

## **FLORENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**August 11, 2010**

**8:00PM**

### **CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE**

Council President O'Hara called the meeting to order and led the Salute to the Flag.

### **SUNSHINE STATEMENT**

The Opening Statement was read: 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 10, 2010; given to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Sean Ryan, Jerry Sandusky, David Woolston, Dennis O'Hara

Also Present: Mayor William Berry; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; Russell Trice, Township Water and Sewer Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, stated that the Florence Township Spruce Up Crew worked on cleaning up the JAR Park on Hamilton Avenue. One of the members asked when the benches will be installed at Marter Park and the park by the municipal complex? Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that, weather permitting, the benches should be installed by the end of the month. The benches will be installed on concrete pads and a concrete truck cannot go into the park if the ground is too wet.

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

### **TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER ENGINEER**

#### **David Lebak: Sewer Service – Potts Mill Road**

David Lebak, Water and Sewer Director, explained that there is an existing two-inch (2") force main out in Potts Mill Road that was run from Lucas Court up to Route 130 to the pumping station for the Mallard Creek Development. It was put in when Lucas Court and Carty Drive were developed. The wet well, force main and the associated manholes were installed but it was never used because they were able to run a gravity line from Carty Drive and Lucas Court into Buttonwood Drive and tied into that development. The force main became unnecessary and has sat in the ground for over 10 years now. For quite some time they have been trying to think of a way to use that existing infrastructure. One thing that held them up was the distance to the Mallard Creek pump station and how many people could possibly tie in but once the Crossroads Development came in with gravity sewer (in close vicinity) the township had them install a manhole at the midway point on Potts Mill Road. The entire run would consist of approximately 29 homes and in Alaimo's estimation that is too many homes to connect to a two-inch line. The solution would be to break the line in half; from Route 130 to the midpoint then from the midpoint to the right another flushing manhole would be installed for the Lucas Court end to connect to. It would give all the residents the opportunity to

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connect to sewer, however it will not be gravity sewer, a pump station would have to be installed at the homes. There are some pump stations in town now that work fine.

Mr. Lebak explained that over the years there have been inquiries from residents; there are a couple of residents on Potts Mill Road that want to connect as soon as it is available. It is a good alternative for anyone that is having difficulty with their septic systems.

Mr. Lebak explained that just beyond Lucas Court there are three (3) additional properties that are not going to front the line and he has looked into several alternatives for them. He believes the best thing would be to run gravity out the back. Another possibility that Alaimo, Township Water and Sewer Engineer, is looking into is to run a two-inch force main in front of their property.

Mr. Lebak stated that he and Alaimo have analyzed this every which way to do it the cheapest way. For what they are proposing on the existing is very cheap and light labor, it would be completed in a few days. If the three (3) additional homes were done, it would take a couple of days. Some work would require a contractor, Keating, to help with and some work would be done in house.

Council Member Sandusky asked if the property owners were aware of the cost to tie in? Mr. Lebak stated that notices have not been sent out yet. Council Member Sandusky asked if the property owners would be responsible for installing their own pump? Mr. Lebak stated that each property owner is responsible for installation and maintenance. Mr. Lebak stated that they looked into pumps and have one that they will recommend to the residents. Discussion followed regarding all the residents purchasing the same pump; they might get a discount that way. The only problem is that not all the residents will connect at the same time.

Council Member Ryan suggested contacting the residents to gauge interest in this project and make sure that they are aware that there are costs involved. Also, note that there needs to be consistency in the pumps that are utilized to protect the integrity of the system. It would be explained that the Water & Sewer Department could do this at minimum cost so the homeowners avoid a 10 - 15 year assessment. A letter explaining everything very clearly would go to the homeowners.

Mr. Lebak estimates that five to six homes will connect in the first year and the others would connect as their systems failed. Council President O'Hara asked how long it will take for a resident to tie in if their system starts to fail? Mr. Lebak and Mr. Trice do not believe it should be any longer than a couple of weeks. If it is an emergency situation, it should take no longer than a couple of days.

Administrator Brook stated that the only way to do the three (3) additional homes beyond Lucas Court is to run the line and assess the homeowners. Mr. Lebak and Mr. Trice will report back with a cost estimate for these three (3) homes.

Administrator Brook explained for the other homes on Potts Mill Road the only expense the homeowner would incur would be a sewer connection fee, the cost of the pump and the cost of private work they have done at their home after the connection; they will not be assessed.

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to proceed with the plans for the 29 homes on Potts Mill Road. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries – unanimous approval.

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**Hill Creek Farms: Release Maintenance Bonds**

Russell Trice, Water and Sewer Engineer, reviewed and recommended release of the Maintenance Bond. A Resolution had been prepared for the Regular Session following this evening's Executive Session.

**Belt Filter Press Update**

Mr. Trice stated that the contractor plans on starting construction the beginning of September. He does not see a problem meeting the project deadline in November.

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

**Whitesell Construction – Haines Center (280 Daniels Way): Release Maintenance Bond**

Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reviewed and recommended release of the Maintenance Bond. A Resolution had been prepared for the Regular Session following this evening's Executive Session.

**Parish of Sts. Francis & Clare: Reduce Performance Bond**

Mr. Guzzi reviewed and recommended reduction of the Performance Bond. The project is going well. A Resolution had been prepared for the Regular Session following this evening's Executive Session.

**2010 Road Program: Current Estimate No. 1**

Mr. Guzzi reviewed the progression of the Road Program on Broad Street, which began July 13, 2010. They worked over a two (2) week period; four (4) days on concrete removal and replacement, three (3) days on utilities, two (2) rain days plus four (4) weekend days. On July 28, 2010 they started the milling. The entire process of milling, base repair, putting the base coat and topcoat took place in just over a week. Mr. Guzzi stated for the size of the job, it went quickly. Mr. Guzzi stated that his office did not receive complaints during the course of the project.

Mr. Guzzi reviewed and recommended payment of Current Estimate No. 1. A Resolution had been prepared for the Regular Session following this evening's Executive Session.

Mr. Guzzi noted that the restoration work that is there now between the curb and the sidewalk is temporary. Restoration will be completed in September when the grass will grow.

**ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR**

Council President O'Hara congratulated Assistant Administrator Sahol for his work with the Burlington County Recycling program.

**HANDICAPPED PARKING**

Council President O'Hara stated that the Township Clerk provided a current parking list, past parking list, current legislation from the codebook and a copy of the application for handicapped parking.

Council Vice President Baldorossi stated that he believes holders of handicapped parking spaces should have to resubmit their applications. Circumstances may change where the person might stop driving or it is no longer needed for some other reason. Council Member Ryan suggested once a year. Administrator Brook stated that the code could be amended to require the application be

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resubmitted once a year. Discussion followed regarding the current code, which states, “after two years the person may apply” instead of “should apply”. It also states “failure to apply shall terminate the person’s handicapped parking space”. Clerk Weiler stated that, since the current Ordinance was adopted in 2005, there is no permit fee and no one has been charged a fee for the signs or striping of the street.

A suggestion was made to ask residents that have a handicapped parking space to notify Clerk Weiler if they are going away for an extended period (more than seven days) of time so the sign can be covered up while they are away.

Clerk Weiler explained the process that when an application comes in the Chief of Police reviews it referring to the Ordinance and makes the determination.

Discussion followed regarding amputees, who will always have the disability; it is not necessary to ask them to renew their handicapped parking, since their circumstances will not change.

**Synopsis of Handicapped Parking Space Discussion**

Handicapped parking space holders must reapply every two (2) years; if they do not reapply, they will lose the handicapped parking space.

The process of having the Chief of Police review the application and make the determination will continue for the renewal process.

The handicapped parking space owner must notify the township if they are going to be away one (1) week or more. The sign will then be covered to allow others to park there while the resident is away.

Council President O'Hara asked to include the language that this is being done because of the limited parking and uniqueness of the Village of Roebling. Council Member Ryan suggested and noted because of some of the parking restraints within the community.

This will be a discussion item, again, at the September Worksession.

**BLOCK PARTY REQUEST: CREEKWOOD DRIVE**

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to approve the Block Party conditioned on the Chief of Police’s review and recommendations.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston, O’Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

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**BOAT DOCK**

Administrator Brook stated the township is close to having the funds available to replace three (3) sections of the boat dock for next year. Mr. Guzzi will have to replace the pilings in the spring because he needs NJ DEP approval. He explained that the dock is in need of repair. The additional sections (if money is available in the budget) could be purchased next year. Council Member Woolston suggested looking into scraping the three (3) sections being replaced, which may provide enough money for a fourth section. Council Members are in agreement to proceed. Administrator Brook will report back with an estimate and analysis of the permit fees.

9:10PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote – all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

9:10PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC  
Township Clerk

/mab