

Florence Township Council Regular Session 8/9/17

Florence, New Jersey
August 9, 2017

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 Vice President Ostrander at 8:00 PM. Council Vice President Ostrander led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Trenton Times for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 5, 2017; and advertised in the Burlington County Times on January 8, 2017.

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Paul Ostrander, Jerry Sandusky, David Woolston

Absent: Ted Lovenduski

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

MINUTES

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

- Township Council Regular Session – August 2, 2017

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to receive and file the Township Clerk's Report for July 2017. All ayes.

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

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lovenduski

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Social Affair Permit for Roebling Museum 10th Anniversary Celebration

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September 23, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Roebling Auditorium
69 Main Street, Roebling, NJ 08554

- B. Off-Premise Merchandise Raffle, Florence Football Association
December 3, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Riverfront School. 500 East Front Street

It was the Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve applications A & B.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston
NOES: None
ABSENT: Lovenduski

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Jane Brennan, 700 Olive Street, said she experienced flooding last Thursday. Her neighbors also had flooding issues. One home had seven feet of water. Hers had two feet. Her insurance company said she is not in a flood zone. She asked what could be done to help her. She is afraid there will be more flooding the next time it rains. She said it is because of the basin up the street. Mayor Wilkie asked how long she has lived at that address. She told him she has been there for thirteen years. Mayor Wilkie asked if she ever had anything like this happen before. She said she has never had anything like this previously. Mayor Wilkie said he believed her development was built in 1989 or 1990. To his knowledge flooding has never been an issue there. There also hasn't been a rain storm like the one last Thursday. Administrator Brook said that was correct. The radar that day showed a lot of rain fell in a very short, compressed period of time. It literally was a deluge. There was probably five inches or more of rain within an hour. Everything was overwhelmed and it was massive. He is not an engineer but he would have a difficult time understanding how it would be solely the result of the basin on Olive Street.

Ms. Brennan said the basin overflowed and it was breached. Administrator Brook said he does not think it was because of the basin. He thinks it was the rain and wind storm. It was so incredible that it overwhelmed all of the stormwater systems in the municipality. Regarding that basin, debris had gotten in front of the screen and it kept the water from draining quickly. There were other parts of the community that were under water that have never experienced that kind of rain. There were many locations in the township that experienced flooding. There were also very strong winds. He could not say affirmatively that it was because of that basin. That basin has been working rather well since there was work done on it. He is more than willing to have the engineer take a look at it, but with all due respect, he couldn't say it was because of that basin. The township pumped it out as a precaution on Monday. There were representatives from Legacy on site who said there was debris that had gotten in front of the screen because the rain was so torrential. The township pumped not because there was a fear that it would overflow, it was just done as a precautionary measure. The Water & Sewer Director himself cleaned out the screen and one of Legacy's contractors also cleaned out the screen. He offered to have the

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Township Engineer inspect the basin and see if there was any correlation. Rain of that magnitude in that time span was something that the township rarely experiences. There was hail, rain and strong wind. It was literally flash flooding.

Ms. Brennan wanted to know what was going to be done to make sure it doesn't happen again. Administrator Brook explained no one predicted the flash flooding that took place. There are times when flash flooding can occur that overwhelms any drainage system that a municipality has. It is nature and it is unpredictable. He doesn't believe the cause of the flooding was the basin on Olive Street but he will have the engineer inspect it.

Ms. Brennan said the water flows downhill from the basin. Assistant Administrator Sahol said he was in town from the time the storm started until well after it ended. He was not in the building, he was out surveying the areas and was directing staff and resources where they needed to be. He was on Olive Street and he saw the water going over the edges. He asked where the water would flow if it didn't go over the edges. It flows into the inlets underground that are right on Olive Street. Olive Street itself was flooded from Third Street flowing down, all of the side streets were flowing onto Olive Street and that was going to Cedar Lane, which was flooded and had about a foot and a half of water. Cedar Lane was flowing onto Ninth Street which was completely overflowing. There are still residents trash cans in the parks that were washed away as the water flowed like a river across the municipal parking lot and to the rear of the property. The basin was a victim of the flooding that occurred with every basin. Every basin was completely inundated and flooded. He hasn't seen this in his almost thirty years working for the township and forty-seven years living here. He had never seen anything like it before. He told Administrator Brook that it was unprecedented and was the most horrific amount of rain that he had seen in an hour and fifteen minutes ever.

