

Florence, New Jersey
November 6, 2013

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, immediately following the Executive Session. President Sandusky led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 3, 2013; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 6, 2013.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Frank Baldorossi
Ted Lovenduski
David Woolston
Jerry Sandusky

Absent: Paul Ostrander absent due to prior commitment.

Also present:

Mayor Craig H. Wilkie (8:15); Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator (8:05); Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Township Administrator (8:05); Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

Note: Mayor, Township Administrator and Assistant Municipal Administrator were attending another meeting prior to the Council Meeting.

MINUTES

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

- Township Council Regular Sessions – September 18, 2013 & October 2, 2013

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Lovenduski, to receive and file the Chief of Police Report for October. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi to approve the **Treasurer's Bill List**.

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander

Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

A. Catering Permit: C. Reed's, 11-16-13, Fireman's Hall, Main St. Community Center
Charity/benefit

It was the Motion of Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi, to approve application A.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Cipriano, 408 East Fifth Street, presented a petition signed by the residents of East Fifth Street. There is a 25 mph speed limit and there are concerns about speeding.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the township is aware of the problem and the issue has been raised in the past. About a month and a half ago he sat down with the commanding officers of the police department and had the traffic safety unit study the situation. They placed the speed trailer in the area. There was a plan created to be used as a "traffic calmer" to try to visually restrict speed. The police department provided a diagram that is being reviewed by the Township Engineer. It was also presented to the Mayor, Council and the public at this time.

There are some hash marks near the circle that are a certain distance apart. They gradually get closer together toward the bottom of the hill where the speed starts to peak. This gives a driver the impression their speed is increasing. There are also lane restrictions, with a line along the right side and a thicker line in the center, giving the impression of confinement. This causes a driver to feel the need to slow. These measures are acceptable traffic control techniques that are used all over the state. There will also be additional crosswalks providing more bold white lines and there will be additional signage. From Spruce Street down toward Walnut Street, there would be the "dog leg" in the center of the road and the parking detail on the side. There will also be continued police enforcement.

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David Carriger, 404 East Fifth Street, asked why Pine Street and Cedar Street can't be boxed in with stop signs? He thinks the stops should be on East Fifth Street. It would make the traffic stop twice going in either direction. He mentioned other areas in the township where he believes stop signs have helped with speeding.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he is not a traffic engineer, but Fifth Street is a through street. Through streets are streets that require stops on approach. The state strongly suggests against four-way stops.

Administrator Brook suggested the police meet with Mr. Carriger. He believes in four way stops; he feels they work extremely well. There is just the issue of common courtesy. It is reasonable to ask the police department to look at the issues and if necessary, ask the traffic engineer to review it. It is a fair request. He realizes the state may not like it, but a stop is better than a speed hump.

Council President Sandusky noted that there are a lot of children in the area going to school in the morning and coming home after school. He understands the concerns of the residents.

Mr. Carriger said the trailer that flashes and posts speeds is a tool but it is useless because there is no recording device. He would like it to register how many times it "trips." He believes it should provide hard data.

Vincent Cipriano, 408 East Fifth Street, said he has spoken to the police, and the officer was very nice and explained much of the same things to him that he has heard tonight. He would like to see the street undesignated as a through street. He has grandchildren playing at his house and he worries about them.

Administrator Brook discussed the stop signs and mentioned another spot in town where one is to be installed but for some reason it is taking a long time. He again suggested Mr. Carriger and Mr. Cipriano meet with police commanders and hopefully come up with formal recommendations.

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, said he thinks the school buses are also speeding. He requested speed bumps in the past but was told they make too much noise.

Council President Sandusky reiterated that the two gentlemen will set up a meeting with the police department.

William Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, said he agrees there is a problem with speeding on this street.

John Lauricella, 3 Applegate Drive, asked if the resolution approving the trash contract included the usual caveats for non-performance. Administrator Brook confirmed there are penalties for not following the contract or working up to the township's standard.

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Paul Varga, Lucas Court, said his street is off Potts Mill Road. He would like someone to look at Potts Mill Road. Over the past twelve years there have been two developments built and it is a heavily traveled road. He believes there was some previous construction that was not completed properly. There are some dips in the road and a man hole cover sticks up. In the morning the school busses try to avoid the dips and enter into the other travel lane. The site is on Potts Mill Road between Creekwood Drive and Lucas Court.

Council President Sandusky asked that someone look at the road. Administrator Brook said there are two issues. The first is the entire road and the second is the specific site Mr. Varga discussed. The street improvement program is beginning in the spring. Potts Mill Road is an ideal road to apply to the State of NJ for a grant. Even if it is done in sections, it is a long road. Over the next five to ten years the road will be ready for a milling and repaving. With respect to the other comment regarding the specific site, the Assistant Administrator is familiar with it and will be in contact with Mr. Varga to meet and discuss the situation.

