

Florence, New Jersey
December 2, 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 8:00PM. 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
Sean Ryan
Jerry Sandusky
Frank Baldorossi
and David Woolston, Council Member Elect

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

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

Regular Session	November 4, 2009
Executive Session	November 4, 2009
Closed Session	November 4, 2009; November 11, 2009
Special Session	November 11, 2009

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky; seconded by Ryan to receive and file the Court Administrator's report, Chief of Police's report and Amended Township Clerk's report for October. 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

Nothing at this time.

APPLICATIONS

Nothing at this time.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joseph Csik, 45 E. Fifth Street, questioned the Salary Ordinance. Administrator Brook explained that the primary reason for a Salary Ordinance is to establish a range where the employee cannot make less or more than the range. If a salaried employee were to leave, the new employee would have to be hired within that range. Since the salaries are paid with tax money, Mr. Csik asked if the taxes went up, would the salaried employees have to take a pay cut? Administrator Brook stated that in local government nothing is considered untouchable. He explained that no non-union employee for Florence Township has a contract and there is more latitude with non-union employees. The Salary Ordinance is done each year. Administrator Brook stated that salary cuts have not been needed in Florence Township and hope that they never are needed. Council Member Ryan stated the salaries were reviewed at budget time and the Ordinance reflects that discussion. The salary increases were justified based on employee performance and commitment to their jobs. Administrator Brook reviewed areas where the township tries to save money.

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, thanked Council Member Garganio for his years on Council and wished him well as Burlington County Freeholder.

Fred Wainwright, 1011 Cedar Lane, stated that he is looking forward to working with Mr. Garganio as a Burlington County Freeholder.

Mr. Wainwright discussed cable television and the amount and length of commercials and that the cost for cable television keeps going up.

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. 2009-229

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWAL OF
PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE
#0315-44-005-004
*Punam Corporation***

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-241

**A RESOLUTION FIXING THE COMPENSATION
OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
FOR 2009**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-242

**AUTHORIZING ONLINE AUCTIONS
WITH GOV DEALS
FOR DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-243

**APPROVE REQUEST TO RELEASE PERFORMANCE BOND
GREENBRIAR HORIZON, SECTION 2
PERFORMANCE BOND NO. SW0156
CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-244

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR A
FINANCIAL ADVISOR
PHOENIX ADVISORS, LLC
5 THIRD STREET
BORDENTOWN, NJ, 08505**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-245

**AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN
PRESERVE AMERICA PROGRAM
IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE
HISTORIC HERITAGE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-246

**APPROVE SECOND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
WITH DEVELCOM
FOR ROEBLING STEEL PLANT SITE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-247

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2009-2010 RENEWAL OF
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE
WITH SPECIAL RULING
AIEBON CORPORATION, T/A ILLUSIONS, HOLDER OF
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE NO. 0315-33-001-002
WITH CONDITIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-248

**APPROVING A CITIZEN LEADERSHIP FORM
AS PER P.L. 2009, c.141 (S-1426/a-2784)
KNOWN AS THE CITIZEN SERVICE ACT**

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RESOLUTION NO. 2009-249

**REFUND COAH FEE
FEE PAID TWICE BY RYAN HOMES
FOR 411 ARNOLD DRIVE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-250

**AMENDING 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. 2009-251

**AUTHORIZE THE ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR
TO DEVELOP PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND TO OBTAIN BIDS
FOR LEASING SPACE FOR CELLULAR ANTENNAS
ON PUBLIC PROPERTY, CEDAR LANE WATER TOWER**

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-252

**APPROVE AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT
WITH COMMUNITY INVESTMENT STRATEGIES (CIS)
AFFORDABLE HOUSING AGREEMENT FOR
DUFFY MANOR**

RESOLUTION 2009-253

TRANSFERRING CERTAIN 2009 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

Administrator Brook requested that Resolution No. 2009-246 be HELD until 12/16/09 to work out any outstanding concerns.

Regarding Resolution No. 2009-229, Administrator Brook stated that he met with the license owner and there are still outstanding issues with his building. He recommends that this Resolution also be HELD until 12/16/09. The license/property owner was given an ultimatum and told that next week he will be cited to court for the condition of his building and the only way to stop the municipality from taking it down is if he has it taken down first.

Council Members are in agreement to HOLD Resolution No. 2009-229 and 2009-246 until 12/16/09.

Council Member Ryan asked if Resolution No. 2009-245 is related to the Burlington County Heritage Trail? Administrator Brook stated that it is not related to the Burlington County Heritage

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Trail. This Resolution is for the Roebbling Museum, which may help with qualifying for federal grants and since the township owns the property, the township must pass the Resolution.

Council Member Ryan stated that Resolution No. 2009-247 deals with renewing Illusions ABC license and asked if any determination has been made on whether the sign at Illusions is structurally sound? Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer will look at it and report back. Council Member Ryan asked if Resolution No. 247 could be HELD until Mr. Guzzi reports back? Solicitor Kearns stated that they are two separate issues. Discussion followed regarding the difference between Resolution No. 2009-229 and 2009-247. The owner of Resolution No. 2009-229 is delinquent on his current taxes and tax payment plan. He did bring the tax payment plan up to date today but was given a week or so to pay the current taxes. Resolution No. 2009-247 will be HELD until next week's meeting when Mr. Guzzi's report on the sign will be discussed.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio to approve Resolution No. 2009-241 through 2009-245.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi
NOES: None
ABSENT: O'Hara

Unanimous approval.

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution No. 2009-248 through 2009-253.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi
NOES: None
ABSENT: O'Hara

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2009-21
(2nd Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2009-21 on second reading for adoption.

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Public Comment

Council President Baldorossi opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: O'Hara

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2009-22
(1st Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 134 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP
CODE TO ESTABLISH PARKING
RESTRICTIONS ON PORTIONS OF SUMMER STREET**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance 2009-22 on first reading and set adoption for December 16, 2009.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: O'Hara

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Council Member Ryan stated that some **concerns** were brought up at the last **Planning Board** meeting **regarding administrative changes** that were made to an application. After reviewing information in the packet, he believes the changes were done correctly and requested that the Planning Board be given a copy. Administrator Brook will provide copies and offered to attend a Planning Board meeting to address the concerns.

Mayor

- Mayor Berry formally appointed **Laura Taylor** to the **Economic Development Committee** to fill an unexpired term, which expires 12/31/09.

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- Mayor Berry **praised** the **employees** for their hard work on the **beautiful holiday decorations** in and around the municipal building. He invited everyone to the **Tree Lighting** out front of the municipal building this Friday at 7:00PM, followed by festivities for the children in the courtroom.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook stated that the **Bond Anticipation Notes** (short term borrowing) were renewed. The rate of interest is 1.25%.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol provided a copy of an idea from Loretta Varga, **Roebing Garden Club**, regarding **property markers** and asked if Council had any concerns? Council Members like Mrs. Varga's idea.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that the **recycle toter** delivery began today in the areas of the community where the program was expanded; delivery will be completed tomorrow. The next phase includes the single-family homes in Roebing. He is still working on something for the rows and half doubles in Roebing.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that **225 trees were installed**, at no cost to the township. This is the first phase; another 200 will be installed in the spring; another 200 in the fall, and so on until there is no available space to plant trees. Council Member Garganio commended Assistant Administrator Sahol for his dedication to this program and hard work.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol reviewed two (2) memos: one (1) from himself and one (1) from David Dennison, Recreation Director, regarding the recent **Recreation Committee** meeting. After four (4) meetings and many subcommittee meetings, the Recreation Committee has come back with some minor modifications to the original **policy** that was proposed earlier this year. The committee believes the policy is very fair and workable. It sets high standards and sets high priority where it is due. First priority will be given to local teams and organizations followed by others that are not attached to the community. Assistant Administrator Sahol noted that every member of the Recreation Committee participated very actively. The committee did a great job.

The memo from Mr. Dennison is in regards to the policy that was established about four (4) years ago prohibiting children that live out of town but attend a school in the township from participating in Florence Township Recreation activities. Mr. Dennison discussed reversing the policy to allow children that live out of town but attend a school in the township; the Recreation Committee agrees. Council Member Ryan asked that this be HELD until the January Worksession.

Township Solicitor

- Solicitor Kearns provided information from the State of New Jersey regarding state aid and other issues.

Township Engineer

- Nothing at this time.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Member Ryan asked what is the purpose of the **Financial Disclosure Statements**?

The Township Clerk responded that the Financial Disclosure Statements are mandated by the State of NJ for certain officials, board and commission members. The forms are to be filed by April 30th each year.

Solicitor Kearns explained that it is a legal obligation for members that sit on certain Boards. If a member that is required to file does not, they cannot hold the position. Council Member Ryan asked if there were repercussions if someone fails to submit a Financial Disclosure Statement in a reasonable period of time? Solicitor Kearns stated that they could be fined and/or removed because it is a legal requirement.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

8:50PM MOTION by Garganio, seconded by Ryan to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:50PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/mab