

**WORK SESSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**October 25, 2016
DELRAN, NJ**

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 January 12, 2016 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

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

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

Jake's Place Discussion

Mr. Catrambone stated that this item was requested to be placed on the agenda by Councilwoman Pangia. This request was in regards to the Engineer's report that the Municipal Park Grant application was due by December 2nd. Mr. Catrambone stated that he had subsequent conversations with the County and in an e-mail dated October 21st, they indicated that the Freeholders were voting on the funding for the grant on October 27th and the grant applications would be distributed after that date and applications would be reviewed after the 1st of the year. Mr. Catrambone stated that he spoke with Jim Cummings, from Jake's Place and they agreed to meet with a sub-committee of Council that will be set up tonight. We also have a tentative meeting set with Mary Pat Robbie at the County who oversees the grant program.

Ms. Pangia questioned why they are setting up a sub-committee as opposed to using the Council liaison.

Mr. Catrambone stated that there will be some changes to the Council liaison.

Ms. Pangia stated that will be in January, not October.

Mr. Catrambone stated the Municipal Park Grant has a requirement that the project be completed with a twenty-four month timeframe and he wanted to make sure that this projected will be able to be completed within the county time frame. He is hoping they will waive that requirement. Mr. Catrambone stated that representatives from Jake's Place are in attendance tonight and we can answer any questions they may have.

Mr. Cummings stated that they would like some clarifications and a few items.

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

Mr. Catrambone stated that part of the conversation he had with Mr. Cummings was in regards to how the funds would be credited. Some members of Council were under the assumption that funds raised in Delran from Delran organizations would be credited to the Township's contribution and their fundraising would come from their events such as the gala and other sponsors.

Lynn Cummings stated that she brought the Memorandum of Understanding with her tonight and it is clear.

Jim Cummings stated that the last two paragraphs on the first page of the MOU outlines the fundraising.

Mr. Catrambone stated that his assumption was that the fundraising from events at the school and within the Township were to be credited to the Township's contribution.

Mrs. Cummings asked if there were questions on events other than Delran Day and Trunk-or-Treat.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that we believed that if the High School was working on a fundraiser from Jake's Place, those funds would be counted towards Delran's portion.

Mrs. Cummings stated that we all want the same thing and are on the same side. In terms on fundraising, they have three accounts. One is a general account, one is a Delran specific account and the other is a gaming account. Any funds that come into Jake's Place goes into the general account, then if the funds were designated for Jake's Place Delran it is transferred to the Delran account. Mrs. Cummings stated that they do not charge the Township for any postage or supplies. They send out 7,000 letters and took on all those expenses. As small as a non-profit as they are, they have expenses. At this time, they have \$62,000 in the Delran specific account and another \$82,000 in the general fundraising account. We can't fundraise fast enough. We have done an incredible job with community information. We have spoken in all the schools and have their support. The value added to Delran is the goodwill that is coming from all the promotion but we really need to put shovels in the ground. One of our partners in helping with an event coming up in April that hopes to raise \$50,000-\$60,000 but we need more. Mrs. Cummings stated that they also have a \$100,000 line of credit from Fulton Bank. If Council said tomorrow that we could put shovels in the ground, we would use all those funds and then continue to fundraise to put the money bank. There is not a whole lot of money that came from the Delran Day, Trunk-or-Treat and the schools.

Ms. Pangia stated that it is the Township's responsibility to contribute 35% of the total cost, any money raised by Jake's Place will be credited to the Jake's Place portion.

Barry Harper, 1 Ridgewood Avenue, stated that his involvement with Jake's Place came from running the Special Olympics at Holy Cross. His understanding was that Jake's Place would not approach the local businesses until the Delran AA was finished fundraising. Mr. Harper stated that Jake's Place doesn't want to lose the Municipal Park Grant. Once they have that in place it will be easier to fundraise for the rest. He wants everyone to understand that this park is not just for special needs, it is for people of all ages. Everyone at Jake's Place has such good intentions.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she also wants to do the best for all residents of Delran. She feels there was obviously a misunderstanding but it does not need to be contentious. We all want Jake's Place in Delran.

