laurella stated that our children in our local school are being deprived of things and he understands that it is not the responsibility of the Township because they have their own budget to raise funds but at this time he does not feel that the Township can just give money away for a celebration.

Ms. Musso stated that there is money on the line item in the budget for this.

Solicitor Testa asked Ms. Musso if this was from Recreation and Ms. Musso stated yes.

Chairperson Stanzione stated that after talking to the Solicitor he is asking if this money is coming from taxpayers and Ms. Musso stated that he was correct pertaining to the Celebration of Public Event.

Chairperson Stanzione stated that his thought is that the Township could give them something but only if it is from Recreation because during the Harvest Festival they helped the Township, so a small donation of maybe Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) tops and noted that this does not affect taxpayer's money. He stated that the money that Recreation has in their Trust is raised by Recreation not by the taxpayers.

Mr. Laurella stated that he agrees with the Chairperson on this but then this should not even be coming in front of Township Committee if the Recreation is giving them the money.

Solicitor Testa stated that Mr. Laurella was correct.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Ms. Musso stated if this is the Recreation Committee's decision she asked the Solicitor what could be done because they do not have a meeting until July which is after the celebration.

Solicitor Testa stated that they could have a special meeting because it is not coming out of the general funds. Ms. Musso stated that the Township Clerk stated that Mrs. McAllister stated that it would be coming out of Recreation and it would be charged to Recreation Awards of Celebration Events.

The Deputy Clerk stated that the line item for Celebration of Events does not come out of Recreation and it is not from the Trust. She stated that she believes for example when someone retires and the Township decides to do something at that time for that individual the money could be used from that line item. She stated that if the money will come from Recreation that is fine.

Ms. Musso stated that she will contact Roy Spoltore, Chairman of the Recreation, and get his suggestion and if he feels that it is something that they would like to do then she would ask them to call a special meeting.

Ms. Musso stated that everyone of the Committee should have received the Exit Audit Report from Bowman and Company and some of the findings. She stated that she did not know if the Township Committee would like to go over tonight what Mr. Laurella and herself had gone over or if they would like to review the findings and then go over them all at the next meeting and she could explain them at that time if necessary.

Mr. Laurella stated that it would be a good idea take it home and review it and then at the next meeting in July they could go over them at that time. Ms. Musso stated that they should look at the last few pages that are called brief explanation of findings and stated that she has some recommendations so this is why she would like the Committee to read it first. The Committee agreed to discuss this at the next meeting in July.

The Deputy Clerk presented Renewal Of Automatic Coin Operated Machines Or Devices For Amusement Licenses.

Ms. Musso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lauremann, to approve the Renewal of Coin Operated Machines or Devices for Amusement Licenses. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Lauer mann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzione	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Ms. Musso stated that on September 11th, 2011, Cumberland Valve that is owned by Bruce Riley is going to be doing a 911 Ceremony and would like the western part of the County to be involved with this event. She stated that he did a monument in front of his business and this year it will be the ten (10) year anniversary and they are going to place Two Thousand Nine Hundred And Seventy Seven flags at that monument within several days. Ms. Musso stated that they would like the local schools that would be the grade schools and high schools along with each Township Committee if they would like to be part of placing the flags during those days. She stated that she would be getting more information as it goes forward.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Communications

The Deputy Clerk read a letter of resignation from Joseph Macera, our full time laborer.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laueremann, to accept and file the communications. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Laueremann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzione	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

Mr. Laueremann stated maybe the Township could reach out to Mr. Macera in the future for part time employment along with the other part timers.

Ms. Musso stated that as personnel along with Mr. Spatola, they would be getting together with Mr. Macera now that the Township Committee has accepted his resignation and they will let the Committee know what they will be doing as far as placing an advertisement in the paper for this position.

The Deputy Clerk presented Resolution #11-118 For The Payment Of Bills.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laueremann, to adopt Resolution #11-118. Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Musso	Yes	Mr. Laueremann	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes	Chairperson Stanzione	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes		

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

John Orcsi, a Township Resident, came before the Committee regarding the flooding on Maxon Avenue. He stated that he would like to know if the Township is working on anything current pertaining to this issue.

Mr. Laurella stated that the Township is not working on anything. He stated that the Township had met with Mr. And Mrs. Orcsi, the neighbors there and thought that they could all come up with a solution but nothing fell into place and now it is in the State's hands according to Mr. Laueremann and himself.

Mr. Orcsi stated that is all he needed to know and just wants it on record that he is going to seek legal action for a law suit not only to resolve the problem but for his losses. He stated that he couldn't sell his house because it is worth half of what it is now and if he were to sell his house he would have to tell them he has flooding issues. He stated that he put up a barrier so his house would not get flooded. Mr. Orcsi stated that the previous Mayor sat where Mr. Stanzione sits now several years ago and after looking at the pictures he said that it is the Township's responsibility to provide safe travel for the residents not only on sunny days but all the time, and that looking at the water running off the field across the Township road into his yard he said on record he does not know whose fault it is, whether it is the farmers or the Township's fault responsibility but it is not mine. He stated that this was several years ago and apparently again the ball was dropped, but several months ago on a Sunday night Chairperson Stanzione and Mr. Laurella showed up and Mr. Orcsi asked the Mayor if he remembered this and he responded yes he did.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Mr. Orcsi asked Chairperson Stanzione if he remembers the road and the entire yard being flooded as he stood in his garage with his boots on. Chairperson Stanzione stated that he did and Mr. Orcsi's garage was flooded also. He stated to Chairperson Stanzione that he could not tell him that this is his responsibility and asked him if he remembered saying this. Chairperson Stanzione stated that he is pretty sure that he does. Mr. Orcsi stated that he said no and Chairperson Stanzione stated that he said that they would try to work together and straighten the problem out but Mr. Orcsi stated that Chairperson Stanzione stated that he was going to see Sam Pepitone the next day to see what he was going to do and that he would get back to him. Chairperson Stanzione stated that he did see Mr. Pepitone. Mr. Orcsi also stated that Chairperson Stanzione stated that Mr. Pepitone is a very powerful man and a lot of people are afraid of him but that he was not. Mr. Orcsi asked Chairperson Stanzione if he called him back after speaking to Mr. Pepitone and Chairperson Stanzione stated that he turned it over to the Chairpersons of Streets and Roads who is Mr. Laurella and Mr. Lauermann and Mr. Orcsi stated that is not what he said he was going to do. He stated that Chairperson Stanzione told him that he would call him back and after asking Chairperson Stanzione again if he called him back he stated no he did not. Mr. Orcsi stated that he feels that again they are just passing the ball down the line over and over again and this has been going on for years.

Mr. Orcsi stated that he would like to ask Mr. Laurella if he is familiar with this issue and Mr. Laurella stated that he has been out there enough times so he could say yes he was familiar with this issue. He stated to Mr. Laurella that he would like to know if it is the farmer's responsibility for the issue and Mr. Laurella stated no he does not and would like to tell him why but Mr. Orcsi stated that he did not want to know why so Mr. Laurella did not explain. Mr. Orcsi stated that what is on record is that several times before Mr. Laurella has said that it is the farmer's responsibility the same problem and the same flooding and the only thing that has changed is the owner. He stated not only did Mr. Laurella state that it is not the farmer's responsibility when they all met at the meeting pertaining to this issue he actually defended him and said some people think because he has a lot of money he should spend his money and take care of this.

Mr. Laurella stated that Mr. Orcsi was correct but that Mr. Orcsi also said that the farmer had plenty of money also.

Solicitor Testa stated that at this point if he may interject since there has been an indication from Mr. Orcsi that he certainly can exercise his right to retain counsel and that is within his right and he does not want Mr. Orcsi to take this as there is anything he is doing wrong because he should seek legal counsel if he feels he needs to, but because of that this is no longer appropriate for the Township Committee to discuss because first of all you should have your Attorney present and secondly if it is going to be discussed here it has to be done in Executive Session.

Mr. Orcsi asked the Solicitor if he could ask questions about what happened before and the Solicitor told him he could not. He stated that it is on record and he is certainly entitled to those records under the Open Public Records Act and all he needs to do is fill out the form in the office here in the building and the forms and records will be made available to him within a timely fashion.

Michael Speranza, 977 Laurel Lane, came before the Committee to state that he had asked for a sign stating, "Children At Play" be put out on his road and he would like to know what the status was on his request.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Mr. Laurella stated that Mr. Lauerman had approached him on this sign and at first he thought it was a good idea and had stated to him that he thought it was something that was going to be brought up in front of the Township Committee and was supposed to be on the agenda tonight but evidently it was not but his reason for not allowing a sign to be placed out there is that he does not feel that area has as much traffic as Vineland Avenue, Maple Street, Spruce Street along with a lot of other areas. He stated that he had been out in the area of Laurel Lane the other day and if the Township is going to start putting up signs "Watch Children", he feels that there is a large area around this Township and his only reason is that the traffic to him out there is not like it is on some of the other streets.

Mr. Speranza asked if any requests have been made for signs on Vineland Avenue or Maple Street and Mr. Laurella stated that there have not been any requests.

Mr. Speranza stated that he has asked for the sign to be put in place on Laurel Lane and his response is no and Mr. Laurella stated that he recommends that the Township does not do it.

Chariperson Stanzione asked Mr. Laurella where the Township could put a sign in question at in Danna Estates. Mr. Laurella stated in that area you could put it up right across the Pittsgrove Township line.

Mr. Lauermann stated that it was discussed in the past about putting it where the roads tee so when the motorist approaches you will see it.

Mr. Speranza stated that there is a post there and all that needs to be done is post the sign up on the existing post. He stated that there was a sign there when he was younger and today it is a younger neighborhood regardless of the traffic and now there is a privately run institution that calls come in about the speeding.

Mr. Spatola stated that he knows that the Township is very safety oriented and safety minded and have always been but one thing he is seeing is a lack of policy regarding child safety signs or traffic safety signs. He stated that obviously the Township does not have a policy and what Mr. Speranza is stating is that the Township does not put a sign because we do not get a complaint but now since there is a complaint which is from him why isn't the Township putting up the sign he requests. Mr. Spatola stated that after this happens it just dies and never goes anywhere and all he is asking is that maybe the Township needs to look into the fact that we create a policy that upon a request from a resident where he or she feels there is a safety issue in an area then the Streets and Roads Liaisons go out, look at it and do a survey.

Solicitor Testa stated that it is a discretionary thing and after speaking to the Mayor maybe the prudent thing to do would be to see if you could get the State Police to provide the Township with the number of motor vehicle accidents in that area and the number of tickets issued for speeders in that area, things of that nature.

Mr. Lauermann stated that when Mr. Speranza first approached the Township he stated that Mr. Laurella and himself had went out there along with the Maintenance Supervisor. He stated that we have to look at the situation there and acknowledge the fact that the neighborhood has gotten younger because there are more children there and what he believes to be commercial applications across the street and there is a lot of van traffic that comes through there.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Mr. Lauremann stated that when Mr. Laurella and himself went out there to be cost effective and at the same time try to provide some sense of safety level out there, the roads meet to a tee and instead of putting a multitude of signs there because some roads in the back cross over different township lines and they are not our responsibility, in order to alert drivers as they enter that area there is one common spot that is on the line between us and Pittsgrove and that is at the tee. He stated that since there is a post there he recommended that possibly just get a sign placed on there with an arrow at the bottom that points right and left to alert the drivers that when you make either turn in this development there are children on either side of this road space. Mr. Laueremann stated that he brought his opinions based on facts back to Mr. Laurella and being the Chairperson of Streets and Roads he feels this way.

Ms. Musso asked if this was set up in September when did Mr. Laueremann and Mr. Laurella go out and Mr. Laueremann stated right after that along with several other times as Mr. Laurella pointed out. She stated that this is the first time that it is being brought up to the Township Committee. Ms. Musso asked Mr. Speranza what was on the post before and he stated it was a street sign stating Laurel Lane.

Mr. Spatola stated that as soon as a resident brings it to the attention of the Township Committee that should automatically kick in a procedure with Streets and Roads but obviously there is a disagreement now for or against it and does not know what the next step is, but when someone brings it to the Committee we should follow a procedure and a decision could be made.

Chairperson Stanzione stated to Mr. Speranza that if the Township puts up one sign they would end up putting up One Hundred signs. Mr. Speranza stated that no one else has come before the Committee to ask for this request.

Ms. Musso stated that since the Liaisons from Streets and Roads have gone out to look at this the rest of the Committee should go out and look at it and then bring their recommendations to them. Mr. Laurella stated that if the rest of the Committee is going to go out and look at this request then he recommends strongly that they look through the rest of this Township especially north of his home where there are six (6) children within about twelve (12) to fifteen (15) hundred feet and you will see the speed in that area is a lot greater than at the one that is being requested for this sign.

Mr. Speranza also stated that in reference to the cul-de-sacs in Danna Estates, they are having problems with people parking back there and stated that he showed Mr. Laueremann where the trees need to be cut back so he can see if there are people parked down at the cul-de-sac. He stated that there have been people parking down at the cul-de-sac dumping trash, drinking, etc. but when they trim the trees back the same width of the road they are not trimmed back far enough away from the road. Mr. Speranza stated that he was going to take the trees down himself and put them to the side but was told by a member of the Maintenance Department it was a safety issue.

Ms. Musso asked that when we have it paved would the trees in question be in the way and Mr. Laurella stated that he did not know but about ten (10) years ago the Township put a light there because the property owners had asked for one and it was approved. Mr. Laurella stated that the Maintenance Department could go out and trim them if it was on the Township's property.

Regular Meeting
Township Committee
June 15, 2011
Continued

Mr. Lauermann stated that the area that is supposed to be covered by the light is the area that is overgrown but Mr. Speranza stated no it was not. He stated that it is on the right hand side of the cul-de-sac near the cable or telephone box where there are seven (7) to ten (10) small pine trees that have grown up that are not cut back as far as the rest of the road so you could get a view when you come in to see if anyone is parked there.

After further discussion, the Committee decided to have the Streets and Roads Liaisons go back and look at the trees and look to see the trees in question and if they are on the Township's property and they need to be trimmed there would be no reason not to have them cut back by our Maintenance Department.

Mr. Laurella stated that Mr. Lauermann and himself would be going out in about two or three weeks to start checking out what street lights are going to be eliminated and that night they could check the trees if it can not be done sooner.

Chairperson Stanzione stated that he wanted everyone on the Committee to go out and check out the sign and at the next meeting in July he would like to have the sign issue settled and Mr. Laurella and Mr. Lauermann will handle the trees.

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

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

John Stanzione, Chairperson
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

Cheryl Tramontana, Deputy Clerk
Township of Deerfield