

Florence, New Jersey
June 17, 2015

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. President Sandusky led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by Aimee Kuc, Recording Secretary: Notice was posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 8, 2015; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 11, 2015. It was also provided to the now defunct Register News for information and sent to the Trenton Times on May 21, 2015.

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 Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Attorney

Note: The Township Clerk, Joy Weiler, absent due to illness.

MINUTES

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

- Township Council Regular Session – May 20, 2015
- Township Council Executive Session – May 13, 2015
- Township Council Closed Session – June 3, 2015

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to receive and file the Court Administrator, Township Clerk's and Tax Collector's Tax and Water & Sewer Reports for May. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion Carried.

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

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

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APPLICATIONS:

- A. On-Premise 50/50, Roebling Museum, 100 Second Avenue
July 25, 2015 9:00am – 3:00pm

- B. Social Affair – Francis Robbins Post 194 American Legion
July 11, 2015, 12:00pm – 2:00am, Patriotic Day Celebration

It was the MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Baldorossi to approve Applications A & B. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Eckley, 906 Walnut Street, said people from Florence Tollgate are parking in front of his and his neighbor's homes. It has become a very big nuisance. There is no parking for their family and friends. There is garbage in his yard from the car owners. He understands why Walnut Court was posted for private parking but there are new ordinances in place that would prevent all the boats and trailers from being parked there. He would like the first No Parking sign taken down so the cars parking in front of his house can park from the corner to the second No Parking sign. It would not affect anyone on Walnut Court. Right now he can't get his street plowed when it snows. Assistant Administrator Sahol was nice enough to send the plow truck back, but that might not happen every time. The street doesn't get swept because the cars are in the way. His trash was not picked up yesterday because the cars were in the way. There are eight cars and a motorcycle. His children have nowhere to park when they visit and Walnut Court is empty.

Council President Sandusky said the trailers and trucks were one reason there was no parking posted on Walnut Court. The other reason was that there were parking spots available in Tollgate and the residents from Tollgate were parking on Walnut Court. He would like to see the people who live in Tollgate park in Tollgate. Even if the sign is removed it doesn't mean that people who are parking on Walnut Street will stop parking there. When Tollgate sought permission to build the site, a condition was that there had to be enough parking for all of the residents. He doesn't know why the Tollgate residents are parking outside of the development.

Mr. Eckley said it is because they aren't paying their dues or their rent so the Homeowners Association won't let them use the pool or park on the premises. He says he agrees with Tollgate because it is the only leverage they have.

Mayor Wilkie asked if eliminating overnight parking on Walnut Street would help. Mr. Eckley was agreeable. Mayor Wilkie said there is a potential the problem would be moved onto Ninth Street, but not allowing overnight parking could be something to alleviate the issue right now without changing Walnut Court.

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Mr. Eckley said actually the no overnight parking could affect him. He has a one car driveway and sometimes his girlfriend stays overnight and parks on the street. When his children visit they park on the street. He doesn't want to have to make his company leave at 9:00pm. He again asked for the one sign on Walnut Court to be removed. He said it would not affect anyone to remove the first sign.

Member Woolston asked how Tollgate could tell its residents they can't park there, even if the residents owe the complex money. It is their responsibility to house and park their residents rather than flow them to the public street because of non-payment. That's not being fair to these residents or the town. Member Woolston asked what would happen if Mr. Eckley's visitors parked on the Tollgate property. Mr. Eckley said it has happened in the past and the police were called.

Administrator Brook said the Township could get a legal opinion from its Township Solicitor regarding whether or not Tollgate can force its residents to not park on Tollgate property. He thinks they probably can. What is unfair about this is what it is doing to the residents on Walnut Street. In the end Tollgate will have the same result, ultimately foreclosing on the property for non-payment of dues. He suggested making these people park in the back of the property by the Turnpike. They have the ability to do that. This was discussed with Tollgate but they did not agree to do that. Both Administrator Brook and Assistant Administrator Sahol have spoken to Tollgate. The manager sympathized with what the residents are going through, but wouldn't change his mind. Administrator Brook does not think Tollgate realizes the impact it is having on the surrounding area when they force their residents to park outside of the complex.

