

**WORK SESSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**April 6, 2011
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 December 23, 2010 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

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

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

REQUEST FOR MILITARY LEAVE PAY

Mr. Hatcher stated that Officer Wallis will be leaving on May 1, 2011 for the military and is requesting 90 days of full pay; half pay for the remainder of his deployment and the continuation of his health benefits. In 2005, this benefit was given by Council, to Officer McCurdy. The current policy calls for 30 days. The estimated cost would be about \$56,000.

Mr. Moran stated that at this time he does not feel we can override the policy at this time.

Mr. Schwartz asked if Council had strayed from the policy in 2005.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he believes Council did deviate from the policy.

Sergeant Gasper stated that it is money that would have been paid to Officer Wallis if he was here working.

Mr. Moran stated that it is not easy but this Council has had to make hard decisions and they have to think about what would happen if three or four officers went into the military at the same time.

Mr. Morrow stated that the policy is there for a reason and he is not in favor of deviating from the policy. Those funds are put in place for the salary of a police officer.

Mr. Paris stated that because of the economic conditions it is a very tough time.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that this is the hardest decision she has had to make. She was worried most about the insurance. The policies are put in place to help the Township run efficiently. She feels that for the good of the town we should follow the policy. This was the policy in effect when the request has made.

Chief Parente asked if we would consider keeping his family on the health insurance.

Mr. Catrambone stated that this is a unique situation and obviously, the policy is put in place when emotions are not involved. He is concerned that the family may not have health insurance coverage and asked if until we get the proof that the family is covered we continue to provide those benefits.

Sergeant Murphy stated that once Officer Wallis is deployed it will be difficult to communicate with him.

Mr. Hatcher stated that it will be difficult to get information regarding health coverage from the military.

Mr. Catrambone asked that we reach out to anyone we can to make sure that the health coverage does not lapse. Council agreed.

Vicki Pfeffer stated that these men and women who enter into the military are not making an easy decision. They are over there fighting the war on terror so we can be safe here. Even though Officer Wallis will not be working as a police officer, he will be working for us.

Mr. Moran thanked her for her comments and stated that he tries to make decisions for the entire community.

Mr. Morrow stated that he understands and it is not a decision they have taken lightly. He stated that maybe we can take a look at it the next time we review the policies.

Pat Pomeranz, 21 Alden Avenue, asked if the policy was changed when Officer McCurdy went into the military in 2005.

Officer McCurdy stated that he attended a Council meeting and the policy was set at 90 days full pay, after the 90 days they matched base pay for the continuation of his deployment and continued to cover his family for medical benefits.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the policy was then changed to follow the state minimum regulations.

Pat asked what the state regulation is for healthcare.

Mr. Hatcher stated that regulation is they are covered for 30 days; however, they end up being covered for 60 days.

Pat stated that she does not want to comment on the salary issue but feels that we should continue to provide health insurance for the family.

Council agreed to follow the policy on this issue. They would be willing to revisit this issue on a month to month basis should there be a lapse in healthcare.

Mr. Moran made a motion to deny the request made by Officer Wallis. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kolodi. All were in favor, motion approved.

TRASH COLLECTION BID

Mr. Hatcher stated that our trash contract expires on September 30, 2011. We will go out to bid at least sixty days prior to that date. We met with Republic Services to have a discussion about automatic services, which would require 96 gallon cans similar to the recycling can. He is asking that Council consider placing this as an alternate to the bid.

Mr. Moran asked if towns that have made this switch have seen a savings.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the towns that currently provide this service collect their own trash. At this time, no town uses a private contractor with this service.

Mr. Moran stated that we may also need to know if there are built in bulk days for the excess trash that will not fit in the cans.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we can control the bulk days. Towns have also seen an increase in recycling.

Mrs. Kolodi asked if the trash company would consider purchasing the cans.

Mr. Hatcher stated that if the company purchased the cans it would end up in the operational costs, which would hurt us with the 2% cap. In his opinion, the two options we have are either to bond the purchase on the cans or have a lease to purchase program.

Council agreed to put this in the bid as an option. Mr. Hatcher will begin putting together questions that Council will need to answer for the bid packet.

CDBG PARTICIPATION

Mr. Hatcher stated that this is a county grant program. This grant has provided all the handicap ramps throughout town and we most recently have applied to resurface Roland Street. If Council would like to continue with this program, we would place the resolution on the agenda for the public meeting. Council agreed.

CLEAN COMMUNITIES DAY

Mr. Hatcher stated that we receive a clean communities grant every year and we would like to have a Clean Communities drop-off day. Jerry DeSanto, Public Works Superintendent would like to hold the drop-off days on April 28th and 29th from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. and April 30th from 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. They are also going to work with the High School and Girl Scouts to have a clean up day in one of the Township parks. Mr. Hatcher

stated that we will place this on the website and it will be advertised in the paper. Council agreed.

