

Florence, New Jersey
July 2, 2003

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 Hofflinger at 8:10 PM. President Hofflinger 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 5, 2003 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 Hofflinger, President
John Fratinardo
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 Fratinardo to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

Regular Session May 21, 2003

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Fratinardo; seconded by Sandusky to receive and file the Township Clerk's report for June. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Social Affair Permit: F.W. Robbins Post 194 American Legion, July 12, 2003, 12:00 PM to 1:30 AM

It was on the MOTION of Fratinardo, seconded by Sandusky to approve the Social Affair Permit. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nick DiLullo, 416 E. Fourth Street, questioned Ordinance No. 2003-14, Bond Ordinance authorizing the construction of water utility improvements. Administrator Brook explained that this Ordinance covers two projects; one being the redevelopment of Well No. 2. After having each well inspected, it was found that Well No. 2 is beginning to falter. It is best to repair the well now before the cost of the repair becomes too high.

The other aspect of the Ordinance is the drilling of a new well, which will be Well No. 6. It is designed to deal with future needs within the water system. The Township has four very old wells and this new well will take some pressure off of the old ones. Mr. DiLullo thanked Administrator Brook for the explanation.

Mr. DiLullo discussed parking throughout the Township. He does not believe that the parking laws are being enforced. Council Member Sandusky suggested that Mr. DiLullo call the Police Department when he sees a violation. Mr. DiLullo does not feel that it is his place.

Mr. DiLullo discussed a property that has nine vehicles parked there, with nine adults living in a three-bedroom house. He also discussed the noise from motorcycles. He asked why the police do not get involved? Council President Hofflinger asked Mr. DiLullo to provide Administrator Brook with addresses after the meeting.

Bill Strimple, Route 130, questioned Resolution No. 2003-117, ABC Place to Place Transfer for Bungalow Corporation. Mayor Muchowski explained that this is an expansion of the license to allow them to serve alcohol out of another structure that will be built that was approved at the Zoning Board.

William McConnell, 963 Hamilton Avenue, stated that he received a ticket earlier in the year for parking on the grass. He paid the ticket; yet, as he drives throughout the Township, he sees other vehicles parked on the grass. He has not seen anyone else get a ticket and asked why he is being singled out? He feels that he is being discriminated against.

Mr. McConnell stated that since the Mayor has been on the news and in the newspaper complaining about the speed of the light rail, the train has been blowing the whistle and throttling the engine very loudly during the middle of the night.

Mr. McConnell discussed the speeding vehicles throughout the Township. He watched one day when the radar trailer was on his street as the cars drove past and a majority of the vehicles were going over 30 mph; some going as fast as 45 mph. His street is posted at 25 mph. He stated that some did not stop at the stop sign. He asked that the Police Department enforce a zero tolerance policy for speeding.

Mayor Muchowski stated that he does not believe that the police are signaling Mr. McConnell out.

Mr. McConnell discussed a problem and some incidents that have occurred with his neighbor.

Paul Varga, 20 Fourth Avenue, discussed two-tone whistles on trains; one high whistle and one low. The whistles can be toned down, which they should do during the midnight shift. He

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stated that Mayor and Council should speak with Conrail and ask them to tone down the whistles overnight.

Mayor Muchowski stated that the NJ Transit Light Rail and Conrail's train have two distinctively different sounds. The daytime is lower than the nighttime train. He stated that conversation regarding the sound level of the whistles has been initiated. He believes that it is the operator of the train, and will continue to address this issue for the safety and quality of life for the residents.

Carl Mattson, 710 Cooper Street, stated that the crossing barricades at the Delaware Avenue railroad crossing are not working properly. Mayor Muchowski stated that the Township is aware of the problem, as is NJ Transit. They are working on the problem. Mayor Muchowski asked that if anyone witnesses a malfunction in the gates to call the Township so it will be documented.

Mr. Varga explained that the gates are electronically controlled through the cab of the engine by the operator. Mayor Muchowski stated that NJ Transit said that the crossings are not operator controlled; there is dirt in the connections and that is the problem. Administrator Brook will ask NJ Transit for an explanation on how the gates operate.

Mr. McConnell stated that the gates should completely cross the road so cars cannot get through them.

Mr. DiLullo stated that he also sees a lot of speeding in the Township. He suggested that if a speeding driver does not have car insurance, their car should be towed and not returned until they show proof of insurance.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-117

**APPROVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL LICENSE
PLACE TO PLACE TRANSFER PLENARY RETAIL
CONSUMPTION LICENSE - BUNGALOW CORPORATION
2031 ROUTE NO. 130 SOUTH, BURLINGTON, NJ 08016
(LICENSE NO. 0315-33-004-003)
FOR EXPANSION**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinardo that Resolution 2003-117 be adopted.

(Note: This Resolution was previously held from the June 18th meeting.)

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Fratinaro, Sandusky, Hofflinger
NOES: None
ABSENT: Baldorossi, Garganio

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2003-14
(1st Reading)**

A BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$730,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$693,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATIONS; AND MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

It was on the MOTION of Fratinaro, seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance No. 2003-14 on first reading and set adoption for July 16, 2003.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Fratinaro, Sandusky, Hofflinger
NOES: None
ABSENT: Baldorossi, Garganio

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Nothing at this time.

Mayor Muchowski

- Mayor Muchowski discussed the various events scheduled for the Patriotic Celebration, which is coming up on July 12th. He hopes for a successful day and evening. He hopes everyone can come and enjoy the festivities.

Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Assistant Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol discussed a request from the Florence Deli on Broad Street, which is on the parade route, to have picnic tables in front of their establishment during the Patriotic Celebration. Council in agreement to allow with a set time limit.

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- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that the 4-wheel drive vehicles will be available the day of the parade if any members of Council would like to utilize them.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol will have a report for Mayor and Council next week regarding West Third Street.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Mr. Guzzi stated that the public works new facility is out to bid. Bids will be received by the end of the month. The job can be awarded in August.

Council President Hofflinger asked Mr. Guzzi if he has done anything for the senior center? Mr. Guzzi stated that he met with the grantwriter to go over grant opportunities. He is working on some sketches and location maps to go with the grant applications. Mr. Guzzi will tour Bordentown Township's new senior center and report back next meeting. Administrator Brook will speak with John Mason, Bordentown Township's Manager, regarding funding and grants for the senior center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

9:00 PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Fratinardo to adjourn meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

9:00 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab