

**WORK SESSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**December 5, 2012
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, 2011 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

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

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

52 NORMAN AVENUE

Mr. Hatcher stated that we had a resident come in and requested that we place two signs on Norman Avenue for autistic children in the area.

Mr. Morrow stated that we have approved the placement of the sign on both Pancoast Blvd. and Notre Dame Drive. He has information on a website where the signs are reasonably priced.

Ms. Pomeranz asked how much the signs costs currently.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the total cost is about \$150.00. He asked Mr. Morrow to send him the website tomorrow and he will take a look.

Council agreed to allow the placement of two signs on Norman Avenue.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Mr. Hatcher stated that we need to adopt a Resolution that allows the CFO to make any necessary transfers between the December 19th Public Meeting through the end of the year. Council agreed.

RIVERLINE SHARED SERVICE

Mr. Hatcher stated that the Police Chief has recommended that we do not enter into the shared service. Basically, he feels the shared service is pushing the responsibility onto the Township. He has attended the meetings and he does not feel that this will help the community in Delran and it will hurt the man power in the police department. We do not have a stop here in Delran. Council agreed to hold off on a decision until Councilman Schwartz is in attendance. We will discuss this again in January.

POLICE UNIFORM BIDS

Ms. Eggers stated that we opened bids today and the low bid was from Red the Uniform Tailor, Inc. The bid was for \$ 22,949.50. The Chief has reviewed the bid and is satisfied with the proposal. If Council is in agreement, we will adopt a Resolution at the Public Meeting. Council agreed.

SCHOOL ZONE FLASHER

Mr. Hatcher stated that Council had asked the Engineer to provide an estimate for a school zone flasher to be placed on Hartford Road. The total for the material is \$9,445.00 and the installation cost will be approximately \$2,000.00. Mr. Hatcher stated that we do not have the money in the budget for this year but Council can discuss this during the 2013 budget process.

TAX COLLECTION/PERMITS

Mr. Hatcher stated that we have an ordinance in place that states that if someone does not have their taxes up to date, then we will not issue certain permits and licenses. He wanted Council to be aware of the ordinance because there may be a need in the future for the Township to enforce the ordinance.

REPORTS

Mr. Hatcher – Mr. Hatcher notified Council that we have received a dividend from the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund in the amount of \$53,057.00. He suggested that we put \$25,363 in the excess loss contingency fund and take the remaining \$27,694 against this year's assessment. If you do this, we will have \$60,000 in the excess loss contingency fund for a tough year. This will also allow us to reduce the line item in the budget \$19,000 for 2013. If Council agrees, we will adopt a Resolution at the public meeting. Council agreed.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we will also need to adopt a Resolution at the Public Meeting waiving the appointment of a Risk Management Consultant. We have done this for many years. Council agreed.

Mr. Hatcher stated when a tort claim is filed against the Township there are certain forms that need to be filed. The Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund has reviewed the forms and has made certain changes. They are asking that the Township approve the new forms and he sees no reason why we would not move forward. Council agreed.

Ms. Eggers – No report.

Mr. Valesi, Engineer – Mr. Valesi reported in regards to the 2012 Road Program that Arawak Paving is currently working on Tenby Chase Drive. He suggested

that we discuss the 2013 roads a little earlier so that we can try and get an earlier start next year.

Mr. Morrow stated that we need to take a look at the storm drain on Pancoast Blvd. at Faunce Street.

Mr. Morrow asked whether the issues have been corrected on Roland.

Mr. Valesi stated that he will review this issue and report back to Council.

Mr. Paris stated that we also need to address the issue behind Stoneham Drive where the backyards are sinking. Mr. Valesi stated that he will look into this.

Ms. Pomeranz – Ms. Pomeranz stated that Mr. Grockenberger brought up at the last public meeting that there is a big green bag sitting at the corner of Alden Avenue and River Drive. She stated that as of today, it is still there.

Mr. Hatcher stated that Mr. McCurley went out and the homeowner is supposed to take care of it this week but he will double check.

Ms. Pomeranz asked if Public Works is done with branches.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he will be putting one truck out on Monday and then when they are done with the majority of leaves he will be putting a second truck out.

Ms. Pomeranz stated that there is a large majority of branches on Chester Avenue.

Mrs. Kolodi – No report.

Mr. Morrow – Mr. Morrow stated that Mr. Schwartz asked him to read the following on his behalf.

I apologize that I could not be in attendance at the meeting this evening. Some of you may already know, I had emergency surgery yesterday, but I want to assure everyone that I am recovering and in good spirits. I would have preferred to make this announcement myself; however, I have asked Mr. Morrow to read the following in my absence.

As many of you know, I have been working diligently with assemblymen Troy Singleton and Herb Conaway to find solutions to flood prone properties along the Rancocas. I am happy to announce that a bill designed to secure funding for the Blue Acres Program specifically targeting Riverside and Delran Townships has been approved by our state assembly and is waiting for the signature of our Governor.

