

Florence, New Jersey
July 5, 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
Elizabeth Ryan
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

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

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Regular Session | May 17, 2006 & June 7, 2006 |
| Executive Session | May 10, 2006 |
| Closed Session | June 7, 2006 & June 14, 2006 |

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Ryan; seconded by Baldorossi to receive and file the Chief of Police's report for June. Motion carried.

Ryan 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. Social Affair Permit: Marconi Lodge, Bocce Ball Tournament, August 5, 2006, 9:00AM – 9:00PM

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to approve the above application:

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/05/06

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Baldorossi

ABSENT: Garganio

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, stated that NJ Transit filled in with stone because water was laying in the railroad tracks. The water is running to the storm drain in front of the deli on Hornberger Avenue, which has debris on top of it and needs to be cleaned.

Mr. Bott advised that the owner of the lot on the corner of Amboy Avenue and Hornberger Avenue dug a trench on his property to run the water off into the street.

Bart Shrader, 46 Tall Timber Lane, asked when Tall Timber Lane would be paved? Administrator Brook stated that authorization has been given to the Township Water and Sewer Engineer to begin work. He does not know the start date but will find out and advise Mr. Shrader.

In regards to the assessment for water and sewer, Mr. Shrader asked if the school has to pay for any of the water and sewer? Administrator Brook stated that they do and explained that the school payment was set up in a separate agreement called an Interlocal Services Agreement for the water and sewer lines that were run. They have a separate payment schedule from the residents.

Mr. Shrader asked about a document that he stated he had asked for previously and has not received. When questioned as to exactly what document he was looking for, he did not give a clear response. Administrator Brook stated that Mr. Shrader can specifically ask the question this evening, ask in writing or stop in and see Administrator Brook at his convenience. Mr. Shrader stated that he will stop in and see Administrator Brook.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-133

**APPROVE STREET NAME APPLICATION FOR
ORLEANS HOMEBUILDERS, INC.
BUSTLETON ESTATES NORTH
BLOCK 160.01, LOT 5.01**

Council President Fratinardo stated that this evening Council will be naming streets in Bustleton Estates in honor of **Joseph Seamon, fallen WW II Veteran and Chester Sutphin, fallen Florence Township Fire Fighter**. He explained that the township started the program of naming

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/05/06

the streets after veterans with the help of former Council Member John Hofflinger, Mayor Muchowski and Steve Mognancki working along with Township Clerk, Joy Weiler. This evening the last veteran's name is being used and the program is moving further by honoring a fallen fire fighter. Council President Fratinardo thanked former Council Member Hofflinger, Mayor Muchowski, Steve Mognancki and Clerk Weiler for their hard work. He asked the families, friends and representatives from the Fire Department to please rise while Clerk Weiler read Resolution No. 2006-133.

It was on the **MOTION** of Ryan, seconded by Baldorossi to **approve Resolution No. 2006-133**.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Garganio

Motion carries.

Mayor Muchowski explained the process of naming new streets in the township and how when they ran out of veterans' names they wanted to honor others who served the community. He stated that the governing body is also looking into markers or plaques to signify the meaning of the street names. Mayor Muchowski invited family members or other representatives to speak.

Chester Sutphin's daughter spoke of her father's love of the fire department through stories told by her family. He was 26 years old when he was killed and she was 4 years old. She thanked the governing body for honoring her father.

Fire Chief Edward Kensler spoke on behalf of the Fire Department. He thanked the governing body for recognizing one of their own. They are not related by blood but in the fire service they are all family.

Lou Wargo, Mansfield Township, stated that what Florence Township has done for the veterans is a great thing. He is going to his municipality tomorrow to speak with the Mayor and Administrator to request that the same thing be done in his township. Council Member Sandusky suggested that Mr. Wargo speak with Clerk Weiler to get more information to take to his township. Clerk Weiler will provide Mr. Wargo with a copy of the Resolution this evening.

Council President Fratinardo stated that there are copies of the Resolution available for the family members.

Steve Mognancki, Commander of VFW Post 8838, spoke on behalf of American Legion Post 194, American Legion Post 39 and VFW Post 8838. He thanked Mayor Muchowski and the Township Council for achieving the great tribute of remembering the 37 young men of Florence Township who paid the supreme sacrifice and gave their lives for our freedom. Tonight Joseph Seamon, who lived on Third Avenue and Main Street in Roebing, is being remembered as a veteran of WW II who paid the supreme sacrifice. He stated that sacrifice is meaningless without remembrance. He saluted and thanked the governing body for remembering.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/05/06

Dick Glass, 425 E. Front Street, stated that his father was Chief of Police for many years and worked with Chester Sutphin. He was a good man that was struck down too soon and is truly missed.

