

Florence, New Jersey  
June 19, 2013

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 Sandusky at 8:00 PM. President Sandusky led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 3, 2013; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 6, 2013.

Upon roll call the following were found to be 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 Municipal Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Attorney; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

### **MINUTES**

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

Township Council Regular Session – May 15, 2013  
Township Council Executive Session – May 8, 2013

### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to approve the Treasurer's Bill List.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None Motion carried.

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**REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE** None at this time.

**APPLICATIONS**

- A. St. Stephen's Church, Letter dated June 12, 2013 regarding a street closure at West Second Street for Annual Blessing of Emergency Vehicles  
The Police Chief has reviewed the request for closing the street on October 13, 2013. As in previous years, he recommends approval to block the street with use of barricades.
  
- B. On Premise 50/50 - Roebling Museum, 100 Second Avenue  
July 27, 2013, 10:00am – 3:00pm
  
- C. Social Affair Permit – Francis W. Robbins American Legion Post 194  
July 6, 2013, 3:00pm – 11:00pm

MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve Applications A-C. All ayes – Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joseph Johnson, 2022 Bustleton Road, said at the January 16, 2013 meeting that he raised the issue of a solar ordinance for the Township of Florence. He followed up on March 26, 2013 and was told something would be ready for review in a week or two. He said he again followed up on May 28, 2013 and received the same response.

Administrator Brook explained the timeline would be a draft ordinance ready for July or at the latest August. Burlington Township would be given a draft copy and Mr. Johnson would also be provided with a copy. The governing body would review to consider introduction and adoption. With this time line, the ordinance would be done by the end of August.

Mr. Johnson requested an e-mail be sent to him explaining the above. Administrator Brook explained that it is now in the public record but he would send the e-mail. Mr. Johnson expressed his displeasure with the time and said there are other people also concerned.

Council President Sandusky explained that at the present time there were many things happening in Florence Township that required priority from the governing body and the solar issues would be addressed.

Administrator Brook said he is comfortable that the action will be taken by the end of the summer and said he is willing to meet with anyone involved to discuss the ordinance. He thinks considering the scope, it is reasonable to have it completed by the end of the summer.

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It was the MOTION of Ostrander, seconded by Lovenduski to close the public comments. All ayes – motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-133**

**Authorizing the Public Sale of Township  
Owned Property**

(Motor Vehicles which came into the possession of the Florence Township Police Department through abandonment or failure of the owners to claim)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-134**

**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**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-135**

**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**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-136**

**Approving Acknowledgement of Termination  
Between Develcom, Inc. and  
The Township of Florence**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-137**

**Resolution Authorizing the issuance of not to Exceed  
\$3,500,000 Tax Anticipation Notes of 2013 of the Township  
of Florence, in the County of Burlington, State of  
New Jersey**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-138**

**Refund of Permit Fee as per Construction Code Official**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-139**

**Refund of Permit Fee as per Construction Code Official**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-140**

**Conditionally Approve the Request  
for Release of Performance Bond for  
Water and Sewer, Phase II for the Manors at Crossroads,  
Platinum Developers, LLC**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-141**

**Authorizing Refunds of Certain Tax Overpayments**

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to approve Resolution Nos. 2013-133 through 2013-141.

On the Question: Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None Motion carried.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-09**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF  
BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE  
TOWNSHIP'S STREETS AND ROADS AND RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE  
TOWNSHIP AND APPROPRIATING \$50,000 TO FUND THE SAME  
(1<sup>st</sup> Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 7/17/13)**

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MOTION was made by Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2013-09 and set the public hearing and adoption for July 17, 2013.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-10**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE ADOPTING A  
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR PARCELS WITHIN THE ROUTE 130  
REDEVELOPMENT AREA  
(1<sup>st</sup> Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 7/17/13)**

MOTION was made by Woolston, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2013-10 and set the public hearing and adoption for July 17, 2013.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

**Committees, Boards and Officers**

**Mayor**

**Road Program**

Mayor Wilkie explained the road program scenarios were presented to Council for review. He also reviewed them with the Township Administrator. His main concerns were safety and traffic. His other concern is the 2015 budget. He wants to keep the tax impact as minimal as possible. He is leaning toward scenario #1. It proposes Kings Court and Knights Court being done at the same time. He also looked at logistics. He does not want to do one street and have another street next to be done in a year or two. East Fifth Street does not border any other area slated for repair. Fourth Avenue is also not bordering other streets identified. Third Avenue at Riverside Avenue has deteriorated but this does not border other identified streets. Also included is the Seventh Avenue at Hornberger Avenue drainage issue. Baird Drive is also part of the first scenario. He said they all know there are a lot of roads that have to be done; the ones that were identified can be put in place so the work can start in 2015. Those remaining will be done in 2016 when there is a change in the funds available from the budget.

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Administrator Brook said it does not take long to get into the \$1.5 to \$2 million range when dealing with roads that are being milled. These costs do not even include potential contingencies and engineering costs. It is hard to prioritize all the roads but these are all in need of repair. The residents of these streets were advised in the past the roads would be taken care of. Baird Drive, Knights Court, Kings Court – the roads have gotten to the point where they are intolerable. Fourth Avenue is bad; East Fifth Street is bad. The drainage at Hornberger Avenue and Seventh Avenue has been an issue for many years. This plan begins to attack certain segments of the municipality that need to be done. If you look only at high usage, these streets are forgotten. They have been passed over for several years and he thinks scenario #1 is the way to go. In 2016 the overall debt service is dropping by about \$500,000 a year and hopefully the roads not included could be done then. A bond ordinance will be prepared for July. The work should begin in the spring of 2014.