Council President Sandusky suggested a letter be sent from the Township Attorney. Administrator Brook said he thinks Tollgate is being short sighted. If the shoe was on the other foot they would be extremely upset. The solution is to make those who haven't paid park in designated spots by the Turnpike. Mayor Wilkie said Tollgate could do that, but if a Tollgate resident's home is actually closer to Walnut Street they are going to park on Walnut Street, not in the designated area. Mayor Wilkie said before there is a permanent action, he wanted to have a forceful conversation with Tollgate. The area will also be policed. Mayor Wilkie asked how long it had been going on, he didn't realize it had been as far back as the winter. Mr. Eckley said it has been about a year and it has been getting progressively worse. The people have no respect for his property. He doesn't smoke, but there are cigarette butts in his curb line and there are oil stains in front of his house. He keeps his property nice and pays his taxes and this is what he has to put up with.

Mr. Eckley said there was supposed to be a tree line buffer between his property and Tollgate. There was at one time but the tornado took all the trees down. He came to Council at that time and he was told Tollgate didn't have the funds available to replace the trees. He would like the buffer put back up because there is a light in Tollgate's parking lot that lights up his whole back yard.

Administrator Brook said hopefully within a very short time there will be a positive response and he will let the residents know the outcome. He hopes to get it resolved because it is unfortunate and not fair.

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Debbie Partyka, 705 Baird Drive, presented a petition with 167 signatures asking for the alley behind Duffy School to be named after Richard Dennison. She said Council told her last time that the street was named Duffy Way in 2013. This was confirmed. Ms. Partyka said at the last meeting no one knew if there were any Duffy relatives still in the area. She said she did some research and could not find any relatives in the area. She wanted to know why the alley was named after her and there wasn't any family notified. Council President Sandusky said it was appropriate to name it Duffy Way because it runs behind Duffy School and the developers put a lot of work into the alley, and it was named Duffy in keeping with the development. There was no one asking at that time to name it anything different. There were public readings and a second hearing where opinions could have been presented.

Ms. Partyka said Mr. Dennison has been serving the community for over fifty years. There was a list she never knew about to get things named after people. There were two streets that were named for people while they were still alive. While he is still alive and the street is right behind his establishment it is appropriate to name it after him. She said she hasn't taken it to social media, the petition is all she did so far. She brought Mr. Dennison with her this evening. She said Council thought he would be too humble to want the street named after him, but here he is.

Council President Sandusky said at the last meeting it was mentioned that there were already things named after Marcella Duffy, why does she need more named after her. Mr. Dennison already has something named after him on the main drag, Dennison's Funeral Home.

Richard Dennison, 214 West Front Street, said he didn't ask for this and wasn't aware of it until a few people brought it to his attention. Streets are usually named after someone who is active over the years in the community. He said a lot of the people there that evening never knew the Duffy's. He knew them and was good friends with Marcella and Francis Duffy. They were twins who were never married. They lived in the house next to Saint Clare's Church. Francis was an executive at Public Service for many years and Marcella was of course a school teacher, then a principal and then acting superintendent. He was on Council with Francis Duffy. He picked him to bring to the Council meetings. Marcella and Francis did not have any relatives. His funeral home handled both of their funerals. She passed before Francis. There were no relatives for either funeral.

Mr. Dennison said it is also nice for someone to have something named after them while they are alive. Wilbur Henry and Dr. Shaver were still alive. Shaver Drive was while Mr. Dennison was a Council member. He wanted Dr. Shaver to be able to ride by and see his name while he was alive.

Mr. Dennison said he is not too active now, but was in the past. He spent his whole life in Florence and over the years he was in the JC's when there was one in Florence. There was a men's club that just ended this past summer. He was the longest member. He was a member for 48 years. He was active in the 1976 Bicentennial Celebration. He was the treasurer and his group put the gazebo at Wilkie Park. He is the founder and president of the Florence Garden Club.

