

**WORK SESSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**October 26, 2021
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 7, 2021 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Ms. Parejo and Mr. Burrell were present. Mr. Lyon was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Catrambone, Mayor, Mr. Siciliano, Solicitor, Mr. Winckowski, Engineer, Mr. Hatcher, Administrator and Ms. Eggers, Township Clerk.

ROUTE 130 CORRIDOR PLAN

Mr. Hatcher reported that the Route 130 Corridor Endorsement Plan is a review process to coordinate State, County and Municipal plans to achieve goals and policies of the State Planning Act. Completion of the plan endorsement makes communities eligible for benefits provided by State agencies. The County and the Township went through this process back in 2009 and the plan due to be updated two years ago but has been delayed due to covid. They are looking for the Township officials have been reviewing the draft plan and have submitted documents and questionnaire has requested. We held a zoom meeting with the County Coordinator for the plan along with the Township appointed review committee to provide additional input. All the information has been provided to the County Coordinator for inclusion in the plan. Tonight, we need to open the meeting to the public for any comments on the plan and adopt a Resolution endorsing the plan to meet deadlines.

Mr. Burrell asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public for comments on the Route 130 Corridor Plan Endorsement.

Ms. Parejo made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Jeney. All were in favor, motion approved.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Smith made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Jeney. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Mr. Burrell asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-178.

**TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN
RESOLUTION 2021-178**

**Statement of Intent to Pursue Plan Endorsement and Authorization to Submit the
Municipal Self-Assessment Report to the Office of Smart Growth**

WHEREAS, the State Planning Act recognizes that New Jersey requires sound and integrated land use planning and coordination of planning at all levels of government in order to conserve the state's natural resources, revitalize the urban centers, protect the quality of the environment, and provide needed housing and adequate public services at a reasonable cost while promoting beneficial economic growth, development and renewal; and

WHEREAS, Plan Endorsement is a voluntary review process developed by the State Planning Commission to provide the technical assistance and coordination of the State for municipalities, counties, and regional agencies to meet the goals of the State Planning Act and State Development and Redevelopment Plan (State Plan); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Plan Endorsement process is to increase the degree of consistency among municipal, county, regional and state agency plans with each other and with the State Plan and to facilitate the implementation of these plans and guide where and how development and redevelopment can be accommodated in accordance with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines incorporate, and expand upon, the principles of the Municipal Land Use Law in order to help towns plan for a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines require the preparation and submission of a Municipal Self-Assessment Report as the means by which a municipality assesses the consistency of its existing community vision and planning documents with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Township of Delran desire to obtain Plan Endorsement from the State Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Township of Delran has prepared a Municipal Self-Assessment Report pursuant to the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee has reviewed the Municipal Self-Assessment Report and recommends that the Mayor and Council approve it for submission to the State Planning Commission and the Office of Smart Growth towards the Township of Delran's pursuit of Plan Endorsement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of Township of Delran hereby expressly state the intention of Township of Delran to pursue Plan Endorsement by the State Planning Commission; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of Township of Delran approves the Municipal Self-Assessment Report and authorizes it be submitted to the Office of Smart Growth for consideration and review as part of the effort to pursue Plan Endorsement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of Township of Delran shall transmit a copy of this Resolution and the Notice as required by the State Planning Rules to the State Planning Commission and the Office of Smart Growth.

Mr. Jeney made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to adopt the Resolution 2021-178

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Ms. Parejo and Mr. Burrell voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

BEST PRACTICES

Mr. Hatcher stated that on an annual basis the State sends out the Best Practices Inventory that need to be completed by our CFO. The worksheet is then reviewed by Mr. Hatcher and certified by the Township Clerk that the Council has review the worksheet. Mr. Hatcher stated that a copy of the completed survey was provided in the agenda packet tonight for review. The Township is required to receive enough points on the survey to continue to receive all of our COMPTRA aid and Energy Tax aid. We more than meet the criteria to receive all our aid for 2022.

Council had no questions.

WE VALUE OUR VETERAN AWARD

Mr. Burrell stated that this program was brought to Council by resident Bob Gilbert. He was not able to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Hatcher has prepared a memo outlining the award.

Mr. Hatcher stated that there are a number of initiatives that Council can implement to receive the number of points required to receive the award which is 145 points. There are a number of initiatives outlined in the memo that will need to take place over 2022. There are a number of questions we included in the mercantile license application this year including whether the company is veteran owned and whether they would veteran designated parking or discounts. This is not a program that can be done overnight but the memo outlines the items we would need to implement to qualify.

Mr. Burrell stated that overall it is a great thing for the Township to administer to honor veterans.

Mr. Jeney stated that he agrees. In looking over the information we could easily be at 115 points.

Mr. Smith stated that anything we can do to support our veterans is great.

Ms. Parejo agreed.