Sherrill Bernardini, 484 West Fifth Street, said she agrees with the traffic problems. She also wanted to discuss upkeep of properties. Her neighbors on either side are not taking care of their property. She is keeping up her own and theirs. There are evergreens pushing her fence. She said the trees are there for her neighbor's privacy but she thinks it is a safety issue. As of two weeks ago, the house was vacated.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he is familiar with the property she is referring to and will get her contact information to follow up and correct the problem. The Code Official will also inspect the property.

Lavinia Hicks, 439 West Fifth Street, said she lives across the street from the properties and sees flashlights and someone running through the vacant area at night. She noted there are a lot of animals. She believes she saw a snake crossing the tracks. She is concerned about Rabies.

Council President Sandusky said the new development and building in the area is disrupting the animals. He recounted his own experience with a groundhog that caused damage to his front porch.

Administrator Brook said the Animal Control Officer will be notified.

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi, to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes.

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-19

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO VACATE A PAPER STREET PORTION OF SPRING
STREET IN FAVOR OF THE CREATION OF A UTILITY
EASEMENT AS DESCRIBED HEREIN ON LAND SITUATED NEAR
PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 47, LOT 4 LOCATED AT WEST FRONT STREET
AND SPRING STREET**

(2ND Reading) (Public Hearing and Adoption)

It was the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi, to open the meeting to the public regarding Ordinance No. 2013-19. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski, to close the public hearing. All ayes.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-19.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ostrander Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-20

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE POLICE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
PATROL OFFICERS – DETECTIVES – SERGEANTS
FOR 2014**

(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)

It was the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi to open the meeting to the public regarding Ordinance No. 2013-20. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Woolston to close the public hearing. All ayes.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-20.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

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**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-21
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, IN THE COUNTY
OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIC PARKING LOT AT VETERAN'S PARK
IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING \$160,000
THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$152,000 IN
GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR NOTES OF THE
TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE SAME
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 12/4/13)**

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2013-21 and set the public hearing and adoption for December 14, 2013.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-202
Resolution Approving Agreement Between
The Township of Florence and
The Florence Township FOP Lodge #210
*January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014***

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-203
Award Five Year Trash Contract
To Exclusive Service & Maintenance Co., LLC**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-204
Authorizing Approval of 2013-2014 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
With Special Ruling and Tax Clearance Certificate
Aiebon Corporation, T/A Illusions, Holder of a
Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0315-33-001-002**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-205
Authorize Contract with Sockler Realty Services
Professional Real Estate Appraiser and Consultant to
Provide Appraisal for Route 130 Properties**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-206
Authorizing an Online Auction
with Govdeals
For Disposal of Municipal Property**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-207
Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Florence
Referring a Proposed Redevelopment Plan for
Parcels Within the Route 130 Redevelopment Area to the
Township of Florence Planning Board, and Directing
The Planning Board to Take Certain Action
Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(f)**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-208
Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item
of Revenue in the Budget of the Township of Florence,
County of Burlington, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87
Chapter 159, P.L. 1948
*(Drunk Driving Enforcement)***

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-209
Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item
of Revenue in the Budget of the Township of Florence,
County of Burlington, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87
Chapter 159, P.L. 1948
*(Waste Management Contribution)***

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-210
Authorize Refund
Use of FAAD Building Fee
Due to Cleaning Issue**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-211
Transferring Certain Budget Appropriations**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-212
Award the Contract for
2014 Self Contained Mobile Street Sweeper
with 8 Cu Yard Capability
to Grandturk, One Schuykill Parkway
Bridgeport, PA., 19405**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-13
Township of Florence, County of Burlington,
Resolution Amending 2013 Capital Budget**

Council Vice President Woolston said he would be abstaining from voting on Resolution No. 2013-203.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Resolution Nos. 2013-202, and 2013-204 through 2013-13.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolution No. 2013-203.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

Council Member Baldorossi congratulated Council President Sandusky and Council Member Woolston on their recent re-elections and said he is looking forward to working with Mayor and all of Council in the future to keep Florence moving in the right direction.

Council President Sandusky congratulated Council Member Baldorossi on his re-election.

Council President Sandusky said he heard on the radio a story about the Hunt Brothers Circus. He was out at the former Hunts Brothers Circus site the other day and noticed the sign looks bad. He would like to see if it can be cleaned up. The Township Administrator noted the request.

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Mayor

Mayor Wilkie apologized to everyone, especially the residents, for not being present during the earlier public comments. He said he will be sure to be briefed about what was discussed and will look into what can be done.

November 9, 2013 at 4:00pm, the police, fire and EMS personnel are being honored at the **St. Florine and St. Michael's Celebration for Emergency Services** being held at St. Andrews Church in Mt. Holly. It is an honor that Burlington County has given to our local services.

Sunday at 12:00pm at **Roebing Centennial Park the Roebing Garden Club** will be rededicating the **World War II Monument** there. In 2005 as part of the 100th Anniversary of the Village of Roebing the monument was erected.

