

**WORK SESSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**February 11, 2020
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 10, 2020 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Lyon, Mr. Mormando, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Burrell and Mr. Catrambone were present.

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

GREEN TEAM

Deb Hammond, 230 Paddock Way, stated that the Green Team is here tonight to address two issues. The first is the Community Forestry Management Plan. The Green Team is about to submit their second accomplishment report and are here tonight update Council on what they accomplished in 2019 and hopefully have the Mayor sign off on the report. The Green team focused this year on education and outreach regarding the emerald ash borer and the spotted lantern fly. We are continuing to compile the tree inventory of parks and playgrounds and will provide Public Works with a list of trees that pose a high risk and should be removed and trimmed. They will also use the inventory to determine areas where they need to plant additional trees. We completed the inventory of front portion of Notre Dame Park and there are two street trees that are hollow and should be removed. They are between the street and the sidewalk so they will not be replaced but they will be planting additional trees at Notre Dame Park on Arbor Day this year. Public Works continues to remove damaged and dead trees with the help of Paul's Tree Service. They removed several at Vermes Soccer Field this spring. One of the items that they decided to highlight was the purchase of the new leaf trucks. It is amazing the difference that the truck makes. Mrs. Hammond stated that is the highlight of the Community Forestry Plan.

Mrs. Hammond stated that the next item that they wanted to discuss is the Township Tree ordinances. We provided some recommendation and asked Mr. Carp to address that issue.

Mr. Carp, 33 Oneda Avenue, stated that they have reviewed our existing tree ordinance to determine if there are any better ways to protect our existing trees. We recommend changes that would discourage clear cutting. Developers should be required to provide a tree inventory as part of their planning process. Mr. Carp stated that Moorestown recently adopted an ordinance requiring that up to seven new trees be planted if a large tree is to be removed. We understand that it may not be possible to plant all the replacement trees on site. We would also recommend that a fund be established that developers can contribute to in lieu of planting. We would recommend \$350 per replacement tree. We also recommend that the Planning Board cap the amount of any one species to 10%. Diversity would limit the devastating impact to any one species. We would also like to exemption for a permit eliminated. Too many residents are removing healthy trees so they do not have to deal with leaves, acorns or seeds. The impacts of these removals affect the neighborhood. Residents should be required to obtain a permit from Public Works. The money from the permit should be dedicated to a new tree bank. In summary, we should assign responsibility for our trees to the Department of Public Works, update the requirements for a land development projects to better reflect what is happening today, remove the exemption for permits, establish a tier approach and compensatory planning, require diversity for new planting, create a tree bank and increase the fee to \$350. Since he has been on the

Green Team they have planted 1,125 seedlings but have lost more than that in the last year. We are looking for areas to plant trees with the guarantee that they will still be there twenty years from now. We can apply for grants to help accomplish this. We are in desperate needs of areas to help combat climate change and the diseases that can impact the trees.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he appreciated all the work by the Green Team. We obviously need to review the information and he passed the information to the Township Attorney. Council will review the information and discuss the options available.

Mrs. Hammond asked that the Mayor sign off on the Community Forestry Plan. Ms. Eggers will scan a copy of the plan after signature.

VFW REQUEST

Todd Epperly, Post Commander VFW Post 2020, stated that he is here tonight to asked Council to consider amending the ordinance to allow them to open earlier on Sunday's to allow them to host brunch fundraisers.

Mr. Catrambone asked what time they are looking to open.

Mr. Epperly stated 10:00 A.M. Currently they can not open until noon.

After discussion, Council agreed to amend the ordinance. Mr. Riso will provide a draft for the next work session.

PARK CLEAN UP AND IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Burrell stated that he has been working along with the Green Team on a community clean up day. The big picture goal is to get business and organizations to help with the clean up day. Senator Singleton volunteers in the different community and has offered to come into Delran to volunteer along with the Green Team on the clean-up day. We are asking for Council's approval to work together on the event. This would take place on Saturday, May 16th. They discussed this taking place at Notre Dame Park and Brown Street Park.

Ms. Parejo asked that Friendship Park be included.

Mr. Burrell stated that if there are additional volunteer they will spread them out amongst others.

Mr. Hatcher stated that in the past we have coordinated the event through Public Works and the Clean Communities Grant can cover the cost of supplies. Council will need to endorse the event.

Mr. Lyon made a motion, second by Ms. Parejo to endorse the event. All were in favor, motion approved.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TOUR OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Hatcher stated that a request came through the Township website from a Middle School teacher requesting permission to bring her class for a tour of the Police Department. Mr. Hatcher stated that he wanted to received Council's approval. Council agreed.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING SIGN

Mr. Hatcher reported that the 2019 capital budget included a new digital sign for the municipal building. He is looking for direction from Council before they work with the manufacturer.

After discussion, Council gave Mr. Hatcher direction on the sign design. They will work with the manufacturer and provide an updated design.

Mr. Lyon suggested adding parking out front for combated wounded veterans. Mr. Hatcher stated that they will look into this issue.

Mr. Catrambone also asked that we address the lighting issue out front.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the building does not have enough lighting.

TRANSFER OF TITLE

Mr. Hatcher reported that the Delran Emergency Squad has request to transfer the title of a 2000 Chevy Tahoe to the Delran Fire District. Mr. Hatcher stated that title is held by the Township for insurance purposes.

After discussion, Council agreed.

REPORTS

Ms. Eggers – No report.

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher reported that Council will received their budget books at the next meeting.

Mr. Riso – No report.

Mr. Lyon – No report.

Mr. Burrell – No report.

Ms. Parejo – No report.

Mr. Mormando – No report.

Mr. Catrambone – Mr. Catrambone reported that he has been working with Mr. Mormando on the annual meeting with the Delran Historical Society. We are still waiting to hear back from them on available dates.

Mr. Paris – Mr. Paris mentioned acknowledged the passing of Kim Dorety, an administrative employee in the Police Department. She was a twenty-year employee and will be greatly missed. Mr. Paris offered his condolences to the family.

Mr. Catrambone stated Mayor and Council will collect for flowers. The service is this Saturday at Givnish Funeral Home with visitation beginning at 9:00 am and service at noon.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

There were no public comments.

Mr. Burrell made a motion to close the public portion, seconded by Mr. Mormando. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Mr. Mormando made a motion, seconded by Mr. Burrell to enter into closed session for discussion on the following issue: Matters involving Attorney Client Privilege – Trash Contract Discussion.

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

There was no action taken after executive session.

Mr. Lyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Burrell. All were in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamey Eggers, Township Clerk