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He is kind of limited now but he has donated a lot of time to the community and serving people. June 1, 2015 he was licensed for fifty years. He opened in June 1970 in Florence. He feels as though he helped when he was younger and he said he was charitable to the community.

The type of work he is in, he meets some people who can afford and some who can't afford his services. When he knew he was coming to this meeting he looked back over the past years. He said he calculated that he lost about \$228,000 by people just not paying or people he worked with due to financial problems. That is a way he served the people of the community.

He said if the name is changed in his favor no one would have to change their addresses because there are no houses. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their time and consideration.

Council President Sandusky explained that everyone knows all that Mr. Dennison has done for the Township and what he will continue to do. As he explained at the last meeting to Ms. Partyka, there is a list of a lot of people that deserve recognition, like Mr. Dennison. The Township was in a fortunate situation to be able to name a lot of streets and such after veterans that gave their lives. Right now there are no streets to name. His thought, as he expressed to Ms. Partyka at the last meeting, is that Mr. Dennison's name would be added to the list. The alley is already named. If the Township had been approached at the time it was named it would have been taken into consideration.

Ms. Partyka asked what names were on the list. Mayor Wilkie said he did not have it in front of him but he knew Judge Kramer and Judge Hughes were among them. Ms. Partyka asked why the alley was not named for one of them. Mayor Wilkie said it is an alley and they are not usually named. This one needed to be named for the project.

Ms. Partyka asked what could be done to have it changed to Dennison Way. It is right behind his business so it would be the most logical place to put something named for him. Mayor Wilkie said everyone admires Mr. Dennison and appreciates all he does during a very emotional time. It would need something that is above and beyond. An example would be being inducted into a hall of fame or something along those lines. It is something that can't happen very easily because if it happened easily then it would not mean as much.

Ms. Partyka again asked what had to be done to change the street name. Mayor Wilkie said his suggestion at the last meeting was to put something together that outlines what Mr. Dennison has done. Ms. Partyka said that was provided by Mr. Dennison. Mayor Wilkie said that he would prefer something that was written out that could be held onto.

Mayor Wilkie said the selection of street names has not been a formal process and it probably needs to be made more formal. It would also require private conversations with different groups in the Township. When decisions are finally made the selections would be announced.

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Ms. Partyka asked why the conversations needed to be private. Mayor Wilkie said any actions would need to be done in public but discussions would need to remain private so people could express honest views. Mayor Wilkie said there are many people that have done a lot for the town and its residents. He reviewed some who were involved in various ways.

He noted when Wilbur Henry Drive was named, the original plan was to rename Eyre Street, but it was brought to everyone's attention that it was named for Joshua Eyre, one of the founders of the community. Some may also say it would be inappropriate to name the alley after Mr. Dennison, saying he should have a park or a street. People could think it would be belittling to name an alley after him.

Council President Sandusky said the honor being bestowed upon Mr. Dennison this evening is to receive the petition and give it to the Township Clerk to be sure to have it on record. When Ms. Partyka was at the last meeting she was assured Mr. Dennison was added to the list of street names. The petition will go on file with that.

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Woolston to receive and file the presented petition for the record. All ayes.

Gloria Mognancki, 904 Walnut Street, appreciated the attention to the parking problems she and her neighbor are experiencing. She also thanked everyone for everything they did for her now departed husband Steve Mognancki. He came to Council in 1991 and asked for a piece of ground for a Pearl Harbor 50th Anniversary Monument and it was provided. Then he requested something for all the veterans and the Township assisted him in creating a monument. She said it meant a lot to him when the Township honored the fallen war veterans with streets.

Council President Sandusky said Mayor and Council always appreciate it when she comes to a meeting because she always has those two words they like to hear – thank you.

Talaya Loftin, 1005 West Fourth Street, had questions about what programs were available for the youth of the Township. She asked if there were programs to help keep the kids off the street, especially downtown. She remembered there used to be activities for the kids at the park during the summer months.

