

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION

February 8, 2012

8:00PM

CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE

Council President Sandusky called the meeting to order and led the Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Register News for information on 1-5-12; posted on the municipal bulletin board on 1-5-12 & placed on the web-site; sent on 12-21-11 to the Burlington Co. Times for publication on 1-8-12, but due to the newspaper's error, the notice was not published until 1-11-12

ROLL CALL

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Ted Lovenduski, Paul Ostrander, David Woolston, Jerry Sandusky

Also present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Administrator; Anthony H. Ogozalek, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Sandusky opened the meeting to the public. No comments at this time. A Motion was made by Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public comments. All ayes – motion carries.

BUSINESS

Safety Committee Review

David Lebak, Director of Water and Sewer and Safety Program Coordinator, said he was present to go over the Safety Program. He asked that Mayor and Council sign a Safety Commitment Contract, also. He explained that JIFF promotes a safe environment throughout the Township. He wanted Mayor and Council to be aware that there is a very active Safety Committee in place, and the Township is very committed to the safety of its employees and residents. He said the employees receive a lot of training, both on and off site. Monthly safety inspections are performed and safety reports are filed regularly. Employees are also recognized for a job well done. Job sites are routinely spot inspected and given a job well done, or it is noted if there could have been something done differently. It is also not department specific. A Public Works supervisor could see something not related to his department and report it. Safety crosses over all departments. JIFF initiated the program, but it has become second nature to the Township. The Safety Committee meets four to six times a year. Any accidents that occur are reviewed to see if and how they could have been prevented.

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Administrator Brook noted that the program helps to keep insurance premiums down. The amount paid out is less as losses stay low, and that keeps the premiums low. He said the Township is extremely proactive when it comes to safety, and he thanked Director Lebak and Assistant Administrator Sahol and the entire Safety Committee for all of their hard work on behalf of the Township.

Director Lebak said that he feels privileged to be on the Committee. He noted that the Police are held to a high standard and are a driving force for the Committee and this translates over to the other Departments. He said the Florence Safety Committee has scored very high marks with the JIFF. He said the Committee brought the maximum amount of payoff back to the Township because of our safety record.

Mayor and Council signed the Safety Committee Contract.

Council President Sandusky said that two Sundays ago he noticed on Oak Street a plumber doing work. Council President Sandusky asked if the man had permission to open the road?

Director Lebak explained that it was a private lateral. He said the man did have an inspection later in the week and he was following all procedures.

Water & Sewer Engineer

Nothing at this time

Township Engineer

Estimate No. 5, 2009 Bikeway Project, American Asphalt Co.

Administrator Brook advised that Engineer Guzzi recommended payment of Current Estimate No. 5 to American Asphalt for the 2009 Bikeway Project. A resolution will be prepared for next week.

A Motion was made by Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve the preparation of the Resolution for payment of Current Estimate No. 5. All ayes – Motion carried.

2126 Old York Road – Release Performance Bond

Administrator Brook said Engineer Guzzi recommended the release of the Performance Bond for 2126 Old York Road. A Resolution will be prepared for next week.

A Motion was made by Woolston, seconded by Ostrander to approve preparation of the Resolution to release the Performance Bond. All ayes – Motion carried.

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Entrance Sign, K- Hovnanian Estates at Crossroads – Deny Release of Bond

Administrator Brook told Mayor and Council that Engineer Guzzi recommended denying release of the Bond to K. Hovnanian for the Entrance Sign to the Estates at Crossroads because there were several items remaining on the punch list. A Resolution will be prepared for next week.

A Motion was made by Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi to prepare the Resolution to deny the release of the Bond K. Hovnanian. All ayes – Motion carried.

Township Administrator

2011 Community Development Block Grant Bids Received

Administrator Brook said the bids for the Community Development Block Grant were reviewed. The Grant is being used for sidewalk repairs and replacement throughout the community. Engineer Guzzi recommended going with the lowest bid from Ocean Excavating, Inc.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the project bids came in lower than expected so more projects can be completed, including the alternates that were already approved. He said it might be possible to go even further with proper approvals from higher government.

Councilman Baldorossi asked the location of the work.

Assistant Administrator Sahol replied that the work is primarily Woodlawn Avenue, a section of West Third Street, a section of West Second Street, Amboy Avenue, James Street, Norman Avenue, Hamilton Avenue; it is spread throughout the community.

Mayor Wilkie requested that East Fifth Street be included.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he thinks a section of East Fifth Street is included, and the handicapped accessibility is always part of the projects. A resolution will be prepared for next week.

