

**REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**February 28, 2012
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, 2011 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pomeranz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow were present.

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

Mayor Paris and Council presented Captain Potts with a plaque in honor of his retirement.

Mr. Morrow made a motion seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to approve the minutes for January 4, 2012, January 16, 2012 and January 24, 2012.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pomeranz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow voted aye.

Ayes: 5
Nays: None

ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING

**TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN
ORDINANCE 2012-2**

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

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of

its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Delran Township Council of the Township of Delran in the County of Burlington finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2012 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Delran Township Council hereby determines that a rate of 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 408,333 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Delran Township Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Delran, in the County of Burlington, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2012 budget year, the final appropriations of Delran Township shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A.40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5% amounting to \$12,074,988 and that the CY 2012 municipal budget for the Township of Delran be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Morrow. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

There were no comments.

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

Mr. Morrow made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to adopt the ordinance on second reading.

There being no question, the roll was called.

Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow voted aye. Ms. Pomeranz voted nay.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 1

Motion Approved

RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 2012-22 Endorsing the Municipal Recycling Tonnage grant program

Resolution 2012-23 Refunding Overpayment for Certificate of Occupancy charge of \$35.00

Resolution 2012-24 Refunding Homestead Rebates Received for Totally Disabled Veterans

Resolution 2012-25 Refunding Planning Board Escrows

Resolution 2012-26 Approving Raffle License # 424 & 425 for Delran Middle/High School PTA

Resolution 2012-27 Approving Raffle License # 426 for St. Charles Borromeo PTA

Resolution 2012-29 Approving Raffle License # 427 and 428 for Pope John Paul II Regional School

Resolution 2012-30 Awarding the Towing Contract to Lenny's Towing

Resolution 2011-31 Awarding the Animal Control Contract to Independent Animal Control for a two year period in the amount of \$18,000 per year

Mr. Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to adopt the resolutions.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pomeranz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow voted aye.

Ayes: 5
Nays: None

Motion Approved

MOTIONS

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion authorizing the payment of bills including all purchases made under the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morrow.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pomeranz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow voted aye.

Ayes: 5
Nays: None

Motion Approved

Mr. Morrow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pomeranz to accept the report of the Tax Collector/CFO and the Township Clerk.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pomeranz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow voted aye.

Ayes: 5
Nays: None

Motion Approved

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

1. It's On! Boxing/MMA, 1060 Chester Avenue
2. The Sailing School, 8 Reserve Avenue
3. Kate Beauty Supply and Hair Braiding, 4000 Route 130 North, Suite 17

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pomeranz, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Morrow voted aye.

Ayes: 5
Nays: None

Motion Approved

REPORTS

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher reported that regarding Resolution 2012-22 authorizing the Recycling Tonnage Grant, Mr. DeSanto works very hard and will receive an approximately \$20,000 grant. He thanked all the residents to the continued recycling efforts

Mr. Hatcher stated that the Police Department also received a \$25,000 grant for the purchase of a device that allows you to read license plate tags that will give a list of any infractions.

Ms. Pomeranz – Ms. Pomeranz stated that the Historical Society meets on the third Thursday of every month and next month they are having an open meeting to learn how to trace your family history. If you are not a member of the Historical Society, the fee is \$5.00 but the cost to join is only \$10.00.

Beginning at the next public meeting there will be a drop box in the lobby. The box will only be there on the day of the meeting.

Ms. Pomeranz stated that we have also received the report from the Army Corps of Engineers today. Once we have a chance to review the report, we will most likely discuss the issue at a future work session.

Ms. Pomeranz stated that she wanted to clarify the comment from the January 24th meeting regarding Riverside Park flooding. When Mr. McCabe thanked her for helping the people in Riverside Park, the Mayor found it necessary to state that Councilman Schwartz should receive the credit. She wants to make it clear that the Councilman has been very active with the residents regarding Swedes Lake, to her knowledge he did not have any meetings with the residents of Riverside Park. The Engineer has requested permission from the NJ Office of Emergency Management to apply for a grant to help with the flooding. Since she was sworn into office, she has contacted the Army Corps of Engineers and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection to ask for their help. That led to the meeting held on January 13th. Following that meeting, they visited the areas of concern and also Swedes Lake. Since that meeting, they have requested that she gather as much information from the residents as possible. In speaking with the Army Corps, she addressed the issue of Swedes Lake. She wanted to clarify that anyone reading the minutes might think that she was attempting to take credit for something that she did not do. She stated that she has also been accused that she is making this political and it is not political. It is only about helping the residents of Riverside Park. To keep the record straight it was first addressed in May 2011, when the Engineer was asked to reach out to the Army Corps and then it was not addressed again until the September.