Mr. Catrambone stated that everyone at this table tonight agrees that we want Jake's Place and we just need to figure this all out. From what was discussed tonight, Delran needs to become involved in the fundraising for it to be credited to the Township's contribution. Mrs. Kolodi and the Delran AA have been very successful in their fundraising for Delran Community Park.

Ms. Pangia questioned how many bonds the Township has outstanding for the park. We do so much with bonds, yet we are not willing to bond our portion of the costs to build Jake's Place.

Mrs. Cummings stated that they were happy with one playground but when they were invited to Delran, their Board agreed to roll up their sleeves and do this again.

Mr. Schwartz asked when they would expect construction to begin on the playground.

Debra Gordan-Leonard, Jake's Place Board Member, stated that with the funds they have, the agreement from the County for the \$250,000 grant, the money the Township agreement to contribute plus the gala next spring and another 5K run, they could have shovels in the ground next fall.

Mr. Schwartz asked why the Council wouldn't bond \$200,000 to get this project completed.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we know tomorrow the County will approve funding of the next round of the Municipal Park Grant. We are very comfortable, applying for funding for the playground. We are just trying to work out all the details. If the Township were to bond our portion, it would be done in next year's budget and discussed at that time. In the meantime, we can fundraise for the playground.

Mrs. Cummings stated that we can fundraise together. That would show that we are both working together.

Mr. Catrambone agreed. If we need to bond to complete the project, he feels very confident that Council would agree.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that we have volunteers that would help as we all want to see the project completed.

Debra Gordan-Leonard stated that she wanted to go on record asking for Council's support with another 5K run next fall. We would love to have a start date for construction announced at the April gala.

Mr. Cummings urged everyone on Council to visit Jake's Place in Cherry Hill.

Mr. Catrambone stated that it is clear Council needs to take some actions. We will ask Mr. Hatcher to give an assessment on the Open Space Fund. We are all on the same page.

Joe Langer, 251 Southview Drive, questioned if the Township raises \$25,000 for the playground, could someone then say there is not enough money in the budget to complete the project or is it a guarantee that the funding will be provided.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he wants to see this project happen and without speaking for Council, he feels they agree. We do not know what will happen with the upcoming Township so he can't provide a guarantee.

Mr. Schwartz asked how much capital improvement money is needed to bond \$200,000.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we would need \$10,000.

Mr. Schwartz asked if we have that funding in the budget now and if we can introduce an ordinance now so that there is a guarantee.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the agreement is clear that we have to come up with 35% of the total costs. We will not know the dollar amount if the details are worked out.

Mr. Schwartz stated that we could always use the higher end of the amount.

Mr. Hatcher stated that if we used \$700,000, our contribution would be \$245,000. We would need approximately \$12,000 in down payment money. Mr. Hatcher stated that he believes there may be enough remaining in the capital improvement fund but he would need to verify.

Mr. Schwartz stated that it seems that we can pass a bond ordinance if Council chooses. If everyone wants to do this, let's get it done and we can all move forward.

Mr. Long stated that Council is committed by executing that agreement. Council can make a decision how to move forward.

Peggy Schweikert, 43 Cornell Drive, stated that everyone in this town all agrees that they want this to happen. Now that we are all together, why can't we have a Township fundraising committee for the playground.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she would be more than willing to work on fundraising.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we are all committed.

Reverend Wesley Allen, Board Member, stated that he understands that there was some confusion. He wanted to clarify that if he solicited money for the playground, that would go to Jake's Place contribution. Mr. Allen asked if the money from the Municipal Park Grant would also go towards Jake's Place contribution and not the Township.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he would need Council's to agree since it is typically a grant that the Township applies for. We all agree that the grant application will be for the playground but we haven't discussed whose contribution that funding will be.

Mr. Schwartz stated we need to agree how the grant will be divided.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she is not sure how she would split it right now. It is a municipal grant that we received for several years.

Ms. Pangia stated that her first suggestion is we agree to apply for the grant for Jake's and her second suggestion is that we consider putting together a bond ordinance for our portion of the funding for Jake's Place. That would show the County we are committed to the project.