Recreation Improvements Clark T. Carey Park – Boat Dock

Administrator Brook said the bids for the project were received. Marine Maintenance and Construction was the lowest bidder. He said that Engineer Guzzi recommended approval. He explained that whenever a new dock is installed there is a period of adjustment. Before the new dock is installed, part of the old one will be put in the water. When the company comes to do the installation of the new dock, there will be no dock access for a short period of time. It is a mild inconvenience when weighed against the general good; it is for the community and surrounding area.

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that there will be a very short time while there is no dock.

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He said those holding permits for the dock will be notified and he stressed it will be a very short period of time with no dock. He estimated the new dock will be installed in early May. He also said that the old dock will go in before that and remain until it is time to install the new one.

Council President Sandusky requested that Assistant Administrator Sahol contact Don Kaminski, 10 McCay Drive to update him on the project. He has been very interested in the progress of the boat dock.

Assistant Administrator

Alleys and Trash Trucks

Assistant Administrator Sahol provided pictures of alleys that are not large enough for the trash trucks to maneuver. He recommended that trash pick-up be moved to curbside. He said this is not something he would recommend where there are long rows of row homes, but in some small areas where not many residents will be impacted, sometimes it is the solution to the problem. He said the residents in question are single-family dwellings and in areas near them the trash is already collected at the front. He recommended that Walnut Street and Chestnut Street between East Fourth Street and East Fifth Street change to curbside pick-up.

Council President Sandusky asked if the damage that was done was repaired?

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that no repairs can be made until the trucks are rerouted. The Assistant Administrator said the only other alternative is to make the section of the street a No Parking Zone, and he felt the residents would prefer the curbside pick-up solution. He said he will contact the residents being affected.

Councilman Baldorossi said that at Eighth Avenue and Hornberger Avenue in Roebing a fence was damaged by a trash truck. He wanted to know if it will be taken care of?

Administrator Brook and Assistant Administrator Brook said they were not aware of the situation but they will go look at it and have it repaired.

West Fifth and Winter Streets

Mayor Wilkie explained that in the new development West Fifth Street loops around and has two intersections with Winter Street. The development is at the end of Boulevard.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the Police Department needs to approach the 911 system, but it does make sense to rename a section of the street. There will be a name list for review in the next packet.

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Economic Development Committee

Mayor Wilkie confirmed that everyone received the revised Ordinance from Solicitor Ogozalek. He explained that emeritus members needed to be defined. The requirement will now be a minimum of twenty of years of service. He planned to present names for approval to Council in its next packet.

ACTION:

**Raffle: Civic Association, Off Premise 50/50, Monday, May 28th, 6:00 PM
Coates Field Concession Stand
To benefit Florence Township Little League**

A Motion was made by Baldorossi, seconded by Lovendusky to approve the application.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows

Ayes: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: Sandusky Motion carried.

**Raffle: Florence Township Riverfront School PTO, On Premise 50/50, March 28, 29, 30, 31, 6:00-10:00 PM, Riverfront School, Front Street
To benefit the Riverfront School Spring Musical**

A Motion was made by Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi, to approve the application.

Upon roll call vote Council voted as follows

Ayes: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky
Noes: None
Absent: None Motion carried.

Harkins Lane

Administrator Brook said that the Harkins Lane Plaza Performance Bond should be up for release by next week. There were a couple of issues on the site. He said the gentleman had an unauthorized soil removal business working out of the back of the property, but it has been corrected, and there were issues with Americans with Disabilities accesses that were corrected today. He said once it is inspected and all is completed, the bond will be released.

License Plate Reader

Administrator Brook directed Mayor and Council to a memo from Police Chief Fazekas. The Department won a grant for \$25,000 for a License Plate Reader. The technology is amazing and if a plate is scanned, even passing a stopped police car at a high rate of speed, the information for the plate will be automatically accessible. It is tied in directly to the State system, and it will be grant funded.

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Township Solicitor

Solicitor Ogozalek said he researched the issues with the positions of Police Chief and Director of Public Safety. He said DCA told a local paper that both positions could be established at the same time. He said Administrator Brook reached out to the DCA and its attorneys but has not heard anything. Solicitor Ogozalek said he has not heard from the State Association of Police Chiefs. His opinion is that it is a confusing issue and possibly a town can have both positions but only if they are both filled. In this case only the Director of Public Safety would be filled.

Public Comments

Council President Sandusky again opened the meeting to the public.
No comments at this time.

A Motion was made by Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi, to adjourn to Closed Session.
All Ayes – motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

8:40 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk

/aek