

Florence, New Jersey  
March 21, 2007

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Baldorossi at 8:00 PM. President Baldorossi led the Salute to the Flag.

The following statement was read by the Township Clerk: "Notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times on January 7, 2007; given to the Register News for information. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board."

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Frank Baldorossi, President  
John Fratinardo  
Bruce Garganio  
Elizabeth Ryan

Also present:

Mayor Michael Muchowski (Late); Richard Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr.; Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

#### **MINUTES**

None at this time.

#### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Ryan; seconded by Fratinardo to receive and file the Court Administrator's report for February. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

Ryan made a MOTION; seconded by Fratinardo to approve the Treasurer's Bill List. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

#### **REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing at this time.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

None at this time.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Fred Wainwright, 1091 Florence-Columbus Road, understands this is not the School Board but would like to address an issue regarding the school children walking on Cedar Lane from the new high school to the highway and then walking along the highway. He stated that if the school is responsible to pick them up and get them to school they should be responsible to get them back. Council Member Fratinardo stated that they are looking into putting

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 03/21/07**

sidewalks on Cedar Lane but not Route 130. Council Member Fratinardo asked Administrator Brook to send a letter to the school stating that a resident raised a concern over children walking on Cedar Lane and Route 130. Mr. Wainwright does not want to see anyone get hurt. Discussion followed regarding the mileage cut off to be bussed to school. Council Member Garganio believes the mileage is not taken into consideration, if the kids have to cross the highway they are automatically bussed.

Wendy Cosme, 132 Seventh Avenue, thanked Administrator Brook for all the work that has been done in the public parks over the past year; the parks look very good and she likes the new park that is going up on Old York Road. Administrator Brook stated that Council has been very involved in the park projects and he will also let the Public Works Department know. He stated that they are looking into changing over the current material to a rubber material in the Roebling Park. Administrator Brook appreciates Ms. Cosme's phone call.

Ms. Cosme discussed the parking problems on Seventh Avenue. There are no driveways on Seventh Avenue. Parking lines were put down on Second Avenue and Third Avenue and she asked if lines could be put down on Seventh Avenue? Council President Baldorossi stated that if they put lines down on Seventh Avenue, they will lose more parking spaces than they have now. Ms. Cosme feels that lines may help since many times vehicles are parked in the middle of two (2) spots. Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, explained that lined spaces must be 22' long, which is not always needed.

Ms. Cosme noticed that some sidewalks are being repaired and reported that on the 100 block of Seventh Avenue there are some large gaps in the sidewalk that are in need of repair. She asked if that could be addressed? Assistant Administrator Sahol stated they will be inspected as part of this project within the next week.

Mr. Wainwright asked if more parking spaces would be gained if the vehicles parked on one side at an angle? Mr. Guzzi does not believe it would pick up many more spaces. He will look into it. State DOT approval would be needed for angle parking.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, MOTION by Fratinardo; seconded by Ryan to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-60**

**CANCEL CERTAIN WATER AND SEWER UTILITY  
CAPITAL APPROPRIATION BALANCES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-61**

**AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-62**

**DENY REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND FOR  
HAINES INDUSTRIAL CENTER  
280 DANIELS WAY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-63**

**DENY REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND FOR  
HAINES INDUSTRIAL CENTER  
1100 John Galt Way, Spec. Building #1**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-64**

**RELEASE PERFORMANCE BONDS FOR  
HAINES INDUSTRIAL CENTER  
CONDITIONED UPON POSTING TWO YEAR  
MAINTENANCE BONDS AND POSTING A NEW PERFORMANCE BOND FOR  
WORK THAT HAS NOT BEEN SCHEDULED**

*NOTE: Also conditioned upon payment of any and all escrow money due.*

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-65**

**AUTHORIZE REDUCTION IN PERFORMANCE BOND  
FOUNTAIN OF LIFE CENTER**

*NOTE: Conditioned upon payment of any escrow funds due.*

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-66**

**AUTHORIZE APPOINTMENT OF  
CONFLICT PUBLIC DEFENDER**

*James D. Fattorini, Esq.*

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Fratinardo that Resolutions 2007-60 through 2007-66 be approved.

On the Question

Council Member Ryan questioned whether Resolution No. 2007-66 had to be bid? Administrator Brook stated that the amount was under the bid threshold.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Fratinardo, Garganio, Ryan, Baldorossi  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Sandusky

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2007-03  
(1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE  
AMENDING THE FLORENCE CODE TO ESTABLISH STAFFING  
LEVELS IN THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**ORDINANCE 2007-04  
(1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE  
AMENDING CHAPTER 133 – ABANDONED VEHICLES OF THE  
FLORENCE CODE TO AMEND THE DEFINITIONS APPLICABLE  
TO THE DESIGNATION OF ABANDONED VEHICLES**

It was on the MOTION of Fratinardo, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2007-03 and 2007-04 on first reading and set adoption for April 4, 2007.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Fratinardo, Garganio, Ryan, Baldorossi  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Sandusky

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

**Committees, Boards and Officers**

- Nothing at this time.

**Administrator**

- Administrator Brook, on behalf of Ann Shubert, Tax Collector, explained the Resolution **refunding tax overpayments** and why the list is so heavy. He stated that some of the mortgage companies, one in particular, send in one (1) large check that covers hundreds and hundreds of tax payments for homeowners; some of the payments were previously made, some were not. If the check is sent back those that we have not received the money for are going to be delinquent and will have interest. It is better for the township to deposit the check and then move forward with refunding the double payment.

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 03/21/07**

**Assistant Administrator**

- Assistant Administrator Sahol provided a memo regarding **Bustleton Road**. He asked if Council was interested in his pursuing the **speed reduction** and possibly removing the truck route designation working with Burlington Township? Council would like Assistant Administrator Sahol to pursue both.
- In response to a request by a resident, Assistant Administrator Sahol investigated why there is no **stop sign at the end of Fifth Avenue at South Street**. He explained that it is not designated in the Ordinance as a stop; South Street is not considered a thru street because it begins at Fifth Avenue as a feeder road and goes in either direction. It is also not considered one way. Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that there are two (2) options, Council could either designate it as a stop street in the Ordinance or designate South Street to be one way starting at the centerline of Fifth Avenue going in either direction. Chief Dawson says there is no reason for a stop sign.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol discussed the **Patriotic Celebration Day**:

**Parade Route:** The parade will be in Roebing. It will start at Railroad Avenue and Delaware Avenue, turn onto Station Road to Hornberger Avenue, Hornberger Avenue to Third Avenue, Third Avenue to Main Street to the VFW where it will end.

NOTE: Mayor Muchowski present at this time: 8:20 PM.

**5k Location:** Mayor Muchowski feels that the 5k Run should be in Florence; it is an established route that the runners are comfortable with and Alterra/Sterling House has been gracious enough to co-sponsor the event and lend their property for a gathering point.

Council Member Ryan stated that in previous years it has been difficult for participants of the run to get cleaned up and make it to the Flag Raising Ceremony; she asked that the time of the events be looked at this year. Assistant Administrator Sahol will make the necessary adjustments.

**Fireworks Location:** Mayor Muchowski explained that an extraordinary effort was put into celebrating the anniversary of the Roebing Village and having the fireworks in Roebing in 2005. Every resource that was available was strained. It does not have the same significance this year. The Florence site is a safe, open, large area that is more conducive for fireworks. It is easier and safer to administer. Council Member Garganio agrees with Mayor Muchowski. All Council Members in favor of holding the fireworks in Florence this year.

**Grand Marshal:** Mayor Muchowski proposed for the Grand Marshal a man who over the years has demonstrated what Florence Township is all about. That man is **Paul Varga**. Mr. Varga has done more behind the scenes than anyone with no glory or recognition. He always wants to be a part of helping to make the events and the things that are done in the community great. All Council Members in favor of Paul Varga being the Grand Marshal.

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 03/21/07**

**5k Beneficiary:** Mayor Muchowski would like one of the recipients of the proceeds from the 5k to be the Florence Township High School Band and Band Booster Club. The Band has helped with events over the years and the arts are just as important within Florence Township as any athletic program. He feels it is an appropriate gesture on the township's part.

**Timing Company for 5k:** Assistant Administrator Sahol asked if Mayor and Council wanted the timing company? Mayor Muchowski felt that the timing company worked out great and the expense was offset by sponsors. He also reminded Assistant Administrator Sahol to be sure that Alterra is included as a sponsor on the t-shirt.

**Mayor Muchowski**

- Nothing at this time.

**Township Solicitor**

- Nothing at this time.

**Township Engineer**

- Nothing at this time.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Nothing at this time.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Nothing at this time.

Council Member Garganio requested a brief Closed Session to discuss a possible litigation matter.

8:30 PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by Fratinardo to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:30 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER  
Township Clerk

/mab