

Florence, New Jersey
December 7, 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 8:00 PM. President O'Hara led the Salute to the Flag.

Council President O'Hara called for a moment of silence in honor of the *70th Anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.*

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

PRESENTATION – VALERIE SWEENEY RETIRING

Valerie Sweeney, Tax Office Account Clerk and Registrar, will be retiring from her position effective December 31, 2011. Police Chief Fazekas and several Police Officers attended to honor her. Mayor Berry presented Ms. Sweeney with a clock and offered a few words of praise. He said that whenever he was having a bad day, she could make him smile. He commented on her great personality, and he enjoyed working with her these last four years. He said she was always optimistic, great with the community, and a wonderful employee and person. He called her the "Mayor of Roebling."

Council President O'Hara presented her with flowers on behalf of Mayor and Council. He said it has been his pleasure to know her. He said she was a dedicated daughter, sister, mother, and grandmother. The kind of person she was shows here tonight simply by the amount of people who attended to honor her. He said she was a very dedicated employee and he wished her well on retirement.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 12/7/2011

Township Administrator Brook talked about the humor Valerie brought to the office for the past twenty two years. He said that every day was an adventure and she brought joy to the office. He said that she was a very caring person and is very devoted to her family. He also commented on her love of sports. He said she was someone you knew you could sit down and talk to about anything. He said that she was one of a kind and he felt privileged to be able to work with her for the past twenty two years. He wished her a long happy retirement.

Ann Schubert, Township Tax Collector, said that everyone remembered Valerie for her saying that, "It never rains in Roebing." She said she remembers after she started at the township Valerie came into her office and said, "I am glad you are here." She said that was the beginning of a wonderful relationship, and she was glad to be able to work with Valerie. She said Valerie knew or was related to just about everyone in town. She wished her good luck on her retirement and told her she will be missed.

Valerie thanked everyone for coming to the meeting to honor her, and she thanked the police officers who attended and Chief Fazekas.

Council President O'Hara welcomed everyone to a reception honoring Valerie in the Front Conference Room.

MINUTES

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

Regular Sessions – November 2, 2011, November 9, 2011

Executive Session – November 9, 2011

Closed Session – November 9, 2011

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to receive and file the Township Clerk's Report and Chief of Police's Report for November. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

From: David Frank, Planning Board Solicitor; Dated: December 4, 2011; Regarding: Ordinance No. 2011-16; stating that Ordinance No. 2011-16 is consistent with the Master Plan of the Township.

Sandusky made a MOTION, seconded by Woolston, to receive and file the correspondence. Roll Call vote – all ayes. Motion Carried.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 12/7/2011

APPLICATIONS

**A. BINGO: Sts. Francis & Clare, 1290 Hornberger Avenue, Roebling
7:15-10:15PM Monday Evenings, January to June 2012**

Baldorossi made a motion, seconded by Sandusky to approve the application. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, stated his opinion that he would like there to be two public comment sessions during meetings. He would like to be able to comment again after the actions of Council. Council President O’Hara replied that it has been discussed on several occasions and Council has provided a second public comments portion at the last couple of meetings, but nothing formal has happened.

Council Member Ryan responded that it has been discussed on two other occasions and it was decided that rather than have two public comment sessions, the Council President will ask at the end of the meeting if anyone has anything else to comment on.

No other comments from the public.

Motion made by Ryan; seconded by Baldorossi to close the public portion of the meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes – motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-223

**REPLACE SOFTWARE PROGRAM
TAX COLLECTOR’S OFFICE
(HELD 11/9/11)**

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-225

**NON-UNION SALARIES
(Advertised in full 11/13/11)**

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-228

**DENY RELEASE OF MAINTENANCE BOND,
SEC. 2 GREENBRIAR HORIZON**

RESOLUTION 2011-229

CHAPTER 159: BODY ARMOR REPLACEMENT

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 12/7/2011

RESOLUTION 2011-230

**FOUNTAIN OF LIFE
SIDEWALKS AGREEMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-231

REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENTS

RESOLUTION 2011-232

**REFUND PERMIT FEE
PERMIT WITHDRAWN**

RESOLUTION 2011-233

**RELEASE MAINTENANCE BOND - WAWA
RELOCATION OF HUNT CIRCUS DRIVE**

Council President O'Hara commented that Resolution 2011-223 was held from the last meeting until the Mayor Elect and Council Members Elect had a chance to discuss it with Administrator Brook and the Tax Collector. The discussion has taken place, and they agree with purchasing the program.