Ms. Brennan said if the trees had been left alone it would not have happened. There were trees there before the basin was installed. Mayor Wilkie said he feels very sorry that there was flooding, but he doesn't think it could be attributed to the loss of the trees.

Councilman Woolston said Ms. Brennan mentioned the trees, but that wasn't the cause. It was clearly an act of God, it was almost a monsoon. The retention basin actually helped Ms. Brennan more than it hurt her. It caught the water. If the trees were still there it would have been a level plateau that would have sent all of that water directly to Morris Court and out onto Cedar Lane and even more to Ms. Brennan's home. Assistant Administrator Sahol said when he was in the community he actually saw man hole covers that were shaking and water was coming up underneath of them. There are high spots in the community that don't have basins that were feeding all of the lower spots where the water just could not escape. He has never seen anything like it.

Doris Stiles, 700 Olive Street, Unit 1, said her home had six feet of water. She has lived there over twenty years and has never had water in her basement. She doesn't know what caused it but she would like someone to look into it so it doesn't happen again. She has to fight her insurance over this. Already it is very expensive. Her home is destroyed right now. Something needs to be done. She has never had this happen before. She wasn't home at the time. Mayor

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Wilkie asked if she could tell where it looked like it came in. Ms. Stiles said it looked like it had come in through the basement window. She said all of her neighbors were flooded also. It is a difficult situation and financially it is a burden.

Councilman Sandusky said he was surprised that no one had thanked the Fire Department for pumping the basements out, but instead complained about what happened. The township tries to help everyone as much as it can and this township will continue to try and help as much as it can. There are some things the township can't do. Ms. Stiles said the residents are very appreciative of what the township did for them. Councilman Sandusky said many residents all over town suffered from the storm in varying degrees. The township will help as much as it can. He doesn't know what can be done besides having the engineer inspect the basin. Administrator Brook said the Township Engineer can check the basin, but he thinks it goes beyond that. It goes to the magnitude of the amount of rain that fell in that short period of time. He said he only remembered one storm over the past thirty years that was like this. He didn't remember exactly when it was, but the township had to put trucks over the manholes on Broad Street because they were exploding out of the ground. There was a huge amount of water and the system couldn't handle it. He has only seen storms of this magnitude twice, except for the tornados, that produced this amount of rain. The engineer will come out, assess the area, look at the amount of rain that fell and see if he can pinpoint a particular issue that can be addressed or improved. That is fair and reasonable. The township does understand the heartache and the cost and everything that goes into this that homeowners experience when these things happen.

Fred Wainwright, 1011 Cedar Lane, said the new manhole covers have much smaller inlets to prevent trash from getting in and it takes very little of anything to cover them and the water can't get in. There is only so much water that can go through the drains and the amount of water that fell during that storm in such a short time was too much to handle. He saw water running across his fields.

Charles Gabriel, 700 Olive Street, Unit 2, said he lost everything in his basement. It was a very beautiful basement. He enjoyed it but now it looks like a flood zone. He said Assistant Administrator Sahol said he has lived here all of his life and had never seen anything like it. Mr. Gabriel said it was because the new warehouse across Cedar Lane from Amazon is graded right toward 700 Olive Street. All of the drains go right in the culvert that used to be a run-off. The drainage from near his property could not get into the main drain.

Mayor Wilkie said that water is not allowed to leave that site. At the last Planning Board meeting an engineer explained that with the new regulations that have been in place for a number of years, water must be contained if there is new construction. It can't run-off to other properties. The warehouse Mr. Gabriel is referring to, B&H, has a huge drainage system on site and that is where the water went. Mr. Gabriel said he has lived in his home for fifteen years and has never had a problem with water. Now all of sudden there was flooding. He wondered why it happened all of sudden after all of the new construction in the area and he questioned how the engineers could let this happen. Mayor Wilke said there have been a number of heavy rain storms with no issues. During the storm he pulled into the municipal parking lot and could not get out. It had filled up that quickly. There was so much in that two hour period that there was

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nowhere for it to go. He can't say it won't happen again, but he will have the engineer look at it. If there is something that can be done it will be but his understanding is that any of the new developments actually help the areas they are in because they have to keep their water. That is why the retention basins are installed. Mr. Gabriel said the new warehouse covered a retention basin and he asked if putting trucks over manhole covers was solving the problem. Administrator Brook said the township does take this very seriously. What he told a resident earlier was that in his thirty years here he has only seen two storms of this magnitude and the previous storm that he referred to had the water coming up out of the drain so much the township had to try and keep the top of the manholes tamped down, for the safety of the public. The engineer will look at B&H and see if there is a correlation between what occurred and the resulting damage. If there is, it will be corrected. It is not taken lightly. When the township is in a crisis mode it will do whatever it has to do to protect the public. The most important thing is that no lives were lost, no one was seriously injured. And at this point the township will go back and take a look at the drainage. If the engineer says there is something that needs to be done, the township will do it.

Mr. Gabriel asked if someone would look at the drain by 700 Olive Street. The drain would not take water because the new warehouse is directed into the culvert and water from his area couldn't go in there. Administrator Brook said when that much water comes down in a flash flood it literally overwhelms the pipes. The water has nowhere else to go so it begins to seep out to other locations. It will also seep into the sanitary sewer system and into the sanitary sewer manholes and go to West Front Street to relieve some of the pressure. It was intense, much like the flash floods in Arizona or out west. There was no prediction that this rain was coming to even be able to prepare for it. Assistant Administrator Sahol said the drain near Mr. Gabriel's residence is tied into the storm drain system on Olive Street. The Olive Street drainage is tied into Cedar Lane, which is a very large pipe that runs out to the turnpike. Mr. Gabriel asked if Cedar Lane had ever flooded out in the past. Assistant Administrator Sahol said that it has. Mr. Gabriel said he didn't think so. The new warehouse is graded two feet above the road. Assistant Administrator Sahol said there is a large pipe that runs out to the turnpike underground. The drains near his residence were recharged from above. The water will find its own level. The streets that were pressured with manhole covers lifting were being pressured from above. When that water is flowing in the drains it is surging and pressuring all of the pipes Mr. Gabriel is connected to. It is going to come up and it probably did come up in the parking lot near Mr. Gabriel's residence. That parking lot is lower than Olive Street so if it is flooded that is where the water will go. Mr. Gabriel said he appreciated the help the Fire Department provided. He asked that the drain be inspected. Administrator Brook said the drain will be inspected and the engineer will examine B&H. Mr. Gabriel said the worst scenario happened during that storm. He asked if the new construction was built to stand the worst case. Councilman Ostrander said no design would plan for that much rain.

Carl Stiles, 700 Olive Street, Unit 1, said he was over one hundred miles away when the storm happened. A neighbor called him to let him know what was happening. He was just coming off the beach and having dinner when he got the call. Fortunately his wife was able to unlock the door remotely with her phone. A neighbor went in to assess the damage for them and how high the water was. It was up to the second landing so at that point he knew he had to get home. It

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took two hours to get home and the Fire Department was working diligently to get the water out of the basements. There were two hoses and they were talking about possibly getting another one because there was six feet of water. He had two gigantic recliners that were very heavy and bikes and the water was so violent it slammed them from one side of the house to the other and knocked everything all over. It tore up the large screen television and the fireplace. He is a retired Corrections Officer and has his off-duty weapons in the safe. One of the weapons and ten boxes of ammunition were damaged. He wanted to commend the Fire Department for the job that they did. They relentlessly worked on getting the water out of the residences and made sure everyone was safe. There was no way the residents could have gotten the water out. He thanked the Mayor and Council for everything they are doing.

It was the Motion of Woolston, seconded by Sandusky to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-178

Authorizing the Public Sale of Township Owned Property

*(Motor Vehicles which came into possession of the Florence Township
Police Department through abandonment or failure of the
owners to claim)*

It was the Motion of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to approve Resolution No. 2017-178.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lovenduski

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-25

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 165.04, LOT 63 WITHIN THE ROUTE 130 REDEVELOPMENT AREA

(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 9/6/17)

It was the Motion of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance No. 2017-25 and set the public hearing and adoption for September 6, 2017.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lovenduski

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers:

Councilman Sandusky said what happened off of Olive Street was bad for the residents that were affected. This community always goes above and beyond for the residents. He suggested organizing some kind of fundraiser to help the residents who were flooded. He didn't know if there were others in the community who were affected as badly. Mayor Wilkie said there were probably some single family homes. The residents off Olive Street are in a development and there is a homeowner's association.

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie said last Thursday he was in Evesham around quarter after five. At that point there was no rain where he was. He was talking to Council President Lovenduski and there was thunder and lightning he could hear through the phone. Council President Lovenduski said it had been going on for about a half hour. Mayor Wilkie said he headed back to town to survey the situation. It was a strange storm. There were some areas in the community that were hit harder than others. There were some areas that experienced heavy winds and hail. The area at Delaware and Hamilton Avenues was flooded. He had never seen that before. Crossing over the railroad tracks was okay but near Quinton Avenue and Burcliff Street on Delaware Avenue there was flooding. That area also has never flooded. He had to turn onto Grove Street because there was a tree down blocking Delaware Avenue. There were other areas he encountered that experienced heavy flooding. He was able to make it to the Municipal Building. When the building was built there was a drainage problem but it was repaired. There hasn't been an issue but during this storm there was flooding in the parking lot. He saw the debris line was about three feet away from the front door of the building. He hadn't seen that since the early nineties before the drain was fixed. He then went to the firehouse. Ninth Street was very flooded. It was a crazy storm. The last time there was a storm like this was in 2013. He thinks this one was even worse. He made it to the firehouse where there were emergency first responders. Assistant Administrator Sahol was also there coordinating the Public Works Department. Calls were being routed directly to the Fire Department. Captain Brian Boldizar was out during the storm and a tree fell on his car. No one was hurt. There were many close calls. There was a water rescue at Exit 52. It was a crazy storm and hopefully it never happens again.

Mayor Wilkie said for the public's information, this was the last Council Meeting for August. The next meeting will be held September 6. He wished everyone a Happy Labor Day. The recreation programs have started and the high school programs will be starting soon. There will be children around. He asked that people be aware.

He said he felt for everyone who had damage as a result of the storm. Assistant Administrator Sahol has reached out to the Office of Emergency Management to see if there is any relief available to the residents. It does not appear that the township hit the threshold of \$4 million. He asked that people reach out and let the township know what the cost of their damages was. If it hits a certain level there might be federal funding available.

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Township Administrator

Administrator Brook said he believes this storm was worse than the 2013 storm. That storm was really heavily located in certain parts of the community. Hornberger Avenue at Norman Avenue flooded out in that storm. With this storm, he has never seen the area off Olive Street or Summer Street flood but this time it did. Some areas were hit with incredibly high winds and not as much rain and hail. The engineer will look at the drain in Wyndham Place and also the size of the drain that runs down that portion of Olive Street. He will check where it flows into and what its capacity is. Hopefully the engineer will be able to report back at the September 6 meeting.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he would like to provide updates regarding the 2017 Road Program and the Hornberger Avenue project. The Hornberger Avenue project is ongoing. The contractor lost about eight yards of concrete due to the rain. It had been done about twenty minutes before the rain hit. The contractor is doing really well. It is on schedule. The road should be ready for milling and paving shortly. It will be done well in advance of the opening of school. The concrete contractor is finishing his work on Hornberger Avenue, he will then mobilize on West Third and East Third Streets. These are the big walk routes for school. Once that is done he will be able to mill and pave those streets. He will then move on to the other roads in the program. It is going really well and the work is quality. Feedback from the residents has been all positive.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the preconstruction meeting for the washout on Front Street at Chestnut Street was held two days ago. The contractor is mobilizing to start the project on August 15. He will be safety fencing off his staging area and will be leaving equipment and staging material on-site so he can move quickly. Weather is a key piece when dealing with stormwater issues. He would like to be in and out as quickly as possible. There should not be any impact on traffic.

Division of Engineering

Nothing at this time.

Division of Law

Nothing at this time.

Unfinished Business

Nothing at this time.

New Business

A. 2018 Road Program

Mayor Wilkie displayed a map outlining in green the roads that are going to be part of the 2018 program. There are number of avenues being done in the Village of Roebling. Potts Mill Road is also included. The worst area of Potts Mill Road is off Old York Road. There are a couple developments that to his knowledge have never been done. These include Schisler Drive and McCay Drive. They need to be done. The pink colored roads are where Public Service Electric

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& Gas are replacing pipes. They are replacing steel piping with plastic. Assistant Administrator Sahol negotiated with PSE&G because some of the streets they are tearing up are ones that the township very recently paved. On streets with a moratorium in place they will have to pave the entire street, not just where they dug a trench. They will be paving one half of the streets that were not recently done. The township will then do the concrete work in those areas and finish the other half of the paving. The 2018 Road Program is extensive. It is over \$2 million. He hopes that the bid will come in low the way it did this year and last year. Within the next two to three years every street will have been redone within the last ten to fifteen years. As a result of the funding from the PILOTS and the grants the township received, the tax rate has been kept stable since 2013. The funding allows for the programs to continue. He hoped to be able to finalize the list in September and be able to post it for residents' information.

Administrator Brook said a resident dropped of a note about Alden Avenue and Bennet Street. Regarding Bennett Street, he isn't sure if it could be done next year. It might be better for the following year. The township needs to look at it. Every road that is listed, if it is inspected, shows immediately that it needs to be repaved. The Assistant Administrator and the Mayor have been talking to the Township Engineer about a process called micropaving. A road that may be ten to fifteen years old could be paved with a very thin layer. It is much more efficient than milling and the price would be significantly less. With respect to the PSE&G work, in all likelihood if they weren't doing the paving the township would probably have to spend another forty percent more. This is an extremely aggressive road program that is being undertaken for the fourth or fifth year in a row. The debt service will be revaluated over the next twelve months. This will give the township a better idea of when to go out for permanent financing and to look ahead to the year 2019. It would be difficult to do a road program of this magnitude every single year because the township needs to look at what the debt service payments are going to be. The numbers have been coming in extremely low and it is very favorable for the township. There has been a significant impact to the road network in town.

B. State Grant Application – Municipal Aid

Administrator Brook said if Council was in agreement a resolution could be prepared for the September 6 meeting authorizing the township engineer to file an application with NJDOT for a municipal aid program for Potts Mill Road. If a grant was secured for Potts Mill Road it would reduce the overall amount of the 2018 Road Program. The township was extremely successful with grant funding for Hornberger Avenue and Phase II is commencing right now. It runs from Parish Lane to Sixth Avenue. The third phase of the grant came in a couple months ago and that work will be done in 2018. That will be from Sixth Avenue to Second Avenue. The next big road to take on is Potts Mill Road. In addition to that, in all likelihood Wilbur Henry Drive will need to be done over the next couple of years. If it keeps going at this pace the township will make tremendous progress.

C. Register Abandoned Properties – Discussion

Administrator Brook said there are two items here to touch on. The township is in the process of registering all the landlord properties in the community. The township has sent its third notice. The last notice will be the final notice that landlords will get regarding their property. One thing the township is looking ahead to possibly begin next year is registration of abandoned properties.

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It happens in every community. Property owners walk away from their property for reasons like foreclosure or divorce. It is then left abandoned. Once it is in the hands of the bank it can take five years or longer for the property to be turned back over in the market and sold and rehabbed. The state does allow municipalities to designate certain properties as abandoned as long as the statutory requirements are met. A master list can be created that can be used to rehab the properties and convert them to affordable housing. The township is looking ahead to do this next year. It does take quite a bit of time and there is litigation on-going in the southern part of the state. He believes it deals more with the amount of the fees. Florence's goal is not to make revenue. The goal is to rejuvenate and regenerate properties that have fallen into disrepair and have become abandoned, like the two properties at 700 and 702 West Front Street. It has taken almost two years to get to the point to have those building demolished. There was a property on Florence-Columbus Road. A resident asked what happened to it and Administrator Brook explained to him that it took over a year to get the property owner to willingly demolish the building. The roof was caving in. The town was almost to the point where it would need to demolish the structure and place a lien on the property. He wanted Council to be aware that the township is working toward the possible registration of abandoned properties. There would be no need to charge any fees that would be excessive. The goal is to put the properties back to productive use.

D. Street Names

Assistant Administrator Sahol distributed a list of potential street names. Mayor Wilkie explained there is potential development coming into the community. Shortly after he came into office it was suggested to change one of the street names in Oak Mill to Seaman Drive. The street name had been designated to Bustleton Estates. Also designated for that development were Judge Kramer and Judge Hughes. It doesn't look like Bustleton Estates is going to be built anytime soon. There is one street that is going to be public and he would like to suggest naming it after Judge Kramer. Judge Hughes has a sign that was donated by the Florence Garden Club that memorializes his place of birth. He suggested using Judge Kramer for the next road and then decide where and when the township would need to name any other roads.