Mr. Morrow – Mr. Morrow stated that branch collection will begin March 1st. He reminded anyone to check the website and to please keep to the collection schedule.

Mrs. Kolodi – Mrs. Kolodi stated that the Historical Society meetings are very informative and they are looking to grow. They are asking the community if they have any items that will bring out the history of Delran that they reach out to them. She thanked them for the work they are doing.

Mr. Schwartz – Mr. Schwartz stated that he was a little surprised by Ms. Pomeranz and her comments. He appreciates the Mayor commenting on the tremendous amount of work he did regarding the flooding in Riverside Park and also at Swedes Lake. He was able to help quite a few people and that speaks for itself.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he attended a service at Abundant Light Church that was dedicated to children and the residents of Delran. It was a very nice event.

In regards to the Tenbytowne fire, the work that our Fire Department did prevented a major catastrophe. It was an outstanding job and they should be very proud.

Mr. Schwartz thanked Mr. Paris for visiting the residents in the Cambridge section that had some concerns over property issues.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he wanted to recognize Grayson Edward Kapferer, the son of Jerome Kapferer, a Mt. Laurel Firefighter, who passed away tragically at seven days old. As a member of the Mt. Laurel Fire Department, he has responded to Delran on many occasions and he just wanted to have his name as part of the record.

Mr. Catrambone – Mr. Catrambone stated that he wanted to briefly discuss the five minute policy. Mr. Catrambone stated that since he has been on Council the policy has been to allow five minutes per resident during the public portion of the meeting. All we were looking to do was put this policy in writing. It gives everyone an opportunity to speak.

Mr. Catrambone stated that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 24th at Noon sharp.

Mr. Paris – Mr. Paris stated that last year during the summer almost every Council member was there with the residents during the heavy storm. Mr. Paris stated that when the meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers was set up, he was not made aware of the meeting. He would have liked to have Council meet

with the Army Corps first to come up with a game plan and then meet with the residents.

Mr. Paris stated that next month we is having a meeting with NJDOT to discuss the areas of concern on Route 130 and Fairview Street. He is hoping we can receive some grants.

Mr. Paris stated that we held our final meeting on the budget and we are in very good shape. He thanked the Department Heads for their hard work.

Mr. Paris stated that we have begun to look at the roads for 2012. We are considering Swedes Run Drive, Tenby Chase Drive and Brown Street.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Morrow made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to open the meeting to the public for any questions. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Mr. Barker, 154 Drew Court, asked Mr. Catrambone what he meant, in the interview with the Burlington County Times, when he stated that he recognized an agenda at the last public meeting when residents were asking questions.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he felt the residents had an agenda to monopolize the meeting.

Mr. Barker asked if the five minute policy includes the time it takes Council to respond to a question.

Mr. Catrambone stated that it would include the entire conversation. The policy is a last resort to try and keep the meeting moving.

Mr. Barker stated that sometimes they ask a question and they do not get an answer. He asked a question at the last meeting regarding the surplus in the Sewer Budget and he did not receive an answer. When he was on the Sewerage Authority, they had a report at each meeting showing their surplus, debt and income.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we have that information. He is not sure if we have that information tonight but asked Mr. Hatcher to respond.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we ended 2011 with approximately \$1,000,000 in surplus for the Sewer Utility Budget.

Mr. Barker asked what we are going to do with that surplus.

Mr. Catrambone stated that it will remain in surplus.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we will utilize approximately \$300,000 to balance the budget.

Mr. Barker stated that when he was on the Authority they were going to give a 5% reduction and last year his bill went up 35%.

Mr. Morrow recommended that residents attend the work session to hear the discussions.

Mr. Sacca, 514 Leon Avenue, and Mr. Calisti, 502 Leon Avenue discussed their concerns over the condition of Lake Lonnie. Mr. Sacca thanked Mr. Paris and Mr. Schwartz for meeting with him to go over the issues. There are numerous trees that have fallen on the property. He stated that there was a significant effort to clean up Faunce Street Park and also the area in Lake Lonnie that borders Fifth Street. Mr. Sacca stated Public Works has been out cleaning up the area but he would like some confidence that they will continue. There has been some suspicious activity in the area.

Mr. Hatcher stated that Public Works was in Lake Lonnie cleaning up the west end for two weeks and they moved to Faunce Street Park. They have returned to Lake Lonnie. This is not just spring cleaning, those two parks were devastated with fallen trees. They are going to try and get as much done as possible before the grass cutting season.

Mr. Sacca stated that for safety reasons, it would be nice if there was a little buffer between their property and the wooden area.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he recognizes that this is a consistent issue with the Green Acres areas because they have been ignored for years. He is also going to meet with the Fire Department to discuss the issue of emergency access.