Mr. Catrambone stated that the County has not even funded the grant. We feel we already agreed to apply for funding to build Jake's Place.

Ms. Pangia stated that we have not passed a Resolution.

Mr. Catrambone stated that as soon as we get the application, we will approve a Resolution.

Ms. Pangia stated that we can say that we are dedicating the grant to building Jake's Place. Also, if we approve a bond ordinance for the Township's portion, it should show the County that we will provide our contribution.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that part of our portion may come from the Municipal Park Grant.

Ms. Pangia stated no, that money goes to Jake's Place share. They have been negotiating with the County for over a year on the grant.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that was never the understanding. She will agree that the grant money will be used to build Jake's Place but for the last five years that money was allocated to the Township to build various phases of Delran Community Park. She is not sure that the \$250,000 should be fully credited to Jake's Place portion. The Township deserves credit for a portion of the grant. She was never under the understanding that the Township would apply for and receive a grant and then give full credit for that money to Jake's Place portion. Maybe we could work out an agreement to share the credit.

Ms. Pangia stated that they have indicated that they can't begin building the park without the grant and the Township's contribution. They have been working on this project for over a year with the County.

Thomas Morrow, 94 Pancoast Blvd., stated that this property was slated for over three hundred homes. When the Township first purchased the property it was intended for baseball/softball fields to eliminate the influx on neighborhoods and that's what was built. At that time, there were no County Municipal Park Grants. When they became available, the Township applied for the grant and received one in the first year. We then continued to apply for the grant year after year. The one year we didn't receive the grant was because the prior year's grant money wasn't spent in the required timeframe. Jake's Place came along a year or so after with started building the park. Mr. Morrow stated that he was a member of Council at the time and they were all in agreement to Build Jake's Place in Delran. We knew completion on the park would take time and be completed in phases. Mr. Morrow stated that he is all for the playground, he has a mentally handicap sister who at sixty-five would use the facility. He does have an issue when one Council member attacks another. Mr. Morrow stated that Mrs. Kolodi has the highest respect in this Township. She stands behind what she says and would never do anything to hurt this Township. If there was an honest person to stand next to it would be her.

Mrs. Gilbert, 75 Stewart Avenue, stated that the Special Needs Baseball League is still playing on Notre Dame. The Buddy Ball Field is not wheel chair assessable like it supposed to be. She would like to see her money going to Jake's Place.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he is going to suggest that we split the grant with 35% going to the Township's portion and 65% going to Jake's Place.

Debra Gordan-Leonard stated no, she has spent so much time and effort with the County working on the grant. The Township has an agreement to contribute 35% and if the County comes up with a \$250,000 grant, we will be ready to build next fall.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she believed the grant money from the County would always be used and she felt that would be part of the Township's contribution. She would like to see us share credit for the grant.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we are trying to do the appropriate thing for the tax payers of the Township. We are committed to using the grant funds for building Jake's Place, we are just trying to work out who will get the credit.

Mr. Allen stated that there was a commitment from the County that they would give the Township another grant next year.

Mrs. Cummings stated in the first town that they were going to build in they were not wanted so they left. This is not something that her grandson Jake would have wanted and it hurts her heart to the point that she feels perhaps they are in the wrong town. Maybe they stay in Delran and work directly with the County. She hears that everyone wants the playground but it doesn't feel like they do.

Mr. Schwartz stated in a way the Township used Jake's Place to receive grants in prior years by indicating that the playground was coming. They can't apply for the grant with the Township and we will not receive a grant without them.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to apply for the Municipal Park Grant with the use going towards the completion of Jake's Place and whatever amount the Township receives will be credited fully to Jake's Place portion. Ms. Pangia seconded the motion.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

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

Ayes: 3

Nays: 1

Motion Approved

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she is fully committed to fundraising for the park.

Request from Farmers Insurance – “Suits for Soldiers” Program

Joe Chascsa, 519 Arch Street, stated that he works for Farmers Insurance and they are running a program where they are collecting suits for soldiers returning from the military. They are asking for the Township to have a drop off box located in the lobby of the municipal building. The program will run until November 30th.

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Schwartz. All were in favor, motion approved.

