

Florence Township Council Regular Session 8/9/23

Florence, New Jersey
August 9, 2023

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey. Members of the public were invited to attend the meeting in person or electronically via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Council Vice President Haas at 7:00 p.m. Council Vice President Haas led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was posted on the municipal bulletin board on January 8, 2023; published in the Burlington County Times on January 8, 2023, placed on the Township website and given to the Trenton Times for information on January 10, 2023.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Nicholas Haas, Kristan Marter, Paul Ostrander

Also Present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Thomas J. Hastie, Jr., Esq., Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Acting Administrator/Township Clerk; Jenise Silinsky, Deputy Clerk; Ted Lovenduski, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Frank Baldorossi, Bruce Garganio

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Closed Session of August 2, 2023

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Marter to approve the minutes as submitted. Voice vote – All ayes.

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Motion of Marter, seconded by Ostrander to approve the following correspondence.

- Township Clerk's Monthly Report for July 2023
- Court Administrator's Monthly Report for July 2023
- Tax Collector's Water & Sewer Monthly Report for June 2023
- Treasurer's Bill List

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Haas, Marter, Ostrander
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: Baldorossi, Garganio
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

REGULAR CORRSPONDENCE

None at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 8/9/23

APPLICATIONS

- A. Off-Premise 50/50 Raffle for Riverbank Charter School, 1300 Hornberger Avenue, Roebling on 10/23/2023 at 2:30 p.m.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Marter to approve the application.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Haas, Marter, Ostrander
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: Baldorossi, Garganio
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Vice President Haas opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Barbara Boldizar, 505 Pine Street, thanked Mayor and Council for pulling out the railroad tracks and putting the walking path in and she asked if it will extend past Walnut Street. Mayor Wilkie explained that within the next month or so from Walnut to Spruce the walkway will be extended for one block. From Spruce to Railroad Avenue is owned by Conrail so the Township does not have control over that section. He stated that there have been conversations to try and get them to respond but they have been unresponsive. But the long-term goal is to have a walking path all the way through. For the time being there will be turnaround at Spruce Street.

Ted Lovenduski mentioned that Nelson Tree Service has been in contact with him and they are going to clear those tracks but there is no clear idea as to when that will happen.

Jim Fevola, 39 Ridgway Drive, asked if there is anything that can be disclosed regarding the litigation with NFI or an expected resolution date? Mayor Wilkie explained that it is at the courts right now, the judge is handling it and we get updates but there is no resolution date and nothing to be divulged at this time.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, it was a Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Marter to close the public comment portion. Voice vote – All ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-169
Chapter 159, LGAP Grant Funding**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-170
Approving Project Labor Agreement for Construction Projects in the Township**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-171
Rescind Resolution 2022-189 and Appoint Michelle Chiemiego as CFO**

Motion of Marter, seconded by Ostrander to approve Resolution Nos. 2023-169 through 2023-171.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Haas, Marter, Ostrander
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: Baldorossi, Garganio
- Unanimous Vote – Motion carried

Florence Township Council Regular Session 8/9/23

ORDINANCES

None at this time.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Council Representative Marter shared that there are free farmer's market vouchers for seniors being offered by Burlington County for Friday, August 11th from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. They are available at the Human Services building at 795 Woodlane Road in Westampton. She asked that the flyer be shared on the Township Facebook page and website.

REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie stated that the next Council meeting will not be until September 6, 2023. He asked Ted to confirm that the roadwork is all marked out and they are supposed to start the concrete work within a day or two. He got a text that they were going to start the removals of some of the sidewalks on Pine Street. We had not included the river side from Broad to Walnut so we had the engineer take a look and, because the bids came in so good, we can put those two streets in and we will have Fifth Street done from Pine down to Eyre Street. There will be updates in the Press Release weekly so the public has an idea of what is happening and when.

Ted Lovenduski went on the record to thank Jodie Hein from the Construction Office stating that, she worked with him on the lead grant program and did all of the record keeping and keeps impeccable records.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Representative Marter requested that she be involved in the reworking of the website, stating that she has a list so she can help identify the issues. Ted Lovenduski explained that they have 30 days to transfer all of the information over and try to get it up and running so after that is when that process will take place. He wants to make sure there is no gap and we are not without a website at any point. He is hoping it will be up and going well by the second week in September and that is when we can start tweaking things.

NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

None at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Vice President Haas opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was a motion of Ostrander, seconded by Marter to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Voice vote – All ayes.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 8/9/23

ADJOURNMENT

Motion of Marter seconded by Ostrander to adjourn. Voice vote – All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk
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