

Florence, New Jersey
April 21, 2004

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

The Township Clerk read the following statement: "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 4, 2004 and 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
Elizabeth Ryan
Jerry Sandusky

Also present:

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

MINUTES

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

Special Budget Session	March 24, 2004 and March 31, 2004
Closed Session	April 7, 2004
Regular Session	January 21, 2004 and April 7, 2004

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky; seconded by Ryan to receive and file the Court Administrator's report for March. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. ARMCHAIR RACE: Florence Township Civic Assoc., 6-4-04, 5:00 PM – 2:00 AM, Bung's Tavern
- B. CASINO NIGHT: American Heart Assoc., 5-14-04, 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM, Bung's

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 04/21/04

- C. ABC SOCIAL AFFAIR: Florence Republican Club, 6-12-04, Noon – 6:00 PM
St. Nicholas' Picnic

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the above applications.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nick DiLullo, 416 E. Fourth Street, questioned Resolution No. 2004-98, Current Estimate No. 5 for Public Works Building? Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, explained that this is the fifth payment on the work being done on the new public works building. Mr. DiLullo asked how much the building will cost? Mr. Guzzi stated that it will cost approximately \$1.3 million for the new building and related improvements. Mr. DiLullo believes the Township should utilize one of the firehouses once they become vacant.

Terri Cramner, Route 130, questioned the status of the 208 Plan. Administrator Brook stated that the Township has complied with DEP's requests and should know what the timeline will be by the end of May.

Ms. Cranmer asked if there has been any headway on the road openings on Route 130? Mayor Muchowski reported that a letter was received stating that the work will be complete within the next month or so.

John Quig, 238 E. Fifth Street, questioned Ordinance No. 2004-06, vacating the alley between Spruce Street and Cedar Lane to a resident of Wilbur Henry Drive. He stated that the alley is next to his daughter's property (Spruce Street) and she had requested that half the alley be vacated to her and the request was denied. Mr. Quig also asked if this Ordinance effects the placement of the shed that will be replacing the one that was destroyed by the tornado? Administrator Brook stated that the shed cannot go back in the same location; it shall be in accordance with the code as the code exists today. He also explained that the 20' public right of way is legally located on the Wilbur Henry Drive resident's property; it does not cross over both property lines. Administrator Brook explained the process followed in order to come to that determination.

Bill Strimple, Route 130, asked if the Township receives monetary compensation for recycling cardboard? Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that the Township does receive monetary compensation. Mr. Strimple asked why Florence Township residents with a Burlington mailing address, using a commercial vehicle are being told they could not drop off at the recycle center? Administrator Brook explained that the employee at the recycle center is instructed not to allow contractors to dump there due to misuse in the past. There may have

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 04/21/04

been a misunderstanding regarding the mailing address and Administrator Brook will discuss with the employee. After further discussion Mr. Strimple stated that the person turned away was from a business. He believes that the Township should accept cardboard from businesses since they receive monetary compensation. Administrator Brook explained that the grant money received for recycling is a very small amount. Mr. Strimple asked for the guidelines in writing. Administrator Brook will forward the guidelines in writing to Mr. Strimple.

Mr. DiLullo discussed the new school that is going to be built in the country, which was approved by referendum last December, and the school budget that was defeated yesterday. Council President Fratinardo explained that Council does not have jurisdiction over the school and suggested that Mr. DiLullo should direct his questions to the School Board.

Mr. DiLullo discussed the alleys. He stated that there is an area that was improved but now the trash truck cannot make it down the alley.

Steve Mognancki, 904 Walnut Street, asked if Mayor and Council wished to purchase geraniums to be placed at the veteran's cemetery for Memorial Day as they have in the past? Council in agreement to purchase geraniums with a limit of \$250.

David Platt, 124 Fifth Avenue, asked what the next step is in regards to the school budget that was defeated by the voters? Council President Fratinardo explained that the budget now comes to the governing body for their review. They will look for areas to cut. There are certain areas that State Law prevents from being cut. Solicitor Kearns further explained the process following a defeated school budget.

Mr. DiLullo expressed his dissatisfaction with the number of employees in the administration department of the school. He voiced his opinion on how the school is currently run and how children are educated. Mr. DiLullo stated that he does not believe that the governing body cares about the taxpayers.

Council Member Garganio stated that the governing body does care about the taxpayers and over the last six years the tax rate has dropped .06¢. He explained that Mr. DiLullo's complaints about the school need to be taken up with the School Board. The School Board is an elected body just like Council. He stated that yesterday only 16% of the registered voters in the Township voted in the School Board Election.

Carl Mattson, 710 Cooper Street, does not envy Council having to review the school budget and suggested cutting the sports programs. The parents that want their children to play can pay for the sports.

Mr. Mognancki stated that it is up to the voters and stressed the importance of voting.

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, also does not envy Council having to review the budget.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-98

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 5 FOR
RMS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, 1985 DUTCH MILL ROAD
NEW PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-99

**CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR GAS SERVICE
BETWEEN THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL BOARD
OF EDUCATION AND THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-100

**AUTHORIZE DIRECTOR OF WATER AND SEWER
TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS AND OBTAIN BIDS FOR
SULFUR DIOXIDE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-101

**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A GRANT OF EASEMENT
FOR PSE&G TO INSTALL AND CONNECT A GAS MAIN FOR THE
NEW FLORENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan that Resolutions 2004-98 through 2004-101 be approved.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 2004-04

(1st Reading)

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
ADOPTING A DRUG FREE ZONE MAP**

**ORDINANCE 2004-05
(1st Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
AMENDING SECTION 140-48 OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE
METHOD OF READING WATER METERS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2004-06
(1st Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
VACATING THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN A CERTAIN 20 FOOT
WIDE ALLEY RUNNING BETWEEN SPRUCE STREET AND
CEDAR LANE AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE VACATED AREA
SHALL BE INCORPORATED INTO BLOCK 78, LOTS 1 AND 2,
LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, BURLINGTON
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE 2004-07
(1st Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 91 – LAND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE TO PROVIDE FOR FIRE
STATIONS AND EMERGENCY SQUAD BUILDINGS AS PERMITTED
PRINCIPAL USES IN THE HC-HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL,
GM-GENERAL MANUFACTURING AND SM-SPECIAL MANUFACTURING
ZONING DISTRICTS AND TO ESTABLISH AREA AND BULK
STANDARDS FOR THOSE USES**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to HOLD Ordinance No. 2004-04 and approve Ordinance No. 2004-05 through 2004-07 and set adoption for May 5, 2004.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 04/21/04

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Council Member Sandusky discussed the various ways that Mayor and Council support the veterans in the Township, such as purchasing geraniums for the veteran's cemeteries and sponsoring a boy and girl for New Jersey American Legion Boy's and Girl's State.

Mayor Muchowski

- Mayor Muchowski, by Proclamation, declared Thursday, May 6th, World Day of Prayer. There will be a service, organized by Clerk Weiler, outside of the municipal building at 3:00PM. Mayor Muchowski expressed his appreciation to Clerk Weiler in organizing World Day of Prayer.

Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Assistant Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Nothing at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Garganio reported that he has received phone calls regarding 51 Riverbank Drive. He believes it is an abandoned property that is in disrepair. He asked for a report on the property and what can be done to bring it up to standards. Administrator Brook will report back.

Council Member Sandusky stated that **William G. McGrath**, 60 year member of the American Legion, passed away last night. He praised Mr. McGrath and stated that he would be missed. Mayor Muchowski also praised Mr. McGrath and asked that Mayor and Council's expressions of sympathy be sent to the family.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council Member Garganio questioned the status of having "**Freedom Iraq**" placed on the **monument** at Fifth and Oak Streets. Assistant Administrator Sahol has not received a confirmation on the actual declaration name.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 04/21/04

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to have it placed on the monument at Fifth and Oak Streets, once Assistant Administrator Sahol receives a confirmation of the actual declaration name.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

At this time, Fritz Wainwright, Florence-Columbus Road resident, acknowledged Thomas Sahol, Assistant Administrator, and congratulated him and his wife, Michelle, on the birth of their son, *Trevor Thomas Sahol*.

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

ADJOURNMENT

8:28 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab