

Florence, New Jersey
August 1, 2012

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

Council President Sandusky announced that there is a change in the agenda. The presentation to Mary Ann Warner on her retirement will be held at the end of the meeting.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Register News for information on 1-5-12; posted on the municipal bulletin board on 1-5-12 & placed on the web-site; sent on 12-21-11 to the Burlington Co. Times for publication on 1-8-12, but due to the newspaper's error, the notice was not published until 1-11-12.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Frank Baldorossi
Ted Lovenduski
Paul Ostrander
David Woolston
Jerry Sandusky

Also present:

Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Hastie, Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

(Note: Thomas Sahol, Assistant Administrator on vacation)

MINUTES

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

Closed Session – June 13, 2012

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Treasurer's Bill List

It was on the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to approve the Treasurer's Bill List.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Lovenduski (Conflict because of the grant for the Roebling Museum.)

Motion carried.

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REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Creekwood Drive – Block Party
September 15, 2012, 4pm – 9pm (rain date September 22, 2012)

- B. Block Party – 1000 Block of West Third Street
September 8, 2012, 12pm – 8pm

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve the applications. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dan Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, said at the July 11th meeting, he was given a copy of the new boat ramp fees. He wanted to know what the fee is now and if it has gone up; he had seen something in the newspaper about it.

Mayor Wilkie said Mr. Kamienski saw an article in the Register News on the proposed ordinance to increase the fees. He said the ordinance was tabled in order that the ordinance can be fine-tuned. He said the rate now is twenty-five dollars for local residents; it will be increasing to forty dollars for local residents. The rates would not be effective until January 2013.

It was on the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public session.

RESOLUTIONS

**Resolution No. 2012-180
APPROVE FINAL REIMBURSEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF WORK
2010 BURLINGTON COUNTY PARK DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

**Resolution No. 2012-181
APPROVE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH
THE ROEBLING MUSEUM**

MOTION made by Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolutions 2012-180 and 2012-181.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

- YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski (2012-180), Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky
- NOES: None
- ABESENT: None
- ABSTAIN: Lovenduski (2012-181, due to conflict)

Motion carried.

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-21

(Held)

**An Ordinance of the Township of Florence
Amending Chapter 2 of the Code entitled Fees**

Note: Ordinance No. 2012-21 was held by Council on July 18, 2012.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-22

(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing and Adoption)

**An Ordinance Affirming an Agreement for Tax
Exemption with JSPD, L.L.C. for property located
On Hunt Circle Drive
Block 163.02, Lot 13.01**

Administrator Brook explained that the competition to attract development to a municipality is intense. One method a township can use to attract commercial development is called a five-year tax abatement. He said once a building is up and operating and receives a Certificate of Occupancy the taxes for the building are phased in over a period of five years. It is a significant incentive to attract business to the township. He said there are two of these ordinances on the agenda tonight. JSPD is the planned hotel off Cedar Lane. He said he hopes this agreement will jump start the project. The other is Harkin's Plaza on Route 130. There are already approvals for a Dunkin Donuts to open there. He said these are agreements to spur development opportunities. He said after five years the taxes will be at full rate and there is no abatement of the land tax.

A MOTION was made by Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander, to open the meeting to the public for comment on Ordinance No. 2012-22.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, it was on the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski, to close the public hearing.

A MOTION was made by Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-22.

Upon roll call council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-23

(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing and Adoption)

**An Ordinance Affirming an Agreement for Tax
Exemption with Harkins Lane Plaza, L.L.C. for
Property located at Route 130 and Harkins Drive
Block 159, Lot 5.02**

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A MOTION was made by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to open the meeting to the public for comment on Ordinance No. 2012-23.

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was on the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Woolston to close the public hearing.

A MOTION was made by Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-23.

Upon roll call council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-24

(1st Reading) (Public Hearing and Adoption 9/5/12)

**An Ordinance of the Township Of Florence Amending Chapter
134 of the Code of The Township of Florence Repealing Section
134-25.2 Which Established Permit Parking Restrictions on a
Portion of Second Avenue**

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance 2012-24 and set the public hearing and adoption for September 5, 2012.

