

Florence, New Jersey
August 2, 2006

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 Fratinardo at 8:00 PM. President Fratinardo led the Salute to the Flag.

The following statement was read by the Township Clerk: "Notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times on January 8, 2006; given to the Register News for information. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board."

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

John Fratinardo, President
Frank Baldorossi
Bruce Garganio
Jerry Sandusky

Also present:

Mayor Michael Muchowski; Richard Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

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

Regular Session	June 21, 2006 and July 5, 2006
Executive Session	June 14, 2006 and July 12, 2006
Closed Session	July 5, 2006 and July 12, 2006

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky; seconded by Baldorossi to receive and file the Township Clerk's and the Court Administrator's report for June. Motion carried.

Sandusky made a MOTION; seconded by Baldorossi to approve the Treasurer's Bill List. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church: Off Premise 50/50 Raffle and On Premise 50/50 Raffle, September 10, 2006, 1:00PM – 6:00PM
- B. Roebling Volunteer Fire Company #3: Social Affair Permit, August 19, 2006, 3:00PM – 12:00AM

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 08/02/06

- C. St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church: Social Affair Permit, September 10, 2006, 1:00PM – 4:00PM
- D. Florence Township High School Band Boosters Club Inc.: On Premise 50/50 Raffle, September 23, 2006; September 30, 2006; October 7, 2006; October 21, 2006; November 4, 2006, 1:00PM – 4:00PM

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the above applications:

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ryan

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nothing at this time.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, MOTION by Sandusky; seconded by Baldorossi to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-142

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PAYMENT OF TAX BILLS

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-143

AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-144

**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN APPLICATIONS
FOR THE NJDEP PERMITS NJDEP TWA-1
FOR GARELICK FARMS LLC, ROUTE 130 & CUMBERLAND BLVD.**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi that Resolutions 2006-142 through 2006-144 be approved.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 08/02/06

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ryan

Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006 –21
(1st Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio to approve Ordinance No. 2006-21 on first reading and set adoption for August 16, 2006.

On the Question

Council President Fratinardo asked Administrator Brook if he was able to update the Ordinance? Administrator Brook replied that he has not had a chance to speak with Mayor Muchowski.

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to **TABLE** Ordinance No. 2006-21. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Nothing at this time.

Mayor Muchowski

- Mayor Muchowski explained that the Pop Warner Cheerleaders normally use the Roebling School and old High School gym to practice for competitions. The School Board will continue to allow, but not at the old high school gym this year since it will be used for storage. Pop Warner needs to make alternative arrangements for this year only and has requested use of the Roebling Firehouse. They will have to purchase special mats, which they are also asking to store at the firehouse. They would need the building September through November, Monday through Thursday, 2 – 2½ hours a night. Mayor Muchowski explained to them that if Council approved, it would be a one-time deal and would not give them priority use of the facility. Pop Warner is willing to share the mats for future use. Council Member Garganio asked where the mats would be stored if the building is being used? Mayor Muchowski believes they would fit in the office. Council Member Garganio expressed concern over storage of the mats after November. Discussion followed regarding alternate locations. Council Member Garganio stated that Recreational Basketball uses the old high school gym and asked if the School Board is going to allow them to use the new high school gym? Council in agreement to allow Pop Warner Cheerleading to use the Roebling Firehouse on a temporary basis. Administrator Brook will contact the school regarding use of the basketball courts for recreational basketball.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 08/02/06

Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Assistant Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that there is a low turn out for the **Youth Summer Recreation Program**, which is unusual. The school's EDP Program also had a low turn out. The program will be held if the numbers of children registered reaches thirty (30). Suggestion was made that since it is not a self-sufficient program, to roll that money into a summer movie series.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that the US Department of Agriculture counted seventy-five (75) **turkey buzzards in Wilkie Park** today. Effigies will be hung in the park tomorrow for a two-week period then the USDA will give a report. A leaflet will be distributed to the residents in the area advising them of what is being done and what the residents can do to keep the turkey buzzards away from their yards.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol received a request from the Police Officers and the Firefighters to **advertise** registration for their golf outing on the **cable access channel**. Proceeds benefit their two (2) fraternal organizations. After a brief discussion of various organizations and what the proceeds of fundraising go towards, Council decided not to allow advertising time for the golf outing, since it would set a policy.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol received a request from the Episcopal Church on W. Second Street asking for a **directional sign** to show the location of the church. Solicitor Kearns advised that what is done for one must be done for others that request. He suggested limiting the number of signs allowed. Council Member Garganio agrees and also would like to spell out who can and cannot have directional signs. He also suggested a centralized location for these types of signs. Solicitor Kearns will look at the standards of other municipalities and report back.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol showed the color of the **sign** for the **municipal complex**. Within the next two (2) weeks the existing sign will be removed, the base will be secured and the new sign installed. A flowerbed will planted and lighting will be installed on the sides of the sign.
- Mayor Muchowski asked Assistant Administrator Sahol if he has contacted an electrician regarding moving the **electric service** on the **Roebing Circle**? Assistant Administrator Sahol is waiting for the exact location of the statue to be marked out. He will follow up with Paul Varga.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Council President Fratinardo questioned the status of the **new high school**? Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, responded that work is proceeding.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Florence Township Housing Authority Appointment: Council Appointment

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio to appoint **Mary Ann Napolitan** (Five Year Term – Term Ending 7/31/2011) to the Florence Township Housing Authority.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 08/02/06

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Sandusky, Fratinardo
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ryan

Motion carries.

Council Member Sandusky questioned the status of the other vacancy on the Housing Authority Board. Administrator Brook spoke with the wife of the gentleman that was interested, and she asked that a letter be sent to her husband, who was away at the time. If he is interested, he will contact the township. Administrator Brook had a letter and list of the courses mailed and hand delivered to the house. He has not heard back from the gentleman.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Sandusky discussed the cat program in Burlington City where the **stray cats** are caught, neutered or spayed and then released. He has heard that some residents of the township are interested in the program and may come before Council to discuss.

Council Member Sandusky asked Solicitor Kearns what could be done to avoid the **ABC licenses** that are pocketed to be renewed as **pocketed licenses** year after year? Solicitor Kearns stated that once the time runs out for extensions, the Council should not consent to extensions. The license holder may still get the extension. Council Member Sandusky expressed concern over these pocketed licenses being held until a larger corporation buys the license and puts the smaller businesses out of business. Solicitor Kearns agrees that there should be a limit on the number of times a license can be renewed as a pocket license and will speak to his partner tomorrow.

Council Member Garganio stated that **Griffin Pipe** is **not maintaining their property** and asked if they can be made to cut their grass? Administrator Brook stated that Assistant Administrator Sahol advised Griffin Pipe last week and again today that the grass must be cut. If it is not done this week they will be sent a formal notice that they have ten (10) days to comply or they will be cited to court. Mayor Muchowski has tried to work with Griffin Pipe in the past to maintain their property.

Council President Fratinardo asked the status of **Preferred Real Estate**? Administrator Brook stated that Preferred Real Estate is going back and forth with drafts of the initial contract. There is still an open item.

Council Member Sandusky stated that the paving of **Railroad Avenue** came out nice. He expressed concern over it becoming a speedway. Mayor Muchowski stated that the township has tried for years to lower the speed limit on Railroad Avenue. It can be tried again.

Council Member Garganio expressed dissatisfaction with **Preferred Real Estate**. In correspondence from them it mentions that Council Member Garganio was supposed to set up a meeting. Council Member Garganio had the gentleman call the representative of Preferred Real Estate, at the number on the business card he provided, several times and no one has responded. After speaking with Administrator Brook, Council Member Garganio found out that the

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 08/02/06

representative has been on vacation for three weeks. He believes the representative knew he was going on vacation for three weeks when he handed Council Member Garganio the business card. He believes it is a bad way to start a relationship with the township. Administrator Brook will speak with the representative of Preferred Real Estate to find out exactly what happened. Council Member Garganio feels that someone should be doing the representative's job while he away on vacation for three weeks.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

8:50 PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to adjourn meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:50 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab