

Florence, New Jersey
October 20, 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. The Florence Township Police Department 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
Jerry Sandusky
David Woolston
Dennis O'Hara

Also present:

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

PRESENTATION: SGT. BENJAMIN PALOMBI – RETIRING

Mayor Berry presented Sgt. Benjamin Palombi with a clock/plaque in honor of his retirement after 25 years of service to Florence Township.

Mayor Berry stated that Sgt. Palombi started as a patrolman in Florence Township and worked his way up to sergeant. The community is grateful for his 25 years of service. Sgt. Palombi has been an asset to the police department and the community. He has always been there to show his support in anyway that was needed. He has touched a lot of lives in the community.

On behalf of Florence Township, Mayor Berry wished Sgt. Palombi best wishes, good health, happiness and prosperity in his retirement. He thanked Sgt. Palombi for all he has done for the community.

Sgt. Palombi stated that it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the community of Florence and work with the Florence Township Police Department.

Council President O'Hara presented Sgt. Palombi's wife, Debbie Palombi, with flowers and thanked her for the support she gave her husband.

Chief of Police Stephen Fazekas stated that Sgt. Palombi has also served the township as Fire Chief in 1995 and has been active in the Fire Company. He wished him well and congratulated him.

Detective Jim Ford, as FOP President of Lodge No. 210, presented Sgt. Palombi a plaque and thanked him for all he has done and congratulated him on his retirement.

Council President O'Hara invited everyone to the front conference room for refreshments.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/20/10

8:12PM: RECESS

8:25PM: MEETING RESUMED

MINUTES

None at this time.

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky; seconded by Woolston to receive and file the Chief of Police's report and the Court Administrator's report for September. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

Sandusky made a MOTION; seconded by Woolston 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President O'Hara welcomed the Fountain of Life Royal Rangers, who attended the meeting to address Council with a project.

Wendy Cosme, Group Leader, explained that the Royal Rangers have a Government Badge and a Community Helper Badge to earn. Michael Jean (a Royal Ranger) asked permission for the Ranger Kids to clean the parks to help earn their badges. Ms. Cosme explained that they would clean three (3) parks in the community on a Saturday morning in November. Administrator Brook stated that is a great idea and so nice of them offer. He stated that the township would work with them to be sure that they have gloves and the proper equipment. Ms. Cosme will be in contact with Administrator Brook.

Ms. Cosme presented each member of the governing body with a bag of apples from their Pastor's farm. Mayor and Council expressed their appreciation.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-215

**A RESOLUTION CANCELING TAXES ON PROPERTY
OWNED BY A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-216

**AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF 2010-2011 RENEWAL OF
PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE
#0315-33-024-007
CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/20/10

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-217

**AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 3
CLYDE N. LATTIMER & SON CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.
FOR A NEW BELT FILTER PRESS FOR THE WATER AND SEWER PLANT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-218

**APPROVE CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 2 AND
CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE OLD YORK ROAD BIKEWAY
AMERICAN ASPHALT CO., INC. - CONTRACTOR**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-219

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF CURRENT ESTIMATE NO. 3
AND CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR
CARDINAL CONTRACTING CO., LLC
1738 ROUTE 206, SOUTHAMPTON, NJ, 08088
2010 ROAD PROGRAM**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-220

**AUTHORIZE REDUCTION IN THE WATER
AND SEWER PERFORMANCE BONDS
ALBAX, LLC
BONDS/LETTERS OF CREDIT NO. 9101330 & 9101322
*NOTE: Conditioned upon payment of any escrow funds due.***

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-221

**DENY REQUEST TO RELEASE MAINTENANCE
BOND/LETTER OF CREDIT NO. 139 FOR
ROMA BANK
ROUTE 130 NORTH & FAIRBROOK DRIVE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-222

**DENY REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BONDS FOR
PHASE I AND PHASE II FOR THE MANOR AT CROSSROADS,
PLATINUM DEVELOPERS, LLC**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-223

**RELEASE MAINTENANCE BOND FOR HUNTER INDUSTRIES/
NWL TRANSFORMERS, CASH BOND
*NOTE: Conditioned upon payment of any escrow funds due.***

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/20/10

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-224

**APPROVE REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE LETTER OF CREDIT
BURLINGTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
FOUNTAIN OF LIFE GYMNASIUM
BLOCK 170, LOT 6.01
LETTER OF CREDIT NO. 160**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-225

**APPROVE REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND
THOMAS J. FALLON
BLOCK 99, LOTS 1, 2.01, 2.02, 9**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-226

**APPROVE REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE BONDS FOR
PLATINUM DEVELOPERS, LLC
MANORS AT CROSSROADS, PHASE I & PHASE II
PERFORMANCE BOND NO. 1024184 & BOND NO. 1024185
NOTE: Conditioned upon payment of any and all escrow funds due.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-227

**AUTHORIZE ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR
TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING AT THE
TOWNSHIP LIBRARY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-228

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXCHANGE OF CONSTRUCTION
CODE SERVICES WITH FLORENCE TOWNSHIP AND MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP,
BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Resolutions No. 2010-215 through 2010-228.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Baldorossi, Sandusky, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ryan

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2010-17
(2nd Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING
SECTIONS 41-14 AND 41-15 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE
PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS
DOGS, PROVIDING FOR A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS DOG LICENSE
WITH CONDITIONS AND PROVIDING CONSISTENCY WITH THE
PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 4:19-17**

Solicitor Kearns explained that this is to bring Florence Township's Ordinance in line with the New Jersey State Statute that regulates potentially dangerous dogs. The township's Ordinance was adopted some years ago and had a process where the Burlington County Board of Health set up a Hearing Board to determine if the dog was dangerous. The State Law has changed the process; it is now done in Municipal Court. The township's Ordinance needs to be amended to comply with State Law.

