

Florence, New Jersey
December 19, 2012

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey.

Council President Sandusky announced that there was going to be a change in the evening's agenda. He said that today was probably one of the last times that people would be able to wave to *crossing guard Parker Mullen* at the Roebing School parking lot. He said Mr. Mullen was being honored tonight but the presentation would be held until the end of the meeting so that everyone would be able to celebrate with Mr. Mullen.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Sandusky at 8:00 PM. Council President Sandusky led the Salute to the Flag.

The Salute was followed by a *Moment of Silence* in remembrance of the *victims of the Newtown, Connecticut tragedy*.

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 A. Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Thomas J. Hastie, Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

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

Township Council's CDBG Public Hearing – December 5, 2012
Township Council's Regular Session – December 5, 2012
Township Council's Closed Session – December 5, 2012

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FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Reports to Receive and File

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

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, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

Chinese Auction – Riverfront PTO, Front & Pine Streets
March 2, 2013, 5:00pm – 10:00pm

On Premise 50/50 – Riverfront PTO, Front & Pine Streets
March 2, 2013, 5:00pm – 10:00pm

Off Premise 50/50 – Florence Twp. High School Parent's Organization, 1050 Cedar Lane
To benefit Relay for Life, May 4, 2013, 10:00am

Social Affair – Night at the Races, Roebling American Legion Post 39
To benefit Relay for Life, January 26, 2013, 3:00pm – 12:00am

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve the applications. Roll call vote – all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At this time the meeting was opened to the public for comments.

John Smith, 10 Boulevard, asked if there was work planned for the Boulevard area? Assistant Administrator Sahol said it was part of an application submitted last year to the State of New Jersey that included improvements to the curbs, sidewalks and roadway. He said it was not approved for funding by the state. The township applied again this year and a decision has not been made at the state level. Mr. Smith asked what was included? He was told it included everything curb to curb and some sidewalk improvements. Assistant Administrator said there was a second application filed for a pedestrian safety grant to support walk up traffic to the bus stop at Front and Boulevard. Mr. Smith asked if there was any tree work included and he was told there is not.

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Assistant Administrator Sahol said that if the applications are successful the township will do its own tree work. He said right now trees are being removed that are aging out.

Mr. Smith asked if residents would be notified if work was being done? It was confirmed for him that if work was scheduled to be performed, the residents would be given proper notice.

Mr. Smith asked if trees that were removed from the park were being replaced? Assistant Administrator Sahol said that there are no plans at this time to replace trees in the park. Mr. Smith asked if the White Pine trees were being replaced? He was told they will not be replaced. Assistant Administrator Sahol said he would be happy to meet with Mr. Smith to address any specific concerns he may have.

Mr. Smith said he is concerned with the amount of trees that have been removed and not replaced. Mayor Wilkie said that there was a tractor trailer full of trees planted in the township a little over a year ago. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that in the past six years there have been over 1,000 trees installed as part of a partnership with the State of New Jersey and recent grants from Burlington County. He explained that the grants were not for street trees and the state does not want to put trees where there is already coverage. He said the tree of choice is a fast growing good canopy tree, but there are utilities to consider.

Mr. Smith asked what was happening with the Roebling Fireman's Hall? Mayor Wilkie explained that the township has an agreement with FOP Lodge 210 to manage the facility. The FOP offices are also located in the building. If anyone wishes to use the facility, they can reach out to the FOP. Mr. Smith asked if there is a cost to use the facility? He was told there is. Mayor Wilkie explained that the township invested over \$1 million in grants in the building. Now the facility is available. He said there is a formal agreement in place with the FOP Lodge 210. The funds were from the federal and state grants. There were no Burlington County funds used for the building.

Mr. Smith asked about funds that were received from Burlington County as a settlement a few years ago. He said it was a large sum of money and he inquired as to what it was used for? Administrator Brook said it was used to stabilize the tax rate. He offered to sit down with Mr. Smith and review exactly where the funds were used.

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, thanked Mayor and Council for completing various projects in 2012. He requested that a truck tire at the boat dock be removed. Assistant Administrator Sahol said the dock had been removed before the hurricane. Since the tire was not floating loosely at that time, it was not a top priority but it will be pulled as soon as there is a tide that is suitable. He said the tire is extremely heavy and it is a solid piece of rubber.

It was on the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski, to close the public comments portion of the meeting. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-249

(Previously held from 12/5/12)

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF THE TOWNSHIP'S GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2013 CONSISTING OF GENERAL IMPROVEMENT REFUNDING BONDS AND WATER AND SEWER UTILITY REFUNDING BONDS TO REFUND CERTAIN BONDS OF THE TOWNSHIP; AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, MATURITY DATE AND SALE TO THE BURLINGTON COUNTY BRIDGE COMMISSION AND PROVIDING OTHER DETAILS WITH RESPECT TO SAID REFUNDING BONDS.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-262

A RESOLUTION FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE FOR 2012

Non-union Employees

(Advertised in the Burlington County Times 12-9-2012)

RESOLUTION 2012-264

TRANSFERRING CERTAIN 2012 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTION 2012-265

AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENTS WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-266

A RESOLUTION CANCELING TAXES ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE

RESOLUTION 2012-267

RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING THE NEED FOR THE MEND AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT FLORENCE TOWNSHIP MARCELLA L. DUFFY SCHOOL PROJECT