Mayor Wilkie said the school used to do an extended program but he does not believe they do anymore. There is an active Recreation Committee that has certain activities. The summer enrichment programs were discontinued because of budget cuts. After each season is over, Mayor Wilkie meets with the leadership of the organizations to discuss where the group is going. He challenges them about activities for the middle school age children. It is that age group that needs some activities that may not be sports.

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Marty Eckert was brought on as a full time employee for recreation and economic development. The Township is always looking at different alternatives. In 2000 a resident partnered with a local church and created a canteen. It ran for a number of years. It had to be shut down because there was a lack of adult volunteers. If there is a group of people that have ideas, he and Mr. Eckert would be more than happy to meet with them.

Kristan Marter, 220 East Front Street, said she has been working with Ms. Loftin to try and organize groups to be able to put something together for kids in the community. She asked how to include the Township in their efforts. Mayor Wilkie suggested meeting with Mr. Eckert. Ms. Marter said she went to Maplewood Homes to see what was there and there were basketball courts with no hoops. She said she was buying hoops so the kids could play. Mayor Wilkie asked Assistant Administrator Sahol to look into getting hoops for the courts.

Mayor Wilkie said there could be an insurance issue if Ms. Marter bought the hoops and installed them. It could be a problem if it was done incorrectly. Mayor Wilkie suggested talking to the Housing Authority about providing a donation for hoops.

Administrator Brook suggested she meet with Mr. Eckert, the Mayor and himself to discuss different ideas. The Mayor and Council are very willing to do anything they can to help the youth. The canteen did go to the wayside because there weren't enough volunteers. There were other programs that weren't sustainable. Parents had very busy schedules and they didn't have the time to volunteer.

Ms. Loftin asked if the volunteers would need to have background checks and badges. Administrator Brook said no the volunteers were volunteering to help the youth of the community. There would need to be parental involvement.

Mr. Eckert said from a Recreation standpoint, the Township is starting to speak with the schools to create a more fluid relationship because the recreation children are part of the school system. As the school year starts winding down he will be meeting with the administration. He said the Township has to be conscious of cost factors and responsibility to the taxpayers.

He encouraged the audience members to attend the Recreation Committee Meetings. There is never a bad idea. The group is comprised of individuals that have been part of the community for a long time. They have knowledge of things that have happened in the past that worked well and of programs that didn't have staying power. There is never a bad suggestion; it is more about getting everyone together to brainstorm.

Administrator Brook said the best thing to do is to sit down and talk. Getting together and discussing what we as a community can do to help the youth and improve the situation is a good start. The Township is very willing to do that.

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If the Township can help it is more than willing to do so. As an example, as of this year every playground will have been updated and given new safe fall cover. He suggested they call and schedule a meeting so everyone can work together to make it a better community. Everyone might not always agree but they have the same goal.

Ms. Marter said she moved to Florence three years ago and does not have children. She met Ms. Loftin and started to learn about the community and getting involved. Our kids are our future and if we don't do something to keep them out of trouble that is the path they will take. She is interested in getting involved and didn't know about Mr. Eckert until this evening and she is glad he is available. She hopes that together everyone will be able to put something in place, especially for the summer. She didn't know there aren't any freshman sports in the high school.

Mayor Wilkie said there are sports for freshman. There were some budget restrictions put into place. There are no sports for the middle school children. The sports went away and the clubs went away. The PTA tries to raise funds. The Township can't replace that, but what it can do is work with those who are active to create alternatives. Ms. Marter said the parents also need to become involved. There is a Facebook page and there seem to be many interested residents. She thinks getting the word out would help bring volunteers. Mayor Wilkie agreed.

Council President Sandusky said if you are involved with the youth a background check is required. Mayor Wilke clarified the background check is required for a Township sponsored program.

Ms. Loftin asked if she were to organize a kick ball game and parents came to help out would the background check be required. Council President Sandusky said no, it would not. If the Township was having the kick ball game, then yes.

Mayor Wilkie said Wilkie Park was the trial for the new playground surfacing. It is very expensive. Fortunately the Township has been awarded grants for the projects. The last two that have to be done are the RD Wood tot lot and Marter Park. The Woodlawn playground is on land owned by the foundry. It has only been maintained for the athletic component. There are some things that can be done depending on what activities are planned. He said the Township will work with the Housing Authority.

Ms. Marter asked if the parks were available for parents getting together with kids for informal games and things. She asked if they would need insurance or anything like that. She was told it is fine to use the parks.

Administrator Brook there are things that take place that she may not have known about. The Police recently held a Bike Rodeo. It was really a bike safety program, stressing the importance of helmets and bike safety. Coupled with that was a Wellness Day. Ms. Loftin said she wants the programs to all be free. Mayor and Council said the Rodeo and Wellness Day were free. There were also free bike helmets, free water ice and free soft pretzels along with free participation in karate and Zumba demonstrations.

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Council Member Lovenduski said the scouts do many things for free. It is their 100th anniversary this year. The scouts just went white water rafting this past weekend. He doesn't know if it was free, but 25 kids just went white water rafting.

Ms. Marter asked where she could get information. Mayor Wilkie said the Township posts all of its activities on the Township website. There is also a link to the scout's website. He noted that information is also posted on Channel 19. Ms. Marter said there might be dues for scouts.

Mayor Wilkie said that while Mr. Eckert is performing the Economic Development of his job, many times the businesses he visits express interest in giving to the community, sometimes with a monetary donation. Those funds could possibly be used for a program or event for the youth.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-139
Approve Agreement for Dedication of
Roadways in Haines Center
(John Galt Way, Richards Run and Daniels Way)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-140
Authorize Refunds of Certain Tax Overpayments

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-141
Authorize Refund
Recreation Fee
2015 Softball Program - Overpayment

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-142
Approve Reduction of Performance Bond
Burlington Coat Factory
Block 160.01, Lot 1.01
Bond No. LPM763524400

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-143
Resolution to Remove Property from Tax Sale

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RESOLUTION NO. 2015-144
Authorizing Approval of 2015-2016
Renewal of Club License
Opre Larson Post 8838 VFW of US

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-145
Authorizing Approval of 2015-2016
Renewal of Club License
American Slovak Club

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-146
Deny Request for Release of Performance Bond for
The Estates at Oak Mill, Phase I
Pulte Homes

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-147
Resolution Authorizing the Township of Florence
to Enter Into a Shared Services Agreement to
Retain the Services of Dr. Burchell

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-148
(1) Authorizing the Filing of a Declaratory
Judgement Action and a Motion for
Temporary Immunity; (2) Declaring its Intent to
Fully Comply with its Current and Future
Mount Laurel Obligations and to Serve as
The “Catalyst for Change” to Render any
Mount Laurel Lawsuits as “Unnecessary Litigation”

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-149
Approve Payment No. 1 for the Contract for the
Roadway Improvement Projects for the 2014-2015 Road Resurfacing
To: Richard T. Barrett Paving Company, Inc.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-150
Authorizing Approval of 2015-2016
Renewal of Club License
*Francis W. Robbins Post #194***

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-151
Authorizing Approval with Conditions
2015-2016 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
River Rock Bar & Grille, LLC
ABC License No. 0315-33-008-004**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-152
Water & Sewer Payment Plan for
Block 76, Lot 1.02
430 East Third Street**

Administrator Brook said there were some additional resolutions this evening that were in front of Council. He also wanted to explain the COAH resolutions that were on the agenda.

