

Florence, New Jersey  
May 5, 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 8:00PM. 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; 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:

Frank Baldorossi  
Sean Ryan  
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

Council President O'Hara noted that Council Member Sandusky is with his daughter in anticipation of the birth his grandchild.

### **MINUTES**

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

Regular Session	April 7, 2010
Special Budget Session	April 20, 2010
Closed Session	April 21, 2010

### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Woolston 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: Florence Township Republican Club, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, June 11, 2010, 3:00PM – 11:00PM

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

### **On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

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

Motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joe Csik, 45 E. Fifth Street, asked if any private property would be taken for the bike path on Old York Road? Mr. Guzzi stated that the entire bike path is in the Burlington County right of way; there is no private property being taken whatsoever.

Richard Lotter, 3 Walnut Street, asked Administrator Brook how he was doing on the budget? Administrator Brook explained that the gap is now closer to \$500,000. There is another meeting this Monday evening and if all goes well, the budget will be introduced on Wednesday, May 12, 2010. Administrator Brook believes the township will have to apply to the State for tax cap relief. Administrator Brook explained that the savings from laying off the dispatchers will not truly be seen until next year. Unemployment, alone, will cost the township close to \$38,000. In approximately two (2) years the township will receive a break from the pension contribution for the four (4) fulltime individuals. The savings is primarily in next year. Administrator Brook stated that the formal layoff plan was submitted to the State of New Jersey. The state called yesterday and said they are going to approve it with a couple minor changes.

Mr. Lotter asked how past Monday's meeting went? Administrator Brook stated that the governing body was here from 6:00PM to 10:15PM; it was a lengthy meeting. He is hopeful that after one more meeting the budget will be ready to be introduced. Mr. Lotter wished them luck on the budget.

Council President O'Hara commended his fellow Council Members, Administrator Brook, Assistant Administrator Sahol and Mayor Berry. They have gone over the budget line by line and there is still more to do. It has been a challenge but they have tackled making the decisions that have to be made as a unanimous group.

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-106**

**MEMORIALIZING ACTION TAKEN AT 4-21-10 MEETING  
AWARD CONTRACT TO MT. LAUREL CONCRETE, INC.  
137 EAYRESTOWN ROAD, SUITE I, SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08088  
FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT  
37 CREEKWOOD DRIVE, BLOCK 166.05, LOT 20**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-107**

**AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-108**

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING INTEREST IN PERMITTING SOLAR ENERGY  
GENERATION WITHIN REDEVELOPMENT AREA**

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve Resolution No. 2010-106 through 2010-108.

**On the Question**

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Sandusky

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2010-09  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE  
AMENDING CHAPTER 91, SECTION 124 AND CHAPTER 122  
ARTICLE IV OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE.**

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that this Ordinance has two (2) aspects. One (1) is recycling itself; it talks about exactly what the materials are, according to the State of New Jersey regulations, that have to be recycled in each community. He stated that Florence Township is in compliance with the exception of one (1) item, which is compact florescent light bulbs. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that the Ordinance also sets standards on the way recycling is put out and improper use of recycling containers. It sets fines for abusers and scavengers that remove recycling from the stream that the municipality benefits from.

Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that the other aspect is the Land Use portion, where it talks about setting up an area for recycling in a private community or commercial strip so the trucks can properly service the locations. It also addresses private developments, where there are restrictions outdoors that there has to be provisions for either an enclosed or in door structure for recycling collection.

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance No. 2010-09 on second reading for adoption.

**Public Comment**

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

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

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On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Sandusky

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2010-10  
(1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING SECTION 140-43  
AND 140-48 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE ESTABLISHING  
WATER AND SEWER RATES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE**

Administrator Brook explained that Assistant Administrator Sahol performed a survey of water and sewer rates charged by municipalities in Burlington County. Even after this rate increase, Florence Township will be one of the lowest in most categories throughout Burlington County. He noted that senior citizen rates will not be increased.

Administrator Brook stated that Florence Township has tried to hold back the water and sewer rates over the years, but there comes a point in time where, unfortunately, rates do have to be increased, especially when dealing with significant debt service for major upgrades to the plant. At this point, they will be going forward with the rate increase and Administrator Brook will have copies of the survey next week.

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by O'Hara to approve Ordinance 2010-10 on first reading and set adoption for May 19, 2010.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ryan, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Sandusky

Unanimous approval.

**REPORTS**

**Committees, Boards and Officers**

- Council Member Ryan stated that a representative from RT Environmental, Gary Brown, along with Charles Gallub of Develcom will be at tomorrow night's Environmental Commission Meeting at 8:00PM. They will be discussing and answering questions regarding the potential dredging project that the EPA plans on conducting in Craft's Creek and where they plan on implementing and depositing those dredge materials. He opened up an invitation to anyone that would like to attend.

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### Mayor

- Nothing at this time.

### Administrator

- Administrator Brook explained that the township had asked Burlington County to assist in a **redevelopment investigation of the Griffin Pipe property**, which is closed. Griffin Pipe is looking to demolish the buildings either this year or next year. Administrator Brook explained that one of the steps in revitalizing a property like this is, that could have remediation issues, is designating it an area in need of redevelopment. This will open the door to a lot of economic incentives and development opportunities. Burlington County agreed to do the report at no cost to the township. The draft report is complete, which will be discussed with the governing body at next week's meeting. Administrator Brook stated that the county is essentially recognizing it as properties that meet the criteria under the statutes to be designated as an area in need of redevelopment. There are some major issues related to that; one is that it helps the township work on economic incentives or pilot programs for the end user. It also gives Council the ability to craft the zoning on whatever the end use may be. The governing body will have significant input into the development of the property.

### Assistant Municipal Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that he is working on a **summary** of what was discussed at last Monday evening's meeting in regards to some **of the fees**. He will provide a copy in the packet.

Council President O'Hara noted that the **lights on the recreation fields** were also discussed Monday night because it has become a concern of residents in the community. Council will reach out to the different leagues to have them monitor and better use the facilities and to try to eliminate as many night games as possible. He explained that after each game on the Muchowski Field there is maintenance that is performed to prepare the field for the next day. There was a recommendation that they turn three (3) of the four (4) light poles off while doing the maintenance. Mr. Lotter stated that he drove past the fields on Broad Street multiple times this past Saturday and there was not one game, but tonight all the fields are being used with lights. He believes they should play on Saturdays to eliminate the need for night games. Council President O'Hara stated that this is a topic the governing body will be addressing. Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that the conversation has already begun with the Recreation Committee in regards to: scheduling, having more daytime weekend games, definitely no practices in the evenings and doing maintenance during the day before a game. Assistant Administrator Sahol will provide a summary in the packet. Council Member Ryan asked that the Recreation Committee keep the best interest of the taxpayers in mind when discussing this topic. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that the Recreation Committee works with Council on policy and represents Council's interests and desires for the recreation programs to the leagues. Mayor Berry will send a letter to all of the organizations explaining the situation regarding the lights and ask them to use good, sound judgment when using the lights. He will ask them to utilize or perform maintenance on the field during the weekend days to minimize the use of lights at night.

Council Member Woolston, Recreation Committee representative, stated that there was some discussion at last night's Recreation Committee meeting. One of the questions was, "Is the bulk of the cost of using the lights when the lights are first turned on?" Assistant Administrator Sahol explained the billing for the lights; there is a start up cost but there is

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still a kilowatt charge while the lights are on that could be minimized. Council Member Woolston stated that the Recreation Committee was receptive to conserving costs of running the lights. There was also discussion of switching to a more cost effective light bulb.

**Township Solicitor**

- Nothing at this time.

**Township Engineer**

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reported that he received bids for the **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** project, which includes the library door replacement and some sidewalk ramps. He will provide a report in the next packet for consideration at next week's meeting. Mr. Guzzi noted that both came in under budget.
- Mr. Guzzi stated that the Road Program and Bike Path are out to bid. Bids will be received later this month.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Council President O'Hara noted that there will be a prayer service tomorrow morning outside of the municipal building at 10:00AM in honor of **National Day of Prayer**.

Council Member Ryan wished **Council President O'Hara a Happy Birthday!**

**NEW BUSINESS**

In regards to the **ABC license renewal report** from Joy Weiler, Township Clerk, which also includes a report from the Chief of Police, Council President O'Hara stated that he has concerns with two (2) of the licenses that are up for renewal and believes that the owners should come in before Council. Council Member Ryan agrees. The license holders in question will be invited to Closed Session on May 19, 2010 at 7:00PM.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Nothing at this time.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Nothing at this time.

8:40PM MOTION by Ryan, seconded by Woolston to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:40PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC  
Township Clerk

/mab