

Florence, New Jersey  
April 16, 2014

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

A *Moment of Silence* was held to honor *Police Chief Alvin Scully*.

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 9, 2014; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 12, 2014.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Frank Baldorossi  
Paul Ostrander  
Jerry Sandusky  
David Woolston  
Ted Lovenduski

Also present:

Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

### **MINUTES**

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

- Township Council Closed Sessions – March 19, 2014 and April 2, 2014
- Township Council Regular Sessions – March 5, 2014 and March 19, 2014

### **FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ostrander, to receive and file the Court Administrator, Chief of Police and Clerk Reports for March and the Tax Collector's Annual Report of Taxes Not Collectible. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

**REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE**

None at this time.

**APPLICATIONS**

A. Riverbank Charter School – 1300 Hornberger Avenue, Roebling  
On-Site Merchandise Raffle, May 31, 2014, 5:00pm – 10:00pm

B. Social Affair: Francis W. Robbins American Legion Post 194  
May 10, 2014, 7 pm – 2 am (closing).

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Woolston to approve applications A and B.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Sandusky to close the public comments. All ayes.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-175**

**Florence United Methodist Church  
175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-84**

**A Resolution of the Township Council of the  
Township of Florence Accepting Easements Across  
Block 75, Lot 6 and Block 75, Lot 12 for Purposes  
of Maintaining Water & Sewer Utility Lines**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-85**

**Property Tax Payment Plan for  
Block, 155.33, Lot 5, Qualifier C3305  
33-5 Florence Tollgate Place**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-86**

**A Resolution Authorizing the Township of Florence to  
Execute an Agreement with Burlington County for  
Cooperative Participation in the  
Community Development Act of 1974**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-87**

**Authorizing Reimbursement to Burlington City  
Opposition to Proposed Hazardous Waste Incinerator  
Bristol Township, Pennsylvania**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-88**

**Award the Contract for  
The Boulevard Street Roadway Improvements Projects to  
Richard T. Barrett Paving Company, Inc.  
400 Prospect Street, Trenton, NJ 08618**

Assistant Administrator Sahol said **2014-84** should be pulled because the action will be taken by ordinance later in the meeting. Council President Lovenduski said the Resolution would be pulled from the agenda.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolution No. 2014-175, and Nos. 2014-85 through 2014-88.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Unanimously approved.

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ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-04  
AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN  
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF  
THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)**

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Sandusky to open the meeting to the public regarding Ordinance No. 2014-04. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public hearing.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-04.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

Council Member Sandusky noted *Resolution No. 2014-175* is to mark the *175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Florence United Methodist Church*.

Council Member Woolston said a week ago Sunday was the **Opening Day for Softball**. Everything went well and the fields looked good. There was a lot of help from the volunteers and coaches. Saturday was the **Opening Day for Little League**. The parade went well and it was a good day. He noted that Marty Eckert, Recreation Coordinator, attended both events. He put forth a lot of effort into making sure the fields were ready. He is doing a great job.

Council President Lovenduski thanked the community for all of the work that went into the services for Police Chief Alvin Scully. The community pulled together and no one complained even though there were some inconveniences. Everyone stepped up and did a nice job. There was a lot that went on that day, and it was planned very quickly. It was a very well-run event. He thanked all of the departments for all of their hard work. It showed what kind of man Chief Scully was.

Administrator:

Administrator Brook said the Chief Financial Officer sold Bond Anticipation Notes. They were rolled over and a portion of the principal was paid. They are part of the Open Space Trust Fund.

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There was an unfortunate incident at the boat ramp last night. Thankfully the children involved were safe.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said tomorrow morning the dock would be removed. The sections that were damaged are key components to the balance of the dock. They are the anchor pieces. When the vehicle went onto the floating structure it broke some of the supporting pieces and some of the decking. There is some metal extending from the dock that is a safety hazard. He does not know about the structural integrity of the dock. The manufacturer will come to inspect and determine if it can be repaired. The ramp will be open but there won't be a floating dock.

Administrator Brook said once the investigation is complete, the police will provide a report and the information regarding the person who helped save the people inside the vehicle. Florence Township plans to recognize him/them.

Council Member Sandusky said the sad part is that the Good Samaritan's father passed away this morning. He saved a family and lost his father.

### Assistant Municipal Administrator

Assistant Administrator Sahol thanked Council for the resolution regarding the Community Development Block Grant. The current grant is for Hamilton Avenue sidewalks. There was a preconstruction meeting earlier today and the work will kick off the second week of May. It will take about two or three weeks to complete.

The work on the surface material at the two tot lots has been completed. It was funded with a park grant from Burlington County. The Director of Public Works and Township Engineer need to inspect and certify it. The next round of grant opportunities will be coming soon. He will provide information at a workshop meeting.

He said a memo was in the packet regarding a prior auction item. There was a large piece of equipment that was part of the **Water & Sewer** utility that never had to be used. It was decommissioned completely and is losing value year by year. He suggested the reserve be reduced to get it sold and free up the space. Council was in agreement.

It was the **MOTION** of Woolston, seconded by Sandusky to drop the price of the equipment. All ayes.