### **Miscellaneous**

Mayor Wilkie said he attended the *100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Doris Krieger and Virginia Shaver*. There is also a surprise planned at the ladies' church on July 7. He extended the invitation to Council. He plans to do a Resolution and have all of Council sign it.

Mayor Wilkie said the Village of Roebling would be honored this weekend with the **Civil War Reenactment** scheduled at the **Roebling Museum**. It was being held Saturday and Sunday.

Preparations are well under way for the **Patriotic Day Celebration scheduled for July 6**. Mayor Wilkie would like to increase the local participation. He met with some organizations recently and they are not listed as participating but he anticipated they will be. Assistant Administrator Sahol said there were fliers distributed but more will be handed out

### **Administrator**

Administrator Brook said he wanted to mention that when the bond ordinance is done for the upcoming road program, there will be a separate bond ordinance for Boulevard. Florence Township, through Assistant Administrator Sahol and Engineer Biegen, applied for and obtained a grant. Boulevard will be repaired from Front Street to Third Street. The funds were not available to go all the way to Fourth Street. Mayor Wilkie said the township will apply for more grant funding. He hopes to do Third Street to Fifth Street. The issue will be discussed at a later time. Administrator Brook explained that the ordinance will not only encompass the funds awarded for the project but also the money the township has to put into the project. Sidewalks, curbing and trees would be addressed if need be.

He said in the early fall there was a resident who contacted Florence Township and relayed a story about their child who suffered a pediatric stroke. In May the Governor passed a proclamation naming **May Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month**. It is not something you hear about very often but one in every 2,700 children born end up having a pediatric stroke. The resident spoke about the issue very compassionately and said she would be able to have a doctor from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia attend a council meeting to provide information.

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Administrator Brook would make sure the local media was aware of the informational session. As is the case with other childhood diseases, it often helps parents to be able to communicate with each other and know they are not alone. It creates a network of support. Florence Township offered its assistance to help facilitate the networking. He estimates it will take place in the early fall.

### **Assistant Municipal Administrator**

Assistant Administrator Sahol referred Mayor and Council to a memo and information packet he provided regarding community energy aggregation. At this point in time, the County Freeholders, in keeping with the tradition of shared services, are hoping to spearhead a group that would work with the Bridge Commission and its resources to bring all 40 municipalities in the County into a cooperative to look at community energy aggregation. Basically, if a municipality participates in community energy aggregation, it allows every resident to have the automatic opportunity to have their energy needs bid for them. The resident would realize a lower cost for electric and the lines would still be maintained by Public Service. Participation is not mandatory for residents. The numbers will increase buying power and the discounts will probably be better than what a resident would find on the open market themselves. The notice requirements are substantial. There will be legal notices, web notices, e-mails and post cards to residents. Communication is very good in Florence and he thinks if the township officials are well versed, they can help people with any questions.

Mayor Wilkie said Plumsted Township in Ocean County started participating a few months ago. Assistant Administrator Sahol said Plumsted Township did it alone and residents saw a nine percent savings on their electric. He said if the 40 communities in Burlington County are able to put the energy out for bid, the savings could be even better. He asked if Council was interested in having the Mayor sign a non-binding letter of interest to the Freeholders? If enough municipalities are interested, Burlington County will start the dialogue and begin the process.

Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve the non-binding letter of interest. Roll call vote. All ayes.

Assistant Administrator said the Patriotic Day Celebration is only a few weeks away. It is scheduled for July 6. Mayor and Council were presented with a quick overview of the day's events. The day kicks off with the flag-raising at 11:00 a.m. at the circle on Fifth and Oak Streets. The boy scouts will participate with the flag-raising. The legion was asked to provide the color guard. The parade is set to start at Noon. It will finish at Tenth Avenue and Main Street. So far there are eleven participants. There are several groups who have expressed interest but have not submitted paperwork. There will be vendors in the back parking lot area starting around 3:00 p.m. The live music will start at 6:00 p.m. and the fireworks will be at 9:10 p.m. over the public works garage on Summer Street. He looks forward to some of the skits that are signed up. He has been working on getting in touch with people to boost participation.

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**Division of Law:** Nothing at this time.

**Division of Engineering:** Nothing at this time.

**Division of W & S Utilities:** Nothing at this time.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Housing Authority Appointment**

Re-appointment of **Robert Dulo** to the **Housing Authority**. It is a five-year term, ending July 31, 2018.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to approve the reappointment. Roll call vote – all ayes.

**New Business:** Nothing at this time.

**Board of Health:** Nothing at this time.

**Miscellaneous:** Nothing at this time.

**Public Comments:**

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, confirmed that the electricity would be purchased from another company and he wanted to know if the lines would still be maintained by PSE&G. He wanted to know if the township would get any incentives for participation?

Mayor Wilkie said the town does not get a benefit; the benefit is the savings to the residents. The utility bill will still have the cost of maintaining the lines from PSE&G. The cost of the actual energy is what will be reduced. There will be one bill and there will be no difference except the lower energy rate.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the township will try to accommodate the people that are on the budget plan. These customers have equalized payments over a 12 month period. There are issues that will need to be worked out. He hopes to serve on the committee and hopes to be very active with this program. The municipality has the opportunity to opt in also to realize energy savings for municipally owned properties. Potentially every single electric meter in the community could be part of it, but these are options.

Mayor Wilkie explained that municipalities and school districts have had the option to do cooperatives for a number of years. Florence Township has been able to beat the price of PSE&G. Administrator Brook was honored for leading the group that put the first cooperative together for the State of NJ on the municipality side.

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Florence as a community is saving now due to those efforts and the school district has probably also been participating in a cooperative.

MOTION of Ostrander; seconded by Lovenduski to close public comment. All ayes.

8:30 PM MOTION by Lovenduski; seconded by Woolston to adjourn.

Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

8:30 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC  
Township Clerk

/aek