

REGULAR MEETING  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

February 2, 2011

Chairperson Stanzione 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 Stanzione led the flag salute.

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

Minutes

The Clerk presented the minutes from January 5<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lauermann, to accept the minutes as written. The Committee agreed.

Ordinances

The Clerk presented Ordinance #2011-1 A Second Reading And Public Hearing Of An Ordinance Revising Permitted Hours Of Sale Of Alcoholic Beverages Within The Township Of Deerfield.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso to open the Public Meeting on Ordinance #2011-1. The Committee Approved.

Mr. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso to close the Public Meeting on Ordinance #2011-1. The Committee Approved

Ms. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso, to adopt Ordinance #2011-1. Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolutions

The Clerk presented Resolution #11-78 Authorizing The Exclusion Of The Public From A Meeting Of The Township Committee Of Deerfield To Be Held On February 2, 2011.

Ms. Musso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laurella, to adopt Resolution #11-78. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #11-79 Adopting A Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan For The Township Of Deerfield, County Of Cumberland, New Jersey.

The Clerk explained that this was a Hazard Plan that was handed in to the County and Emergency Management Coordinator, John Barbagello asked if the Resolution could be adopted.

Mr. Barbagello stated this was something that was being worked on for a while, and without a Resolution in the Township, the Township would not be eligible for reimbursement monies due to storms. Mr. Barbagello stated that the County had their Resolution approved by the State and now all Townships were to have a Resolution in place as well.

Mr. Spatola asked Mr. Barbagello if he would be correct in stating that the Mitigation Plan is designed to stream line the flow of recovery funds, and help in the face of disaster. Mr. Barbagello stated that was correct.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola, to adopt Resolution #11-79. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #11-80 Granting Final Approval Of The Vincent Paladino Application To Sell Developmental Easement.

The Clerk explained that Mr. Paladino is selling some land, for preservation to the State and County and they need approval from Township for the application.

Ms. Spatola made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso, to adopt Resolution #11-80 Roll Call Vote:

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

The Clerk presented Resolution #11-81 Supporting Continued Open Space PILOT Funding.

The Clerk stated there was a letter in the Committee's packet from Matt Blake at the Littoral Society requesting that the Municipalities of Cumberland County support Continued Open Space funding, and the funding is in lieu of taxes. The Clerk stated the Township does get a check from the State in the amount of six hundred dollars (\$600.00), and right now the Governor is looking to cut those payments to the Municipalities and this Resolution is requesting support of those continued payments and preservations of open space.

Ms. Muso made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to adopt Resolution #11-81 Roll Call Vote:

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

Old Business

Mr. Laurella stated that he received a phone call from Mrs. Seifrit the Administrator, regarding a resident complaint on Maxon Avenue. Mr. Laurella stated he went to Maxon Avenue around 10 am and saw some water flowing down the road making some light flooding. Mr. Laurella stated he called and spoke to the Township Engineer and the partner of the Township Solicitor to discuss this matter. Mr. Laurella indicated that what he saw was the driveway of the property is lower than the road, but that is only with the eye, and some of the water was going onto the property. Mr. Laurella indicated that the ground is still frozen but a lot of water that has melted has gone on that property and on the other side of the road. Mr. Laurella stated he went back to the property later during the day, and this time the water was greater and at the center of the road, but really high on the North side of the road. Mr. Laurella suggested a meeting as soon as possible between the property owner, himself and Mr. Lauermann, the Township Solicitor and Engineer, to sit down to see how the problem can be rectified. Mr. Laurella stated that the problem has occurred for a very long time, but he would like to try and do something to fix it.

Mr. Stanzione stated that the meeting should be within the next week. Mr. Laurella reiterated that the meeting should be held as soon as possible.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spatola to open the Meeting to the public as to Maxon Avenue. Roll Call Vote:

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

Mrs. Marlene Orcsi, 1009 Maxon Avenue, approached the Committee and stated that she was at a meeting in July and went through this entire thing, the ground is not frozen in July, they were also at a meeting in March, they brought in pictures of the flooding, also they gave Mr. Stanzione a cd of the flooding. Mrs. Orcsi stated it is no small flooding problem, it fills the field across the street, and it crosses the street and empties on to her property. Mrs. Orcsi stated she wants to fix her front yard up so she can put a for sale sign up because she has had it.

Mrs. Orcsi stated they already did the meeting thing and are still waiting to hear something and have not heard anything as of yet. Mr. Laurella stated that there will be a meeting with the professionals, two Committee Liaisons, herself and her husband to go out there and see what could be solved. Mrs. Orcsi stated that the engineers where out there and nothing has been done, and it is not her flooding problem, it comes from across the street and pours onto her property. Mrs. Orcsi stated that she fears every time it rains because she doesn't know if she is going to come home and her basement is going to be flooded.

Solicitor Testa stated to Mrs. Orcsi that he appreciates her frustration, but he has to go on record to say that the flooding problem has not been identified as being caused by any action taken by the Township. Mrs. Orcsi stated that it has never flooded as bad as it is flooding now. Solicitor Testa indicated that Mr. Laurella shared that information with himself and his partner Todd Heck, but again she has to understand that it isn't anything that the Township of Deerfield did to cause the flooding problem. Mrs. Orcsi stated it is just something the Township won't correct. Solicitor Testa stated that since it wasn't caused by the Township they don't necessarily have the responsibility.

Mrs. Orcsi stated that at the last meeting they were supposed to find out whose problem it was, the owner of the property or the Township, it is not her problem and she has had it and she is not waiting any longer.

A discussion was held among Mrs. Orcsi and the Committee regarding the flooding and her property.

Solicitor Testa stated that anything that needs to be done will need Mrs. Orcsi's cooperation. Mrs. Orcsi asked why do they need her cooperation if it is not her flooding problem. Solicitor Testa stated they need her approval to put a drainage easement, Mrs. Orcsi indicated she is not getting a drainage easement, maybe the Travis's next door would get a ditch along the side of their house. Solicitor Testa asked Mrs. Orcsi if the engineers recommended to put a drainage easement from her she will not agree, Mrs. Orcsi stated no, she already has a drainage easement in the back. She wants to fix her yard and sell her house and she can't do that with a drainage easement on the side of her house.

Mr. Stanzione stated he would like Mr. Lauermann, Mr. Laurella and Solicitor Testa, to give Mr. and Mrs. Orcsi some kind of answer on whose responsibility it is by next Friday. Mr. Laurella stated she would be notified by phone call and by mail.

Mr. Spatola stated this is a big challenge and he does not back down from any challenges, and he knows this has been a big problem for many years, and he was the one who initiated last year that everyone needed to be present and needed to be heard. Mr. Spatola indicated that he has met with the engineer several times regarding that issue. Mr. Spatola stated that he drives by there every time there is a storm and sees the flooding, but they can't jump in there and say something is going to be done, all the Township can do is what they are advised to do by the professionals. Mr. Spatola indicated they are trying to figure out whose problem it is, and it may take everyone involved to try and fix the problem.

A discussion was held among the Committee and Mrs. Orcsi regarding the flooding problem.

Mr. Laurella asked Mr. Stanzione, if when he and Mr. Lauermann get the answer from the engineer, if they are to give the ok, or do they need to notify the rest of the Committee. Mr. Stanzione stated they should give a copy of the recommendation to the Committee and notify the Orcsi's. Mr. Stanzione stated the engineers have had months to do this and by Friday they should know whose problem it is and how to solve it, and if the Township has no cooperation from either party then it is out of their hands.

Further discussion was held again among the Committee and Mrs. Orcsi.

Mr. Lauermann stated that when the meeting was held and all the parties were involved, neither the property owner or the farmer were present, so the Committee or the engineers were not able to discuss the situation with them. Mr. Lauermann assured Mrs. Orcsi that this issue has not been forgotten about, but there are different entities that have to be involved and tell the Township what the recommendations are, and when you deal with the State, it is difficult. Mr. Lauermann stated that when it rains or it snows, they are out there looking and assessing the situation.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso to close the meeting to the public as to Maxon Avenue. Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Lauermann	Yes	Ms. Musso	Yes
Mr. Laurella	Yes	Mr. Stanzone	Yes
Mr. Spatola	Yes		

Mr. Stanzone stated the new ambulance came in and was in service, so there are two ambulances working again, the newer ambulance which has had an ongoing problem, is being worked on. Mr. Stanzone stated that a Ford representative has assured him that a new motor was going to be put in the ambulance at no cost to the Township. The Township will have two new ambulances and the third ambulance they will park.

