

Florence, New Jersey  
March 2, 2011

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 O'Hara at 8:00PM. President O'Hara 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 2, 2011 and January 16, 2011; 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  
Sean Ryan  
Jerry Sandusky  
David Woolston  
Dennis O'Hara

Also present:

Mayor William Berry; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

#### **MINUTES**

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

Executive Session	December 8, 2010; January 19, 2011
Regular Session	January 19, 2011

#### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Sandusky 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. Off Premise Merchandise Raffle: Florence Township Riverfront School PTO, 04/09/2011, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM, Florence Township Middle School
- B. On Premise 50/50 Raffle: Florence Township Riverfront School PTO, 4/06/2011, 04/07/2011, 04/08/2011, 04/09/2011, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM, Florence Township Middle School
- C. Night at the Races: Florence Township Civic Association, Inc., April 8, 2011, 6:00PM – 12:00AM, St. Stephen's Church
- D. Off Premise 50/50 Raffle: Florence Township Civic Association, Inc., May 30, 2011, 6:00PM, Coates Field

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve the above applications.

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**On the Question**

Council Member Sandusky explained that he is a member of the Florence Township Civic Association; he is not an officer of the association. He is listed on the Night at the Races application as a member in charge but is not involved with the Off Premise 50/50 Raffle and asked if he should abstain from voting? Solicitor Kearns advised Council Member Sandusky to abstain on the Night at the Races application because he is listed on the application but he can vote on the Off Premise 50/50 Raffle because he is not on the application and is not an officer of the association.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Sandusky (A,B,D), Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Sandusky (C)

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION 2011-66**

**CANCEL CERTAIN GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
APPROPRIATION BALANCES**

Administrator Brook explained that this was a Bond Ordinance that was initially done to replace the wood chipper, which the township was under the impression was not salvageable. Ultimately, with the help and recommendation of Council Member Woolston, the township was able to have the wood chipper repaired for the same amount that the township received from the insurance company. The Ordinance can now be cancelled, a portion (\$76,000) is unfunded, which means the township never borrowed the money; there is a portion (\$5,300) that was funded, which is cash. By canceling the Ordinance, it terminates the township's ability to go out and borrow and it takes that \$5,300 and puts it back it to surplus for use in 2012.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Resolution No. 2011-66.

**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.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2011-02**  
**(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS  
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK  
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Administrator Brook explained that the State of New Jersey has two (2) primary caps for municipalities. One is the Tax Cap Levy, which literally controls the amount of the taxes the municipality can raise; the other cap deals with an appropriation cap. Florence Township, for the year 2011, is approximately \$1,863,000 under its allowable appropriations cap through the State. The reason the township does an Ordinance each year, even though they do not need it, is to take the difference and be able to put it into a bank for a short period of time so if it is ever needed the municipality would be able to draw upon it. If the Ordinance is not adopted, the municipality loses its right to raise its appropriations. Florence Township adopts the Ordinance as a protective measure.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2011-02 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President O'Hara opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

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

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.

REPORTS

**Committees, Boards and Officers**

- Nothing at this time.

**Mayor**

- Nothing at this time.

**Administrator**

- Administrator Brook stated that since the township has received several **grants**, a **Bond Ordinance** would be prepared by Bond Counsel to cover the cash flow because these are significant amounts. The grants are for sidewalk repairs and recreation improvements and reconstruction at several facilities throughout the community. This Ordinance gives the

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township the ability to spend the money and reimburse the Ordinance when the grants are received.

- Administrator Brook stated that the **school** is doing a lot of outreach programs this year for the school budget and have asked if they could use the municipal building and the Roebing Main Street Community Center one time each. They would like the Roebing Main Street Community Center for senior citizens that may not want to drive too far. Council Members are in agreement to accommodate the **facility use request** and hope the township receives the same in the future from the school for when organizations within the municipality have similar requests.
- Administrator Brook stated that since the **Fire District Budget** was defeated when it went out for a vote, the township has a limited amount of time to meet with the representatives of the Fire District to take action, which the township needs to take by Council's March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Administrator Brook asked, besides the Mayor, if there are two (2) Council Members that would like to serve on the subcommittee? Administrator Brook spoke with Kevin Mullen, Florence Township Fire Chief, and explained that normally, since Council is not familiar with the fire budget, he would come in with recommendations of areas where the budget can be cut and give an overview of the budget, surplus and appropriations. Council Member Sandusky and Council Member Ryan will serve on the subcommittee along with Mayor Berry and Administrator Brook. They will meet next Wednesday evening at 7:00PM.
- Administrator Brook would like to set up a meeting date in regards to the **municipal budget**. The governing body was in agreement to meet Monday, March 7, 2011 at 5:00PM.

### **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**

#### **Discussion: Second Avenue Parking**

Council Vice President Baldorossi thanked the governing body for allowing him to meet with the residents of the 100 block of Second Avenue to discuss the parking issues. He met with six (6) residents. He explained the situation. There are 30 houses on the block with 45 parking spots; there are no houses on the opposite side of the street. There are issues because there are multiple vehicles belonging to a residence; one resident has six vehicles. The residents would like permit parking allowing two vehicles per property with a vehicle registration showing that address, which Council Vice President said he would bring back before Council. He noted that Second Avenue is lined for parking. There is an overflow parking lot at the end of Third Avenue on Hornberger Avenue, an overflow lot at the end of Second Avenue on Riverside Avenue and parking on Main Street. Council Member Sandusky stated that he assumed the residents that attended the meeting are the residents

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with just one or two vehicles; he would like to reach out to the other residents on the street and give them an opportunity to have input.

Visitors to the 100 block of Second Avenue would have to park in the overflow parking lot. Signs would have to be posted at each end of the block.

Solicitor Kearns stated that permit parking is done in a lot of towns that have difficulty with parking. He believes a Draft Ordinance for permit parking in the Village of Roebling was prepared years ago but never introduced and adopted.

Council Member Sandusky expressed concern regarding the vehicles that cannot park on Second Avenue being parked on Third Avenue, causing vehicles from Third Avenue having to be parked on Fourth Avenue and so on.

Council Member Baldorossi stated that the residents with multiple vehicles were invited to the meeting but they did not show up.

Solicitor Kearns will prepare a Draft Ordinance for the 100 block of Second Avenue and have the Chief of Police review.

Council Member Sandusky stated his admiration to Council Vice President Baldorossi for tackling this situation, which has been a problem in the Village of Roebling for many years. He expressed concern that once it is done for one block in Roebling, the other blocks will want the same. He thought providing the overflow parking lots would help eliminate the parking problem.

A suggestion followed regarding including the teen block of Second Avenue in the permit parking, which will eliminate vehicles from the 100 block parking on the teen block, causing those vehicle to find another place to park.

Council Member Ryan suggested that they explore the potential impact of the Ordinance further and what problems may be encountered as unintended consequences of the Ordinance. With all of the experts in the municipality, he is sure they will report back with useful information. Council Vice President Baldorossi will speak with Chief Fazekas. He will also set up a meeting with the residents of the teen block to get their input. Council Vice President Baldorossi will report back.

Council Members commended Council Vice President Baldorossi for working on a solution to this difficult issue.

Council President O'Hara wished Bill Bott, a regular attendee of the Council Meetings, a very happy 77<sup>th</sup> birthday.

8:45PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by Woolston to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:45PM Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC

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Township Clerk

/mab