

Florence, New Jersey  
July 21, 2004

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 President Fratinardo at 8:00 PM. President Fratinardo led the Salute to the Flag.

The Township Clerk read the following statement: "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 4, 2004 and 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:

John Fratinardo, President  
Bruce Garganio  
Elizabeth Ryan  
Jerry Sandusky

Also present:

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

**OATH OF OFFICE: ROBERT VESCI, FLORENCE TOWNSHIP PATROLMAN**

Joy Weiler, Township Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Robert Vesci, new Florence Township Police Patrolman, while his father held the Bible.

Chief of Police, Gordon Dawson, gave an overview of Patrolman Vesci's background in law enforcement. Chief Dawson is pleased Patrolman Vesci is transferring to Florence Township and believes with his training and experience he will be an asset to the police department and the township.

Mayor Muchowski stated that Patrolman Vesci is certified in child safety seat restraints, which is a service the township would like to offer to the residents. Mayor Muchowski congratulated and welcomed Patrolman Vesci to the community.

Patrolman Vesci introduced his family and friends that were in attendance.

Chief Dawson stated that on August 3, National Night Out, Patrolman Vesci will be available to perform child safety seat inspections. He will also be available by appointment for the residents to receive proper instructions on car seats.

**MINUTES**

Ryan made a MOTION; seconded by Garganio to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/21/04**

Regular Session                      June 16, 2004  
Closed Session                        July 7, 2004

**FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio; seconded by Sandusky to receive and file the Court Administrator's report and the Township Clerk's report for June. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

**REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE**

None at this time.

**APPLICATIONS**

- A. Girl Scouts: FAAD Building, Sleep overnight, August 7 – August 8, 2004
- B. St. Paul's Baptist Church, Kenneth Wilkie River's Edge Park, August 28, 2004
- C. Roebling Fire Co. #3: Social Affair, Annual Golf Outing, August 21, 2004

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve the above applications.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

Unanimous approval.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Nothing at this time.

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-154**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 5 (FINAL)  
FOR SECOND AVENUE  
WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT  
TO SPENCER V. MAUSSNER, INC.  
PO BOX 408  
MARLTON, NJ 08053**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-155**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 8 FOR  
RMS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, 1985 DUTCH MILL ROAD,  
FRANKLINVILLE, NJ 08322  
NEW PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-156**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 2 FOR  
JONES MASONRY CORP., PO BOX 2401  
TABERNACLE, NJ 08088  
2003 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-157**

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM  
OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE,  
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87  
CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-158**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 1 FOR  
THE EARL COMPANIES  
FARMINGDALE, NJ 07727  
2004 SIDEWALK PROGRAM**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-159**

**AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT  
IF APPROVED  
FOR STATE AID TO MUNICIPALITIES OR STATE AID TO COUNTIES  
AND MUNICIPALITIES UNDER THE NEW JERSEY  
TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND AUTHORITY ACT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-160**

**AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR  
TO TAKE STEPS TO PULL THE BOND FOR  
PRESERVE AT BROOKSIDE – PERFORMANCE BOND  
No. 103365906**

**RESOLUTION 2004-161**

**AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENTS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-162**

**AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENTS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-163**

**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE NJDEP PERMITS  
WQM-003, WQM-006 & TWA-1 OR NJDES-1  
FOR ECKERD PHARMACY – ROUTE 130 & DELAWARE AVENUE**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky that Resolutions 2004-154 through 2004-163 be approved.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2004 – 10**

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

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN  
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2004-10 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

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

Nothing at this time.

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

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/21/04**

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004 -165**

**2004 NON-UNION SALARY RESOLUTION**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Resolution No. 2004-165 for advertising in order to take formal action on August 4, 2004.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2004-11**

**(1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING  
CHAPTER 133 – ABANDONED VEHICLES OF THE FLORENCE  
CODE TO ESTABLISH CLARIFICATION OF THE DEFINITION OF  
ABANDONED VEHICLES**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2004-11 on first reading and set adoption for August 4, 2004.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/21/04**

**REPORTS**

**Committees, Boards and Officers**

- Nothing at this time.

**Mayor Muchowski**

- Mayor Muchowski expressed his appreciation and thanked everyone involved with the Patriotic Celebration that was held on July 10<sup>th</sup>. He believes it was a success. He stated that meetings for next year's celebration, which will be in Roebling for their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, will begin shortly. He discussed having a theme for future parades.
- Mayor Muchowski acknowledged (2) two of the new Florence Tollgate Board Members, Dominic Ferri, Trustee and John Longo, Vice President, which were in attendance this evening and had them introduce themselves to Council. Mayor Muchowski explained that the new board members would like to meet with Council to discuss some of the changes they would be implementing.