Mr. Catrambone asked for a motion to enter into closed session for contract discussions with the Delran Junior Marksmen.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to enter into closed session for discussion on the following issues: Contract Issue Delran Junior Marksmen.

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

Request for use of Community Room from Providence House

Mr. Hatcher stated that we received a request from the Providence House for use on the Community Room for their annual Holiday Party on December 15th. This has been approved in the past. Council agreed.

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Holiday 2016 Grant

Mr. Catrambone stated that this grant provides \$5,000 for approximately 100 hours of enforcement. The estimated cost for the Township would be \$3170. Council agreed to submit the grant application.

Disposing of Surplus Bicycles

Mr. Hatcher stated that as requested, he reached out to the Urban Promise Organization and they have turned down the offer to donate the bikes to their organization. We are asking for permission to sell the bicycles through govdeals.com. Council agreed to adopt a Resolution a Resolution at the public meeting.

PSE&G Pole Project

Mr. Hatcher stated that PSE&G is seeking an extension into December on the previously approved to work schedule. They are requesting to work from October 28th – December 18th, seven days a week from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm. Council agreed.

Public Work's Superintendent Vehicle

Mr. Hatcher stated that Mr. DeSanto went out and looked at a few vehicles and found one he would like approval to purchase. The vehicle is a 2012 Ford Expedition with 93,975 miles and the asking price is \$18,995.00.

After discussion, Council agreed to place a Resolution on the public meeting agenda.

RFP Vacant and Abandoned Housing Services

Mr. Hatcher stated that the Township generated their own list based on properties we identified. Of the 103 on our list, 53 have become occupied, 22 have registered, 16 are being actively marketed and in good condition. That leaves 12 properties still remaining on the list that have not registered and are problem properties. We are working on locating the owners.

Mr. Schwartz stated that at this point a decision needs to be made on whether to hire a firm to handle this service.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he does not know what else is out there in terms of vacant properties. There are probably a number of vacant units in the condo complexes. Currently we identify them through the Police Department, Public Works and the Zoning Office. Some are also reported to us by neighbors.

Mr. Schwartz stated that in reading through the proposal there doesn't appear to be a risk to the Township so why are we waiting.

Mr. Catrambone stated that there are a few items in the RFP that we need to get cleared up. If there are only 12 properties remaining, is it really worth it to hire a firm.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he is not saying there are only 12 vacant properties remaining, that is only from the list that we have identified.

Mr. Schwartz stated that the hardest part is getting to the responsible party.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he feels that we need to meet with the firm to break down the RFP.

Ms. Pangia asked what number Faith Bass came up with.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he is not sure what the last number was he believes it was in the area of 150.

Ms. Pangia asked if Mr. Hatcher was going off the LIS Pendens list.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the list is not very helpful.

Ms. Pangia stated that even though homes have become occupied, there could be squatters living in them.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we are discussing a list from Faith Bass that we have never seen.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he believes the numbers are similar.

Ms. Kolodi stated that they are going to training the Township employees so it will fall back on them at some point.

After discussion, Council agreed to hold a special work session on Tuesday, November 29th to ask questions of vendor. Mr. Hatcher will reach out to the vendor to make sure they can attend that meeting.

Discussion on vacating a portion of Mulberry Street

Mr. Long stated that he sent the new owner two certified letters and called them every day for two weeks and has received no response.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we received the contact information from the neighbor Mr. Eiler.

Mr. Long stated that if we move forward with the vacation, each property owner will take half. We have one property owner that wants the entire road but that must be worked out between both owners. Mr. Long suggested we move forward with a reading tonight and then have the one property owner attend a work session before we have a second reading.

Council agreed that all expenses will be paid for by Mr. Eiler.

After discussion, Council agreed to wait until the public meeting to introduce the ordinance.

Transportation Alternatives Program

Mr. Hatcher stated that Mr. Winckowski provided a copy of the Resolutions for consideration tonight. The grant application for include installation of sidewalks on Creek Road and Bridgeboro Road. Mr. Hatcher reported that Mr. Winckowski did reach out to the DOT regarding the possibility of applying for pedestrian warning lights along Route 130; however they would not be eligible unless they were part of a street scape project. Mr. Hatcher stated that this is a very competitive grant.

