

Florence, New Jersey
November 3, 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 Vice President Baldorossi at 7:09PM. Council Vice 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 October 31, 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
Jerry Sandusky
David Woolston

(Note: Dennis O'Hara, Council President was absent due to a death in the family.)

Also present:

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

BOND FINANCING DISCUSSION: DAVE THOMPSON & SANDRA BLACKER, CFO

Dave Thompson, Phoenix Advisors, was present at the meeting to discuss long term bonds because long term interest rates are low. Mr. Thompson provided a report for Council to review and follow along with. He gave an overview of the four (4) options he was presenting:

- Stay with Short-Term Notes, which can be a risk if interest rates go up in the future.
- An Aggressive Non-Conforming that would only require a \$100,000 payment each of the first four years. This would require approval of the State of New Jersey Local Finance Board. Mr. Thompson continues to get feedback that it is difficult to get approval from the Local Finance Board for Non-Conforming plans. He believes the township has a good foundation for asking for that schedule but does not know if the Local Finance Board will approve. Bond Counsel does not believe it will be approved.
- Modified or Moderate Non-Conforming, which he believes there is a good chance of being approved.
- Conforming Debt Service schedule that schedules the bond sale later in 2011, so the first interest payment would not be until the beginning of 2012. This would be easier on the township in 2011. A bump up in debt service is already scheduled for 2011. This would minimize the amount that has to be put into the budget in 2011. The payment would be slightly higher in 2012 but manageable relative to where the township would be if the decision were to roll over notes.

Mr. Thompson stated that detailed numbers were run on each option. He noted that these are projected interest rates, not definite but he is comfortable with these figures.

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Mr. Thompson explained that the township is not financing new debt; the money has already been borrowed on Short Term Notes.

Mr. Thompson stated that Option #4, Conforming, does not need Local Finance Board Approval, gives the best relief for 2011's budget and captures today's low interest rates. He does not believe that interest rates will rise in the next six months in a meaningful way.

Mr. Thompson also provided a chart that he recommended including the outstanding authorized Water & Sewer debt as a conforming issue. It is insignificant relative to what the debt service payments in Water & Sewer are now.

Administrator Brook stated the best option in his opinion is Option #4. It was not his first choice but he does not believe the township would be approved for a non-conforming and he does not want to put out the money to apply if the application will be denied or harm the township's chances with other applications, such as a Tax Cap Levy Waiver. By looking at Option #1, short-term bond anticipation notes, it shows almost to the dollar what the township will have to pay. Administrator Brook believes that the township should take advantage of the low interest rates for permanent financing. He noted that Option #4 is a good way to lock in the low rates and to keep the debt payment schedule compressed. The only short term bump with Option #4 is 2012. Council Members agreed to go with Option #4.

Solicitor Kearns stated that a Resolution is not needed but suggested a MOTION directing Administrator Brook and Mr. Thompson to move forward.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to authorize Administrator Brook and Mr. Thompson to move forward with Option #4.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston, Baldorossi
NOES: None
ABSENT: O'Hara Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

Regular Session	September 15, 2010
Executive Session	September 8, 2010
Closed Session	October 6, 2010; October 13, 2010; October 20, 2010

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky; seconded by Ryan to receive and file the 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.

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REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing at this time.

APPLICATIONS

A. Transient Merchant Renewal: Mister Softee

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to approve the Transient Merchant renewal.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: O'Hara Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Lotter, 3 Walnut Court, complimented the work the Public Works Department is doing installing the sidewalk at Florence Tollgate. He also thanked the department for cleaning out the detention basin there.

Mr. Lotter stated that he is on the Environmental Commission and was one of the advocates for sidewalks on Route 130. He noted that another pedestrian was killed on Route 130 and stated that anything Florence Township can do in regards to installing sidewalks on Route 130 would be a positive thing.

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 2010-230

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM
OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87
CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948
(*Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program*)**

RESOLUTION 2010-231

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM
OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE,
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, PURSUANT TO N.J.S. 40A:4-87
CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948
(*Body Armor Replacement Program*)**

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It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Resolutions No. 2010-230 through 2010-231.

On the Question

Council Member Sandusky asked what is done with the bulletproof vests that are no longer in use? Solicitor Kearns stated that the material inside starts to deteriorate after a certain period of time. Administrator Brook believes they are destroyed once they pass their useful life.

