

Florence, New Jersey
October 1, 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 Deputy 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

Note: Township Clerk absent – on vacation.

MINUTES

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ostrander, to receive and file the Tax and Water & Sewer Reports from the Tax Collector for August. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimously approved.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

APPLICATIONS

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Smith, 10 Boulevard, said the paving work on his street was done very well. There are traffic problems certain times of the day on Delaware Avenue near Route 130. The township vacated Tilton Lane to the bank. There aren't many access points to Route 130. He would like to see the township reclaim the street. He wondered how long the approvals carry forward. Council Member Sandusky said Tilton Lane is open and people do use it. It may be vacated on paper, but it is still a street. Mr. Smith said the bank could still close it up and then the township would be stuck. The administration will look into it.

Fred Wainwright, 1011 Cedar Lane, said there are people walking down Cedar Lane on game nights and it is not safe for pedestrians. Mayor Wilkie said the township is working on extending the bike path from Marter Field to the high school on Cedar Lane. Depending on how the prices come in, it might get further down Cedar Lane. It is a concern. He saw kids walking in the drainage ditch to the field. Mr. Wainwright said the street lights are not as bright as they used to be. Assistant Administrator Sahol will talk to PSE&G.

It was the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to close the public portion. All ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-198

**Saint Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church
100th Anniversary**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-199

Resolution Amending the 2014 Capital Budget

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-200

**Deny Release of Water & Sewer Maintenance Bond
K. Hovnanian for Crossroads East
Water Bond No. 1082803
Sewer Bond No. 1082802**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-201

**Deny Release of Maintenance Bond
K. Hovnanian for Crossroads East
Bond No. 1082804**

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RESOLUTION NO. 2014-202

**A Resolution Refunding Overpayments
as a Result of a Change in Assessment**

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-203

Authorizing Refunds of Certain Tax Overpayments

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution Nos. 2014-198 through 2014-203.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimously approved.

Mayor Wilkie read into the record **Resolution No. 2014-198** honoring the anniversary of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church. He noted some of the members of Council would be attending the celebration and he appreciated their showing support. He asked that when the presentation is held they participate with him.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-21

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 91 OF THE CODE OF FLORENCE TOWNSHIP,
PART 2, ARTICLE II, SECTION 91-3 TO INCLUDE A
DEFINITION FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT AND
AMENDING ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 91-66 ENTITLED
“PERFORMANCE AND MAINTENANCE GUARANTEES;
SURVEYOR’S CERTIFICATION” TO MINIMIZE THE
REQUIREMENT FOR MAINTENANCE BONDS FOR CERTAIN
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Administrator Brook explained this was an Ordinance for local businesses to not require a maintenance bond for improvements that are not dedicated to the public, such as a parking lot. Many small business owners were having difficulty the last few years securing the bonds. This would lessen the burden on the small business owners.

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Council President Lovenduski opened the meeting to the public regarding Ordinance No. 2014-21. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to close the public hearing.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-21.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-22

**A BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE,
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY
PROVIDING FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF
\$400,000 TO FUND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWNSHIP'S
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IN AND FOR THE
TOWNSHIP, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
\$400,000 IN WATER AND SEWER UTILITY BONDS OR
NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE SAME
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing and Adoption 10/15/14)**

Administrator Brook explained this is a supplemental Ordinance to the original Ordinance for the digester conversion. The purpose is to improve the operating efficiency and capacity of the wastewater treatment plant. The township continues to grow, so anything that can be done to maintain the infrastructure is extremely important.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ostrander to approve Ordinance No. 2014-22.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE 2014-23

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS BLOCK 165.03, LOTS 5.09 AND 5.10
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PURPOSES
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 10/15/14)**

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Administrator Brook explained this ordinance corrects the lot number that was wrong in the previous ordinance. Nothing has changed. It is still the intended property.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2014-23.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie said there was a vacancy on the **Shade Tree Commission**. He recommended appointing **John Kuhn** to the vacancy.

The week of October 10, 2014 is fire prevention week. There is an **Open House at the Florence Township Fire Department on October 10** from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the fire house.

October 12, 2014 the **police, fire and EMS members** will be blessed at **St. Stephen's Church** at a 9:00am service.

The upcoming weekend is also the celebration for **St. Nick's 100th Anniversary**.

Mayor Wilkie was glad to hear that the **Roebing Museum** had a very successful **Octoberfest** that he was unfortunately unable to attend. The week prior, **St. Stephen's** held its **annual car show** and it was also successful. It was good to see these positive things going on in the community.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Lovenduski to confirm and approve the Mayor's appointment of John Kuhn to the Shade Tree Commission: Unexpired term ending 12-31-17.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

Administrator

Administrator Brook said there was a letter in the packet from a resident regarding parking problems in front of her house. He planned to call her and hoped to meet with her to see if the problem can be rectified.

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Assistant Municipal Administrator

Assistant Administrator Sahol said that Boulevard has been paved and a punch list is being developed.

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:

Zoning Board: Unexpired Term, Alt. No. 2, expiring 12/31/14
(Council Appointment)

It was the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to nominate **Joseph Cartier** to the **Zoning Board** to fill the unexpired term.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

New Business: Nothing at this time.

Board of Health: Nothing at this time.

Miscellaneous: None at this time.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Council President Lovenduski opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Mr. Smith, Boulevard resident, asked about the purchase of land. Mayor Wilkie said it was purchased with funds from the Open Space Trust Fund. The amount was \$235,000 and it is 6.5 acres. The intent is to make it part of the Open Space Program. Florence Township has been talking to the local scout programs about them using the house that is on the property. That is the one section in the community that does not have an open space. It also ties all three developments together because it reaches across the creek to Leffler Circle and Andrews Drive.

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, said he heard the owner of Mario & Frank's bought the Illusions site. Mayor Wilkie confirmed this, but said there were no applications brought to the township for approval. They bought the property and are cleaning it. He does not know what the plan is for the site.

Bob Fitzpatrick, 204 Wilbur Henry Drive, said the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) advised him that they cannot do anything about the odors from the landfill and he should contact the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). He has done that. The number on the township website is their direct number in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

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One thing he has noticed speaking to people in town is that they are beat up on this issue. There is definitely a violation of the landfill's permits. Now it needs to be enforced. He was advised to go to the federal government and he plans to do that. His request to Mayor and Council was to use the mobile electric sign to advertise the information.

Mayor Wilkie said he would look into it but the sign does not belong to the township. Making residents aware is important. Florence Township receives monthly reports from the County Health Department and there was little to no response because no one was calling in complaints. The call numbers drastically jumped up in September. That was good because the only way to force action is to document the concerns.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if the sign can't be used, is there anything else Mayor and Council can do? Assistant Administrator Sahol said the information can be put on Channel 19 and possibly made more prominent on the website.

Mr. Fitzpatrick said Waste Management is planning to try and expand. He was told by the PADEP. He felt there was progress but more needs to be done.

Council President Lovenduski said he called in an odor complaint Saturday because the odors were very bad in Roebling.

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

8:27 PM MOTION by Ostrander; seconded by Sandusky to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:27 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD A. BROOK
Deputy Township Clerk

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