It was on the MOTION Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve 2011-223; 225; 228 through 233.

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 2011-15
NON-UNION SALARIES
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing and Adopt)
(Advertised in full in the Burlington Co. Times on 11/13/2011)**

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 12/7/2011

Public Comment

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

Nothing at this time.

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

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

A MOTION was made by Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance 2011-15:

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE 2011-16
Amend R.C. Zoning District
& Adopt Updated Official/Zoning Map
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing and Adoption)
(Advertised by summary in the Burlington County Times on 11/13/2011)**

Council President O'Hara noted that the correspondence received and filed by Council earlier in the meeting stated that the Ordinance was passed by the Planning Board at its last meeting.

Public Comment

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

Dan Borota, 1273 Highview Avenue, Roebling, said he is against the zoning change. He said he is concerned that it will decrease the value of his house, will increase traffic in the area, and effect the view he has from his property. He said it is not a big area and would prefer to see single family homes rather than apartments.

Councilmember Ryan responded that there will be 36 senior restricted rental units. There will be an increase in traffic, but he did not believe it would have that big of an impact.

Council President O'Hara expressed that he did not think the view would be changed dramatically, and he thanked Mr. Borota for his comments.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 12/7/2011

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

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

A MOTION was made by Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2011-16

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE 2011-17

**Qualified Purchasing Agent
(1st Reading)**

Administrator Brook explained that the Chief Financial Officer has taken courses to become a Qualified Purchasing Agent. It allows the Township to increase the amount it uses as a threshold for going out for proposals and bids. The State of NJ has not created the test yet, but the position can be established since the CFO has passed all of the courses.

On The Question

Nothing at this time.

A MOTION was made by Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance No. 2011-17 on first reading and set the public hearing and adoption for December 21, 2011.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

NOES: None

Absent: None Unanimous approval.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 12/7/2011

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

Council President O'Hara reported that there were 180 meals prepared by the Knights of Columbus and delivered to homes throughout the municipality. He thanked everyone for their generosity for helping to provide this service for the needy.

He also reported that on Saturday, December 3, the Roebbling Museum held their Christmas in Roebbling. It was a tremendous day and brought a lot to the community. Councilmember Elect Ted Lovenduski was very involved. There was good food, the tours were great, and Santa came for the kids. The Burlington County Historical Society contacted the Museum to report that the event was wonderful. The Village looked beautiful in the evening. He thanked the administration and public works for all of their help.

He also noted that the Municipal Building looked festive and he praised the work done by the employees.

REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION

Mayor: Nothing at this time.

Administrator:

- Administrator Brook reported that there was a request to hold the January 4th Reorganization meeting at the Main Street Community Center. Council Members agreed.
- On December 21st there will be a "thank you" for Council President O'Hara, Councilman Ryan and Mayor Berry, for everything they have done for the Township during their tenures. They are encouraged to invite family members to attend.
- The Township Engineer has received quotes for the Wilbur Henry Drive basin; hope to authorize that at the next meeting.
- He expressed thanks to the writer of the article in the community magazine for Greenbriar Horizon. It was a nice piece about the local men who sacrificed their lives for their country. The streets in the development were named for these brave veterans. Assistant Administrator Sahol will post the article for the website. The article also acknowledged and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Mognancki, who were instrumental in getting recognition for our local fallen heroes.

Council President O'Hara added that there was a nice article in the Philadelphia Inquirer with Mary Filliponi pictured by the monument for fallen soldiers on Broad Street. She lost her brother during World War II.

Assistant Municipal Administrator:

Council President O'Hara thanked Assistant Administrator Sahol for attending the Economic Development meeting to give an update on the **Patriotic Day Fundraising**. There is over \$13,000 in donations at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 12/7/2011

Division of Law: Nothing at this time.

Division of Engineering: Nothing at this time.

Division of W & S Utilities: Nothing at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH:

Councilmember Ryan confirmed that he had questioned the recent noted odors on Front Street. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that Waste Management acknowledged that it was from the landfill; they are putting controls in place to prevent the problem from occurring again. They believe it was from an opening they needed to make in the landfill cover during that time frame.

MISCELLANEOUS: Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

8:47 PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn.
Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/aek

Page 8 of 8