Upon roll call council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION

Mayor:

Mayor Wilkie thanked Council for approving the ordinances for tax abatements. He said Dunkin Donuts was before the Planning Board Monday night. He hopes these ordinances continue to encourage development on Route 130. He said there is also an application submitted for a restaurant at Harkins Plaza that hopes to be operating by January. He said it is a positive time for the community. He said during his first six months on the Planning Board it only met once. He said it is getting steadier and hopes it continues.

The Mayor noted that the Second Avenue parking ordinance was introduced and the public hearing set. Mayor Wilkie advised that those attending for that issue will be able to comment at the public hearing on September 5, 2012.

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Township Administrator: Nothing at this time.

Assistant Administrator: Assistant Administrator Sahol's reports will be presented at the next meeting.

Division of Law: Nothing at this time.

Division of Engineering: Nothing at this time.

Division of Water and Sewer: Nothing at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH: Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS: Nothing at this time.

PRESENTATION: Mary Ann Warner, Technical Assistant Construction Office - Retiring

Service: July 11, 1988 through August 1, 2012

Mayor Wilkie called Ms. Warner to the front of the room and presented her with a clock. Mayor Wilkie said he remembered when he worked for the township and Ms. Warner was his assistant. He recounted some fond memories of working with her. He said she was always very supportive and she guided him. He said she helped all of her coworkers. He thanked her for her commitment to Florence Township.

Council President Sandusky presented Ms. Warner with a bouquet of flowers from Mayor and Council. He said a few weeks ago there was a surprise birthday Resolution for former Mayor Sharon Worrell. He said he thought recently of Ms. Warner because she has worked at the township for twenty-four years. When he read the Resolution for Mrs. Worrell, celebrating her 70th Birthday, he had to read the names of Mrs. Worrell's twenty-four grandchildren! He thanked Ms. Warner for her 24 years of service.

Administrator Brook said it says something about Ms. Warner that there are so many employees and family present tonight. He said you can see how much her family means to her just by looking at her face when she talks about them. He remembered how her husband always brought her morning coffee. He said life is a journey and it nice to look back on memories. Administrator Brook said it can be hard to deal with the public day after day and stay calm even when the person on the phone is yelling. It is doing your job to the best of your ability even then and that is what Ms. Warner has done. He said she is professional and warm; he said the town was lucky to have had her as an employee and he wishes her the best.

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Tom Layou, Construction Code Official, said he felt lucky to have been her boss for many years. He said it has been a pleasure to work with her. He said they talked about their families and compared their grandchildren as they grew up. He said he wished her luck and told her to come back and visit.

Ms. Warner thanked Mr. Layou for being a wonderful boss and said they had been through a lot together. She thanked all of the people she worked with. Ms. Warner said no one fully understands, but it really is a unique place to work. She said her co-workers are special. They are supportive and they listen and help each other. She said it is an extended family.

She thanked Administrator Brook and said he is the foundation of the office. He is not just a boss; he is always there and is very supportive. She said he makes transitions easier and he makes everyone stronger and encourages everyone to grow together.

She thanked Jim Hoey, Building Inspector, and joked that he is the “life of the party”. She thanked him for all of his support and help over the years.

She thanked Jennifer Allen, her office-mate and “right hand man”. She said she didn’t know on that first day how they would get along until they started talking about color coordinating the files and she knew then they were a good match. She thanked Ms. Allen and said she has been a very good friend.

Ms. Warner also thanked her family for their support. She said they are her life and are everything to her. She thanked her husband for her daily Starbucks Coffee.

Council President Sandusky announced that there was a reception with coffee and cake in the front conference room to celebrate Ms. Warner’s retirement. All were welcome to attend.

Mayor Wilkie said seeing all the workers and especially the retired workers present tonight shows that it is truly a “family”.

A MOTION was made by Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

8:25 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/aek