

Florence, New Jersey
March 19, 2014

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 Lovenduski at 8:00 PM. President Lovenduski 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 9, 2014; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 12, 2014.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Frank Baldorossi
Paul Ostrander
Jerry Sandusky
David Woolston
Ted Lovenduski

Also present:

Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Solicitor; James E. Biegen, Township Engineer, Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

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

- Township Council Executive Session – January 15, 2014
- Township Council Regular Session – February 5, 2014 and February 19, 2014

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi, to receive and file the Clerk's Report for February and the Tax and Water and Sewer Reports from the Tax Collector. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Catering Permit: Fireman's Hall, April 12, 2014, C. Reed's, 6 pm – 10 pm.
Little League Dinner
- B. Night at the Races: April 25, Civic Association to benefit Post 39 American Legion
- C. On-Site Merchandise Raffle: April 26, Civic Association to benefit Relay for Life
- D. Social Affair: April 25, Roebling American Legion Post 39, 6 p.m. – Midnight
- E. Off Premise 50/50, Florence High School Parent Organization
May 15, 2014, 5:30pm, to benefit Softball Team

Council President Lovenduski said the applications were going to be taken a little differently because Councilman Sandusky is a member of Post 39 and has a conflict.

It was the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Sandusky to approve applications A, C and E.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

Council President Lovenduski now called for a MOTION to approve applications B and D.

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

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-68

**Approve Shared Services Agreement with
the Township of Chesterfield
for a Certified Recycling Professional**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-69

**Resolution of the Township of Florence
County of Burlington, State of New Jersey,
Recognizing and Honoring
The Armed Forces Heritage House Museum**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-70

**Deny Request for Release of Performance Bonds for
The Estates at Oak Mill
Bond Nos. 1034868, 1034871 and 1034873
Phase I
Block 156.01, Lot 2**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-71

Resolution Constituting 2014 Temporary Capital Budget

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-72

**Authorizing an Online Auction
with Govdeals
for Disposal of Municipal Property**

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RESOLUTION NO. 2014-73

**Authorize Filing of 2013 Recycling Tonnage
Grant Application**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-74

**Approval to Submit a Grant Application
For Historic Preservation Project at the
Former Buc's Property on Hornberger Avenue**

Council President Lovenduski explained that Resolution 2014-74 is for a historic preservation grant to make improvements to the former Buc's property.

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained there was a grant notice that came to his attention recently. He hopes to use it to preserve the gas station at Fourth and Hornberger Avenues for a future potential use. This will at least preserve the building and ensure that it stays weather tight and safe. Unfortunately, it is falling into disrepair at the present time.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve Resolution Nos. 2014-68 through 2014-74.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Unanimously approved.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-03

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, IN
THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY,
PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1042 POTTS MILL ROAD IN
THE TOWNSHIP FOR OPEN SPACE AND
RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND RELATED EXPENSES
IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING \$270,000
THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
\$256,500 IN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR
NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE SAME.
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 4/2/14)**

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It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ostrander to approve Ordinance No. 2014-03 and set the public hearing and adoption for April 2, 2014.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

Councilman Sandusky said over the past weekend he met with some members of the American Legion Post 194. They are interested in having a car show. Many organizations in town are feeling the effects of the economy and would like to try and raise money with the event. They are hoping to hold it May 17, 2014. Unfortunately, they will have to block off a couple streets. He would like to have a committee formed to try and work with the post. The post has helped the township many times with things like the Patriotic Celebration and he would like to help them also.

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie said he had a couple proclamations this evening.

There was a resolution passed this evening recognizing Veterans. **Resolution 2014-69 Recognizing Honoring the Armed Forces Heritage House Museum** was on the agenda. He wanted to share Florence Township's support with those present and if anyone wanted copies they are available.

There will be a **Proclamation** presentation made next Wednesday at the **Relay for Life** event at the High School. He read the proclamation into the record. It dedicated **April 26, 2014** as **"Paint the Towns Purple Day"** and he encouraged all to participate.

The event will be held at the high school from 11:00am until 11:00pm. It is not overnight this year as it was in the past. Every year the temperature overnight seemed to drop very low during the event.

There is another **Eagle Court of Honor for Zachary Timothy Sedor on April 19th**. This Saturday is the **Blue and Gold Recognition Program for the Boy Scouts** at 3:00pm at Riverfront School. The following week there is a ceremony for an Eagle Scout that was previously mentioned.

Administrator:

Nothing at this time.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

Nothing at this time.

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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: Nothing at this time.

Miscellaneous: Nothing at this time.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Seeing no one wishing to be heard it was the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public comment. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Presentations

Mayor Wilkie thanked everyone for helping move the meeting along so some retirees of Florence Township could be honored this evening along with some special guests. In 2013, his first year as Mayor, it worked out that March 7 was a Wednesday night. He requested Council make the first Wednesday of March a special day every year. That is **Florence Township's incorporation date; March 7, 1872**. Many know the community goes well beyond that, there are many different dates with significance. The first Wednesday in March will be a day to honor retirees and recognize community members.

He wanted to begin with recognizing a number of **crossing guards** who recently retired. He called for **Harold Blakeslee**. Mayor Wilkie read the inscription on the clock presented to Mr. Blakeslee.

He then called for **Inez Blakeslee**. He remembered seeing her stationed on Pine and Third Streets and then on Delaware Avenue near Railroad Avenue. She said she was also at the Riverfront Middle School. The Mayor read the inscription on her clock. She was presented with flowers from Mayor and Council.

Mayor Wilkie called upon **Stephen "Fuzzy" Fazekas (Sr.)**. He read the inscription on the clock that was presented to him. His wife was presented with flowers from Mayor and Council.

Captain Brian Boldizar thanked the crossing guards. He gave them a lot of credit. They were also on time no matter the weather and they endured all kinds of weather. They enjoyed what they were doing. He had a great time with the trainings and he could tell they enjoyed it also. He said he will miss them and wished them happy retirement.

Chief Alvin Scully relayed a humorous story about Mr. Fazekas.

Mrs. Blakeslee thanked everyone. Mr. Blakeslee said he enjoyed his time doing the job but age and health caught up with him.

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Mayor Wilkie called upon **Police Sergeant Dominique Golden**. He praised him for his years of service. Most people run away from the kind of things Sgt. Golden faced but he went head on. He took great care of the community and the Mayor said he was grateful for that. He presented Sgt. Golden with a clock and read the inscription.

Chief Scully said what he liked about working with Sgt. Golden was being with him when there was an altercation. He was a good guy to have your back, he joked. It was a pleasure working with him and he did a good job. He always had a calm demeanor.

Captain Boldizar said he spent a lot of time with Sgt. Golden when he first started on the job. He was a great training officer and he learned a lot from him. Even when Captain Boldizar was on the road alone, Sgt. Golden had a knack for being in the right place at the right time. Captain Boldizar summed up his feelings with one phrase, "I'll miss you pal."

Detective James Ford, representing the **Florence FOP Lodge 210**, joked he was happy to be alive to speak because when he first started there were several times Sgt. Golden wanted to kill him. He said it is ironic that a clock or a watch is given for retirement because when someone is retired the last thing they need to know is what time to be somewhere. He felt, though, that it is symbolic to the time that someone dedicates to a job like this. He said police officers face many different scenarios in all kinds of conditions. They also spend a lot of time away from their families. He congratulated Sgt. Golden and thanked him for serving. Now that he is retired, use the clock to enjoy every minute.

Council President Lovenduski presented Mrs. Golden with flowers. He thanked her for lending her husband to the Department and joked that now she has him all day long.

Sgt. Golden thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the community, and said he did it with pleasure and pride. He thanked the citizens of Florence Township for the privilege of serving them, because it truly was a privilege. He thanked his fellow officers, both current and retired and said it was a pleasure to serve with them as well. They made it worthwhile and made it very tough for him to leave. To his family, he thanked them for tolerating him all these years and he thanked his children for making it easy to be a good father. To his wife and his mother in law, thank you very much. He stated that "without his wife he is nothing." He said last, but certainly not least, he thanked God because without him none of it would be possible. He had twenty-five years in law enforcement without a scratch and he gives Him the glory and the honor.

Mayor Wilkie said tonight is a special occasion and he would like to take this time tonight to recognize a member of the community who has committed himself to our community in a variety of ways. Mayor Wilkie read into record a **Proclamation honoring Joseph Varga** and naming him the **Grand Marshal of the Patriotic Day Celebration Parade**.

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Mayor Wilkie said people have choices in life, some choose to get involved and others choose to watch. The community is grateful for Mr. Varga's involvement. Mayor Wilkie said he had a conversation with Chief Yurcisin in the early nineties about Mr. Varga being a good citizen and how he kept children safe when traffic lights were being fixed near a school. He thanked Mr. Varga for everything he has done for the community over the years.

Mr. Varga said that he has "kept busy and stayed out of trouble."

Mayor Wilkie remembered that Mr. Varga always decorates for every holiday and that he has been recognized by Florence Township for it in the past.

8:35 PM MOTION by Baldorossi; seconded by Ostrander to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

8:35 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

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