ABRASIVE ALLOYS

Mr. Hatcher stated that he wanted to bring this back because we have not had a lot of discussion on this property. This property was deemed a redevelopment zone and we entered into an agreement with a developer to clean the property up in exchange for giving him zoning approval for thirty town homes. Nothing has been done with the property and it is dangerous. He wanted to bring this to Council's attention because all the deadlines given to the developer have passed.

Mr. Paris stated that he may have some other ideas for the property.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he has received a proposal for the demolition of the building but if we decided to move forward, we would need to go out to bid for the demolition. The proposal we received was \$29,000. He asked that we have the Solicitor review the agreement and make contact with the developer.

SEWER ORDINANCE AND BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Hatcher stated that he forwarded some of the information for both the sewer budget and municipal budget that will be placed on the website prior to public hearing. The information is not complete; it will be supplemented over the next week once we receive information from the school and county.

Mr. Morrow asked if the base fee of \$102.75, which is a 25% increase, for sewer is correct.

Mr. Hatcher stated yes that is correct.

Mr. Catrambone asked if we should place something on the website notifying residents when the sewer bills will go out.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he will draft something and send it to him tomorrow.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we may also need to amend the budget because a grant for the Fire Department was left out. Public Hearing on the budget is set for April 26, 2011.

DELTRAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY EVALUATION

Mr. Hatcher stated that the sewer plant has met all the requirements mandated for the inspection from the Department of Environmental Protection.

REPORTS

Mr. Marmero – Mr. Marmero stated that in quickly reviewing the developer's agreement for the Abrasive Alloys property it should expire one year after they receive their approvals.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he will look and see when or if that happened.

Mr. Moran – Mr. Moran stated that he is giving his thirty day notice and will be resigning from Council. There are other things going on in his life and he has to do this. He will miss everyone here and will stay until the end of the month. He will talk more about this at the public meeting.

Mr. Paris stated that he has appreciated everything he has done and will miss him on Council.

Mr. Catrambone – Mr. Catrambone stated that everyone received an invitation to walk in the Memorial Day Parade in Riverside. He encouraged everyone to participate. He will take care of ordering the wreath for the event.

Mr. Catrambone handed out to Council census information provided by the River Route Advisory Committee.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he has found a new hosting company for the website that will charge \$200 for the year, which is half the cost we currently pay.

Mr. Catrambone asked how he should notify them of potholes.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he can report them to him by either phone or e-mail.

Mr. Catrambone stated that some of them attended Congressman Adler's funeral today. It was a great ceremony.

Mrs. Kolodi – Mrs. Kolodi stated that she has been receiving a lot of calls on the cell tower being placed on Conrow Road.

Mr. Paris stated that this is an issue for the Zoning Board and not Council.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that Mr. Moran was a great teacher for her and she will miss him.

Mr. Morrow – Mr. Morrow stated that the storm sewer, right before you get to Route 130 on Tenby Chase Drive, appears to be collapsing.

Mr. Hatcher will take a look at this.

Mr. Morrow stated that he respects Mr. Moran's decision to resign. He stated that they have learned a lot together and will truly miss him.

Mr. Morrow stated that he got to know Congressman Adler and he has done a lot for Delran Township. He will be truly missed.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Pat Pomeranz, 21 Alden Avenue, asked if there is a layout of what is planned for the Myers Tract.

Mr. Hatcher stated that there are preliminary plans that she can review in his office.

Pat stated that it seems the county will not pick up the blue recycling buckets if the lid is open.

Mr. Hatcher will reach out to the county but he believes that they are picking them up. He stated that the residents should also call the county when that happens.

Pat asked what Council intends to do with the TAR construction property off of Pancoast Blvd.

Mr. Morrow stated that we have had some recommendations for a dog park, community garden or butterfly garden. We definitely intend to keep the property as natural as we can.

Pat asked if the developer that wanted to build the houses walked away from the property.

Mr. Paris stated that Council decided to purchase the property for Open Space.

Mr. Morrow stated that we are trying to protect our neighborhoods by maintaining our open space.

Mr. Marmero stated that this property will be taken through eminent domain.

Mr. Catrambone stated that the Master Plan committee wanted to maintain established neighborhoods, which that area is one of the most established neighborhoods we have.

Dolores Cannone, reminded Mr. Hatcher that nothing has been done with the corner of Little and Lichtenthal where the road is sinking. She understands that it is in Riverside but it is very dangerous.

Mr. Hatcher will find out what the status is and then report that information to the Solicitor.

Mrs. Morrow, Pancoast Blvd., asked whether TAR Construction was still on the agenda for the Planning Board tomorrow night.

Ms. Eggers stated that as of today the Planning Board Secretary was still trying to determine whether they would be on the agenda tomorrow.

Mr. Marmero recommended that the residents reach out tomorrow to find out if the meeting was still on.

Mr. Catrambone made a motion to end the public portion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jamey Eggers, Township Clerk