

The Southampton Dispatch

Volume 1, Edition 1

Preserving Our Community's Rural Heritage

August, 2013

Important Meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 2013, 8:00 p.m. Township Building Township Committee Meeting

We want our **elected officials (our neighbors)** on the committee to understand our concerns.
We also want to listen to their views so we can develop an informed plan of action.

Volunteers Needed: Invest Your Time to Protect Your Community

As ideas are developed to build our case, we will need volunteers. If you are able to help, please e-mail southamptondispatch@gmail.com so we can assure nobody's time is wasted on something already being addressed. Also, please e-mail the above address if you have suggestions for plans of action. Below is a short list of volunteer positions:

- Attend Zoning Board, Township Committee, and/or Planning Board meetings (evenings).
- Attend court hearings and report the results for this newsletter (days).
- Photograph truck traffic, views from yards, and other pertinent activities that have an impact on our community.
- Make phone calls or write to the Zoning Board, the Zoning Official, the DEP, the Department of Health, etc.
- Write a regular or occasional column for this newsletter.
- assist in coordinating the efforts of volunteers and fact-finders.



Do you want to enjoy this view of Southampton Township we know & love?

OR



Do you want to be disgusted if this view of Southampton Township becomes permanent?

(above photo from Allied's website advertising its activities in Mt. Holly & Southampton Township:
<http://www.alliedrecyclingnj.com/photos/>)

GET INVOLVED! STAY INFORMED! Volunteer when possible, sign-up to receive this newsletter, attend meetings when you can.

QUESTION:

WHAT KIND OF WEIGHT LOAD WAS NEW ROAD DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND?

Keeping Informed

One of the concerns people have is that all neighbors are in the loop and know what is going on. Therefore, we are building a list of e-mail addresses and will use southamptondispatch@gmail.com to keep everyone informed. Right now, there is a loose group of concerned citizens working on answering incoming e-mails and writing this newsletter. As we progress, our community may decide to formalize a committee. Right now, anyone who has factual information to share can e-mail the newsletter and the information will be shared with the community.

NO WAY OUT

Think about it... one of the huge commercial trucks accidentally clips a car exiting Falcon Drive.... Think about it... a fire starts at Allied that spreads across the entryway at Falcon Drive. What do citizens do in that community? The intersection Falcon Drive and New Road IS THE ONLY WAY IN OR OUT of the development. Do we want to take the chance of a catastrophe? No!

In for the Long Haul

For more information, e-mail southamptondispatch@gmail.com

For those of us who attended the August 8, 2013 meeting of the Southampton Township Zoning Board, we were both pleased and perplexed at the outcome.

To summarize what occurred concerning the operations of Allied Recycling's site on New Road:

- No representative of Allied Recycling attended the meeting.
- Allied Recycling did not request an extension for their zoning variance application to be heard.
- The Zoning Board dismissed the application without prejudice.
- The Zoning Board explained that Allied Recycling will need to resubmit a new variance application.
- The Zoning Board does not have the authority to enforce code, so they cannot order that Allied cease and desist operations until a new application is submitted and/or approved or denied.

What does all this mean?

- The Zoning Board must walk a fine line to assure the rights of both the community members and Allied Recycling are met.
- If we don't want to end up in a prolonged court battle, we have to be certain that the letter of the law is followed.

We must provide the Zoning Board, the Zoning Official, and the Township Committee with the tools and factual information they need to rule in our favor.

- The Zoning Board requires factual proof of an adverse impact on the community's way of life, safety, property values, etc. in order to rule against ANY zoning variance application, including any that may be filed by Allied.
- WE MUST BE PREPARED FOR A LONG FIGHT. ALLIED WILL TRY TO WEAR US DOWN - WE HAVE TO BE UNITED AND IN THIS FIGHT FOR THE LONG HAUL.

We must provide the Zoning Board, the Zoning Official, and the Township Committee with the tools and factual information they need to rule in our favor.

We also must, at all times, treat members of the Zoning Board, the Zoning Official, and members of the Township Committee with respect. Some of these

positions are elected, and some are appointed.

Furthermore, in order to hold positions on the Zoning Board or the Township Committee, they must be **our neighbors**. That means these members also have a vested interest in preserving our community's rural heritage.

All of us need to work together to gather visual documentation, reliable facts, and pertinent information to help **our neighbors** be justified and "without prejudice" in any decision they make concerning the operations of Allied Recycling.

We hope that this newsletter will assist in sharing information and possible approaches that will help protect our community.

If you would like to receive copies of this newsletter, please e-mail southamptondispatch@gmail.com to be added to the distribution list.

