

**REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**January 6, 2015
DELRAN, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

SUNSHINE STATEMENT: Be advised that proper notice has been given by the Township Council in accordance with the sunshine law in the following manner. Notice advertised in the Burlington County Times and Camden Courier Post on December 23, 2014 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

ROLL CALL: Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone were present.

ALSO, PRESENT: Mr. Paris, Mayor, Mr. O'Donnell, Solicitor, Mr. Hatcher, Administrator, and Ms. Eggers, Municipal Clerk.

Mayor and Council presented the signs to the winners of the Holiday House Decorating Contest.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN

ORDINANCE 2015-1

**AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion, seconded by Mr. O'Connell to adopt the ordinance on first reading.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN

ORDINANCE 2015-2

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN AMENDING CHAPTER 150 OF THE
TOWNSHIP CODE TO ESTABLISH A FEE FOR A THIRD PROPERTY LIEN
REDEMPTION REQUEST**

Ms. Pangia made a motion, seconded Mr. Schwartz to adopt the ordinance on first reading.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

RESOLUTIONS

**TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN
RESOLUTION 2015-8
ADOPTING 2015 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

Mr. O'Connell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schwartz to adopt Resolution 2015-8

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

**TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN
RESOLUTION 2015-9
REFUNDING DUPLICATE TAX PAYMENT**

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pangia to adopt Resolution 2015-9.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

MOTIONS

Mr. Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to accept the report of the Tax Collector, CFO and the Township Clerk.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

Mr. Schwartz made a motion granting the mercantile licenses listed below. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kolodi.

1. Exotic Automotive Group, 207A-15 Carriage Lane
2. NJ Affordable Auto Sales.com, 209A-4 Carriage Lane
3. Zack Auto Sales, 207-18 Carriage Lane
4. 5 Points Auto, LLC, 150-4 Carriage Lane

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

REPORTS

Ms. Eggers – No report.

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher had two items to report on. The first item is the new phone system which is being installed tomorrow, January 7, 2015. The phones will be down for a short period of time in the afternoon from about 3 pm to 3:30 pm in order to complete the installation. Secondly, Mr. Hatcher offered kudos to the Tax Department. Mr. Hatcher stated he has been here for 26 years and this is the first year he remembers having a 99% collection rate. We have always hovered around 96% to 97% but to reach 99% in the collection rate is good news.

Mr. O'Donnell – No report.

Ms. Pangia – No report.

Mr. Schwartz – No report.

Mr. O'Connell – Mr. O'Connell stated this is his first meeting and he is very happy to be a part of Council. Mr. O'Connell congratulated the residents who won the house decorating contest and thanked them for making the town festive during the holidays.

Mrs. Kolodi – No report.

Mr. Catrambone – No report.

Mr. Paris – No report.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. O'Connell to open the meeting to the public for any questions. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Jeff Bodnar, 116 Kathleen Avenue, stated he had not been here in quite a while but came tonight with four questions. The first question was asking for an interpretation on an ordinance dealing with noise. Mr. Bodnar stated that he called the police this past summer because his neighbor behind him was playing music rather loudly. They had speakers by their pool in the back yard and the music was an annoyanc. This has been going on for twenty years and he finally said that this is enough and called the police. In reading the ordinance he said the noise was bothering him and he feels he has rights too. He called the police and asked them to check and see what they thought of the situation. The officer came to his house and said there is nothing that they could do. The officer said he stood in front of their house and in front of Mr. Bodnar's house and he did not hear anything. Mr. Bodnar said to the police officer to come to the back yard and listen as this is where the issue is. The officer did not want to go to the back yard. Mr. Bodnar asked the police officer that if the sound does not go beyond the street, then it is not an issue but the noise is OK in the back yard. Mr. Bodnar did not feel that was right and said in the ordinance he specifically reads that the sound should not be more than what is in the room, in the cube or in the chamber. Mr. Bodnar interpreted the chamber to mean property line and the music should not be coming over to him. Mr. Bodnar asked since the police would not do anything then what does he do next? Mr. Bodnar said there is a lot of different music today and everyone is not happy with the music out there today. Mr. Bodnar feels that the ordinance needs to be updated to bring it up to the times and not to specify what type of music can be played but change it to say "property line". Mr. Bodnar feels that if the music is bothering him, he should be able to say that it is bothering him and something should be done. Mr. Bodnar said he did talk to the neighbor numerous

times and this has not brought about a resolution. Mr. Bodnar wants to know what he should do if and when this happens again.

Mr. Catrambone asked for the time of day that the music was being played.

Mr. Bodnar said around 2 in the afternoon.

Mr. Catrambone asked if there were any obscenities in the music and

Mr. Bodnar stated no, just regular music.

Mr. Catrambone said they will look at the ordinance and see if there is something that can be done.

Mr. Bodnar stated that the Voorhees Township ordinance states that the music cannot go past the property line.

Mr. Bodnar said his second question is concerning dogs barking. Mr. Bodnar stated that he has a new neighbor that recently got a Beagle and the dog howls. Mr. Bodnar went over to the neighbor and said he did not want to listen to their dog. Mr. Bodnar wants to know what to do about a barking dog. Again, Voorhees ordinance is very specific such as more than 5 minutes of barking is an infraction. Mr. Bodnar asks if he should call the police. He was told that he should call the police if the dog is bothering him.

Mr. Bodnar asked about a house on Swedes Run which is now a 3,000 sq. ft. house. Their taxes are \$6500 a year and his taxes are higher. The Tax Assessor told Mr. Bodnar that the house in Swedes Run with the addition does not have a CO yet. Mr. Bodnar cannot understand how they can be living in a house without a CO and paying \$6500 in taxes per year. Mr. Bodnar would like to see that when someone puts an addition on their house that at a certain point of time their taxes should reflect the addition. Mr. Bodnar wanted to know when do you charge for additions.

The Solicitor replied it comes down to "are you occupying the property".

Mr. Catrambone said that Council would do some research and come up with an answer.

Mr. Bodnar then stated there is a road issue in Swedes Run on the corner of Patricia and Diane. The house on the corner of Patricia has a sump pump that runs onto Diane Avenue; however, the water runs across Diane and freezes.

Mr. Paris stated that when that road comes up for a repair they will look into this problem.

Mr. Bodnar thanked Council and said they are doing a good job.

Bob Gilbert, 75 Stewart Avenue asked if the Township can apply for a freeze on their taxes. He asked if there is an age requirement. He was told that 65 was the age and that is a state program.

Mr. Gilbert said that when there was a flood in his area, the police officer drove up on his lawn and left some big ruts. Mr. Gilbert does not feel that any police officer has the right to drive their 4-wheel vehicle on his property and leave ruts in his yard.

Mr. Hatcher stated this was brought to the attention of the Chief.

Mr. Gilbert also stated that he already informed Councilman Schwartz concerning the telephone poles and particularly the one at the corner of River Drive and Stewart is leaning and the next one in is leaning and the pole across from 88 Stewart. Mr. Gilbert feels that one of these days they may fall.

Mr. Hatcher stated that Councilman Schwartz brought the matter to his attention and PSE&G has been contacted through the Public Works Superintendent. Mr. Hatcher stated that they will stay on top on this issue.

Mr. Gilbert wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulations to the re-elected officials and to the new councilperson.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. O'Connell to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted,

Jamey Eggers
Municipal Clerk