

Florence, New Jersey  
September 3, 2008

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 6, 2008; 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  
Jerry Sandusky  
Frank Baldorossi

Also present:

Mayor William Berry; 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**

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

Regular Session	June 18, 2008
Executive Session	June 11, 2008
Special Session	August 7, 2008
Closed Session	August 6, 2008

### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara; seconded by Ryan to receive and file the Township Clerk's report and Chief of Police's report for August. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

### **REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing at this time.

### **APPLICATIONS**

A. Catering Permit: Holy Assumption Hall, Florence High School Band Reunion, November 29, 2008, 6:00PM-11:00PM, C. Reed's, Inc.

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 09/03/08**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio to approve the above application.

**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.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ellen Brown, 1100 Grove Street, stated that her 16-½ year old son recently received a ticket for riding a bicycle without a helmet. This was her son's first offense and she stated that State Law reads that the first offense receives a warning. She asked if the township had an Ordinance that supersedes the State's helmet law? Solicitor Kearns stated that State law supersedes any township regulations. Mrs. Brown spoke with the Court Clerk who advised her to call the Police Department. She did have a nice conversation with one of the patrolman about police buckling down and the responsibility being put on the parent for having the child wear a helmet, which she agrees with.

Mrs. Brown did purchase a helmet that she saved the receipt for because she read online that in some cases with a receipt the ticket can be waived, which no one could clarify for her. Administrator Brook is not familiar with Mrs. Brown's situation other than the fact that New Jersey State law does require that children wear a helmet. Since Administrator Brook is not that familiar with the law he will have the Chief of Police or the Captain call Mrs. Brown tomorrow and speak to her directly.

Council Member Sandusky stated that it is advertised on Channel 19 that children can receive free safety helmets through the Police Department.

Jane Hankerson, 7 Lee Lane, stated that a lot of brush is being knocked down on the road that runs from Route 130 to Old York Road (the road that the United Methodist Church is on) and asked if a development was going to be built? Ms. Hankerson was advised that road is in Mansfield Township.

Simone Gadbois, 3 Ninth Avenue, asked if she needed to wear a helmet when she rode her bike? Solicitor Kearns will double check the statute.

Mrs. Gadbois questioned the route of the proposed bike route along the river? Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that the County's route intends that it comes from the southern end of Burlington County into Florence Township along River Road, Front Street, Delaware Avenue turning onto Hornberger Avenue, snaking through the Village of Roebling and back out to Route 130 heading North.

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-160**

**APPROVE REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BONDS FOR  
ROMA BANK, PHASE I  
2150 ROUTE 130, FLORENCE, NJ, 08518  
CONDITIONED UPON POSTING TWO YEAR MAINTENANCE BONDS  
NOTE: Also conditioned upon payment of any and all escrow funds due.**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio that Resolution 2008-160 be approved.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: O'Hara, Ryan

Motion carries.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-165**

**A RESOLUTION FIXING THE COMPENSATION  
OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE  
FOR 2008**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-166**

**AUTHORIZE REFUND CONSTRUCTION CODE FEE  
DUE TO A MISCALCULATION**

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky that Resolutions 2008-165 through 2008-166 be approved.

**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. 2008 – 13  
(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 Garganio, seconded by O’Hara to approve Ordinance No. 2008-13 on second reading for adoption.

**Public Comment**

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

David Carriger, 404 E. Fifth Street, is not too concerned with the actual salaries as much as he is worried about potential buyouts down the road when retirements come up. Administrator Brook explained that normally buyouts are done through a contract. There is no non-union employee that has a contract; therefore there are no buyouts. Unused sick time is paid up to certain amount over a 2-year period to limit the impact on the municipality.

Mr. Carriger asked what the percent of the salary increase is? Administrator Brook responded that it is a 4% increase.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio 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. 2008-14  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING THE FLORENCE  
TOWNSHIP CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 134-47 – SCHEDULE XV: BUS STOPS TO  
DELETE THE BUS STOPS ON FRONT STREET, NORTH AND SOUTH, AT THE  
INTERSECTION OF WINTER STREET**

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance No. 2008-14 on second reading for adoption.

**Public Comment**

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

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 09/03/08**

Mr. Carriger asked for an explanation of Ordinance No. 2008-14. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that a resident came in and indicated that there were problems with the bus stop at Front and Winter Streets that are very close to two (2) other bus stops. NJ Transit has agreed to remove the bus stop; Florence Township has to do it by Ordinance.

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. 2008-15  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING CHAPTER 91  
(ZONING) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE ESTABLISHING FEES  
AND ESCROW DEPOSITS ON LAND USE APPLICATIONS**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by O'Hara to approve Ordinance No. 2008-15 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 Sandusky, seconded by Ryan 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. 2008-16  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE IN BURLINGTON COUNTY,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE AND  
ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE PLACEMENT OF PORTABLE HOME  
STORAGE UNITS ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES**

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance No. 2008-16 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 O'Hara, seconded by Ryan 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 Vice President O'Hara reported on the **Economic Development Meeting** that was held last night. The Mission Statement and the Goals/Objectives were adopted. A subcommittee was created to look into establishing a Chamber of Commerce. They will be contacting existing businesses to get some input on how Florence Township could start a Chamber of Commerce. There was also a presentation that Vice Chairperson LeBlanc brought in on behalf of a Roebing resident proposing a dinner train on the Roebing Steel Mill site. Concern was raised regarding how it may impact how development at the site takes place. Council Vice President O'Hara will bring in the booklet for Council to review next week.

Mayor Berry stated that there was also a discussion regarding COAH with the Economic Development Committee. They discussed Mayor and Council's concern regarding the COAH Regulations and advised the committee that Solicitor Kearns is involved with the New Jersey League of Municipalities and is on top of the COAH regulations and keeps Mayor and Council informed. In the future it may be a good idea to give the Economic Development Committee a stronger overview on COAH so they have a better understanding.

## Florence Township Council Regular Session: 09/03/08

### **Mayor**

- Mayor Berry reported that he, along with Assistant Administrator Sahol, met with representatives from **Waste Management**. They gave an overview of their facility. There was discussion of the township's Environmental Commission and Landfill Committee. Waste Management agreed to come in before the Environmental Commission and give an overview on some of the recent newspaper articles.

Council Member Ryan invited Mayor Berry to Thursday evening's Environmental Commission Meeting. Council Member Ryan will be bringing up the topic of the future of the Landfill Committee and the Environmental Commission. The members of the Environmental Commission would also like to discuss the Mayor's involvement and the procedures that took place at the GROWS Landfill across the river in Pennsylvania.

- Mayor Berry reported that last night at the Economic Development meeting there was discussion regarding the **tree lighting in Roebing**. If the Roebing Historical Society will not be sponsoring the tree lighting in Roebing, the Economic Development Committee would like to do so. Mayor Berry asked Assistant Administrator Sahol to contact the President of the Roebing Historical Society to inquire whether they will be putting on the tree lighting or not.

### **Administrator**

- Nothing at this time.

### **Assistant Municipal Administrator**

- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that Kathy Lengel, **Roebing Museum Committee**, would like to hold a **stuffed cabbage cook-off as a fundraiser** next to the Roebing Museum in the sculpture garden area. It cannot be held in the museum building because there is no CO yet. There would be a beer garden, they would set up tents and bring in portable bathroom facilities. They would like to hold the event on Saturday, October 18, 2008. Solicitor Kearns stated that since the township owns the property, the township cannot issue an ABC permit; they would have to contact the State of New Jersey for a permit. If Council is in agreement to allow the event, Assistant Administrator Sahol will work with the Chief of Police.

Council Member Garganio does not have a problem with it but would like administration to contact the EPA to discuss. Administrator Brook stated that the EPA will push all liability onto the township, since the township owns the property. Administrator Brook will contact EPA and the Joint Insurance Fund. Council Member Sandusky believes it is a good idea but suggested that they hold the event at Holy Assumption. Council Vice President O'Hara asked if Ms. Lengel gave any indication that she has spoken with the EPA? Assistant Administrator Sahol responded that Mrs. Lengel was comfortable with the event being held outside but not in the building.

- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that the **gazebo at Clark T. Carey Memorial Park** is up and the concrete was poured today. The railings will go in tomorrow. The seat benches will be going in but they are waiting for the concrete to settle some.

### **Township Solicitor**

- Nothing at this time.

**Florence Township Council Regular Session: 09/03/08**

**Township Engineer**

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reported that the basin work at **Greenbriar Horizon** is just about done. He received the as builts and they look good. About 20% of the punch list items that were left are complete. They have started to address the swales. They have not been working fast but they have been working steady. The contractor has asked for relief on some items but Mr. Guzzi told them no, if its on the punch list it has to be done. Solicitor Kearns asked if there was any target on when the roads would be accepted? Mr. Guzzi stated not until all the punch list items are complete and the final inspection is done. Council Vice President O'Hara suggested sending a letter to the contractor stating that it is the town's goal to have the punch list items completed and wrapped up by year's end. Mr. Guzzi has been pushing for that but will contact them again. Solicitor Kearns believes there should be some incentive because if the township does not take over the streets they will be responsible for the snow removal.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nothing at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Advertisement: RFP's (Requests for Proposals) for Professional Services**

Joy Weiler, Township Clerk, stated that the advertisement for RFP's for Professional Services will be placed in the paper in October in order that the RFP's can be received before the end of the year for Council's review prior to January. Council Members in agreement.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Nothing at this time.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Council Member Sandusky stated that **school opens tomorrow** and suggested that next week a few patrolmen should be stationed to check that car seats are properly installed and that parents have their children properly seat belted.

Council Member Sandusky stated that the township's "Back to School" signs do not really stand out like they used to. He noticed while driving through Mt. Holly the "Back to School" signs really stand out. The signs are similar to a campaign sign on metal legs and some are on personal property. He suggested contacting some local realtors and ask if they would contribute towards the purchase of some of these signs. Administrator Brook will get a copy of Mt. Holly's signs.

9:00 PM MOTION by O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

9:00 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER  
Township Clerk

/mab