Mr. Lauermann stated that a couple of weeks ago there was a discussion with the Bridgeton Fire Department about temporarily storing a piece of equipment they were having mechanical problems with in the Carmel Fire Hall. Mr. Lauermann indicated that Bridgeton has helped us out in the past and it is something that is done with other Municipalities. Mr. Lauermann stated that not long after that, they picked the truck up and it is on its way out West to be repaired. Mr. Lauermann indicated he wanted to bring it to the public's attention in case they were wondering what was going on at the Carmel Fire Hall. Mr. Lauermann stated they were also doing some painting and taking care of other issues at the Carmel Fire Hall.

#### New Business

Mr. Laurella wanted to know if the State could be contacted regarding the corner of Morton and Landis Avenue. Mr. Laurella stated the road was pretty wide at the intersection and thought that maybe it could be made into two lanes, one to continue straight over Landis Avenue and a right turn lane going toward Vineland. Mr. Laurella stated it is dangerous there when someone is on the shoulder going to make a right and someone is on the left lane. Mr. Stanzone stated he thought it was a County road, Mr. Laurella indicated it was a State road. Mr. Stanzone stated that the only problem with making that two lanes is that a tractor trailer would not be able to get on the right lane and make a turn on to Landis Avenue, it would have to stay on the left lane and if traffic was on the right lane also making a turn, it could possibly cause a bad accident.

A discussion was held among the Committee regarding the intersection on Morton and Landis Avenues.

The Clerk stated that there were no communications this evening.

The Clerk presented Resolution #11-82 For The Payment Of Bills.

Mr. Laurella made a motion, seconded by Ms. Musso, to adopt Resolution #11-82. Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Mr. Joe Halloran, 821 Bridgeton Avenue approached the Committee and stated that there is a storm drain near his property but it floods and the water runs down his property. Mr. Laurella stated that was another property he observed that morning which was getting flooding. Mr. Halloran stated he went out with a shovel and tried to remove some of the ice but he couldn't find the drain. Mr. Stanzione stated that the problem everyone is having is that the ice build up, then the melt off and there is no place for the water to go, and there are natural run offs, and that is why the drain is there, but where there is so much water, it is probably is running off. Mr. Halloran is just asking if the drain can be cleaned.

A discussion was held among the Committee and Mr. Halloran regarding the water run off, and the course it takes before making it to the Maurice River.

Mr. Halloran then asked the Committee if it was possible to get some speed limit signs on Bridgeton Avenue. Mr. Lauermann stated to Mr. Halloran that they are working on getting speed limit signs on Bridgeton Avenue, and explained that at this time they are working with the State Police, and within the last year, the Township has been able to have this one State Police Officer come to the Township and place the speed limit trailer at different locations. Mr. Lauermann stated he spoke to the officer last week and they are going to place the speed trailer on the shoulder of the road on Bridgeton Avenue.

Mr. Halloran stated that from time to time a Trooper would sit in someone's driveway, and Mr. Lauermann stated that when they saw a Trooper it was because the Township requested for them to come and monitor the road. Mr. Lauermann indicated again, that as soon as the weather permitted the speed limit trailer would be up on Bridgeton Avenue, the residents and the kids at the Vo-Tech would be told about the speed limit, given some time to adjust and after that tickets would be issued. Mr. Stanzione stated that if students from the Vo-Tech were stopped and issued a ticket, they would no longer be allowed to drive their vehicles to the school.

Mr. John Barbagello, Emergency Management Coordinator approached the Committee and made some suggestions. Mr. Barbagello indicated that because of the snow the drains can not be found, so he suggested that markers be put where the drains are so they could be located. Mr. Barbagello mentioned some drains in the Township that have not been cleaned out. Ms. Musso asked if a list could be made of the drains that are not cleaned out to be given to the County. Mr. Laurella stated that the County should know where their drains are. Ms. Musso indicated that a letter should be sent to the County asking them to clean out the drains in the Township.

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

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

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

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

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

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John Stanzione, Chairperson  
Township of Deerfield

ATTEST:

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Karen Seifrit, Clerk  
Township of Deerfield