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-268
RESOLUTION ENDORSING PLANNING BOARD SOLICITOR'S CONFIRMATION
THAT THE MARCELLA L. DUFFY SCHOOL AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT
BEING DEVELOPED BY MEND HAS NOT RECEIVED A DENSITY BONUS**

**RESOLUTION 2012-269
RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT
FOR THE MARCELLA L. DUFFY SCHOOL AFFORDABLE
HOUSING PROJECT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-270
AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-271
A RESOLUTION CANCELING TAX OVERPAYMENTS LESS THAN \$10.00**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-272
AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE APPLICATION
FILED BY BURLINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
FOR NJDEP SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRIAL USER PERMIT
FOR
THE BURLINGTON COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER**

**RESOLUTION 2012-273
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXCHANGE OF
CONSTRUCTION CODE SERVICES**

**RESOLUTION 2012-274
RESOLUTION TO CANCEL WATER & SEWER UTILITY (2012)
UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES**

It was on the MOTION of Ostrander, Seconded by Lovenduski to approve Resolution No. 2012-249, Resolution No. 2012-262 and Resolution Nos. 2012-264 through 2012-274.

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Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-36
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)
Fixing the Compensation of Certain
Township Officials and Employees of the
Township of Florence
(CWA Union Contract)**

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to open the meeting to the public for comments on Ordinance No. 2012-36. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to comment, it was on the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to close the public hearing. Roll call vote – all ayes.

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-36.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-37
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)
An Ordinance Fixing the Compensation of Certain
Officials and Employees of
The Township of Florence
(Non-union employees)**

It was on the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski to open the meeting to the public for comments on Ordinance No. 2012-37. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Seeing no one from the public wishing to comment, it was on the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public hearing. Roll call vote – all ayes.

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It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston, to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-39.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS: None at this time.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION

Mayor:

Mayor Wilkie said that in January of 2013 residents will have a calendar with a lot of information for the community. He wanted to publicly thank the **Florence Fire Department** for coordinating the **calendar**. He said on Saturday the area scouts and the firefighters will be distributing the calendar. He thanked all of the community organizations involved and said the calendar is very nice and gets better each year. He is grateful for everyone's assistance. He wished everyone a *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*.

Township Administrator:

Administrator Brook wanted to thank the CWA negotiators who worked with the township to draft the new contract. He said they were extremely professional and Florence Township appreciated the cooperation that was extended. He said the end result is fair and reasonable for both sides.

Assistant Administrator: Nothing at this time

Division of Law: Nothing at this time.

Division of Engineering: Nothing at this time.

Division of Water and Sewer: Nothing at this time.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

Review the 2013 Reorganization Agenda, Resolutions and Appointments

Mayor Wilkie stated that he shared his appointments with Council and there are still a couple he is waiting to confirm. He said he will get the information to Council as soon as he has confirmation.

BOARD OF HEALTH: Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS: Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Motion was made by Lovenduski, seconded by Woolston, to open the meeting to the public.

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was on the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Woolston to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes – motion carried.

PRESENTATION FOR PARKER MULLEN: Crossing Guard Retiring

Mayor Wilkie called retiring crossing guard Parker Mullen to the front. The Mayor said the first time he met Mr. Mullen was at church at a youth meeting. As he thinks back, Mr. Mullen's love of people and children are what made him such a great crossing guard. Mr. Mullen said he has been a crossing guard for 17 years and 4 months. Mayor Wilkie presented Mr. Mullen with a clock to honor his service to the community.

Council President Sandusky presented flowers to Mrs. Mullen. He said he remembers working with Mr. Mullen at Yates Industries. He noted that Mr. Mullen was awarded one of the highest honors in town when he was named Citizen of the Year. He has never heard Parker say "I," he always says "team" or "us." There are going to a lot of people from town calling the administrator to find out where the "guy that waves" went. He wished Mr. Mullen luck and again said he is a very good man.

Captain John Bunce of the Florence Township Police Department thanked Mr. Mullen on behalf of the Department. He said Mr. Mullen never complains, shows up every day and does his job with a smile on his face. He said Mr. Mullen will be missed and he wished him luck.

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Chief Alvin Scully said he is sorry to see Mr. Mullen go and said no one will be able to wave the way he did.

Amy Wright, a teacher from the Roebling Elementary School presented Mr. Mullen with a card on behalf of the staff and students. She thanked him for all of his service to the school.

Steve Anderson, on behalf of the American Legion Post 39, presented a plaque to Mr. Mullen to thank him for all of his service.

William Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, said if anyone was in a bad mood, all they had to do is go by Mr. Mullen at his post and they would feel better. He said Mr. Mullen never frowns and is always smiling as he waves to everyone. He said he makes people's day.

Mr. Mullen said he really appreciated all the kind words. He thanked Mayor and Council, the Police Department and Administrator Brook. He said without them the job would have been different because they all really care about the crossing guards. He said he enjoyed being a crossing guard and he will always remember the appreciation he felt from everyone.

Mayor Wilkie said the 2013 calendar includes a picture of Mr. Mullen on the job.

Council President Sandusky invited everyone to the Front Conference Room for coffee and cake.

8:30PM MOTION by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to adjourn. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

8:30 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

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