

**SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**August 14, 2024  
DELRAN, NJ**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**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 August 9, 2024 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Apeadu, Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Mr. Lyon and Mr. Burrell were present.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Wright, Solicitor, Mr. Rohmeyer, Engineer, Mr. Bellina, Administrator, and Ms. Larkin, Township Deputy Clerk

**ORDINANCE(S) ON FIRST READING**

**Ordinance 2024-19** An Ordinance to Establish Salaries for Various Employees within the Township of Delran, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey and Regulating the Manner of Payment of Same

Mr. Jeney made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Apeadu.

Roll Call: Mrs. Apeadu, Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Mr. Lyon and Mr. Burrell voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Resolution 2024-141** A Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Delran Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Personal Property No Longer Needed For Public Use Through Municibid (As Authorized By State Contract T-2581)
- b. Resolution 2024-142** Authorizing Engineering for Leon Avenue Sanitary Sewer Improvements
- c. Resolution 2024-143** Authorizing Engineering for Vermes Field Improvements
- d. Resolution 2024-144** Authorizing Engineering for Hartford Road Sidewalk Improvements

- e. **Resolution 2024-145** Releasing Found Property (Cash) in the amount of \$210.00
- f. **Resolution 2024-146** Authorizing Engineering Army Corps of Engineers Coordination
- g. **Resolution 2024-147** Awarding Contract for Tank Painting and Restoration Project
- h. **Resolution 2024-148** Resolution of the Township of Delran Accepting a Certified List from Township of Delran Participating Volunteer Emergency Squads for Eligibility in Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) for the Year 2023
- i. **Resolution 2024-149** Appointment of Assistant Tax Collector
- j. **Resolution 2024-150** Authorizing One-Year Extension of Contract for Collection and Disposal of Solid Waste to Republic Services
- k. **Resolution 2024-151** Extending Grace Period for 2024 3rd Quarter Taxes
- l. **Resolution 2024-152** Resolution Urging Crackdown on Boom Car Parties
- m. **Resolution 2024-153** Refunding Tax Overpayment
- n. **Resolution 2024-154** Authorizing Cancellation of Taxes of a Totally Disabled Veteran Located at Block 119.19 Lot 98 Partial Tax Year 2024 and Thereafter
- o. **Resolution 2024-155** Authorizing the Purchase of Two (2) 2025 Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles T2776 20-Fleet-01189
- p. **Resolution 2024-156** Authorizing the Upfit of Police Vehicles Under State Contract T-0106 Police and Homeland Security Equipment & Supplies
- q. **Resolution 2024-157** VFW Post 3020 Lambert-Scully-Bozarth Approving Raffle License 651.
- r. Authorizing the payment of bills including all purchases made under the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement
- s. Accepting the report of the CFO including the July 2024 YTD Revenue Report, YTD Budget Report and July Check Register.
- t. Accepting the report of the Tax Collector and Township Clerk

u. A motion granting a mercantile license to:

- Yahee, 1809 Underwood Blvd.
- Crabby's Restaurant Group (d.b.a. Booby Chez Crabcakes, 1330 G Fairview
- Home Fired Pizza, 69 St. Mihiel Drive

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyon to adopt the above Consent Agenda.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Roll Call: Mrs. Apeadu, Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Mr. Lyon and Mr. Burrell voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

## **REPORTS**

**Emergency Services** – No report

**Boards/Committees** – No report

**Mr. Bellina** – No report

**Ms. Larkin** – No report

**Mr. Wright** – No report

**Mrs. Apeadu** – No report

**Mr. Smith** – No report

**Mr. Jeney** – Mr. Jeney reported that there was a clean-up event at Lake Lonnie last Saturday. VFW Post #3020 helped with this effort and their assistance was greatly appreciated. Love Our Parks, which is a clean-up program that the Delran Green Team is sponsoring, will be working at Delran Community Park, Lake Lonnie and the wildflower garden at the Chester Avenue jughandle on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am. Volunteers are welcome.

On October 5, 2024, there will be a free Halloween costume shop at 10:00 AM in the community

rooms at the Delran Municipal Building. Residents are encouraged to look through a wide assortment of free Halloween costumes and accessories. After Halloween, gently used costumes will be collected for the following year.

Mr. Jeney reported that on October 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a Community Solar information session at the municipal building at 7:00 PM. This program gives residents the opportunity to take advantage of solar power without having panels on their homes.

Mr. Jeney also reminded people of the Trees of Honor program which allows residents to purchase metal leaves that are displayed at the municipal building and actual trees that are planted in township parks. Trees will be ordered in October and planted in the spring.

**Mr. Lyon** – Mr. Lyon thanked the volunteers that helped make Delran Night Out a successful event.

**Mr. Burrell** – Mr. Burrell also thanked the many volunteers that worked to coordinate all aspects of Delran Night Out. Preliminary reports estimated over 7,000 people were in attendance. Mr. Burrell informed residents that the next RAC event will be the fall yard sale on Saturday, September 21, 2024.

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

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

Susan Faber, 59 Haines Mill Road – Ms. Faber stated that she and her husband suffered serious damage to their home and possessions after the recent storm that caused major flooding in their area. She reported that the drainage tunnels underneath Haines Mill Road were not maintained despite repeated calls to the township and county. She explained that her husband tries to clean them out himself.

Mr. Bellina reported that the county was contacted and did come out after the fact to clean out the tunnels. Mr. Bellina also announced that the township is putting a grapple truck and miniature excavator into the budget that will be able to help pick up debris moving forward. Mr. Lyon suggested that a schedule be created for hotspots in the township so extra care can be taken when storms are predicted.

Mr. Rohmeyer stated that the majority of the seven inches of rain that fell in the township did so within three hours. He explained that while it is important to keep drainage tunnels clear, it is very difficult for any system to handle that much rainfall in such a short period of time.

Sue Fitzgerald, 82 Haines Mill Road – Ms. Fitzgerald stated that she also suffered property damage

due to the recent storm. She commented that years ago the township used to cut the grass that grew in the drainage area near her house. That is no longer done, and her husband goes out once a week and tries to do it himself. Mr. Jeney explained that there is conflicting information as to whether foliage can be removed from the culverts. Mr. Burrell stated that the DEP needs to be contacted to see what can and cannot be done.

Don Faber, 59 Haines Mill Road – Mr. Faber asked for clarification as to whether the trees along the creek can be touched. Mr. Burrell explained that it is highly regulated due to environmental concerns. Mr. Faber declared that something needs to be done to thin out the foliage that is preventing adequate drainage and it needs to be done quickly.

Nancy Evans, 307 Arch Street – Ms. Evans asked why the cleaning of the drainage tunnels wasn't done through the years. She stressed the importance of finding a solution as fast as possible.

Bob Gilbert, 75 Stewart Avenue – Mr. Gilbert asked what progress has been made with the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Bellina explained that a payment has been submitted and a final timetable of tasks to be completed should be sent to the township soon. Mr. Gilbert expressed concern over the newly installed gas meters which are outside and very close to the ground. He stressed that if flooding occurs again, the meters will be covered by water.

Mr. Gilbert also reported that there are utility poles on Stewart Avenue that should be removed prior to new curbing being completed. If this is not done, the removal of the poles will damage the new curbing.

Mr. Gilbert reported that Bill SCR81 will give veterans a real estate tax break of \$2,500. There is a possibility of it being on the ballot in November. There may be other tax breaks for disabled veterans available as well.

Sam, 800 Chester Avenue – Sam asked how she could audition for the headline singing act at Delran Night Out next year. She offered to sing at no cost to the township. Mr. Burrell advised her to contact Colin Rafferty, the RAC chairperson. He also mentioned that a summer concert series has been discussed but the committee needs more help. Sam expressed an interest in attending RAC meetings.

Chris Adryan, 55 Springcross Drive - Ms. Adryan asked how the public can comment on resolutions prior to them being voted on at the meeting. Mr. Burrell explained that the agenda is posted to the township website on the Friday before a meeting. He also advised that the public is welcome at the work session as well as the public meeting.

Ms. Adryan asked what the cost is for the bond that is being used for the Route 130 sewer project. Mr. Bellina stated that numbers are still being finalized but the interest rate is under 3% and payments will be over a period of 10 ½ years. Ms. Adryan stated that she still feels that the project

should have been paid for with available funds.

Ms. Adryan asked about the number of cannabis shops in Delran and how they will affect the budget. Mr. Bellina explained that payments are received quarterly, and the money received in 2024 will help to gauge what to expect in 2025.

Ms. Adryan informed residents that the township received seven inches of rain during the recent storm while many surrounding townships received three inches. She suggested that if storm sewers in the township are inadequate we may want to hold off on developing any more land. She also stated that clean culverts are an Army Corps of Engineers regulation. Mr. Burrell explained that the storm sewers are inadequate only when trying to handle seven inches of rain in three hours which equates to a 1,000-year storm.

Jennifer Reppert, Delran – Ms. Reppert asked what the allowed distance is between cannabis shops and schools. Mr. Burrell explained the distance is regulated by the state. He will get the answer and touch base with her at a later date.

Greg Fitzgerald, 82 Haines Mill Road – Mr. Fitzgerald stressed the importance of the storm drains being kept free of debris.

Pam Geary, 9 Aster Court – Ms. Geary stated that regarding the proposed bike path along Route 130, she and many other residents feel that it is an unsafe addition to an already dangerous roadway. She was told that the township will have to submit a resolution of support to the state for this project. She asked for time to get a petition together voicing objections before any action is taken on the part of the township. Mr. Burrell and Mr. Bellina explained that the township has not been asked to support the project at this time. Ms. Geary asked Chief Mitchell his opinion on the proposed accessway. He responded that it is safer for pedestrians and cyclists than what is currently available.

Ms. Geary asked if Delran talks to other townships regarding what companies they use for various jobs and projects. Mr. Burrell commented that Mr. Bellina is in a municipal group with other administrators who exchange information. She also asked about the bidding process for things like trash removal and painting. Mr. Burrell gave a brief explanation of how the process works.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** At this time, Mr. Burrell asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-158 authorizing the executive session.

**TOWNSHIP OF DELRAN  
RESOLUTION 2024-158**

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:  
PERSONNEL MATTER**

**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 August 14, 2024 for the following reasons:

**1. Personnel Matter**

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

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Apeadu to adopt Resolution 2024-158.

There being no questions the roll was called.

Mrs. Apeadu, Mr. Smith, Mr. Jeney, Mr. Lyon, and Mr. Burrell voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: None

Motion Approved

No action was taken.

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

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

Submitted,

Jamey Eggers  
Municipal Clerk