

Florence, New Jersey
July 8, 2009

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 Baldorossi at 9:00 PM. President Baldorossi led the Salute to the Flag.

The following statement was read by the Township Clerk: "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 11, 2009; 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:

Bruce Garganio
Dennis O'Hara
Sean Ryan
Jerry Sandusky
Frank Baldorossi

Also present:

Mayor William Berry; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator, Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

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

Executive Session	May 13, 2009
Closed Session	June 17, 2009

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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

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

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Social Affair: Francis Robbins American Legion Post 194, July 11, 2009, Patriotic Celebration Day, 8:00AM. – 2:00AM
- B. Social Affair: St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, Ethnic Festival, September 13, 2009, 12:00PM – 6:00PM.

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- C. Raffles: St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, September 13, 2009, 1:00PM – 6:00PM
- Off Premise Raffle 50/50
 - On Premise Raffle

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

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, O’Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nothing at this time.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-144

**ADOPT MUNICIPAL BUDGET
TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

Council President Baldorossi stated that Resolution No. 2009-144 was previously held from June 17, 2009. He explained that on June 17th Florence Township held a public hearing on its municipal budget. At that time the State of New Jersey was running a few weeks behind in reviewing budgets; this year Florence Township is one of the municipalities that has to be reviewed and approved by the State. Administrator Brook received a call from the State yesterday authorizing the township to move with adopting the municipal budget.

Administrator Brook noted that the municipal tax rate is not increasing or changing this year.

Council Member Ryan thanked the governing body for working together to maintain the services that are in place without an increase to the municipal tax rate, while minimizing the use of the surplus.

Council Vice President O'Hara noted that only (3) municipalities in Burlington County opted to defer pensions. He thanked the Mayor and his fellow Council Members for agreeing not to defer the pension.

Council Member Garganio stated that the best part of being on Council over the years is that the group of people serving have always worked well together. Council President Baldorossi agreed and stated that they work for the best interests of all the residents.

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It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution No. 2009-144.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, O'Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-147

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWAL OF
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE
(Riverrock Bar and Grille, LLC)**

RESOLUTION 2009-154

**AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENT
WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT**

RESOLUTION 2009-155

**AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENT
WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-156

AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN TAX OVERPAYMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-157

**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)

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-158

**REFUND HOUSING INSPECTION FEE
SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPT**

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RESOLUTION NO. 2009-159

**TAX PAYMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 160.01, LOT 14
2000 US ROUTE 130**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-160

RESOLUTION TO REMOVE PROPERTY FROM TAX SALE

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-161

**APPROVE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND
#PAIFSU0430965
WHITESELL CONSTRUCTION, HAINES CENTER
700 RICHARDS RUN, BLOCK 158, LOT 5
CONDITIONED UPON POSTING A TWO YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND
NOTE: Also conditioned upon payment of any escrow funds due.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-162

**RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE
BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-163

**APPROVE COAH AGREEMENT WITH
THE SALT AND LIGHT CO., INC.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009- 164

**WATER AND SEWER PAYMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 146.08, LOT 5
319 STATION ROAD**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-165

**WATER AND SEWER PAYMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 137, Lot 27
18 4th AVENUE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-166

**WATER AND SEWER PAYMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 155.45, LOT 1
45-1 CARRIAGE STOP PLACE**

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Council Vice President O'Hara noted, in regards to Resolution No. 2009-147, that the establishment had removed quite a few banners at one point but there are presently at least 14 banners on the front of the establishment. He requested that Joy Weiler, Township Clerk, put a memo with their ABC license reminding them that they agreed to remove quite a few of the banners.

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Garganio to approve Resolution No. 2009-147 and Resolution No. 2009-154 through 2009-166.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, O'Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2009-13
(1st Reading)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING SECTION 91-24 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE TO ESTABLISH A FEE FOR AN APPLICATION TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF APPROVAL

It was on the MOTION of O'Hara, seconded by Garganio to approve Ordinance 2009-13 on first reading and set adoption for August 5, 2009.

On the Question: Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, O'Hara, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Council Member Sandusky stated that the **Patriotic Celebration kicked off this Friday, July 10, 2009**. There will be (4) teams participating in a softball tournament; the winner will receive the "Mayor's Cup". Trenton Thunder's mascot, Chase the dog, will be there for an hour or so. There will be a picture taking opportunity with the dog. Saturday starts off with the 5K run; the Flag Raising Ceremony will be in Roebling followed by the parade at noon. There will be activities for the children set up at the Water Works Field at 2:00PM, along with a dunk tank. The proceeds from the dunk tank will go to Mayor Berry's granddaughter who is seriously ill.