I realize the long family legacies in the parts of Delran that I represent, and I understand the difficult choices facing those families, particularly in Riverside Park. Following Hurricane Sandy, I too, was forced to make such a decision regarding a home that had been in my family for many decades. As I pondered the memories of generations of my family living in that home, it was a most difficult choice to choose the Blue Acres program.

With or without Blue Acres, I am committed to finding long term solutions for Riverside Park, however I was painfully aware that Blue Acres funding did not target home owners in our area who might choose that option. I have asked Mr. Morrow to read the excerpts of the following letter, so that our residents fully understand their choices in this difficult time.

Below is the letter:

The General Assembly on Monday granted final legislative approval to a bill sponsored by Assemblymen Herb Conaway, Jr., M.D. and Troy Singleton (both D-Burlington) that would help beleaguered towns along the Delaware River in Burlington County's 7th legislative district deal with repeated flooding issues.

The bill (S-2248/A-3368), which now heads to the Governor's desk, would appropriate \$57 million in voter-approved bond money to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to provide funding for the acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, which enable local governments to buy out properties from willing owners that have been besieged by repeated flooding.

"The Green Acres program has been instrumental in helping us preserve our legacy as the Garden State for quite some time now," said Conaway. "But as our landscape changes, along with the frequency of high intensity storms, the Blue Acres program is becoming equally invaluable. For towns throughout the 7th district struggling to make ends meet while dealing with pressing issues such as this, this funding can make a substantial difference."

"Green Acres has proven critical in helping to preserve and protect precious open space for both active and passive recreation," said Singleton. "Given the record flooding that our state has been subjected to in recent years, the Blue Acres program is proving just as critical. I know that towns like Riverside and Delran, in particular, have experienced significant flooding along their border, affecting residents in both towns. I'm grateful that we are able to provide all of the towns in the 7th district with funding assistance to help mitigate these problems."

Specifically, the bill appropriates \$45 million from the "2009 Green Acres Fund," which is geared towards preserving lands for recreation and conservation purposes. Additionally, the bill appropriates \$12 million from the "2009 Blue Acres Fund," which was designed to provide funding for the acquisition of

properties that are prone to or have incurred flood or storm damage, or that may buffer or protect other lands from such damage.

The following 7th legislative district towns along the Delaware River are slated for Blue Acres funding for property acquisition under the bill: Beverly, Bordentown City, Bordentown Township, Burlington City, Burlington Township, Cinnaminson, Delanco, Delran, Edgewater Park, Fieldsboro, Florence, Moorestown, Mount Laurel, Palmyra, Riverside, Riverton and Willingboro.

Additionally, the following 7th district towns/projects are slated for Green Acres funding under the bill:

- Crosswicks Creek Watershed - Bordentown City, Bordentown Township;
- Rancocas Creek Greenway - Cinnaminson, Delanco, Delran, Moorestown, Mount Laurel, Riverside, and Willingboro; and
- Trenton / Hamilton Marsh - Bordentown Township

Mr. Morrow asked that we put this information on the website.

Ms. Pomeranz also asked that we reach out to the homeowners that have walked away from their properties and notify them of this program.

Mr. Paris stated that Senator Menendez's office has reached out and stated that if we need any help to reach out to them.

Mr. Morrow stated that next year he would like to have the Engineer perform a traffic study at the intersection of Fairview Blvd. and Route 130. He would like to discuss removing the center island.

Mr. Paris – Mr. Paris stated that we did very well with an audit of both the Municipal Court and the Police Department. He thanked the departments for all the hard work.

Mr. Paris addressed the issue on Purdue Drive with a house fire. He asked that we have Mr. McCurley inspect the property to make sure the property is safe and still maintained.

Ms. Pomeranz – Ms. Pomeranz discussed the issue of the Planning and Zoning Board Secretary being out. Mr. Hatcher stated that we are trying to work through it and this is something we may need to discuss.

Ms. Pomeranz asked that we look into the house on Norman Avenue. There was a blue tarp on the roof and now it is blowing all over the neighborhood.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he will get Council the status of this property.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Charles and Michele Eiler, discussed with Council the possibility of vacating a portion of the road at the end of Mulberry Street which is not improved. He provided Council with a copy of his survey for their review. They also discussed the property maintenance issues in the area.

Mr. Hatcher stated that once the Engineer walks the property we will get a better understanding of whether the road serves any other purpose.

Mr. Morrow stated that once we have received all the information from the Township Engineer we will reach out to them.

Michele Eiler discussed with Council the issue of no sidewalks on Bridgeboro Road.

Mr. Paris stated that we have applied for a grant every year and have been turned down. He stated that it is a County road and he recommended that they reach out to them.

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

Ms. Pomeranz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi to enter into closed session to discuss the agreement with the Grande Townhouse for reimbursement. All were in favor, motion approved.

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

Mrs. Kolodi made a motion to approve the payment of \$28, 880 to the Grande Townhouse Association based on the agreement made. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pomeranz. All were in favor, motion approved.

Ms. Pomeranz 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