On November 11th at 11:00 am, Post 194 will hold a service to honor veterans at Broad and Front Streets. At 11:30 there will be a combined **Veterans Day Service** at the monument located at the Municipal Building on Broad Street to honor all those who have served.

Mayor Wilkie apologized again for arriving late. He explained that he was in the process of selecting someone for the position in **Recreation/Economic Development**.

November 25, 2013, will be a **Special Session Meeting** of Council regarding Destiny Maternity. Destination Maternity is a well-established business out of Philadelphia that has announced it is moving to Florence. The company plans to build at the Whitesell site. It is part of the Township's redevelopment plan. The meeting will be around 5:00 or 5:30 pm.

Council President Sandusky said about a year ago he mentioned to Mayor Wilkie there was a **quilt** that a young lady in town, **Joanne Mognancki**, made that **honored all the fallen veterans**. Right now it is hanging in the municipal hall. It has been there since he told the Mayor about it. He suggested everyone go see it. He noted that many streets have been named after fallen veterans. He thanked the Mayor for getting the quilt displayed.

Council President Sandusky said he wanted to note the Mr. Cipriano said he taught some of the officers he spoke to. Council President Sandusky noted that one of his teachers in school was Mrs. Cipriano and said she looks the same. The Mayor said he also had Mrs. Cipriano as one of his teachers in school.

Administrator Brook asked about the time for the special meeting. The council members agreed to wait and ask Council Member Ostrander what time is better for him.

Mayor Wilkie said there have been a number of projects going on. Destination Maternity will be a 400,000 sq. ft. facility with potential expansion to 500,000 sq. ft. It will create 250-280 jobs. The facility will be here and the company will be headquartered in Moorestown. There will be a Planning Board review soon and the redevelopment plan will be approved by Council and then the application should be before the Planning Board at the December meeting.

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He praised the administration professionals and said the township does what it has to do to get things done. Nothing will be compromised for the town, but he vowed to work with potential businesses to get them here as quickly as possible. All the professionals met on Friday to work on making the project happen and he thanked everyone for their dedication.

Administrator Brook announced that the funding for Duffy School has been awarded by the State of NJ. Construction should begin in early spring. As part of this project the alley behind the building will need to be addressed. The alley will become one way and be improved.

Mayor Wilkie said when the property was turned over to the town it was identified as a COAH obligation for senior housing. There was a partnership with MEND last year and MEND was successful in getting the funding. The building will be renovated and an addition will be constructed. It will provide 18 additional apartments on what was the basketball area for Duffy School. The project is being done by the same group working on the Springside School in Burlington. The quality is easy to see and it will be an asset. The direction of the alley will head east. The information is on the Florence Township website. He hopes local businesses will benefit from having the housing so close. There is also a bus line very near the site.

The Mayor congratulated those who won the recent election. A lot has been accomplished over the last two years, but there is more to be done.

He said at the next meeting there will be discussion regarding access to the Roebing Steel Plant. He outlined some of the options to be discussed. He said the development of the plant will be a long process.

Administrator: Nothing at this time.

Assistant Municipal Administrator :Nothing at this time.

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: Recreational/Park Area – Roebing Village

Mayor Wilkie said the area is where the fence is on Riverside Avenue that was installed by the EPA in the late 90's. A few years later there was an extension that prohibited access to the hill. At this point, they are at the capping stages of the slag area. From Second Avenue to Tenth Avenue will be turned back over to the community. It is much higher now. The current plan is to keep the fence where it is and keep the trees. There is a drainage pipe that runs through to direct water to the natural basin. The fence will prohibit access and hamper the ability to maintain the site. In the past people were concerned about keeping the trees, but the Mayor believes that it is nice to be able to see the river. Over the past couple months there have been discussions held by Council, the Recreation Committee and the Police Department. The recommendation has been to not have a fence and to remove trees that will be damaged. There will be a gradual slope.

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Township officials will meet with the EPA to discuss the idea. The EPA gave the township a deadline of the end of November to decide the end result of the site. The project will be completed by next fall. There will be walking paths installed and there will be access roads. It will be a nice area for the community that will be accessible to the river.

New Business:

Council President Sandusky thought it would be good to hold the **2014 Reorganization Meeting** at the Main Street Community Center. All were in agreement.

Board of Health: Nothing at this time.

Miscellaneous: Nothing at this time.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Mr. Carriger said there is a ginkgo tree growing by his house. He said every spring and fall there are fruits that fall from the tree and they have a foul smell. He would like the tree removed. Mayor Wilkie and Assistant Administrator Sahol advised him that the Shade Tree Commission will look at the tree.

Mrs. Cipriano said she was an original property owner in that area, and the trees were planted by the township in 1972. She said many of the neighbors had ginkgo trees in front of their homes but they removed the trees.

It was the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public comment. All ayes.

8:45 PM MOTION by Lovenduski; seconded by Woolston to adjourn. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

8:45 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/aek