

**BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING, JULY 18, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m., at the corner of Route 206 and Lackawanna Drive.

Present were Mayor James Oscovitch, Councilman Scott Olson, Councilwoman Nisha Kash, Councilman David Gray, Township Manager Joseph Sabatini, NJDOT Assistant Commissioner of Government and Community Relations John Case, NJDOT Route 206 Project Manager Andrew Nagy, NJDOT Regional Manager for Community Relations Debbie Hirt, Jeff Spatola and Helen Carew from the NJ 24<sup>th</sup> District Legislative Offices, and Margaret McGarrity, acting as Council secretary. Also present were Dave Romano, owner of ShopRite/Byram Plaza, Randi Klein, manager of Sunnyside Nursery at her business site, and members of the press.

The meeting consisted of an on-site meeting to review the status of the Route 206 project and problems with the quality of the work.

Ms. Hirt reviewed a schedule of tasks from her prior meeting with Mr. Nagy:

- Various tasks were described as 'done' on Ms. Hirt's list, including the textured pavements and crosswalks, the Salt apron and Lockwood driveway, the dry hydrants, the fence around the Brookwood Road basin, the basin liner/backfill at Lackawanna;
- Upcoming tasks, some with proposed dates of completion, included the lettering on the decorative walls at the Lackawanna/206 intersection, the sidewalk and handicap ramps near the tire shop (to be done this week), the CVS apron, restriping at the ShopRite plaza entrance near Lakeland Bank, sealing of wells (next week), some sidewalk sections and handicap ramp at the Lackawanna basin (today), various guide rails including at the bridge (next week for the bridge area), the pump station fence/wall, the top of the bridge railing (week of July 28), light pole at ShopRite, gateway work (unsure when this will happen), landscaping (fall), restriping from one to two lanes between Brookwood and Lackawanna (unsure when), standpipes/sewer lines (week of July 28 according to Ms. Hirt, but Mr. Sabatini said Tilcon is prohibited from working on the Township sewers), cutting off coffer dam sheeting near the bridge (Mr. Sabatini and Mr. Olson stated that the sheeting must be removed, as it is not granted in the NJDEP permits, while Mr. Nagy and Ms. Hirt said the plans show the sheeting being left in place).

The group walked Route 206, down the southbound sidewalk to the Lubbers Run bridge and Brookwood Road, returning on the northbound side to the Lackawanna intersection. Township officials enumerated items from the list that was included in the Mayor's letter requesting this meeting, as well as other issues:

1. The Jersey barrier at the Lackawanna detention basin was removed and then replaced today after asphalt was laid (causing rush-hour jams), whereas the plans show landscaping to be here ;
2. Treatments at Lackawanna/206 northeastern corner show deterioration of sidewalk surfaces, trip hazards where concrete and pavers meet, various shades of gray in sidewalks (as elsewhere in the project), brick pavers in front of the curved signage wall where landscaping was to be placed, a manhole cover below grade, erosion on the sides of the drainage basin (Mr. Sabatini said that the Township will not take ownership of this area until everything is done correctly);
3. Exposed liner in the basin on the southeastern corner of the Lackawanna/206 intersection;
4. Cracks in crosswalks and turning lane and in roadway paving seams;
5. Contradictions between signing beside and on the roadway;
6. Dangerous sight-lines at the Brookwood/Waterloo intersection with Route 206, where turning cars cannot see oncoming cars;
7. Problems at the bridge, including:
  - ✓ temporary coffer dams left in place, impeding the flow of water, creating safety hazards, causing scouring, creating an eyesore, and violating NJDEP permits;
  - ✓ several design problems with the under pass, which is below mean water level, probably because of elevation changes in the bridge that left inadequate vertical clearances for the underpass. This causes river water, as well as rain water, to collect on the walkway with no scuppers to allow it to escape (any scuppers would be usually under water). There is no access to the underpass on the west side of 206. The underpass is rendered useless by these problems;
  - ✓ a lack of silt fencing, even though grading and stabilizing of soils are not completed beside the stream;
8. Gate at pump station to be replaced with sliding gate.
9. Slope at the Lockwood Tavern northern access is washing out;
10. NJDOT garage needs to maintain its sidewalk area;
11. Belgian block at Salt parking area was replaced with concrete curbing, while Lockwood Tavern parking areas are bordered with Belgian block;
12. Many Byram businesses were harmed by the project, especially by the many delays. Especially true of Lockwood Farms (where turning in for northbound cars is still a problem because of roadway striping). NJDOT should offer some compensation, if only signage announcing the completion of the 206 project to bring shoppers back to Byram.

NJDOT officials responded:

1. Will check the plans about the landscaping;
2. Deteriorated sidewalks will be replaced and sidewalk colors will match; basin erosion will be fixed; will check plans about the landscaping; various NJDOT offices will review all work and develop a punchlist of what needs to be fixed;

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6. Left as is;
7. NJDOT plans call for leaving coffer dams in place, but to be cut off at a certain level. NJDOT will check for discrepancies between the project plans and the plans referenced on NJDEP permits, with regard to leaving coffer dams. Grading and installation of walkway up from underpass on west side of bridge still to be done, which should prevent river water from flooding the walkway;
8. OK.
9. Will be fixed.
10. OK.
11. Ms. Hirt said this issue with Salt was resolved.
12. There is no way to compensate businesses.

NJDOT officials also noted:

- The small area at the north side of the Raimo's entrance will be regraded and the stone wall replaced.

**Adjourn:** 11:45 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Denis J. Flapan".A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Crovito".