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Mayor Berry noted that the United States Naval Academy Electric Brigade will be playing Saturday night before the fireworks. He hopes for a good turn out for this wonderful band.

Mayor Berry expressed his appreciation to Council Member Sandusky and the other members of the Patriotic Celebration Committee who have worked so hard planning for the event. Council Member Sandusky stated that the committee has worked well together under the direction of David Dennison, Recreation Director and Assistant Administrator Sahol.

- Council Vice President O'Hara thanked the Mayor, Council and members of administration that attended the ceremony at the **Roebing Museum** this past Friday evening. As a Board Member of the Roebing Museum, Council Vice President O'Hara thanked everyone for their support throughout the year.
- Council Vice President O'Hara stated that a resident approached him and raised a concern over cursing and loudness from a neighbor. Administrator Brook will have the Chief of Police contact the resident directly.

Mayor

- Nothing at this time.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook explained that the **Integrated Law Enforcement Computer Project Agreement** with the County is due for renewal. He stated that the money is in the budget. A Resolution will be prepared for next week's meeting.
- Administrator Brook reported that the interest rate on the **Short Term Bond Anticipation Notes** that were done through the Chief Financial Officer and Bond Counsel is 2.75%.
- Council Vice President O'Hara received the email today regarding the township's **COAH Acceptance**. He would like to **publicly thank Administrator Brook and Mary Beth Lonergan, COAH Planner** for their work on getting the Third Round Certification approved.
- Council Member Sandusky **thanked Administrator Brook** for Resolutions No. 2009-164, 165 & 166, **Water & Sewer Payment Plans**. It is a good thing to help the residents and keep them out of tax sale.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol **expressed his appreciation to Father Adam Midor, Pastor of the Parish of Sts. Francis and Clare**, for the **donation** of the container for electronic recycling.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that the latest delivery of 1,100 **recycling totes** for paper and cardboard were utilized this past Monday. Out of 1,100 there are only a handful of resident concerns that need to be addressed, such as size and functionality. The program is being well received by the residents.

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- Assistant Administrator Sahol thanked Council Member Sandusky for the overview of the **Patriotic Celebration**. He noted and expressed his appreciation that Sterling Bank has fully funded the dunk tank and Alexson has donated the tent and stage for the United States Naval Academy Band to perform.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Nothing at his time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Ryan expressed concern over the health and safety of people eating the fish they catch out of **Craft's Creek**. He stated that the EPA received \$25M to dredge that body of water. He believes that when dredging begins the sediment will be stirred up and the current concerns will be heightened. He asked if, through New Jersey Fish and Game, signs could be posted in the area alerting of the possible risk of eating the fish. Administrator Brook will contact the Board of Health, New Jersey Fish and Game and the EPA to get a definitive answer on whether the fish are safe to eat or not; if not, should the area be posted? Administrator Brook will report back. Council Member Garganio asked Administrator Brook to inquire about having the dam fixed when he calls about Craft's Creek.

Council Member Ryan had met and spoke with **Senator Frank Lautenberg's** aide last year regarding the township's concern over the **Roebing Steel Mill site**. Senator Lautenberg's aide stated that Senator Lautenberg was involved with superfund legislation when it was initially introduced. The governing body sent a letter to Senator Lautenberg voicing their concerns and asking for support. This year \$25M was received from the federal government and EPA, which was one of the largest funding allocations that any superfund site in New Jersey received. Council Member Ryan asked that a letter be sent thanking Senator Lautenberg for prioritizing the township's superfund site and asking for his continued support in the future. Council Members are in agreement to send a letter out to Senator Lautenberg.

Council Vice President O'Hara stated that he advised Develcom of Senator Lautenberg's knowledge of the superfund site.

Council Member Ryan stated that a resident on **Emerick Avenue** advised him that she and her neighbor are having **drainage concerns** after it rains. He requested that Mr. Guzzi could look at it. Council Member Ryan will email the addresses to Mr. Guzzi.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

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9:35 PM MOTION by O'Hara, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

9:35 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/mab