

Florence Township Council Regular Session 4/17/19

Florence, New Jersey
April 17, 2019

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 p.m. followed by the salute to the flag. A moment of silence was held in honor of former Florence Township Reserve Special Police Officer, Joe Hand and former Florence Township Crossing Guard, Parker Mullen.

The opening statement was read by the Township Clerk: This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice was posted on the municipal bulletin board on January 3, 2019; published in the Burlington County Times on January 6, 2019; placed on the Township website, and given to the Trenton Times for information on January 3, 2019.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Ted Lovenduski, Paul Ostrander, Jerry Sandusky

Absent: Dave Woolston

Also Present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Administrator; Kelly Grant, Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Township Clerk

OATH OF OFFICE – Officer Ryan J. Miller

Mayor Wilkie said this is one of those special occasions, where we're fortunate to have three officers who have been out on the road and have met all of their requirements and it's one of those times that you enjoy coming to a Council meeting and seeing a crowd.

At this time the Mayor called Ryan Miller forward. Officer Miller's mother held the Bible as Mayor Wilkie administered the oath. Mayor Wilkie also called forth Chief Boldizar.

Officer Miller thanked his family and friends for their support. He also thanked the Councilmen and Command Staff for giving him the opportunity to have the best job in the world. He thanked the officers who have helped him along the way.

OATH OF OFFICE – Officer Michael A. Chianese

At this time Mayor Wilkie then called forward Michael Chianese. Officer Chianese's parents held the Bible as Mayor Wilkie administered the oath.

Officer Chianese thanked his family, friends and his girlfriend. He expressed his appreciation to Council, Command Staff and the officers that have supported and helped him.

OATH OF OFFICE – Officer Kate M. Poltrictzky

Mayor Wilkie called Kate Poltrictzky forward. Officer Poltrictzky's mother held the Bible as the Mayor administered the oath.

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Officer Poltrictzky also thanked her family, friends, Council and Command Staff, as well as Officers Miller and Chianese for their support.

Chief Brian Boldizar thanked Mayor and Council, and Administrator Brook for all the support that they give the department, in allowing growth by pairing the three officers with the town and the needs of the community. Adding the three officers to the ranks is a big improvement and allows them to do things like having the SRO at the school or their K9 officer. He expressed how proud he is of the officers, and explained the rigorous background to get to where they are. To include the five months in the academy and the 21-week FTO, they go through a lot of training to get to the point where they are now. He said the officers should be proud of themselves to make it to this point.

Mayor Wilkie welcomed the families and offered his gratitude for the support and hard work the officers do. He said he saw in the packet that Officer Wright, for the third year in a row with MADD, has gotten some recognition. He sets an example with his leadership. He explained how, upon his coming into office, Mayor Berry expressed how proud he was of the officers and their support and how he supported them in return. And how the Council and town appreciate and support the service that the force has done.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to hold a brief recess. Voice vote – all ayes. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

At this time there was a short recess.

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to return to the regular order of business. Motion unanimously approved by all members present.

MINUTES

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to approve the following minutes. Voice vote – all ayes. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

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FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to receive and file the following reports. Voice vote – all ayes.

- Tax Collector's Annual Report of Taxes Not Collected
- Tax Collector's Water/Sewer Monthly Report and Tax Monthly Report for March 2019
- Court Administrator's Monthly Report for March 2019
- Police Chief's Monthly Report for February 2019.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to approve the **Treasurer's Bill List**.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

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APPLICATIONS

- A. Transient Merchant License Renewal – Mr. Softee Ice Cream Truck
- B. Off-Premise 50/50 Raffle benefitting The Children’s Home Society of NJ, July 13, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. at BT Restaurant and Tavern, 2031 Route 130 South, Florence Township

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to approve all applications. Voice vote – all ayes.

2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Council President Sandusky made an announcement that the Public Hearing of the 2019 Municipal Budget is scheduled for May 1, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, said that on behalf of the several dozen boaters of the township, he would like to express his appreciation to Richard Brook and the crew of the public works department for installing the boat dock.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion of the meeting. Voice vote – all ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2019-79
Approve Payment NO. 7 and C.O. NO. 3 for 2018 Road Program

RESOLUTION 2019-80
Refund of Certain Water and Sewer Overpayments

RESOLUTION 2019-81
Authorize Mayor to sign NJDEP permits for Block 160.01, Lots 4, 11.01, 11.02 & 24

RESOLUTION 2019-82
Non-Union Salary Resolution

RESOLUTION 2019-83
Award of Administrative Services Contract, Tax Office to J.H. Services, Inc.

RESOLUTION 2019-84
Authorize Execution of CDBG Agreement with Burlington County

RESOLUTION 2019-85
Temporary Budget Increase

RESOLUTION 2019-86
Appoint Township Solicitor

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**RESOLUTION 2019-87
Appoint Bond Counsel**

**RESOLUTION 2019-88
Authorize Filing of 2018 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application**

**RESOLUTION 2019-89
Recognizing May 2019 as Building Safety Month**

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolutions 2019-79 through 2019-89.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Unanimous approval – Motion carried

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE 2019-03
NON-UNION SALARY ORDINANCE
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

The Mayor explained that this is just like the ordinance says. They are non-union so therefore it is not handled by a contract. We adopt an ordinance every year to set the range for what the employees will be paid and then there will be a resolution, that he believes have already been approved, in accordance with the ordinance of what their salary would be.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-03. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2019-03.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Unanimous approval. Motion carried

**ORDINANCE 2019-04
APPROVE SHORT-TERM LEASE AGREEMENT WITH PSE&G, BLOCK 164.01, LOT 3.01
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

Mayor Wilkie explained that they are doing an upgrade to the power station out by Coachman's Drive on Burlington Columbus Road. In order to make sure there is never a time without power, they needed another substation to be put in there, a little generator. So, on the township owned property across from the high school, we put this lease agreement in place. They are going to repay us for putting the generator in place.

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In return we will have lights that will go along the path, which will be paid for from the grant that has been given us.

Tom Sahol, for the record, explained that it is a transformer not a generator, so as not to confuse the potential for noise.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-04. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2019-04.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: Woolston
Unanimous approval. Motion carried

ORDINANCE 2019-05
BOND ORDINANCE- LIGHTS, PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS AT MUNICIPAL PARK ON CEDAR LANE
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-05. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2019-05.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: Woolston
Unanimous approval. Motion carried

ORDINANCE 2019-06
BOND ORDINANCE MALLARD CREEK PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

Mayor Wilkie explained that this is the pump station that was put in with the development, about 20 years ago. All of the services are down below and this will move them up to the top so it will be easier.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-06. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2019-06.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: Woolston
Unanimous approval. Motion carried

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**ORDINANCE 2019-07
BOND ORDINANCE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-07. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2019-07.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Unanimous approval. Motion carried

**ORDINANCE 2019-08
BOND ORDINANCE PURCHASE POLICE EQUIPMENT & MUNICIPAL BUILDING
IMPROVEMENTS
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

The Mayor explained that this includes the new fingerprint technology, the acquisition of tasers, and renovations at the Municipal building to create men's and women's locker rooms. He clarified that when the building was built in 1982 there was one locker room. This no longer meets the needs of the department, so we are trying to create a locker room for both men and women downstairs.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-08. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Unanimous approval. Motion carried

**ORDINANCE 2019-09
BOND ORDINANCE REPLACE ABOVE GROUND STORAGE TANKS
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

The Mayor explained that these are the fuel tanks by the old public works building and they would be better if they were moved down by the new public works building. It is better to move them one time and by removing them at some point with Well 1 and 2, possibly replace them or do some enhancements to lessen the impact of having them so close to the fuel tanks.

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Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-09. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2019-09.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston Unanimous approval. Motion carried

**ORDINANCE 2019-10
BOND ORDINANCE 2019 ROAD PROGRAM
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption 4/17/19)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

Mayor Wilkie explained that there is a list of roads and that we will know where we fall when the bids are received on May 2, 2019. Hopefully we will be able to award the following week and most of this work will happen this summer well before school starts.

Seeing no one wishing to comment, motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion on Ordinance 2019-10. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to approve Ordinance No. 2019-10.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston Unanimous approval. Motion carried

**ORDINANCE 2019-11
AMEND CH. 64 FLAT FEE FOR CERTAIN POOL BARRIER FENCES
(1st Reading, Public Hearing & Adoption 5/1/19)**

Council President Sandusky motioned to open the public hearing.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2019-11.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston Unanimous approval. Motion carried

REPORTS
Committees, Boards and officers
Administration
Mayor

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Mayor Wilkie stated that there are a few events going on in the next few weeks. MDA will be holding major activity at the Roebling Museum starting with a 5K run/walk at 10:00am on Saturday, April 20, 2019. Music and other refreshments starting at 12:00pm. He explained that it is a family event and there will be a number of activities for everyone.

The following Saturday, April 27, 2019, the Museum will be hosting the Car Show starting at 9:00am.

The next Council meeting is May 1, 2019. Two things for Council to think about, this past Saturday was a very nice event at the park named after my father. Boyd's Pharmacy and the fire company have been doing the Easter Egg Hunt and this past year a number of businesses reached out to Boyd's because they wanted to be a part of the event as well. They welcomed their addition, which added a petting zoo along with two inflatables. Unlike years in the past, the event lasted long after the egg hunt. The temporary fence was put up where the old existing fence used to be. We have had discussions as to what will be done there. There is money put in place in an ordinance. We know we want to put a sidewalk in so it's safe to go down Front Street. There has been debate as to whether or not there should be a fence. Mayor Wilkie voiced his concern with West Front Street being a very busy road and wanting to make sure there is something in place to help parents with children. The Mayor asked the Assistant Administrator and the engineer to give some ideas of what things would look like. Assistant Administrator Tom Sahol reminded him that as part of the road program there is a design to add additional parking near the tennis courts.

Mayor Wilkie mentioned the old mansions that used to be on the property. He said the fence may or may not have any significance to the old mansion grounds, but something decorative may not be as obtrusive but will help secure that barrier for the safety. He would like to discuss this at the May 1 or May 8 meeting.

The Mayor stated that there are some folks who have electric fences for their dogs. He said that people don't necessarily realize that there is an electric fence and can be alarmed if dogs come running toward them. He said he doesn't know the solution but that it needs to be addressed during the May 1 meeting.

Mayor Wilkie recognized the Clerk's Office as they went through a full day of an Affirmative Action audit by the state and came back with complete clearance and compliance. That is not something that happens when the state comes out. The Clerk's Office accomplished this being short-staffed while trying to juggle many other things. It is the example that we talk about at Florence Township. He said he was at the senior meeting last Tuesday and they said good things are happening in the community and people need to know about the good things that our staff's doing, even under the gun and short-staffed. He thanked the Clerk's Office.

Municipal Administrator

Administrator Brook stated that there was a request from the HOA from the Manors asking if the township would work with them to help dissolve the homeowner's association and take over the public properties. It would be a big undertaking for a municipality. He stated that he has never been involved in the dissolution of a homeowner's association. He recommended advising them that it would be rather impractical and could cause a cascade effect. The town should really understand what it's doing if it's going to eliminate a homeowner's association because when you buy into a development, you know going in you have a homeowner's association and you have certain responsibilities. The municipality still takes care of all that is public property, all of its property it's required to as far as municipal drainage basins and other aspects like that. At this current time, unless you have any concerns, I would just advise them that it would not be appropriate or really prudent for Florence Township to consider dissolving a homeowner's association at the present time. Council was in agreement with this.

Administrator Brook mentioned the police report and how Chief Boldizar has taken the report to a new level. He explained how it's very detailed, very informative and gives a great overview of how active the

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officers are in the community. Whether it's reading to a class of young students at a school, or coffee with a cop. If you go to the back of the report, you can see just how busy the officers are on a daily basis. He thanked the Chief for an excellent report and said that it's prepared in a manner that it can be understood by everyone.

Tom Sahol is working with Rich Pendle, the public works superintendent and Dave Lebak, the water and sewer director and the budget is going to be approved in early May on our usual upgrading of the fleet in both public works and water and sewer. We like to make sure we keep the fleet current. We don't want to go back to the days where you could get into a truck and you could see the asphalt through the floorboard. We've done very well over the years with support from Mayor and Council so we will be looking to come back in May or June so we can upgrade and rotate some of the older trucks out of the fleet. We have two 1990 trucks in public works. Very few municipalities keep a truck from 1990. The time has come because you can't get parts and they could be considered unsafe. We will be pricing these out with the department heads and will be getting back to this.

Division of Law

Nothing at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred Wainwright, 1011 Cedar Lane, stated that the last time he was here he asked someone to check on the county. He wanted to say thank you because although they're not working yet, they're out there.

There was no one else wishing to offer comment, motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public comment. Voice vote – all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk