

Florence, New Jersey
November 4, 2015

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.

A moment of silence was held to honor **Richard Lotter**, and active member of the community and long-time volunteer who most recently served on the Environmental Commission, who passed away last week.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 8, 2015; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 11, 2015. It was also provided to the now defunct Register News for information and sent to the Trenton Times on May 21, 2015.

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 Township Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Attorney; James E. Biegen, Township Engineer; 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. Unanimous approval.

- Township Council Regular Session – September 16, 2015
- Township Council Closed Session – October 21, 2015

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Ostrander; seconded by Lovenduski 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. Unanimous approval.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE None at this time.

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APPLICATIONS:

- A. On-Premise Merchandise Raffle – Deborah Hospital Foundation
December 11, 2015, Opre-Larson VFW Post 8838, 10th Avenue, Roebing

- B. Raffle: Riverfront School PTO, March 5, 2016
50/50: Riverfront School PTO, March 5, 2016

Council President Sandusky said new to the agenda this evening was an application for an **Off-Premise 50/50**, December 4, 2015 for the **Florence High School Band Boosters**.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi; seconded by Woolston to approve all of the applications.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The meeting was opened to the public at this time.

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, congratulated those who won the recent election. He also wanted to congratulate his wife, who voted while on crutches. It was an effort on her part and he admired her tenacity.

It was the MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Lovenduski to close the public comments. Roll call vote - all ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-234
Awarding Administrative Services Contract, Tax Office
to J.H. Services, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-235
Transferring Certain 2015 Budget Appropriations

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-236
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

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RESOLUTION NO. 2015-237

**Resolution Approving Acceptance and Dedication of a
Roadway from the New Jersey Turnpike Authority for
Municipal Purposes**

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolution Nos. 2015-234 through 2015-237.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-27

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 134 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE
TO ESTABLISH PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON A PORTION OF PEACE STREET
AND RIVERSIDE AVENUE AND TO REPEAL A PRIOR ORDINANCE
THAT ESTABLISHED PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON A PORTION OF
RIVERSIDE AVENUE**

(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 12/2/15)

It was the Motion of Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi, to approve Ordinance No. 2015-27 and set the public hearing and adoption for December 2, 2015.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-28

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING
CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE I OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
ESTABLISHING AND FIXING OVERTIME COMPENSATION RATES FOR
SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS UNDER THE
CONTROL AND JURISDICTION OF THE
FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CHIEF OF POLICE**

(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 12/2/15)

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to approve Ordinance No. 2015-28 and set the public hearing an adoption for December 2, 2015.

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-29

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AMENDING
CHAPTER 64, ARTICLE I OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
CREATING THE POSITIONS OF CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TRAINEE
WITHIN THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP
CONSTRUCTION ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 12/2/15)**

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to approve Ordinance No. 2015-29 and set the public hearing and adoption for December 2, 2015.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers:

Council Member Baldorossi congratulated Mayor Wilkie, Council Member Lovenduski and Council Member Ostrander on the results of the recent election. They all thanked Council Member Baldorossi.

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie again expressed his condolences for Mr. Lotter. Unfortunately, Mr. Lotter had not been able to attend **Environmental Commission** meetings recently due to his illness. There are other vacancies on the Commission also. He feels the need at this point to make an appointment. He presented the name of **Richard Brown, Jr.**, of West Fifth Street. He is a retired State Trooper. Hopefully he will be able to attend the meeting tomorrow night so there will be a quorum. He will actively solicit any recommendations to fill the two alternate positions.

The next day he will be meeting with the **Boy Scouts** at the **Friday property**. They would like to tour it. He extended an invitation to anyone who wanted to attend.

Council President Sandusky made arrangements with the **new pet supply store** in Roebing for a **ribbon cutting** at 12:00pm on Saturday.

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On Sunday, **St. Stephen's Church** will be holding a **Veteran's Day Service** to honor veterans and hosting a breakfast immediately following. **November 11 is Veteran's Day**. Post 194 will be holding a service at Broad and Front Streets at the Eagle Monument. At 11:30 at the Municipal Building at the Veteran's Monument there will be a Florence Township celebration. Dick Glass, who is the last surviving member of the committee that raised the funds for the monument, will be placing the wreath. Mayor Wilkie will have a few remarks and pay tribute to **Mayor George Samson**, who for many years was very involved with the Veteran's Day tribute along with Clerk Weiler.

There will not be another Township Council meeting until December. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

He noted that Clerk Weiler distributed the Reorganization Draft Packet. There is a training session that is sponsored by the insurance fund. This year it is on a Tuesday night instead of a Wednesday. He suggested the council meeting for March 2 be cancelled and Council instead attend the training session on March 1. The training is good for council and attendance provides a reduction in the fee to the insurance fund because the town is being proactive.

It was the MOTION of Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi to cancel the March 2 meeting and attend the training session on March 1. Roll call vote - all ayes.

Administrator

Administrator Brook said Gres Paving has been working on landscaping at Legacy. Hopefully, they will begin on the monuments the end of this week or early next week. This is a positive sign. It has been a long and arduous process, especially for the residents there.

There is a water aerator that treats the water supply before it goes to the public. Last week there was a gaping hole discovered inside the aerator. It was repaired last weekend. The aerator is very old. Florence Township met with the Water & Sewer Engineer, Russell Trice, and it is working properly and will last for another few months. Florence Township is in the process of talking about how to improve and replace that unit and probably, also, the clear well. He anticipates he will be coming back with a proposal to replace it. It should then be good for thirty years or longer. He thanked Water & Sewer Director David Lebak and his crew. It was not an easy job and it is a very important part of the potable water supply.

