

**WORK SESSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**March 25, 2014
DELRAN, NEW JERSEY**

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 26, 2013 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Morrow and Mr. Catrambone were present. Mr. Schwartz was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Paris, Mayor, Mr. Hatcher, Administrator and Ms. Eggers, Township Clerk.

DELRAN SOCCER CLUB/DELRAN AA

Mr. Catrambone stated that we have representatives from both the Delran Soccer Club and the Delran AA and we are going to discuss what opportunities are available for them to help us with getting a soccer practice facility in town.

Kevin Meldrum, President of the Delran Soccer Club, stated that between the Soccer Club and the Delran AA there are over 1,000 kids enrolled in the soccer programs. Currently they are working off of four fields in town. With the travel program they need a bigger field. They are looking to see what the Township can do to find another area for strictly training facility. The game fields are used as practice fields and they are being torn up. We play soccer all year round and there is no break on the fields. We discussed an option last year about improvements to Conrow Park. The Soccer Club is willing to work with the Delran AA and Council to see what they can do with some of the space in town.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we talked about the possibility of using the area at Delran Community Park that will be dedicated to soccer in the future. We need to see what we can do to get this area improved to be used for a practice facility without investing too much since we anticipate the field to be a turf field in the future. We need to figure out how to get started.

Mr. Paris asked if this will be a joint effort between the AA and the Soccer Club.

Bob Kennedy, President of the Delran AA, stated yes. The Delran AA alone has 1,500 kids enrolled and combined with the Soccer Club there is close to 2,000 total. The permits for the use of the field would work the same way they do now.

Mr. Paris stated that we would love to do more at the field. With the winter we just had we needed to allocate additional money to the roads so we back off a little on Delran Community Park. We allocated \$150,000 and we have a grant for approximately \$94,000. With those funds we are looking at lights for the entrance, parking lot and one field. We do not have additional funds to be used to improve the soccer area right now. He knows Mr. Catrambone talked about fundraising but if they can try and pull the bulk of the money he does not feel it is a problem.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he does not feel it is a problem either.

Mr. Kennedy stated that they have landscapers that they have spoken to that are willing to step up and help.

Mr. Paris stated that we need to talk about the legal aspects of that issue.

Mr. Meldrum stated that the Soccer Club did a study on Conrow Park and what it would take to improve that area but an issue with the PSE&G easement came up. Mr. Meldrum asked what happens to their investment once the Township turns the area at Delran Community Park into a turf field.

Mr. DeSanto stated that if the field is to be used for practice they would not want to invest a lot of money on a practice field. The area is flat already, has two inches of top soil and has been seeded.

Mr. Catrambone stated that before we get ahead of ourselves, he asked Mr. Hatcher what volunteer landscapers are allowed to do on that property.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we would want them to outline what they would like to do with the area and then we could review the plan. The contractor for the complex is still working on punch list items. Right now they need to make everything that is wrong right, we would not want anyone going in there until those items are addressed. Right now the complex is still under control of the contractor. If an outline can be provided he can discuss it with the Engineer.

Mrs. Kolodi asked if they will need another facility for practice down the road if we turned that area into a turf field.

Mr. Meldrum stated that we would continue to look for more space. We originally were looking to improve the Conrow Field.

Mrs. Kolodi asked what the cost was to improve Conrow field.

Mr. Meldrum stated that it was about \$50,000 to level the field.

Mr. Paris asked that they provide a plan and they will discuss it with the Township Engineer to see what can be done.

Mr. Meldrum asked if the contractor was to level the soccer area.

Mr. Paris stated that he does not believe so.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he will take a look at the contract. The area was supposed to be graded.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we need to determine what is under the responsibility of the contractor. Then Council can determine if we want volunteer landscapers working on the field before the completion of the park. He asked what the anticipated date is for completion.

Mr. Hatcher stated that as soon as the weather breaks they will be able to finish up the punch list items.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we will talk to the contractor to see when they anticipate finishing the remaining items. He asked that they provide him with a clear plan on what they would like to do in the area.

Mr. Morrow stated that he believes that Mr. Winckowski stated that until the punch list items are completed they don't want anyone in the park.

Mr. Paris stated that they were originally hoping to be able to use the fields starting in June.

Mr. Catrambone stated that as soon as we get a clear date on the completion, at that point we can look into the improvements to the soccer area.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we would want as much of a detailed plan as possible.

Mr. Meldrum asked if Conrow Park is out as an option.

Mr. Hatcher stated that PSE&G has stated that they will review a plan. They basically notified the Township that nothing can be under the wires.

Mr. Meldrum stated that they do not want to go under the wires. They want to improve the existing field. They were told that they need to be fifteen feet from the easement.

Mr. Paris stated that we will need to determine where the easement is compared to the field and then we can address this with PSE&G. If they present them with a plan, we can look into the issue.

Mr. Catrambone asked if they use the baseball field on Don Detsch.

Mr. Kennedy stated that they have not been able to use that field all year because it is under water. They have kids that have not practiced yet because of the conditions. They need to be able to get onto the new turf field but from the conversations tonight he understands that can't happen right now.

Mr. Paris stated that because they are still working back there, we can't do anything right now.

Mr. Kennedy stated the once Delran Community Park is open, they will not need that field at Don Deutsch.

Mr. DeSanto stated that it is a great field in June but this time of year it is bad.

Mr. Paris stated that once the Delran Community Park is open, we wanted to look at the structure of all the fields.

Mr. Meldrum asked what they can do as an organization to go to the County regarding the grant funding.

Mr. Paris stated that they can contact the County to express their feeling.

Mrs. Kolodi asked if the schools allow them to use their facilities.

Mr. Meldrum stated that they have used DIS and the Middle School. The new Athletic Director has taken over the field use and they have taken the position that if we mess up the field we have to fix it. We worked at DIS to get goals and the field lined and we can only use that field at certain times now.

Mr. Paris stated that maybe we need to get together with the Athletic Director and the Superintendent.

Mr. Meldrum asked where the golf course stands with Council and if there will be building over there.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we had an agreement in place for the development. They came in and wanted to change that area and Council agreed that they did not want the agreement changed. Right now it seems to be stalled at this time.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we will talk to the Engineer about a completion date. He asked them to submit their plans on both Delran Community Park and Conrow Park for review.

Mr. Meldrum asked if sponsorship is an option for the new complex.

Mr. Catrambone that we are looking into that and Mrs. Kolodi has taken the leadership role.

Mrs. Kolodi reported briefly that she is reaching out to all the major businesses first. She is going right to the corporate headquarters and not to the local stores. She is letting them know that our complex is unique as it will have the special needs field. She would like to formulate a letter with the help of Council.

Mr. Kennedy stated that he met with TD Bank about a program that they offer and he has the information to give to Mrs. Kolodi. Mr. Biluk also mentioned Pepsi and Powerade for the possibility of sponsoring a scoreboard.

CDBG PROGRAM

Mr. Hatcher stated that we have received the Cooperative Agreement from the County. This agreement would continue the CDBG program from 2015-2017. If Council agrees, we would place this on the agenda for approval at the public meeting. Council agreed.

2014 SALARY ORDINANCE (NON-UNION)

Mr. Hatcher stated that it was discussed at a previous meeting to introduce the 2014 salary ordinance for the non-union employees. He has drafted the ordinance for Council to review. If everyone agrees this would be introduced at the public meeting.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he did not do the math but assumes the increase was based on the discussion of a 2% increase.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the increase is 2%.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he would like to discuss the next item on the agenda because it is related to this issue.

SALARY ORDINANCE – SALARY RANGE

Mr. Hatcher stated that he wanted to give Council the option of doing a salary range ordinance and then doing a resolution that sets the specific salaries. The issue we have now is that the salary ordinance set the specific salary for an employee and if we were to lose that employee during the year, we would need to amend the ordinance which takes about two months. If we adopted an ordinance for the salary ranges, we would only need a resolution to set the new salary. He is just providing this to Council as an option. We used to do the salary ranges about twenty years ago and then a resident felt that it was unclear, in order to be more transparent they went to setting the exact salaries by ordinance.

Council agreed to move forward with ordinance for the salary ranges. We will introduce the ordinance at the public meeting and once the ordinance is adopted we will set the salaries by resolution.

REPORTS

Mr. DeSanto – Mr. DeSanto stated that they began branch pickup and will start leaf pickup next week. Hopefully, we do not get any snow tonight and we will continue to fill potholes. They will also be preparing the fields as soon as they can.

Ms. Eggers – No report.

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher reported the Hockey League spoke to Council a few weeks ago about replacing the board at the hockey rink. They will be covering the cost and feel that they can have all of the boards replaced but the money is very tight. They are asking if Council will consider paying for the nuts and bolts that are needed for the project, which would cost \$333.00.

Mr. Paris stated that for all they are doing he feels that we could cover that cost.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the Delran AA will cover the cost.

Mayor and Council thanked him for that donation.

Mr. Paris asked that Mr. Hatcher let them know that the Delran AA will be covering that cost.

Mr. Hatcher reported that we were ready to adopt our budget and the Governor has changed the actuarial review of the pension system. Our bills are now going down \$73,000. Because we introduced the budget on time, they will more than likely make the adjustment at the County level and reduce the taxes. There was also an issue with the Safe and Secure Grant because we do not have a commitment letter yet. We have been going back and forth with the state and they may still allow us to adopt the budget with the amount included but if not, we would have to do a Chapter 159 once we receive the commitment letter. We will get clarification on whether we can adopt the budget next week or whether we will just hold the public hearing and wait to amend. It sounds like we will be able to adopt.

Mr. Hatcher reported that he received a call from a business owner that wants to put up a temporary sign and our ordinance is pretty tight on this issue. We only allow one grand opening and there have been some requests for re-grand opening which we do not allow. The business owner feels that the ordinance is unfair.

Mr. Morrow stated that this was one issue that was brought to our attention. He does not have an issue with the business having a re-grand opening. As a community we should try and help the business as long as the sign are not trashy and there is a time limit.

Mr. Paris stated that the issue is how many times we want to allow a business do this.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he did not bring this up to discuss tonight but he wanted them to be aware that if they request is made we have to tell them no.

Ms. Pangia stated that the Delran Business Association did want to discuss the ordinance with Council.

Mr. Paris stated that we need to review the ordinance before we discuss it with the Delran Business Association. Council agreed.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he has the opportunity to attend the PREMA conference in June at no cost to the Township but he will miss a meeting. He asked if Council has any issue with him attending the conference. Council had no issue.

Mr. Hatcher reported that the Deputy Court Administrator resigned today to become to take the

position as the Court Administrator in Mount Holly. We will need to coordinate with the Judge and the Administrative Office of the Courts to fill that position.

Ms. Pangia – Ms. Pangia stated that she has a proposed schedule for the Farmers' Market. They are looking at having different celebrations and theme weeks. There will be a meeting on April 22nd for anyone that wants to help. There has been interest from ASPCA to run an animal rescue week.

Mr. Morrow – Mr. Morrow stated that Greenwood Avenue is in bad shape. He asked how much is in our town and how much is in Riverside.

Mr. DeSanto stated that the road is ours up until Oberlin.

Mr. Morrow asked if it is on our road list.

Mr. DeSanto stated that it starts to get bad after Oberlin, so it is mostly in Riverside.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he believes that the last time the road was done it was half and half.

Mr. DeSanto stated that it is on Riverside's agenda to get fixed.

Mr. Morrow mentioned that Stewart Avenue is also getting torn up.

Mr. DeSanto stated that he agrees but it is not as bad as others.

Mr. Morrow asked if the Fairview Street Sidewalk project has been advertised.

Ms. Eggers stated that she does not believe so but will check with Mr. Winckowski.

Mrs. Kolodi – Mrs. Kolodi mentioned the businesses that she is reaching out to for fundraising for Delran Community Park. She is mainly reaching out to the major corporations. Mrs. Kolodi asked what she is allowed to say when she approaches the businesses.

Mr. Paris recommended that she work with Mr. Hatcher and Mr. Long.

Mr. Hatcher stated he feels that they will be fine as long as they stay away from the naming rights to the entire complex but he will check on this tomorrow.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she is mentioning that this is a special needs field, which makes it unique, and that we would like to do a veterans' walk. She asked if there is anything else they would like her to add.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he will reach out to her by e-mail once he formulates some ideas.

Mr. Catrambone – Mr. Catrambone stated that there is a resident that has constructed the dog silhouette signs for Notre Dame Field and is asking permission to put them up or have them put up. He recommended that he work with Mr. DeSanto to determine the locations.

Mr. DeSanto stated that it is not a problem but they cannot be held responsible if they are stolen.

Mr. Paris – Mr. Paris stated that he attended a meeting with Ms. Pangia on the DVRPC grant and he has turned the information over to Mr. Hatcher to see if we can qualify.

Mr. Hatcher stated that this item will be on the agenda for the next work session.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion to open the meeting to the public for comments, seconded by Ms. Pangia. All were in favor, motion approved.

Bob Kennedy asked that Council send him a bill for the nuts and bolts at the hockey rink. Also if they install the dog silhouettes, please let him know what the coaches should do with them.

Mr. DeSanto stated that he will work this out with them.

Mr. Morrow made a motion to end the public portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kolodi. All were in favor, motion approved.

Mr. Morrow made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to enter into closed session to Litigation- NJ American Water Company Tax Appeal, CWA Contract Negotiations, Personnel Issue, COAH Litigatio-8 Foxglove Drive. . All were in favor, motion approved.

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion to end closed session and reopen the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morrow. All were in favor, motion approved.

Mr. Morrow asked for an update on the Stewart Avenue project.

Mr. Hatcher stated that should have the equipment delivered early next week. Mr. Winckowski stated that it will not be a long project once it gets started.

Mr. Catrambone stated that base on our discussion in closed regarding 8 Foxglove Drive he is asking for a motion to approve the following Resolution.

TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN RESOLUTION 2014-40

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS TO RESOLVE LITIGATION REGARDING PROPERTY AT 8 FOXGLOVE DRIVE IN DERLAN, A DEED-RESTRICTED AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT

Ms. Pangia made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to adopt the Resolution 2014-40

There being no question, the roll was called.

Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Morrow and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

Mr. Morrow made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi. All were in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamey Eggers, Township Clerk