Mr. Burrell stated that this will be a long-term project but we will continue to work with the Administration to move forward.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

Mr. Burrell stated that with Mr. Hatcher's retirement coming up this is one item that the Township will need to address.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we are only one of two towns that the JIF has allowed to waive the appointment of the RMC. Mr. Hatcher has served in that capacity since 1999. Moving forward, the Township is going to have to appoint an RMC for 2022. Mr. Hatcher provided a copy of the RFP and agreement put together by the JIF. The RFP can be advertised along with the other professionals for 2022. Usually the cost for the RMC is 6% of the annual assessment which would be around \$36,000.

After discussion, Council agreed to move forward with the RFP for the Risk Management Consultant using the draft provided by the JIF.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Mr. Hatcher stated that there are three budget transfer recommended by the CFO. Transfers cannot be completed until November but we wanted Council to be aware that a Resolution will be needed for the November Public Meeting. Mr. Hatcher stated that there may also be a transfer needed for trash collection but we are keeping an eye on that line item.

BODY CAMERA GRANT

Mr. Hatcher reported that the Police Department applied for and received a body camera grant in the amount of \$69,292.00. The grant is for a five-year period as we need to replace the existing equipment. Mr. Hatcher stated that a Resolution will be on the Public Meeting agenda for approval. Council agreed.

SEWER PICKUP TRUCK

Mr. Burrell stated that item was approved in the capital budget.

Mr. Hatcher stated that Sewer Department will be purchasing a 4-Wheel Drive pickup truck to replace an older truck. Mr. Hatcher stated that we have provided the specifications and the item will be purchased off the state contract with Winner Ford. This item will be funded from the Sewer Utility Budget, not capital. Mr. Hatcher stated that a Resolution will be on the public meeting agenda for approval. Council agreed.

TREE ORDINANCE

Mr. Burrell stated that this is the final draft has Council has discussed at prior meetings. If there are no additional changes needed, this ordinance will be on for first reading at the November Public

Meeting.

Mr. Jeney stated that the ordinance was put together very well and is very inclusive. This will help the Township protect our green areas in town and help stop removal of trees.

After discussion, Council agreed to place the ordinance on the November agenda for first reading.

REPORTS

Ms. Eggers – Ms. Eggers reported that we received a request from Joseph Chascsa to place a clothing bin in the lobby for a drop off location for the suits for soldiers. Council agreed.

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher stated that the contractor on Conrow Road has requested to perform the milling of the roadway at night starting tomorrow night through Friday to lessen the impact on the schools. They have requested to work from 5 PM – 1AM. The paving will be done the first week of November when school is off for a few days.

After discussion, Council agreed to the request. The resident will be notified.

Mr. Jeney made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to approve the work hours. All were in favor, motion approved.

Mr. Catrambone – Mr. Catrambone reported that with Bill Curzie stepping down from the Green Team, he will be appointing Rob Maher for a term to expire 12/31/2022.

Mr. Catrambone stated that there have been a number of questions regarding trick-or-treating since Halloween is on a Sunday. Although there is no official start time for trick-or-treating, we ask that residents wait until late afternoon to start and there is a 9 P.M. curfew which is set by ordinance. Please remember to be extra careful while driving on Halloween.

Mr. Catrambone reported that on October 14th, the Township hosted a tremendous event to celebrate Carli Lloyd. After being separated through the pandemic it was great to be able to hold the event outside and safely. He believes this is exactly what the residents wanted and especially what the children needed. Carli Lloyd is the epitome of hard work and the relentless pursuit of self-improvement. Her speech at the event was wonderful and each and every member of the Delran community has been inspired to be better versions of themselves because of Carli. We received tremendous support for the event from the volunteers to the corporate sponsors. Although not everything is in yet, it looks like 51% of the total cost of the event was offset by corporate sponsors and donations. The Philadelphia Eagles were nice enough to provide video footage for the evening which will be available soon. Delran Township Public Works did a stellar job as always. Mr. Catrambone thanked the Delran Police Department, Delran Fire Department, Delran EMS, Riverside Fire Department, Cinnaminson Fire Department, Burlington County Fire

Department, Burlington County Sherriff's Office and the NJ State Police. It was tremendous undertaking and planned in a much shorter timeframe.

Mr. Catrambone reported that he had the honor of attending the Burlington County Outstanding Women's award ceremony last week and would like to congratulate all the women honored that evening. A special congratulations to Delran's own Sylar Brotz, who was chosen for the Alice Paul Champion Award for raises sexual assault awareness through her work with Contact of Burlington County. We will be presenting Sylar with a proclamation at a future public meeting.

Mr. Siciliano – No report.

Ms. Parejo – Ms. Parejo reported that PSE&G has been working in Ward 1 and when their project is completed, the road that were disturbed by them will be fully resurfaced. The repaving will take place sometime in November, weather permitting.

Mr. Smith – Mr. Smith reported that with Halloween this weekend, the weather forecast showing rain which will bring down leaves. Please be careful and mindful of the stopping distance.

Mr. Jeney – Mr. Jeney echoed the comments from the Mayor regarding the Carli Lloyd celebration. It was exceptional for the Township but what is more impressive is the guidance, leadership and example Carli showed to the children in attendance.