Marty Eckert, Recreation Coordinator, met with the representatives from the **Roebing Museum** earlier today. Council previously had agreed to let them hold a **carnival on Nykita Field**. It will be held next June 16-June 19. There are ongoing discussions about their needs, what the anticipated costs would be, police coverage and all the usual details. It is also important to minimize the impact to the homeowners in the area. The discussions are ongoing and they do realize it is a lengthy planning process. He appreciated Mr. Eckert setting up the meeting. The police were there, along with Director of Public Works, Richard Pendle, and several representatives of the museum.

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Mayor Wilkie asked about the lighting. He speculated there would be portable lights brought in. Administrator Brook said a plus is that the staff of the carnival will be housed at the Roebbling Museum property. There will be discussions regarding: the layout, where the generators would go, keeping the impact minimal on residents, traffic control and other safety issues. There will be another report in a few months.

Council President Sandusky said last Friday there was a Halloween parade at Roebbling School and there were cars parked all over. He would like it mentioned at the meetings with the Roebbling Museum that the township-owned parcel next to Roebbling School could be used for parking. All agreed that would be a good idea.

Mayor Wilkie noted that there is always a parking problem whenever there is an event at Roebbling School. He suggested the Township Engineer look at the parcel and see if there is a way to make it a safe parking area to help ease the parking issues. Not a parking lot, but a safe place for the cars to park.

Administrator Brook said the Roebbling Museum has already reached out to the school about using its parking lot. Florence Township said it would purchase safety products to make crossing Hornberger Avenue easier. The crosswalks would also be repainted. The township will do everything it can to make it safer. Mayor Wilkie said in addition to this event, he would like the open space parcel to be available to the school when there are events.

Administrator Brook said the Liberty project is ongoing and going through the same phases as Subaru, Destination Maternity, and other projects of this size. There is a massive amount of concrete that needs to be brought in. They will be pouring three nights a week. It is extremely difficult to pour on back to back nights. There are approximately fourteen pours to do and they have been fortunate with the weather. They would like to wrap it up before December, but they are cognizant that they can't disrupt the neighbors in the area around Thanksgiving.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

Florence Township received a map and information from Burlington County regarding the **Farmland Preservation Program**. Burlington County has parcels that have been targeted on their list for quite some time. There are six of them. They are surrounding and bordering the landfill area. At the same time there are some parcels that the municipality has been interested in adding to the list over the last few years. There is one on Bustleton Road, one on Burlington-Columbus Road and possibly one on Old York Road. Mayor Wilkie said the Carty property owner wanted residential and was denied. Then he wanted to build an office park. It is an agricultural zone and those are not options Florence Township wants to see there. Mayor Wilkie suggested that be labeled as a parcel to be acquired as farmland. He knows it is not something the township can force the property owner to do; they must agree to it. The response was that the soils are not good for perking but it is lucrative for him. Burlington County said it is excellent soil for farming but questionable for septic suitability.

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Mayor Wilkie said the old sod farm adjacent to Burlington Township would be another parcel to look into. The third property is all woods, he believed, but wasn't very familiar with it. Assistant Administrator Sahol said it is the parcel directly across from Fountain Boulevard and it backs up to another municipal property; the park that fronts on Bustleton Road. It doesn't have a large amount of tillable acreage. Most of the area has reverted to woods but that doesn't mean it can't be converted back. Mayor Wilkie said Burlington County was reluctant to target these parcels, but he thinks the township should ask for reconsideration for the Carty property and the old sod farm. All were in agreement.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said there were two young men from the community who were involved in a very bad accident. The boys attend Notre Dame High School. One is still in the hospital in very serious condition. Due to his injuries, he lost massive amounts of blood. The parent group at Notre Dame High School is organizing a blood drive. They reached out to the Florence community to see if a site for the drive could be here. He is trying to find a day to have it at the Municipal Building. He wanted to make everyone aware. The young man is in critical condition, he had multiple injuries and some organs had to be removed. Over 100 units of blood had to be used. There will be more information on the **blood drive** coming soon. It will be advertised once the details are confirmed.

Division of Engineering

Engineer Biegen said regarding the **Roads Project and Boulevard**, it appears the contractor has addressed most of the curbing and paving issues. He will check it when it is done.

The Bike Path has a few small items that need to be addressed. Engineer Biegen is also inspecting Second Street and Main Street next week.

Council President Sandusky said there are oil stains on the new bike path. He wanted to know if it was something that could be taken care of? Engineer Biegen said it will be taken care of. There is also the issue of some kind of vegetation trying to push up through the pavement. It is being addressed.

Unfinished Business

Council President Sandusky said he knows Florence Township is trying to work with the used car lot on Route 130. He passes it on numerous occasions. It looks like a junk yard in the back and he doesn't think any cars have ever moved. He asked if there was any way the township could limit the amount of cars on the site? Administrator Brook said this is something that would need to be researched, not only for this property. It might be a zoning issue. Sometimes used car lots have a tendency to deteriorate. The Construction Code Official has already cited the property and will probably take them to court. The owner has not lived up to what was promised. He requested the Township Attorney provide a legal opinion for a future meeting.

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New Business

Clerk Weiler said the **Reorganization Packet** was distributed. Council will review the appointments for next year and the resolutions.

Mayor Wilkie said Council President Sandusky suggested having the **Reorganization Meeting at Duffy**. It is handicapped accessible. He asked if Council was in agreement to talk to MEND about holding the meeting there. All were in agreement to seek permission to hold the meeting at Duffy.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the **MOTION** of Woolston; seconded by Ostrander to close the public portion of the meeting. Roll call vote – all ayes. Unanimous approval.

ADJOURNMENT

8:25 PM **MOTION** of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy M. Weiler, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk
/aek