Assistant Administrator Sahol and Director of Water & Sewer David Lebak met with Corrosion Control, the contractor doing the work on the water tower. There were some structural integrity issues that were found during the blasting and sanding of the tower. There will be some change orders coming in the future. The corrections have to be made.

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“Florence Township” will be painted bigger and oriented to be seen from the turnpike as a marketing tool. The tower is taking on a different color. The light green color is a rust inhibitor. The final color will be gray.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-05**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CREATE A UTILITY EASEMENT ACROSS  
BLOCK 75, LOTS 6 & 12 FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
INSTALLING AND MAINTAINING MUNICIPAL  
WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE  
(1<sup>st</sup> Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 5/7/14)**

Council President Lovenduski explained that Resolution No. 2014-84 was pulled this evening and this ordinance deals with the easement.

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that the Ordinance formalizes an easement over a utility that is already in place. The property owners have been very accepting of the fact that it is there. Some modifications have been made and others may be made in the future. For Florence Township to do it properly, there should be an easement placed on the map. That is what this Ordinance does. There is no cost to the town, it just formalizes the easement.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Baldorossi to approve Ordinance No. 2014-05.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Ostrander, Sandusky, Woolston, Lovenduski

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

Council Member Sandusky asked about the fill that was used for the tot lots. He noted that the dirt was removed and the shredded tires were installed and the final step was the top. He wanted to know if the top could be repaired if needed?

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that pieces can be cut out and replaced. Council Member Sandusky said it looks nice and it seems safer.

**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:** Nothing at this time.

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

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

**Miscellaneous:** Nothing at this time.

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### **Public Comments: Open to the Public**

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, said when someone calls for an ambulance, insurance pays part of the bill and the rest is the responsibility of the resident. It is a hardship for seniors.

Council President Lovenduski sympathized with Mr. Csik, but said it would need to be addressed by the Fire Commissioners. Council Member Woolston asked if Council could provide a letter of support for Mr. Csik?

Administrator Brook said before the billing was turned over to the Fire District, the municipality would bill and whatever the insurance company pays is what would be accepted. If there was a balance, the billing company would send a notice but did not really go after homeowners or senior citizens if there is a balance.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the Fire Department is obligated to bill for the ambulance service. Administrator Brook said there is an obligation to bill but there is no obligation to pursue the homeowner.

Administrator Brook and Assistant Administrator Sahol will follow up on the issue and find out what the current procedures are.

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, said he believes the issue is that the bill was sent and seniors don't know they don't have to pay, so they panic and think they are obligated to pay it.

John Lauricella, 3 Applegate Drive, said the development on Route 130 has been very successful. He hopes the momentum continues. He inquired if there were any new projects coming in?

Administrator Brook said developers reach out to Florence all the time. The day before, a developer inquired about the hotel site on Route 130 North. He wanted background information, and detailed information on how the township deals with potential developers. Administrator Brook said the township talks to potential developers all the time; sometimes it is successful, sometimes it isn't. There was a property recently purchased on Cedar Lane and a developer has proposed developing both sides of Cedar Lane. Administrator Brook asked the developer what made him interested in coming to Florence Township. The answer was that he looked at what has been happening in the municipality for the past seven years. He knew about all of the recent developments and looked at their time tables and determined they would not be coming here if there weren't good opportunities.

Next Tuesday the Planning Board is going to hear an application from the Valero on Route 130 to demolish its current site and build a 7-11 and gas station. Express Scripts has moved their time table up. They think they will be operational in the late third quarter. That is the beginning of the impetus to drive other improvements along Route 130.

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There is a great deal of interest in other properties also. Florence Township constantly meets with developers and is in competition. The Mayor and Council are kept very informed. The Planning Board is superb in working with the township. We put the best foot forward. It is not just the incentives; it is moving the process along and working with developers. Our town is willing to cooperate and that word spreads.

Bob Fitzpatrick, 204 Wilbur Henry Drive, said he is glad the township passed Resolution 2014-87 for fighting the hazardous waste incinerator. He wanted to correct something he said at an earlier meeting. He had said he smelled methane gas. He thinks now it is ammonia gas and hydrogen sulfide that he smells. It is a hazard. He wanted to bring it to the attention of Mayor and Council. He asked if Waste Management could be fined if they are a nuisance? He spoke to Dave Watts from Waste Management for an extended period of time about what is being done and Mr. Watts told him what is being done by Waste Management to contain the odors.

It was the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Woolston to close the public comment. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Council President Lovenduski said next weekend is the **Relay for Life** at the High School. It is also the **Florence United Methodist Church's 175 Anniversary** dinner.

**May 2** is the **Pediatric Stroke Awareness** fundraiser at the Main Street Community Center. Council Member Baldorossi said tickets are still available. It is for adults and children and many activities are planned.

The annual *H. Kenneth Wilkie Memorial River's Edge Park Easter Egg Hunt* is this **Saturday at 10:00 a.m.**

The **National Day of Prayer** is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. on May 1**, in front of the Municipal Building.

8:35 PM MOTION by Ostrander; seconded by Woolston to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

8:35 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC  
Township Clerk

/aek