Mr. Burrell – Mr. Burrell echoed the comments from Mayor and Council and stated that the Winter Festival is scheduled for December 10th. The event is just starting to be planned and if anyone would like to volunteer, they can reach out to the RAC.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Mr. Burrell stated that it is great to see the large group in attendance tonight. He reminder residents that if you would like to speak, please raise your hand and be recognized and approach front. Please state your name and address for the record. All remarks should be addressed to the Council President and each speaker will be allotted five minutes. All statements are part of the public record.

Patrick Duff, 615 Garden State, Haddon Height, stated that he grew up in Delran at 812 Chester Avenue. Mr. Duff stated that he is a researcher, writer and activist. He goes around to towns in NJ seeking OPRA requests. Just last year he sued six municipalities and won every single lawsuit. Mr. Duff stated that when he files against Delran, he can be sure number seven will be in his pocket because Delran is censoring comments on the Facebook page. What he finds appalling is that the Township is that the Township took on a Communications Director earlier this year, which he

believes was a move to try and silence dissent in Delran, that runs one of the Township Facebook pages that also censors comments. Mr. Duff stated that Carli Lloyd put his name on her fan page and told him to stop questioning the finances into the event to which he received hundreds of hate messages. Mr. Duff stated that the Mayor also put him on Facebook calling him the non-resident and stating that he was claiming coercion was happening with a variance, which Mr. Duff stated that he never claimed. Mr. Duff stated that his Attorney can prepare a lawsuit to have the Township open up the comments on the Delran Residents 2.0 Facebook page because it is being run by a public employee or have the person give up their admin status to the page. People need to have a voice. Mr. Duff stated that the first civil rights battle of Martin Luther King happened in Maple Shade, he was living in Camden, NJ. Mr. Duff stated that he was the researcher that brought this to light. He found things that no other researcher in the world has found about Martin Luther King. Mr. Duff stated that he wants a public apology from the Mayor for putting him on Facebook and saying he did things he did not and he wants the Facebook page open for comments.

Mr. Burrell congratulated Mr. Duff on his research regarding Martin Luther King. With regards to the other comments, we can't comment on litigation. Mr. Burrell stated that we will turn it over to the Mayor as Mr. Duff was referring to the comments on his Facebook page and about the Communications Director being the admin for Delran Residents 2.0.

Mr. Catrambone stated that the Delran Township official Facebook page is in legal compliance.

Mr. Duff stated the reason he started this in Delran was that there were some questions on the various pages about the cost of the event. He filed an OPRA request and was provided with a cost of \$37,633.88 which include the cost for fireworks. He put the information on Facebook and there were responses that there were donations for the fireworks. Mr. Duff stated that he filed another OPRA request for the donations received and was provided with different number. The third request was to clarify how much of the donations offset the costs of the event and Ms. Eggers responded none, which he released that information to the public. The lack of clarity, which should have been addressed in the Mayor's post, has caused the residents to feel something has been hidden. He asked that Township please clarify the numbers.

Mr. Burrell stated that all the financials are well documents. The OPRA request from Mr. Duff came early in the process and if the figures have changed it is because more purchase orders are being paid. Mr. Burrell stated that he did want to clarify the statement made about the donations not offsetting the costs. In order for the Township to accept donations, we had to establish a Dedication by Rider as permitted by N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-9. In 2018, we adopted the Resolution for the Dedication by Rider and created an account for Delran Events. The account is where all donations received by the Township for events are deposited. At the end, the donations offset the costs charged to the event.

Jeff Bodnar, 116 Kathleen Avenue, stated that when he came into the building he saw the sign that said masks required. He went back to his car for a mask and when he entered the court room, Mr.

Burrell was not wearing a mask. Mr. Bodnar stated that unless there is a requirement to wear a mask, he asked that the signs be removed.

Joe Jesuele. 18 Woodyfield Lane, stated that he attended tonight to let everyone know that he is running for State Assembly and he hopes that he has their support.

Patrick Duff asked if Mayor and Council could clarify the expenses for Carli Lloyd event.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we believe all the expenses have been received with the exception of the overtime costs. The total expenses were \$90,456.93. The total donations were \$46,166.00 of which \$7,000 as not been received but has been committed.

Patrick Duff stated that would have been an easy thing to answer with the OPRA request but the numbers seem to have changed.

Mr. Jeney made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, seconded by Ms. Parejo. All were in favor, motion approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At this time, Mr. Burrell asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-177 authorizing the executive session.

TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN RESOLUTION 2021-177

AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING: PERSONNEL MATTER – CHIEF OF POLICE

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10-4.6 et seq. (Open Public Meeting Act) provides for the exclusion of the public from public meeting for certain reasons; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to close the work session meeting of October 25, 2021 for the following reason:

1. Personnel Matter – Chief of Police

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting is closed for the reasons above in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeney to adopt Resolution 2021-177.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Ms. Parejo and Mr. Burrell voted aye

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

Mr. Smith 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. Jeney made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Smith. All were in favor; the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamey Eggers, Township Clerk