

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION

December 14, 2011

8:00PM

CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE

Council President O'Hara called the meeting to order and led the Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

The Opening 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 2, 2011 and January 16, 2011; given to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board.

ROLL CALL

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Jerry Sandusky, David Woolston, Dennis O'Hara

Absent: Sean Ryan (due to work commitment)

Also Present: Mayor William Berry; Richard Brook, Township Administrator; William J. Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brian Gordaychik, 130 Seventh Avenue, said he noticed the recreational vehicles parked behind the library. He felt the residents should be charged to park the vehicles there. Council Vice President Baldorossi explained that the South Street lot is being cleaned out for the vehicles to be returned to that site and there will be a \$75.00 permit fee. There must also be proof that the vehicle is in working condition and is in use.

Township Administrator Brook stated that residents are very happy with the work. It should be finished in a couple days.

Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Mr. Woolston, seconded by Mr. Sandusky.
Roll call vote – all ayes.

Council President O'Hara told Joseph Csik that at a point later in the meeting he will reopen to the public if there are any issues that the public would like to discuss.

BUSINESS

Township Water & Sewer Engineer

- Estates at Crossroads, W&S Performance Bond No. 043327

Russell Trice, Township Water & Sewer Engineer said there were still a large number of items that need to be completed. He did not recommend releasing the bond at this time. A resolution to deny release of the bond will be prepared for next week's meeting.

Florence Township Council Executive Session: 12/14/2011

- Alabax LLC, Deny request to release Performance Bond

Mr. Trice inspected and reported that there are outstanding punch list items and he does not recommend release of the bond. A resolution will be prepared for next week's meeting.

- Scamporino, Deny request to release Performance Bond

Mr. Trice inspected the project and reported there are still many open punch list items and he does not recommend releasing the Performance Bond. A resolution will be prepared for next week's meeting.

On the Question

Council President O'Hara asked if this was Scamporino or Harkins Plaza? It was determined that Scamporino is no longer involved; it is the Harkins Lane project, but the file name was originally Scamporino.

Township Engineer

- Scamporino Request for release of Performance Bond

The Township Engineer, Dante Guzzi, did a report for Scamporino for site improvements. He recommends a reduction to thirty (30) percent of the original amount. The project is the Harkins Lane Plaza. A resolution will be prepared for next week's meeting.

- 2011 Pedestrian Safety Project: Current Estimate #2

Township Engineer Guzzi recommended the estimate be approved. A resolution will be prepared for next week's meeting. Council Member Sandusky asked if the job would be finished this year? Mr. Guzzi believes at this time that it will.

- Wilbur Henry Drive Drainage Basin

Township Engineer Guzzi explained that because of the rain in the late summer and early fall, there were problems with this basin. There is accumulated material at the bottom of the basin. Quotes were obtained to rehabilitate the basin. Giberson Plumbing and Excavating, Inc. was the low bidder with a quote of \$14,800. Engineer Guzzi stated that it would be done soon, if approved. Administrator Brook said he'd know by Tuesday if the funds were available for the job; if the money is there, a resolution will be on next week's agenda. Council Vice President Baldorossi requested the homeowners be informed before the work begins. Council President O'Hara asked if there was a way to be proactive with maintenance of the basin so this situation does not happen again? Engineer Guzzi responded saying that does need to be done; Public Works does maintain the basins periodically, but after a while it gets to the point where heavy equipment must be used to get the material out. He said it has been many years since this basin had to be rehabilitated, but the basins just get to the point that there is no other way to clear them.

Florence Township Council Executive Session: 12/14/2011

- **2011 Park Improvement Project: Est. #2 (Final) and Change Order #1**

Township Engineer Guzzi reported that this project is the various park improvements all over town, and the change order is for the work done on the police department parking lot. The paving was added while the walking paths were being paved because the equipment was readily available. Engineer Guzzi recommended payment and approval of the change order.

Assistant Township Administrator

Administrator Brook gave the Assistant Administrator's report in his absence. There was an issue with trees that were removed. Assistant Administrator Sahol spoke to the resident who was upset that the trees were removed; he has taken care of the situation to everyone's satisfaction.

Council President O'Hara inquired about an e-mail he saw regarding dumping debris on the riverbank. Administrator Brook explained that people don't understand the amount of damage this kind of dumping can do to the riverbank area, as it causes erosion of the bank. Assistant Administrator Sahol is continually educating residents about this problem, but if it persists, those responsible will be taken to Municipal Court.

Reorganization 2012

Council President O'Hara explained that everyone received their packets for Reorganization with the list of appointments to be made by Mayor and Council, along with the 2012 meeting dates and Resolutions. He asked if there were any questions. No questions were raised.

Emergency Management Performance 2012 Grant

Philip Drangula, Director of Emergency Management for the Township appeared before Council to discuss a grant opportunity for his department. He introduced State Trooper William Craney to provide an overview and the qualifications. Trooper Craney explained that this is a federal grant that comes through FEMA. Every county gets a certain amount of funding that is then distributed to the municipalities that qualify. It is based upon hard working, proactive emergency programs. Mr. Craney said that Mr. Drangula is hard working and very proactive for the Township and "he moves mountains." The grant is for \$10,000 with a fifty (50) percent local share, meaning that the Township will be required to spend \$10,000 and get \$5,000 back. The grant can be used for police salaries. It is very competitive, and the Township will get it through the hard work of the Emergency Management employees.

Council President O'Hara verified that the Township must provide \$5,000 for the grant. He praised Mr. Drangula's performance during Hurricane Irene.

Administrator Brook explained that what is done already in the Office of Emergency Management would meet the amount that the Township is required to cover.

Florence Township Council Executive Session: 12/14/2011

Mr. Drangula explained that the Office of Emergency Management is used as a model by other municipalities.

Council Members were in favor of approving the Resolution this evening in order for the paperwork to move forward as soon as possible.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011-234
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF A
SUBGRANT AWARD OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2012 DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE
GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING**

Motion made by Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the Resolution to apply for the Emergency Management Agency Assistance Grant.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Sandusky, Woolston, O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ryan Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President O'Hara opened the meeting for comments. No comments at this time.

Council President O'Hara recognized there was a nice article in the Burlington County Times about Valerie Sweeney's retirement from the Tax Office and as Registrar.

Councilman Sandusky praised Ms. Sweeney's service to the residents. He commented that the article was nicely done. Mayor and Council will be sending a letter to the reporter thanking her for such a nice article.

8:29 PM MOTION by Woolston, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:29 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/aek