

Florence, New Jersey  
June 3, 2009

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 11, 2009; 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:

Bruce Garganio  
Dennis O'Hara  
Sean Ryan (8:02 p.m.)  
Jerry Sandusky  
Frank Baldorossi

Also present:

Mayor William Berry; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator, Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

### **MINUTES**

Sandusky made a MOTION; seconded by O'Hara to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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Closed Sessions	April 15, 2009, May 6, 2009, May 20, 2009

NOTE: 8:02PM Council Member Ryan present.

### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

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

### **REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing at this time.

### **APPLICATIONS**

A. Social Affair Permit Application: American Legion Post 194, Pig Roast, June 27, 2009, 12:00PM – 7:00PM

It was on MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to approve the above application. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Richard Lotter, 3 Walnut Court, Environmental Commission Member, discussed the sidewalks on Route 130. He noted that the Environmental Commission was unsure if they should be involved but

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in the New Jersey Environmental Commission handbook, it states that sidewalks are something that the commission should be looking at. He provided an article from the newspaper stating the number of deaths in Burlington County due to the lack of sidewalks. He thanked the governing body for their support for sidewalks on Route 130.

Mr. Lotter also provided a newspaper article regarding Riverside Township that they are going through tough times and they are going to lay some employees off. He hopes that does not happen in Florence Township.

Dave Carriger, 404 E. Fifth Street, would like to comment on the approval that was given at a meeting last month to the Florence Historical Society to store and sort artifacts at the vacant Third Street Firehouse. He voiced his concern about where Council is going to stand in the future when an organization asks to use a vacant taxpayer funded facility. Will the first group that asks for it, get it? He does not want Council to lose sight that the taxpayers of the township pay for these facilities. Council Member Sandusky stated that as long as he is on Council, he will allow the community organizations to use vacant buildings. The firehouse has been sitting vacant and the Florence Historical Society has been paying rent to store the artifacts. It was an ideal situation to allow them to store their artifacts and sort through them. Council Member Sandusky is happy to be able to help the local organizations.

Mr. Carriger asked how the township would handle it if someone were to offer to purchase a vacant facility that was being used by an organization? Council Member Garganio stated that there could be a section in the agreement that if the opportunity to sell the property presented itself, the agreement could be broken and the township would try to help the organization to find another location.

Mr. Lotter stated that Mr. Lengel has offered space in the Roebling Museum to the Florence Historical Society to bring all of the history together as one town.

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, was at the Military Cemetery and saw the hundreds of flags blowing in the wind. As he was watching television over Memorial Day weekend, a commentator said something that struck Mr. Bott. He said, "Every American Citizen has the obligation to ask questions of their government."

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-134**

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWALS OF  
(2) PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-135**

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWAL OF  
(2) PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-136**

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009– 2010  
RENEWALS OF CLUB (5)LICENSES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-137**

**ACKNOWLEDGING FILING OF 2009-2010 RENEWALS OF  
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION (5) LICENSES**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by O’Hara to approve Resolution No. 2009-134 through 2009-137.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, O’Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-138**

**PERMIT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY  
ROEBLING MAIN GATE MUSEUM, PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION DAY**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution No. 2009-138.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: O’Hara

Motion carries.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-139**

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWAL OF  
PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE  
WITH CONDITION  
HIRAL KIMI, INC. t/a TOWN LIQUOR**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-140**

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWAL OF  
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE  
WITH CONDITIONS  
WESLEY'S PUB, INC., t/a VERANN'S RESTAURANT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-141**

**AUTHORIZE APPLICATION TO NJ DIVISION  
OF HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR GRANT  
OBEY THE SIGNS OR PAY THE FINES  
SPEED ENFORCEMENT GRANT  
JULY 1, 2009 – JULY 31, 2009**

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution No. 2009-139 through 2009-141.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, O'Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2009-11**

**(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE VACATING THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN A CERTAIN FIFTEEN (15) FEET WIDE ALLEY RUNNING BETWEEN FIFTH STREET AND THIRD STREET AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE VACATED AREA SHALL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ABUTTING PROPERTIES, LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by O'Hara to approve Ordinance No. 2009-11 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Baldorossi opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

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It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by O'Hara to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, O'Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2009-12  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE TO REPEAL ORDINANCE 2006-01 AND TO DELETE THE PROVISIONS IN THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "SEX OFFENDER-FREE ZONE"**

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance No. 2009-12 on second reading for adoption.

**Public Comment**

Council President Baldorossi opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by O'Hara to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, O'Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**REPORTS**

**Committees, Boards and Officers**

- Council Member Sandusky noted that in the Sunday edition of the Burlington County Times they have a thumbs up/thumbs down section. The **Florence Township Police Department** has had two (2) successful drug raids in the past month; they deserve a **thumbs up**. Council Vice President O'Hara seconded Council Member Sandusky's sentiments.

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- Council Vice President O'Hara stated that we recently celebrated **Memorial Day** and as usual the **veteran organizations** throughout the community did an outstanding job of paying respect to the veterans that made the ultimate sacrifice. Florence Township purchases the flowers and the Boy Scouts place them at the graves. There was a slight problem where there was confusion as to which graves should have flowers. Some graves did not have flowers and some that should not, did. Council Vice President O'Hara asked if a list of the veteran graves that should receive flowers could be acquired to eliminate the confusion next year? Council Vice President O'Hara also noted that Mayor Berry put together a Veterans Committee headed by former Mayor George Sampson to try and bring the three (3) veterans groups together. It has been tough getting the three (3) groups together. He hopes they continue to try to make it work. Mayor Berry agrees; he is happy with the outcome of the separate events but disappointed that it did not come together as they had envisioned where the groups would come together for one event. All three (3) organizations assured Mayor Berry that they would work together next year. He asked the groups to please meet before Veterans Day. It was very moving last year when the groups came together for one ceremony. Council Member Sandusky is on the Veterans Committee; it has been difficult to get all three organizations together but they will continue to try.

### **Mayor**

- Mayor Berry echoed the praise Council Member Sandusky gave to the **Police Department**. He personally conveyed the **appreciation** of the entire governing body to the Police Department.

Mayor Berry attended a ceremony this past Sunday at the Roebing American Legion where **two (2) of the Florence Township Police Officers received Burlington County awards** through the American Legion for their service. Patrolman Daryl Scott received the Officer of the Year Award for longevity and years of dedicated service; Detective Jon Greenberg received an Officer Valor Award.

- Mayor Berry reported that **Joseph Czik is appointed as Alt. #2 to the Environmental Commission**: Term expiring 12-31-09.

### **Assistant Municipal Administrator**

- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported on the progress of the **Patriotic Celebration Day** Committee, which is going well. Friday evening, July 10, 2009, will be the Mayor's Cup Softball Game – four teams (Teachers, Police, Fire, Public Works/Water Sewer/Administration) – one pitch – three games. Staff Sergeant Andy Robinson, USMC Retired, Iraqi War Veteran is the Grand Marshal of the parade. The United States Naval Academy Band has agreed to play at the evening concert.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that **electronics recycling** will be mandatory by January 1, 2010. The township began electronics recycling on June 1, 2009.
- Council Member Garganio stated that some of the new **trees** that were planted last year look dead and asked if they are under warranty? Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that they will be replaced.

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**Township Solicitor**

- Nothing at this time.

**Township Engineer**

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, stated that bids were received last week for the **Road Program**; the **bids** were very competitive and the numbers looked good. However, with all of the alternates, Mr. Guzzi would like to review with Administrator Brook before giving his recommendation. Mr. Guzzi will report back next week.
- Mr. Guzzi stated that as part of the Sassman project on Hornberger and Tenth Avenues, there is a utility extension going up the **shoulder of Tenth Avenue on the ball field side**. Years ago when Tenth Avenue was paved that shoulder was stoned to be used as a parking area. Since the contractor will be disturbing the area, they have to restore it. Mr. Guzzi asked if the governing body would like it restored in the same manner with the chipped stone or would they rather have it top soiled and seeded for a lawn area? Since the area is still used for parking at times, Council is in agreement to keep the shoulder stoned.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Nothing at this time.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Council Member Garganio stated that the fence around **Nyikita Field** is in bad shape and requested that it be looked at. Assistant Administrator Sahol will follow up. Council Member Sandusky noted that the dugouts are in bad shape also. The dugouts are not really used. Assistant Administrator Sahol believes the Recreation Committee would agree to an open-air dugout there due to the vandalism and problem activities that take place in those dugouts. Assistant Administrator Sahol will find out the intended use for Nyikita Field from the Recreation Committee and see what improvements need to be done.

8:40 PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by O'Hara to adjourn meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:40 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC  
Township Clerk

/mab