Mayor Wilkie explained that a local resident, Steve Mognancki, along with a former council member worked together to create a list of street names. They asked that streets be named after anyone who had served their country and gave the supreme sacrifice. All of those names have been used. He noted the developments that have the streets with those names. Prior to that there were many streets named after doctors. He mentioned some of the streets that were named for local doctors. Administrator Brook said one of the more touching things that the Mayor mentioned was that there is a story behind most of the street names that are here. They honor veterans. It was a great thing for the resident to suggest and it is something very unique that the township did. It says a lot about the community, its compassion and its heart. If all were in agreement the next street name would be Kramer. Mayor Wilkie said there is a quilt that was made by Steve Mognancki's daughter that has the names of everyone who lost their lives in war. It is displayed every year from Memorial Day until Labor Day. Possibly when the building is renovated there could be a permanent location for it.

Board of Health

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Nothing at this time.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Council Vice President Ostrander opened the meeting to the public.

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, asked about the timeline for PSE&G repaving the streets they will be responsible for. Assistant Administrator Sahol said it should be done in the fall. They allow the trench lines to stabilize and then they revisit them to pave. He was told it should be in October or November.

Mr. Csik asked about the fence at Wilkie Park. He had concerns about people fishing there. Mayor Wilkie said he was in Pennsville and there was no fence along their riverfront in the park. The water comes right to the wall. He wondered if the fence was needed at Wilkie Park. He believes the replacement railing has already been ordered and it will be installed as soon as it arrives.

Mr. Csik said the township has always taken care of its residents. Mayor Wilkie and Council thanked him.

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, said he remembered Assistant Administrator Sahol said that the roundabout was going to be installed in July. Mayor Wilkie said that last year he was told it would be installed by Labor Day. He said his mistake was not asking what year. It has been very frustrating. Assistant Administrator Sahol has been on top of it and the township is being told it will happen very soon.

Mr. Kamienski asked if Railroad Avenue was going to be closed while the roundabout is being constructed. Assistant Administrator Sahol said that it is something the township did not want to occur. Engineering revealed that there would be a need for a period of time that the road be closed. The township would like to see the time period made shorter or at least have a one direction roadway. The engineer is working on it. It is a large project for a short period of time.

Ms. Stiles said that she read the township probably didn't reach the threshold for financial aid for storm damage. Mayor Wilkie said there was a notice that was posted asking people to let the township know the amount of their damage so it could be added up to see if the threshold was met. Assistant Sahol said what typically happens is that in order to get a declaration of disaster there has to be a certain threshold. It is about \$4 million. The storm was very regional. It really didn't go past exit 52. Burlington was affected in some low lying areas but it was mostly here. FEMA requires that municipal infrastructure damage has to achieve a certain level. It needs to be a large portion of the \$4 million. The township didn't have that. If that piece isn't met the funds aren't available. He doesn't see it right now but will hold out hope. The township will pursue any opportunity that it finds. The township works hard for its residents. Ms. Stiles outlined some of the items that she lost.

Councilman Sandusky offered to speak to the association privately to try and organize a fundraiser for anyone who had damage, anywhere in town, not just one area.

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Dawn Gabriel, 700 Olive Street, said she noticed her development sits lower than the neighbors behind her. When she spoke to the insurance company they weren't any help. She cannot get flood insurance because she is not in a flood zone. She asked if there was a way to be considered a flood zone because the development sits lower than those around it. Assistant Administrator Sahol said that designation is not something the township can control. His experience is that they typically look at waterways. He noted on the map where the flood designations were located that were determined by the federal government. Ms. Gabriel is well above the Delaware River as far as the elevations. He knows flood insurance is also very expensive. Ms. Gabriel said she lost everything that was in her basement. She requested that the drains be inspected. Assistant Administrator Sahol assured her they would be inspected. He said the line will be TV'd and the elevations will be checked.

Mr. Wainwright said there is a tree laying out over the road for a year. He has seen tree trimmers go by many times and they haven't cut it. The other night a tree went down and messed up traffic. Another tree fell by the church on Old York Road. He thinks the trees in that area need to be trimmed. He noticed there were six county trucks cleaning up one small tree. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that was because the county was helping to provide support with storm damage. He directed Mr. Wainwright to call him regarding the trees and he would see what he could do.

It was the Motion of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public comments. All ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

9:18 PM MOTION of Sandusky; seconded by Woolston to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston
Township Clerk
/aek