Mr. Schwartz stated that if the Engineer doesn't believe we can get a grant, does it make sense to apply if the cost for the application is high.

Mr. Hatcher stated that they are projects that we have some passed information on so that cost should not be high.

Mr. Catrambone recommended that we put the Resolution on the agenda for the public meeting and asked Mr. Hatcher to get information from the Engineer on the total cost to prepare the application.

Ms. Pangia asked Mr. Hatcher to provide Council a copy of the grant application.

REPORTS

Ms. Eggers – No report.

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher reported that contractor is installing the foundation for the concession/bathroom building at Delran Community Park.

Concrete work has also started on Main Street and Fox Chase. Next Tuesday, they will be curbing.

Mr. Long – No report.

Ms. Pangia – Ms. Pangia reported that tickets for Trunk-or-Treat have sold out. It appears from the tickets that there will be approximately 400 kids. There will also be a hog cart and beverage truck along with pizza and apple cider. Jake's Place will also be holding a Paint-n-Sip at Holy Cross in November.

Mr. Schwartz – Mr. Schwartz stated that he received a few phone calls regarding the website publication regarding trash collection. There were some calculations thrown on the website that the residents have some questions about. He asked Mr. Hatcher to elaborate on those numbers.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the numbers reflect the difference between automated and non-automatic. Also with presumption that most town have seen 10-20% reduction in solid waste number, we used 5% as an estimated saving in landfill costs.

Mr. Schwartz stated that his opinion is that the Township website is to give details and not make presumptions. If we are going to show number, he would like to have the facts shown.

Mrs. Kolodi – Mrs. Kolodi reported that the Veteran's Appreciation Ceremony will be held on November 1st at 6:00 P.M. She was able to secure a speaker for the event, a Navy Surgeon who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was also just appointed as the 224 President of the medical Society of New Jersey. Mrs. Kolodi asked Council and the residents in attendance tonight to please spread word of the event.

Mr. Catrambone – No report.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Larry O'Leary, Oxford Road, thanked Council for their support of the swim meet. It was a very well ran event and put the Township of a very good light. Over the two days there were approximately 5,000 people that attended the event.

Greg Olear, 7 Teaberry Lane, stated that in reading the trash bid and the information posted on line there appears to be some inconsistencies. The bid indicates all we receive today and then asks for a price on automated and non-automated. In the bid it indicates that they will collect 10 cans yet the residents will only be provided with one can, which is equal to 3-4 receptacles. Also the bid indicates that the automated collection will begin on January 8th but now it seems that it will begin in December. Also, there seems to be some inconsistency with white goods collection.

Mr. Hatcher stated that white goods are not changing at all. Items such as stove, sofas and other large items can still be put out with regular trash. Mr. Hatcher stated that in terms of the containers, the residents are able to purchase additional containers.

Mr. Olear stated that if the bid was based on ten containers and know they are only required one, aren't we paying for something we are not provided.

Mr. Hatcher stated that they are not limiting the volume. They are only providing one container per the contract.

Mr. Catrambone asked that we review the bid to determine if there are any discrepancies.

Mr. Olear stated that it would have been more clear if there were two bids, one for automated and one for non-automated.

Larry O'Leary, stated that Republic Services is already using automated collection im some areas of town. They already pick his up. He assumes, he can still use the containers that he has along with the new container provided.

Mr. Hatcher stated all trash is required to be in the new containers. Mr. Hatcher stated that more information is coming on how to dispose of old container.

Linda Gilbert, 75 Stewart Avenue, stated that she does not believe they will use the same trucks they are using now.

Bob Gilbert, 75 Stewart Avenue, stated that unless they changed their trucks it will be similar to the way they pickup recycling.

Mr. Gilbert thanked Ms. Pangia for driving him to the Mission of Honors Ceremony and Mr. Schwartz for attending. They buried ten more veterans bringing the total 213. They have also reunited 293 cremains with family.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to end the public portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pangia. All were in favor, motion approved.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Pangia All were in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamey Eggers, Township Clerk