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance No. 2010-17 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 Baldorossi to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Sandusky, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ryan

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Council President O'Hara commented on how nice it was of the **children** to come in this evening and **offer to clean the parks**. He noted that over the summer there was a group of **adult volunteers** that were cleaning the parks.
- Council Member Sandusky knows that the County will be **repairing Cedar Lane** going out under the whirly bird but noted that it is getting worse and asked if they plan to do it this year? If not, he asked Assistant Administrator Sahol to contact the County and ask them to

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/20/10

do some patchwork. Assistant Administrator Sahol will contact the County; he does know that they did call in for mark outs.

- Council Member Sandusky stated that the landscaping outside of the Community Center and the Roebing Museum look really nice but noted that the **tree outside of the Florence Library** is an eyesore. It doesn't look like it will survive. He suggested that if it's replaced, it is not replaced with such a large tree but a small tree that will grow into a big tree. Assistant Administrator Sahol did contact the contractor that planted it to look at the tree.
- Council President O'Hara stated that they had the **ribbon cutting** at the restored **Community Center** last Friday. He thanked Administrator Brook, Assistant Administrator Sahol and the Public Works Department for all of the hard work that was done to prepare for the event. He thanked Mayor and Council for attending. Council Member Sandusky suggested a plaque noting the dignitaries that were instrumental in the restoration of the Community Center. Council Members were in agreement.

Mayor

- Mayor Berry stated that the **ribbon cutting at the Community Center** was an outstanding evening. He noted that Council President O'Hara was instrumental in the evening and thanked him for the outstanding job he did as Master of Ceremonies.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook stated that after the meeting last week with David Thompson, Phoenix Advisors, regarding **Permanent Debt Service** and the reasons why now is a good time to go out on the market, Sandra Blacker, Chief Financial Officer, prepared a chart that addresses what the minimum pay downs are on the Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) compared to where the township would be if they went forward with permanent financing. Mr. Thompson will come before Council either November 3rd or December 8th; Administrator Brook will know for sure next week and advise the governing body.
- Administrator Brook stated that the **Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund** advises administration to give a **safety program overview** to their governing body every year. He stressed the importance of safety among employees. The less accidents a township has, the more money the township saves in insurance premiums. There is nothing more costly then if an employee gets hurt and is out on a lengthy workers compensation claim or if there are liability issues that arise that are not addressed.

Administrator Brook noted that safety even includes cyber crime. There were two (2) municipalities in New Jersey that were victims of cyber crime recently. Florence Township looked at how they do wire transfers and we found out that Florence Township is very secure.

Administrator Brook discussed safety programs and safety incentive funds. Florence Township qualified for approximately \$4,000 in safety incentive funds this year, which was used to pay: for hearing tests for the Public Works and Water & Sewer employees, the purchase of a new gas detector, safety clothing and safety equipment. Due to a few accidents where police patrol vehicles were hit from behind, Chief Fazekas came up with an idea of reflective safety striping on the rear of the vehicle and a new type of lighting for the Tahoe, which can be purchased with safety incentive funds.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/20/10

Administrator Brook stated that the safety program is meant to help avoid accidents, maintain safety and protect the employees and the public. He is working on an Employment Practices Liability Policy, which he anticipates completing in the next couple of months.

Administrator Brook explained that being part of a Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) helps to stabilize and minimize cost increases. Overall the JIF costs have not increased significantly.

Administrator Brook praised the employees of Florence Township: Janice Carey, David Lebak, Thomas Sahol and Chief of Police Fazekas, that head up the safety program. It works extremely well. He expressed his appreciation for the support they get from Mayor and Council.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Nothing at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council President O'Hara asked if the **issue with the Water & Sewer Department computer system** has been resolved? Administrator Brook explained that the overall computer system that operates the plant is approximately 10 – 12 years old. David Lebak, Water & Sewer Superintendent, advised him a couple of days ago that they were able to get the system up and running properly, which buys some time to go out on the market and see what the advancements are in that type of technology. No matter how the system is patched together, it is a good warning to start investigating wastewater facility treatment software programs. The system is up and working adequately.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

8:50PM MOTION by Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

9:25PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to resume Regular Session. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/20/10

HANDICAPPED PARKING SIGN: SECOND AVENUE

Administrator Brook explained that there is an issue with a handicapped parking sign on Second Avenue. The resident covered up the sign, put another vehicle there and went away. The township had contacted the resident in the past regarding this same issue. It is not fair to the neighbors on Second Avenue and does not meet the intent of why the sign was put up. It would be appropriate at this time to remove the sign. All others that have handicapped signs will be notified regarding reapplying for their handicapped signs.

It was on the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to have the handicapped parking sign removed on Second Avenue. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carries.

9:27PM MOTION by Woolston, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

9:27PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/mab