He wanted to first address the two COAH resolutions. The first is a shared services agreement. Florence Township is joining with other municipalities in New Jersey to continue to proceed with its Affordable Housing program. Florence is one of approximately 68 towns that are certified. The municipality has been extremely active in trying to provide affordable housing and will continue doing so in the future. The other resolution deals with what is called a Declaratory Judgement Filing. Because the State of New Jersey has failed to live up to its responsibility to formulate a clear Affordable Housing policy throughout the State, the Supreme Court stepped in and said each municipality must go to a court of law for a Declaratory Judgement Filing. This resolution authorizes the Township to file with the Burlington County Court System. The Township will proceed to do so, indicating exactly what Florence has done over the years with its plan, and what it expects to do in the future to meet its obligation.

There are also resolutions that were put before Council this evening. Resolution 2015-150 is for the approval of renewal of the Club License for the Francis W. Robbins Post #194. Resolution 2015-151 is the authorization with conditions to renew the consumption license for the River Rock Bar & Grill. Resolution 2015-152 is a Water & Sewer Payment Plan for a senior citizen who met with the Administration today. The Township did its best to accommodate him before the upcoming Tax Sale.

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Whenever a resident requests a payment plan the Township does its best to accommodate them even on very short notice. Resolution No. 2015-143 will now include 430 East Third Street because it has to specifically be excluded from the Tax Sale.

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to approve Resolution Nos. 2015-139 through 2015-152.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES None at this time.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers: Nothing at this time.

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie said tomorrow there will be a ribbon cutting at 220 Foundry Street. A building was rehabilitated into affordable apartments by Green Star. The reception is from 3pm-5pm. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for 3:30pm.

He said Mr. Eckert is going to speak about the Patriotic Day Celebration being held on July 11th and the activities that are planned.

There will be a brief closed session at the end of the meeting.

Administrator

Administrator Brook said there was a letter in the packet that was written to the Township from Christina Agostinelli Cesaretti. He thought it was poignant. The letter was about **220 Foundry Street**, the building that is having a ribbon cutting tomorrow. It was run down and abandoned, there was a blue tarp over it. Now you see the name **Agostinelli** clearly on the building. Her family built the building and she grew up there. It has been renovated and will now provide affordable housing in the Township. It looks great and is good for the neighborhood and hopefully will be a catalyst for other properties in the area. The Town is also looking into purchasing the Marconi Lodge because it is no longer a viable entity. It would be used for open space. He read the letter into the record. It goes to the point of community working together to make the community better.

Council President Sandusky said Alicemae Agostinelli, Christina's mother and a former owner of the property, will be cutting the ribbon along with her son-in-law and grandchildren. It will be a nice affair tomorrow.

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Assistant Municipal Administrator

Assistant Administrator Sahol said last Thursday some municipal employees and about twenty volunteers came together to install close to seventy trees in the community. They were installed on Broad Street, Front Street and Sixth Avenue. Those streets were selected based on the Department of Forestry's standards. The need was demonstrated based on loss of tree stock. The Township was able to obtain a grant to reinstall the trees. He was happy to say it was a great day. It was very hot and everyone got sunburned, but it looks great and it is an incredible improvement. If anyone remembers the trees on Front Street and the shade tree cover that was once there, he is hoping the Shade Tree Commission and volunteers efforts will pay off in the future.

He said the tot lot on Railroad Avenue is complete with the fall safety surface material and it looks great. The merry go round will be removed because it is a substandard piece of equipment. He hopes to add some benches and trees to provide some shade to the area.

FAAD Park is about fifty percent complete. The first color has gone down and tomorrow the second color will go down. By Saturday morning that park should be able to be occupied by the children as well. There will then only be two parks left that will be part of the next grant. There was a new drinking fountain ordered that will be installed at RD Wood Park. He intends to make an application for a grant to also include the fall safe material at RD Wood and Marter Park.

Water & Sewer was working at the boat dock today. They were running water there so the Garden Club can use it to care for the flowers and the fire department would have water if it was needed.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the library roof project is going really well. The contractor is making good progress and he is hoping within the next few weeks the surface of the roof should be completed. A lot of the brick work was completed. There is a small change order. He would like to request a motion for tonight and have a confirmation resolution at the next meeting. It is for \$4500.00. The intent is to remove the conduits that were surface mounted across the top of the roof that supplied the power to the two air conditioner units and bring those into the building. The goal is so there are no roof penetrations other than the units and one vent.