Mr. Hayner, 23 Frech Avenue, stated that there are three vacant houses on his street and asked what Council can do to help clean them up. They are 10 Frech, 15 Frech and 21 Frech.

Mr. Catrambone asked Mr. Hatcher to look into the properties and start the process of cleaning them up. Unfortunately, we are having more issues with vacant properties.

Mr. Jordan, 503 Haines Mill Road, asked what he can do to be more aware of the things happening in town. He was not aware of the Fire District Election.

Mr. Catrambone reminded Mr. Jordan that the Fire District is separate from the Township. They are trying to move all Elections to November. The School will move to November this year.

Mr. Jordan recommended that we have a service fee for fire calls that we can charge the homeowners insurance. Mr. Jordan asked why the Township does not self insure.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we have been in the Burlington County Joint Insurance since 1999 so we are already self insured.

Mr. Jordan stated that each house should have a fire inspection performed and we should make some effort to try and keep people safe.

Mr. Schwartz stated that the Fire District holds their meetings on the same night as Council and they are open to the public.

Mr. Pfeffer, 43 Chester Avenue, stated that Council should consider donating money to the Historical Society so they can really get moving and put on a good show.

Mr. Paris stated that the Historical Society is a great thing and he would love to give them money but we have other groups that also request funds. We can not give to one without considering the other organizations.

Mr. Pfeffer stated that this is a group that supports the history of this town and he feels that they should take precedence over other groups. He asked that Council reconsider giving them a financial contribution.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she is going to be working with the Historical Society to help with fundraising ideas.

Mr. Pfeffer stated that the five minute rule is a way to silence the taxpayers. If a resident has twenty legitimate questions are they going to be cut off.

Mr. Pfeffer asked if the employees are beginning to contribute towards their health care.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the non-union employees began contributing October 1, 2011 and all other employees began contributing on January 1, 2012.

Mr. Pfeffer asked the contribution amount.

Mr. Hatcher stated it is based on the benefit cost and the salary of the individual. At this time, it is roughly 1.5% of the employee's salary but will phase up over the next few years.

Mr. Pfeffer stated that he finds that 1.5% is not enough of a contribution. He feels that they should contribute 5% of their salaries towards health care.

Barbara Gallagher, 220 Sharrow Vale Road, stated that she feels if the Historical Society needs money they should have fundraisers, she does not feel the taxpayers should pay for that.

Mrs. Gallagher asked when the right turn lane on Hartford and Conrow will be installed.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we are looking to bid this project in the spring and begin the project right after school lets out.

Mr. Ogozalek, 401 Main Street, stated that all these years Council has had no problem with the five minute rule. He asked who called the police at the last public meeting.

Mr. Catrambone stated that the Solicitor requested that the police be called and Mr. Hatcher made the phone call.

Mr. Ogozalek asked who called for the resident to be removed.

Mr. Catrambone stated that it was the Solicitor.

Mr. Ogozalek stated that they can not control the meeting. If you recall the meeting on the dissolution of the Sewerage Authority, Council was asked fifty questions and they did not answer one.

Mr. Ogozalek stated that he feels that right turn lane will accomplish nothing to help that intersection.

Mr. Morrow stated that when the developer built Hartford Corners they should have been required to put in a traffic light.

Mr. Paris stated that he was pursuing developers for that area but with the economy, there was not enough interest. We would have liked to get a traffic light but this is the next best option to make it safe.

Mr. Ogozalek stated that Mr. Paris and Mr. Catrambone are two mean spirited people.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she hopes that Mayor and Council will continue to work together and have respect for each other.

Don McCabe, Faunce Street, stated that every year our taxes continue to go up \$300 to \$400. If taxes went down we would not have a problem, we can't afford to live in Delran.

Mr. Paris stated that we have worked very hard to keep taxes stable. We only control 20% of the total taxes.

Mr. McCabe stated that taxes have gone up every year. When he is done paying all his expenses, he has only \$1,000 left a year. Why can't we get together with the School Board to reduce taxes 5%. Mr. McCabe stated that other towns are doing this, Medford laid off half of their police force. They had to do this to keep taxes down. We need to look at helping the people. We can't just continue to do what we did yesterday. We don't need roads and we need to stop buying properties that we don't need.

Mr. Sacca, 514 Leon Avenue, asked if once everyone has had their five minutes if they are going to get another opportunity to speak.

Mr. Catrambone stated once everyone has a chance to speak, individuals that have already spoken will have another opportunity.

Barbara Gallagher, 220 Sharrow Vale Drive, stated that if someone has an issue with taxes, they should address the School Board. That is where most of our taxes go.

Mr. Morrow 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. Morrow to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted,

Jamey Eggers
Municipal Clerk