8:30PM: Recess

8:32PM: Meeting Resumed

RESOLUTION 2006-134

AMEND

**RESOLUTION NO. 2006-116
ACCOUNTS DEPOSITED AT ROEBLING BANK
IN ORDER TO ADD
FOUR ACCOUNTS**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan that Resolution 2006-134 be approved.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Garganio

Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006-19
(2nd Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING
CHAPTER 134 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE TO PROVIDE
FOR TRUCK ROUTES AND FOR STREETS OR PARTS OF STREETS
WHERE TRUCKS OVER FOUR TONS GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT
ARE PROHIBITED**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2006-19 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Fratinardo opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

No public comments.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/05/06

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Garganio

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006-20
(2nd Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING
CHAPTER 134 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE TO PROVIDE
SPEED LIMITS ON CEDAR LANE (CR 659) BETWEEN US ROUTE 130
AND BURLINGTON-BUSTLETON ROAD (CR-661)**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2006-20 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Fratinardo opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

No public comments.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Council Member Sandusky verified for the members of the public that this is being done for the new high school.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Garganio

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Nothing at this time.

Mayor Muchowski

- Mayor Muchowski stated that this coming Saturday, July 8, 2006, is the Patriotic Celebration.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/05/06

Administrator

- Administrator Brook stated that **advertising** for proposals for **Planning Board Engineer** will be done. He asked Solicitor Kearns if any action is needed by Council since the Planning Board authorized it? Solicitor Kearns stated that Council does not need to take action.

Assistant Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that work is wrapping up for this Saturday's Patriotic Celebration.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reported that the **Transportation Trust Fund Grant applications** were **delivered to NJ DOT** last week. DOT contacted Clerk Weiler's office and advised that there are no funding appropriations for the sidewalk or bikeway grants at this time. DOT is holding the applications but they are not being processed. The road application is being processed.
- Mr. Guzzi discussed the memo regarding the **grade crossing for Estates at Oak Mill (Craft Stewart project)**. There is a comment period. The only impact is that the new crossing at Winter Street serves that development and Church Street crossing will be closed. If Council has any comments they need to be given to DOT within 30 days. Mayor Muchowski stated that at the Planning Board meeting there was discussion of creating a railroad crossing not closing one. Council President Fratinardo also stated that the public comment at the Planning Board meeting is that the residents would like additional access to the development so there would not be more traffic on the Boulevard. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that once DOT receives comments from the parties involved (other than the residents), they publish in the Register News and the Burlington County Times. This is the only notice the residents get. Solicitor Kearns stated that if it is deemed to be a substantial change, it can go back before the Planning Board. Mayor Muchowski requested and reviewed the minutes and it was never stated that if they were able to have a new grade crossing, they would close another. He would like to contact the Fire Chief for his comments.

Administrator Brook prepared a draft response for DOT that touches on two (2) topics:

- 1) The governing body was never advised that as a result of opening up a new grade crossing they would close one and there is nothing in the Planning Board approval or testimony that alludes to that. He is advising DOT that it should not be approved until the township has an opportunity to contact the Police Department, Fire Department and Water and Sewer Department and they report back to the governing body.
 - 2) If this is approved, he would like Griffin Pipe held accountable for the upkeep of the Front Street crossing.
- Mayor Muchowski discussed the **location** of the **basketball courts** going in behind the **municipal building**. Since there have been discussions of the possibility of expanding the municipal building and parking lot, he feels that perhaps the basketball courts should

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 07/05/06

be relocated. Mr. Guzzi, Mayor Muchowski and Council will walk the site before next week's Council Meeting.

- Mayor Muchowski stated that with all of the **improvements** at the **Roebing Park, parking** was not addressed. The area where the tennis courts are could be a 40 – 50 car lot. Council Vice President Baldorossi hears a lot of complaints regarding parking in that area. Council Member Sandusky suggested sending a letter to the Roebing Inn asking that the residents of the facility park in their parking lot. Council Member Ryan stated, from a parent's and safety point of view, the area of the tennis courts may be too close to the playground for a parking lot. Mayor Muchowski agrees and stated that either a fence could be installed or only half the area farthest from the tot lot could be used. Mr. Guzzi will look at the tennis courts and report back.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Member Sandusky received a letter from a resident on Church Street. (Assistant Administrator Sahol and Mayor Muchowski also received a copy of the letter.) Assistant Administrator Sahol responded to the letter, which addressed **leaves in Wilkie Park and the turkey buzzards**. Administrator Brook stated that Public Works does clean up the leaves two (2) times a year and they sweep the walk way and clear branches on a regular basis. He will go to the park with Rich Pendel to inspect. He is not sure what appearance the resident is looking for. He will call the resident and see if she would like to meet them there. Mayor Muchowski discussed the turkey buzzards. Assistant Administrator Sahol is looking into what can be done about the turkey buzzards.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Ryan was approached by Gina Dunphy, a township resident that runs a **Concert Series in the Park** in Gloucester City, expressing interest in running something similar to that for Florence Township next summer. Council Member Ryan sees it in other municipalities and feels it is a great idea. She believes the cost is nominal. Mayor Muchowski also spoke with Ms. Dunphy and would like to follow up. Assistant Administrator Sahol is looking into funding opportunities.

BOARD OF HEALTH: Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS: Nothing at this time.

8:55 PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn to Closed Session. Action may follow Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:55 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

Note: No action taken following Closed Session.

/mab