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the change order in the amount of \$4,500.00

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he wanted to point out it is within the budget. There is a small amount included that is for unforeseen or additional pieces.

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Assistant Administrator Sahol said his last item was the Road Program. Barret was in town working near the alleys where the trash truck has difficulty maneuvering on Chestnut Street. There is also work currently being done on Parish Lane and Riverside Avenue. Eighth Avenue, the Seventh Avenue intersection, and West Third Street are all completed. The project has been adjusted slightly because of some delays. Cedar and East Third Streets, which were initially going to be immediately after school let out, will now be moved back away from Patriotic Day because that area is inundated with line ups for the parade. Boulevard will be done around the same time. East Second Street from Spruce to Broad Street will be moved up on the list and be done within the next week or two.

Division of Law Nothing at this time.

Division of Engineering Nothing at this time.

Unfinished Business Nothing at this time.

New Business

Mr. Eckert said in the packet he provided an update of the **Patriotic Day Celebration**. It outlined the planning that had been done to date. Today he met with the Commander of VFW Post 8838 and Orlando Southerland, who is a Scout Leader and this year's Parade Grand Marshal. These two groups are working in tandem to make sure things run smoothly. After the parade there will be activities on Nykita Field celebrating the **100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts**. The VFW has offered to open their kitchen and prepare hot dogs and refreshments for the parade participants with the aid of the Scouts.

Tomorrow there is a meeting scheduled with the various departments involved in the day to review the parade route and other aspects such as safety at the event, post parade activities and the fireworks. Everything is coming together nicely. There are quite a few groups that are participating. There was a tremendous number of local businesses who wanted to get involved this year, but couldn't be part of the parade. Some have provided donations to support some elements of the day. They will be recognized with announcements during the parade and there will be banners at the stage area highlighting them.

The milestone with the scouts is something that is very rare and unique. He learned today the local Scouts actually started two years before the National Charter for Boy Scouts was even recognized. They are thrilled about the event.

There are also many veterans participating this year. That was something he thought was important because it is a patriotic celebration. There are more and more local veterans getting involved. Burlington Chevrolet has graciously offered to provide any vehicles that may be needed.

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Miscellaneous Nothing at this time.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Ms. Loftin asked how to get a Recreation Center in Florence? Mayor Wilkie said what would be needed is the plan for it. He worked for schools for twenty-two years and whenever a new school was built the first questions was what do we want it to provide.

Ms. Loftin would like to have a Recreation Center that could be a place that youth could go to after school. Mayor Wilkie said the first thing she would have to do is find enough volunteers to help. Then she would need to find a location. The Township buildings that are currently empty are not suitable for that purpose.

Council President Sandusky said when he was growing up there used to be a Boys and Girls Club. It was usually held on an off night, like Mondays. There were ropes, basketball and other activities. Something like that would need to be sanctioned by the Township. The Township would be able to then reach out to the School District to try and find a place to hold it. Ms. Loftin said getting gym time in the schools is not easy.

Mayor Wilkie agreed. That was one of the reasons the Boys and Girls Clubs were discontinued. The programs in the school were growing so it took time away from the clubs. Council President Sandusky said if Ms. Loftin has the interest, enough kids to participate and volunteers to help, he thinks Mr. Eckert could find a spot somewhere for it.

Mayor Wilkie discussed the possibility of there being room at the Housing Authority. He noted that some of the area churches have halls. Depending on what is planned that could be an option. It depends on what the plan is. If gym space is needed, that is at a premium and hard to get. He is also preferential to not having activities on Sunday mornings.

It was the **MOTION** of Ostrander; seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion of the meeting. Roll call vote – all ayes. Unanimous approval.

ADJOURNMENT

9:06 PM MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski to adjourn and go back to Closed Session. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Brook
Township Administrator/Deputy Township Clerk

/aek