

Florence, New Jersey
February 17, 2010

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 O'Hara at 9:55PM. President O'Hara 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 10, 2010 and February 14, 2010; 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:

Sean Ryan
Jerry Sandusky
David Woolston
Dennis O'Hara

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

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief of Police, Stephen Fazekas, attended the Burlington County Freeholders meeting earlier this evening and there was a three-two vote to suspend the operation of the Burlington County Police Academy. The current academy students graduate on March 10th and the academy will close soon after for the basic recruit class. Prosecutor Bernardi stated this evening that the in service (mandatory training police officers must receive every year) and continuing education (specialized training) will continue.

Chief Fazekas explained this came about when Prosecutor Bernardi (who oversees the Burlington County Police Academy budget) made a recommendation to the Burlington County Freeholders two weeks ago to suspend the academy class immediately to save money. Chief Fazekas explained that Prosecutor Bernardi did not come to the Police Chief's Association until that Thursday to inform them of his recommendation and then went on vacation the following day and returned yesterday. Even though Prosecutor Bernardi says that in service will continue, the police chiefs do not have answers as to how that will happen since they are closing the building. They are saying that the academy is separate from in service but the academy staff is the staff that puts together the catalog for the in service training. Prosecutor Bernardi states that he wants to work with the police chiefs and the training committee of the police chiefs to continue in service but no one has sat down with the chiefs to explain how it will work.

Chief Fazekas stated that the cost for the Burlington County Police Academy was \$275 per class; he called Gloucester County and they charge \$600. He reserved a spot for the fall in case they hire a new police officer. It is also a longer drive to Gloucester County and if the recruit goes over an eight hour day, the township may have to pay overtime.

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Mayor Berry noted that after several conversations with Chief Fazekas, he felt compelled to write a letter as the Mayor of Florence Township to Prosecutor Bernardi expressing his concern over the closing of the Burlington County Police Academy.

Chief Fazekas is on the committee opposing the closing of the Burlington County Police Academy and will keep Mayor and Council informed.

MINUTES

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

Closed Session

February 3, 2010

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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

A. Social Affair Permit Application: Knights of Columbus, April 10, 2010, 6:00PM – 11:30PM, McGrath Hall

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve the above application.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

ABSTAIN: O’Hara

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, was the member of the Environmental Commission to first discuss sidewalks on Route 130. Mr. Bott has a personal interest in sidewalks because he had a niece killed on Route 33 due to the lack of sidewalks. He would like to see developers be required to install sidewalks. He stated that it is worth the expense to save a human life.

Mr. Bott stated that the governing body is going to have to make some hard decisions when doing the budget; it is not going to be easy.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-58

**APPROVE CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 9 (FINAL)
AND CHANGE ORDER NO. 3
COMMUNITY CENTER
EAGLE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
1624 JACKSONVILLE ROAD
BURLINGTON, NJ 08016**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-59

AUTHORIZING AMENDED FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR DUFFY SCHOOL

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-60

**AWARD CONTRACT TO RIO SUPPLY INC.
100 ALLIED PARKWAY, SICKLERVILLE, NJ, 08081
FOR RADIO FREQUENCY READ WATER METERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-61

**WATER AND SEWER PAYMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 124, Lot 45
223 FOURTH AVENUE**

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to approve Resolution No. 2010-58 through 2010-61.

On the Question

Assistant Administrator Sahol noted that the contract award for Radio Frequency Read Water Meters (**Resolution No. 2010-60**) is for 1 year not 2 years as he previously stated.

Administrator Brook stated that **Resolution No. 2010-59**, paragraphs 5 and 8 will be amended to clearly state that the funding on the loan for Duffy Manor is fully coming out of the municipality's affordable housing trust fund, which is funded by developers for the specific purpose of implementing the Affordable Housing Plan. It is not coming from public tax dollars.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2010-01
(2nd Reading)**

**AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, AND
CHAPTER 123 THEREOF, INCLUDE STATE REQUIREMENTS
REGARDING PRIVATE STORM DRAIN INLET RETROFITTING AND
REFUSE CONTAINERS & DUMPSTERS**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance No. 2010-01 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President O'Hara opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

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

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Council Member Ryan **expressed condolences to Mr. Bott** for the loss of his niece and thanked him for participating in the sidewalk discussions.

Mayor

- Mayor Berry **commended the Public Works Department** for the outstanding job they have done with the monumental task of snow removal. He noted that Burlington County assisted today in actually removing the snow and trucking it out in areas where there are parking issues. He is very proud of all of the employees, the Water & Sewer Department for helping with snow removal and the administrative employees for getting into work. Council President O'Hara agreed that an outstanding job was done. He noted it was through the efforts of Phillip Drangula, Office of Emergency Management-Coordinator, who declared Florence Township a State of Emergency, that the County came in to help with manpower and equipment to remove the snow that had piled up.
- Mayor Berry **congratulated Council Member Sandusky** on the birth of his grandson last Thursday.
- Council President O'Hara stated that he and Mayor Berry did not make it to the last **Economic Development** Meeting because they were at a meeting in New York with the

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EPA. The **Economic Development Committee** did not have a quorum last month but they are moving ahead with a **Meet & Greet** for the existing businesses to thank them for being part of Florence Township's business community and perhaps offering an outreach of services such as computer and web design. The Economic Development Committee is also working on developing a newsletter listing some of the economic activity in the community. He will report back as more information is available.

- Council Member Sandusky noted that the **school bus** picks up high school students across the street from the Roebing School in the mornings on Hornberger Avenue. He suggested, from a safety standpoint, that the bus pull into the parking lot to pick up the students opposed to picking up on Hornberger Avenue and stopping traffic. Administrator Brook will have one of the police officers do an observation to see if changes need to be made for the safety of the children and the motorists; they would make their recommendation to the school. The high school students are picked up before the elementary students are dropped off in that lot for the Roebing School.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook explained that **Fine, Food and Spirits** on Route 130N posted **Performance and Water & Sewer Bonds** in 2007. He has since been impacted by the economy, just like a lot of other companies, and is unable to proceed with building at this time. He is requesting that the Bonds be returned to him until they are ready to begin again. The Performance Bond is up for renewal soon and the Water & Sewer Bond was a cash bond. The owner understands that no work can be done until bonds are posted. Administrator Brook does not see any reason to deny the request. He asked if there were any objections to releasing the Bonds? Council Member Sandusky expressed concern that the property will not be maintained while the project is on hold. Administrator Brook can have Thomas Layou, Construction Code Official, do a full inspection and the owner will be advised that the property must be maintained in good condition. Council Members are in agreement to release the Bonds. A Resolution will be prepared for the March meeting.
- Administrator Brook asked if Council has made a decision on the gentleman's request to charge the township resident fee for the **boat ramp permit**. The gentleman owns property in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey (but has a Pennsylvania driver's license). Council Members are in agreement that the Ordinance should stand and the gentleman will be charged the out of state fee. If the gentleman gets a New Jersey driver's license, he will meet the residency requirement. Administrator Brook will notify the gentleman in writing.
- Administrator Brook stated that he will be coming back to Council in early March to discuss releasing **Lennar's (Greenbriar Development) Performance Bonds** for Section I conditioned upon posting escrow for work to be done in the spring. There is one issue in regards to the trellis and the money for the trellis, which is being worked out with the Home Owners Association.
- Administrator Brook received a request from a resident regarding enacting an Ordinance requiring residents to **shovel the snow from their sidewalks** that are paths to school. He explained to the resident why the township has not enacted an Ordinance in the past, which is largely due to the concern for senior citizens who cannot even come out of their houses in the snow. The resident understood about senior citizens that could barely walk and would be issued tickets. Administrator Brook is not sure if they could designate just routes to school. Council Members in agreement not to pursue.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

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Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reviewed the **Road Program** list and reported that alleys on line number 13, 17 & 18 have been engineered and are ready; they can be included as alternates. There are no roads that have been engineered and designed for replacement. The Marter Park parking lot can also be included as an alternate. A Resolution will be prepared for March 3rd authorizing Mr. Guzzi to prepare the bid and specifications to go out to bid with alternates. Mr. Guzzi will circulate a list tomorrow of what will be included. Administrator Brook will contact Bond Counsel.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Punam ABC License

Administrator Brook stated that this will be HELD until March.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to HOLD until March. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

10:40PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

10:40PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/mab