**Administrator**

- Administrator Brook stated that the township received the formal tax rate. He explained that the State gave municipalities a Homeland Security Grant that must be used to lower the tax rate by 1.3¢. It is not used to improve security as it appears. Administrator Brook called the State to see if it would be an ongoing allotment; they do not know, they operate on a year-to-year basis. If it is not continued, it will have to be made up in the budget. Administrator Brook explained that the tax bills will be mailed out between now and the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and asked for a MOTION to extend the due date to September 7, 2004. A Resolution confirming the MOTION will be on the August 4<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to extend grace period for tax bills to September 7, 2004.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

- Administrator Brook asked if the governing body would like to designate Cross Acceptance representatives for the township so they can meet with Mark Remsa, Burlington County Regional Planning Coordinator, and report back to the governing body and the planning board? The County has recommended that the representatives involved with the Route 130 Corridor be involved with the Cross Acceptance.

Solicitor Kearns explained that part of Cross Acceptance deals with how the township fits in with the State Plan. The State Plan can become part of the essential guideline for the COAH regulations. He explained that the State's Big Map is no longer. Now they have the State Plan that identifies where the township's nodes and town centers are located. This

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/21/04**

will become the guideline for all State departments for COAH and State aid. At this time there is no preliminary map.

Council Member Garganio voiced his concerns that the State would like growth in Florence Township where it borders Burlington Township. Administrator Brook stated that Mr. Remsa did point out that the township needs to decide if they would like some form of commercial activity on Florence Columbus Road in the area of Interstate 295.

Mayor Muchowski feels that the County would like to utilize the forum that they have in place for the Route 130 Corridor. He expressed concern that the representatives are members of the Economic Development Committee not the Planning Board. He feels comfortable designating them but suggests one of the administrative staff be part of Cross Acceptance.

Council Member Garganio asked if this would supercede the local zoning? Solicitor Kearns stated that it would not supercede local zoning and explained that the extent the township complies or does not comply with the State Plan will determine State aid.

Discussion followed regarding COAH.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to designate Thomas McCue and Gerald Santoleri, (Economic Development Council Members and also, Route 130 Corridor Comm. Members), Administrator Brook, Assistant Administrator Sahol and Carl Hintz, Township Planner, as Cross Acceptance representatives for the township.

- Administrator Brook stated that work needs to begin on the riverbank area at Riverbank Drive. The biggest concern is the fence; it was severely damaged by the tornado and is falling apart. The best option is to remove the fence and complete the tree work. Unless significant heavy equipment is brought in, some of the trees will fall down the bank. He believes the area can be cleared out in 2 to 4 days. A temporary fence can be installed for safety reasons until Council decides what type of fence they would like there.

Council Member Garganio asked if something could be done to strengthen up the bank. Administrator Brook will have a representative of the Township Engineer's office present when the work is in progress to inspect and report back with improvements that can be made.

- Administrator Brook reported that the EPA is requesting a temporary easement to run temporary electric so they can complete the remediation on the portion of the site that will become the museum.

NOTE: 8:45 PM Council Member Garganio left the meeting.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to authorize a temporary easement to allow PSE&G to run temporary electric service for the EPA.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/21/04**

NOES: None  
ABSENT: Baldorossi, Garganio

Unanimous approval.

**Assistant Administrator**

- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that the NJ Transit situation is getting better since the letter. They mulched some of the train stop locations.

**Township Solicitor**

- Nothing at this time.

**Township Engineer**

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, at Council's request, received a response from Amoco/HAPCO Petroleum regarding their DOT permitting. He reported that Amoco/HAPCO Petroleum made the original application for the permit on March 29, 2004, received comments from DOT on May 26, 2004 and resubmitted additional information on June 11, 2004. Amoco/HAPCO Petroleum contacted DOT today and was informed that it would be several weeks before they heard anything.

Mayor Muchowski suggested that the township contact DOT and ask that it be expedited due to the affect it is having on the traffic there. Assistant Administrator Sahol will contact DOT tomorrow.

- Mayor Muchowski asked Mr. Guzzi if the tot lot at the H. Kenneth Wilkie Memorial River's Edge Park was finished? Mr. Guzzi stated that except for some small punchlist items that need to be completed it is usable.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Council Member Ryan stated that a few months ago some residents of Mallard Creek were complaining about speeding in their development; speed deterrents were discussed. Council Vice President Ryan has seen devices placed in the middle of the road that she believed were illegal in other towns of the State, and asked that it be looked into further. Administrator Brook will have Chief Dawson look into and report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Nothing at this time.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Council Vice President Ryan publicly thanked the Public Work employees that volunteered their time to help the flood victims of Medford and Lumberton. She is very proud of the Florence Township work force.

Council Member Sandusky also thanked the Public Works employees. He stated that he is very proud of the community. He mentioned the walk to raise money for the young girl that was hit

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/21/04**

by a car; and also, the flea market that the Cub Scouts held to raise money for the little boy that was diagnosed with leukemia.

Council Member Sandusky asked that a letter of thanks be sent to the Public Works employees that volunteered their time helping the flood victims in Medford and Lumberton on Saturday. Mayor Muchowski asked that a signature line be included for each member of the governing body. The Township Clerk will prepare the letter.

8:50 PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:50 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER  
Township Clerk

/mab