Administrator Brook noted that the township rarely pays for bulletproof vests and body armor; majority of the time it is purchased through grants.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

YEAS: Ryan, Sandusky, Woolston, Baldorossi

NOES: None

ABSENT: O'Hara Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

Nothing at this time.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Nothing at this time.

Mayor

- Mayor Berry presented a **Proclamation** in honor of **Veterans' Day**, Thursday, November 11, 2010. He invited everyone to the Veterans' Day Service to be held on Thursday, November 11, 2010 at 11:30AM in front of the Florence Township Municipal Building. Council Member Sandusky asked that the event be advertised on Channel 19. Assistant Administrator Sahol will take care of the request.
- Mayor Berry will be presenting a **Proclamation** to **Adrienne Mazar**, Florence Township's Music Teacher and Band Director, who retired from the Florence Township School District in June 2010 after 32 years of service, on Friday, November 5, 2010 at the Florence Township High School Football Game, which begins at 7:00PM. Council Member Ryan thanked Mayor Berry for honoring Adrienne Mazar, and noted her accomplishments with the youth of the community and the community as a whole.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook reported that there was a subcommittee (Mayor, Township Administrator, Council Members Baldorossi and Woolston) meeting earlier this evening with Kent Pipes of **Salt & Light, the affordable housing group**. He will provide a copy of their proposal in this Friday's packet for the governing body to review. Administrator Brook stated part of the township's affordable housing program is that the township has to continue to provide rental units throughout the community. The question is how to go about doing that. He noted that the township has a very good relationship with Salt & Light affordable housing group over the years; they are extremely experienced and have put forth a proposal for discussion. Administrator Brook stated that the governing body can discuss next week; no immediate decision is necessary. He noted that no municipality, unless they have a very large

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staff, can undertake these types of procedures and make them work. This is a good way for Florence Township to meet their obligation, which will not go away.

The Township Administrator credited former Mayor Bruce Benedetti on his vision for COAH and COAH compliance for the Township of Florence.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol reminded the governing body that due to budget cuts the township would not be putting out the **township calendar** this year. It will be advertised on the website and Channel 19.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Member Ryan has noticed that the **traffic on Delaware Avenue at the intersection of Route 130** is backing up further and longer to the point where it is backing up to the light rail tracks and beyond sometimes. The township has met with NJ Department of Transportation regarding this matter before and Council Member Ryan would like to contact them again from a safety standpoint. He suggested that the Police Department assess the situation and provide formal reports to present to the DOT. Council Member Ryan offered to be involved in any meetings to take care of this issue. Council Vice President Baldorossi asked that they also look at the left hand turn light on Route 130 at Hornberger Avenue; he has seen back ups there also. Mayor Berry believes the problem has become noticeably worse since work began on I295; more vehicles are using Route 130 and he believes the time of the light northbound and southbound on Route 130 was lengthened, while going from Delaware Avenue to Route 130 and Florence Columbus Road to Route 130 was shortened. Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that it seems that they have extended all of the lights up and down the highway. He will work with the Chief of Police to see what can be done. Council Member Sandusky noted that his daughter lives in Birch Hollow and usually has to make a right to leave her development because traffic is backed up too far to make a left.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council Member Sandusky suggested having the families that come to the **township's tree lighting** and visit with Santa Clause **bring a canned good for the needy**. Discussion followed regarding making it a joint effort between the schools and the township. The food would be divided among the community churches.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, asked if the 7:00PM start is for the rest of the year? Solicitor Kearns explained that it was only for this evening because there was a meeting with the township's financial consultant regarding Bond Anticipation Notes. Solicitor Kearns stated that the start time was advertised.

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Mr. Kamienski stated that at previous meetings there was discussion regarding replacing the floating dock. He asked if there has been any discussion regarding the design of the new floating dock or if a vendor has been chosen? Administrator Brook explained that a decision was made not to have a whole brand new dock built at one time due to finances. A meeting was held last week with the Township Engineer, Dan Guzzi, who is currently getting prices to replace three (3) sections next year, which will be ordered over the winter. The remaining sections would be replaced the following year. He believes the entire dock will be replaced over a two (2) year period. The design of the dock will remain the same. The dock will be made out of aluminum decking. Mr. Kamienski believes the current design causes the debris to back up at the boat ramp. Council Members explained that it was not cost effective to change the design of the dock.

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

8:26PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

8:26PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/mab