

Florence, New Jersey
June 1, 2016

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

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Trenton Times for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 7th, 2016; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 3rd, 2016 and January 10th 2016.

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Jerry Sandusky, David Woolston, Paul Ostrander
(Ted Lovenduski was absent due to a family commitment.)

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

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

- Township Council Executive Session – April 13, 2016
- Township Council Closed Session – May 18, 2016

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Sandusky, Woolston, Ostrander

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lovenduski

Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE None at this time.

APPLICATIONS:

A. Block Party: September 10, 2016, Andrews Drive
Rain Date September 11, 2016

B. On-Premise Merchandise Raffle: FTMHS Band Boosters
June 16, 2016-June 19, 2016, Niykita Field, Carnival

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/1/16

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi; seconded by Sandusky to approve Applications A and B.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Sandusky, Woolston, Ostrander

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lovenduski

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Bunnick, 12 Seventh Avenue, said he is a lifelong resident of Roebing. He was present to discuss parking relief for St. Mary's Church. He had presented a petition the previous day that was provided to the Mayor and Council. The church was established November 17, 1912 and it still viable to this day. The adoption of application ZB#2015-16, the renovation of Sandor's Pizza located at 115 Alden Avenue, will result in more vehicles parking on the street. The property is being converted into four apartments. Parking would be restricted for church parishioners. Many of them are aging and have trouble walking long distances. He has seen more and more apartments on Alden Avenue. The four new apartments aren't there yet and there is already a parking problem. Parishioners already have to park all the way down the hill by Szuc's.

At this time, he provided an updated copy of the petition that included more signatures. Mr. Bunnick said his parish would like parking signs across the street to restrict parking to just parishioners. He requested eight spots. The signs would be designated for parishioners only from 7:30am to Noon on Sundays. He was unhappy it got to this point but it is necessary because some people just don't have respect for other people's space. Presently there is a sign in front of the church designated for no parking on Sundays from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is a drop off spot for parishioners entering the church. The sign for this spot would be changed to the same time as the other signs.

Most of the houses on Alden Avenue are now apartments. With the increase of vehicles on the street it is getting harder and harder to park. He wants the parishioners to be able to park in front of the church on Sundays. It would only be for a few hours once a week. It would help the parishioners who are unable to walk long distances. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their attention and said any help would be appreciated.

Council Member Sandusky said he didn't think it was an outrageous request. His only concern was the fact that all of the spots were across the street. He suggested asking for some spots in front of the church. Mr. Bunnick said whatever relief that can be provided would be appreciated.

Council Member Sandusky said if something were put into place, there would need to be decals for cars that could use the parking spots. It would be necessary for the police to know what cars were authorized to be there.

Cornel Rebeles, 640 Hamilton Avenue, agreed the decals would be needed. He said the church would distribute the decals to its members.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

Council Vice President Ostrander suggested the Chief of Police review the request and make a recommendation. Mayor Wilkie said it would need to be done by ordinance and that would include a review from the Chief of Police. He hoped to have a draft available in two weeks.

Administrator Brook said he thought the request was reasonable. Now the question is how it can be done legally. The township attorney will also review and make recommendations.

Mr. Bunnick said 160 Alden Avenue, next to the church, has a driveway. They use the driveway. There is one resident there that parks on the street but they are good neighbors. No one ever parks by the Slovak Club and across the street is all empty. He thinks the parking should be from there to the church's property line. Council Member Sandusky said if it can be done legally, it will be. The administration and police will work together to form the legislation and will let the church know the results.

Administrator Brook said the main thing is to make sure there is a legal way to fill the request.

Mr. Rebeles asked if any other organizations had ever made a similar request to Council? Administrator Brook said this had not been requested before. Considering the parking and what happens during church services, it is not an unreasonable request.

Council Member Sandusky said there hasn't been a request like this but additional parking has been provided by the township in the Village of Roebing with the creation of parking lots. They were provided to relieve some of the parking problems.

Mr. Bunnick thanked the Mayor and Council for their help.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, it was the motion of Sandusky and seconded by Woolston to close the public comments. Roll call vote - all ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-125
Approve Alcoholic Beverage Control License
Person to Person Transfer
Plenary Retail Consumption License
From Wesley's Pub, Inc. to Pipa Holding, LLC
License No. 0315-33-002-005

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-126
Authorizing Approval of 2016-2017
Renewal of Club Licenses
(American Slovak, American Legion Post 194, VFW Post 8838 & American Legion Post 39)

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-127
Authorize Approval of Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License for 2016-2017
Mary E. Paglione Exec. of Estate of Samuel O. Paglione
as Per Special Ruling

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-128
Authorizing Approval of 2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses
(Liquor Barn, Florence Liquors & Town Liquor Store)

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-129
Authorizing Approval of 2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses
(Bungs, Glory Days, Nook's Pourhouse)

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-130
Authorizing Approval of 2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
F & A, Inc., t/a Downtown Tavern, Holder of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
No. 0315-33-007-002
With Conditions and Special Ruling

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-131
Resolution to Remove Property from Tax Sale

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-132
Authorizing Approval with Conditions of
2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
River Rock Bar & Grille, LLC
License No. 0315-33-008-004

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-133
Acknowledge Filing of 2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
(Fine Food and Spirits, Inc.)

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-134
Authorizing Approval of 2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
Dr. Lou's Place, LLC
With Conditions**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-135
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:-87
Chapter 159, P.L. 1948
(Clean Communities Grant)**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-136
Approve Request to Release
Performance Bond for
Legacy at Meadowcroft**

Note: Conditioned upon posting a Maintenance Bond & payment of any escrow funds due

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-137
Resolution Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of
Trinity United Methodist Church**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-138
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.A. 40A:4-87
(Recreation Contribution – Baseball)**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-139
Authorizing Approval of 2016-2017 Renewal of
Plenary Retail Consumption License
with Special Ruling
(Vito in Florence)**

Clerk Weiler explained that Resolution No. 2016-125 was listed on the agenda as being “held” but the required paperwork was provided and everything was now in order. Resolution No. 2016-134 had been held pending the license holder’s filing with the State but the owner provided proof that he did file with the State of NJ so it is okay to approve. Resolution No. 2016-139 was “held” on the agenda but again the required paperwork was received, so it too can be voted on this evening.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

Council Member Sandusky noted that the Pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church was in attendance. He requested Resolution No. 2016-137 be held to be read into the record.

It was the Motion of Sandusky and seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolution Nos. 2016-125 through 2016-136 and Resolution Nos. 2016-138 through Resolution No. 2016-139.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

It was the Motion of Sandusky; seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolution No. 2016-137.

At this time Mayor Wilkie read **Resolution No. 2016-137** celebrating the **100th Anniversary of Trinity United Methodist Church.**

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2016-18
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE
AMENDING CHAPTER 134 OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE TO
ESTABLISH PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON PORTIONS OF
TENTH AVENUE AND NINTH AVENUE
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 6/15/16)**

Mayor Wilkie said Assistant Administrator Sahol heard concerns from some of the residents in this area. Assistant Administrator Sahol said with the opening of the new park at the end of the avenues in Roebbling there has been some problems with people parking wherever they can. Cars have been parking in the cul-de-sacs on these two streets and it has been making it difficult for people that drive on the street or live on the street to leave. This ordinance will restrict the parking in the cul-de-sac area and allow parallel parking on the curb lines.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi; seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance 2016-18 and set the public hearing and adoption for June 15, 2016.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers:

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie said this past **Memorial Day Weekend** there were two very nice events in the community. On Sunday, American Legion Post 194 continued its tradition of going to every cemetery in the community and paying their respects. The sun was out and it was quite warm. On Monday at 10:00am American Legion Post 39 held a service that was open to the public. They then went with the Boy Scouts to the cemeteries and monuments in the community.

This Saturday is the **Mayor's Cup Softball Tournament** 9:00 a.m. at Muchowski Field. The first game will be the Township Workers team versus the Fire Department. The Township team has won the tournament the last two years and is looking for a "threepeat." He explained there are four teams, police, fire, school district and township employees.

There is going to be a **Catfish Tournament** on June 11 at the boat docks for local third graders, hosted by the Yacht Club.

The **Roebling Museum** will be bringing back the **carnival**. It is being held from June 16th through the 19th at Nyikita Field in Roebling. It is a combination of many organizations in the community but the museum is in the forefront and the township appreciates that. It is something that everyone is looking forward to. It may be a little different than what people may have been used to. Holy Assumption held the carnival for many years. He expects that it will be very nice.

July 9th is the annual **Patriotic Day Celebration**. The flag raising ceremony will be at the memorial at Fifth and Oak Streets. This is the **25th anniversary of the memorial**. It was dedicated on December 7th, 1991. The parade will proceed down Fifth Street to Olive Street then left onto Delaware Avenue to Broad Street. There will be fireworks in the evening. He hoped everyone would be able to come out and enjoy.

There was a nice article about Florence in the Philadelphia Inquirer on Sunday. A reporter spent time in town with Mayor Wilkie and Administrator Brook. Mayor Wilkie said he believes the township found a friend in the reporter and hopefully, the community will receive additional positive coverage in the future.

Township Administrator

Administrator Brook said the resident at 333 West Fourth Street reached out to the township for a payment plan for their utility charges. There wasn't time to prepare a resolution for this meeting. He would need a motion this evening from Council to authorize a payment plan for 333 West Fourth Street that would run from June 10, 2016 until June 10, of 2017. The motion would authorize the payment plan for the utility charges and would keep the property out of Tax Sale. The township tries to work with homeowners. A resolution would be prepared for the June 15th meeting to memorialize the actions from tonight.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

It was the Motion of Baldorossi; seconded by Woolston to authorize a utilities **payment plan for 333 West Fourth Street.**

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Sandusky, Woolston, Ostrander

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lovenduski

Motion carried.

Assistant Municipal Administrator

Assistant Administrator Sahol said every year the township mails a **Consumer Confidence Report**. It is the water analysis that the State of New Jersey requires the township to send. He has been having conversations with the Director of Water & Sewer, David Lebak, about different mechanisms the municipality could use to get the information into the hands of the public. Traditionally the township has been mailing a large brochure that is several thousand pieces. The state also permits a postcard mailing providing a website address that people can go to and access the report. The report is very lengthy. People would also have the opportunity to call and have one sent to them if they want a hard copy of the report. He wanted to see if the governing body had any concerns. That is the route he thinks would be best for the township. It would be posted on the township website with links and it would also be on the township Facebook page. The postcards would go out next month. Council was in agreement to mail postcards.

The Riverbank Drive tot lot has been rehabilitated with the new fall-safe material. RD Wood Park is on day two of a three day project with the new material. It looks great and there have been really nice comments. These two along with Marter Park were the last three parks in the township to need the material. It was paid for with a **grant from Burlington County for park redevelopment.**

The lights at the dock area have been demolished and the new concrete forms are in place. The new **highly energy efficient lighting** is being installed next week. The project is well underway.

The **Road Program** has begun. Some work has begun on the south side of Hornberger Avenue, the non-pedestrian side where there aren't a lot of school children. The contractor has moved off Hornberger Avenue and is now on Ninth and Tenth Avenues. The goal is to get that area completely finished in anticipation of the carnival. Since Hornberger Avenue was one of the grants the township received, he wanted to let the public know that the township received a second grant. Instead of just from Delaware Avenue to Parish Lane, the township will be able to make it to at least Eighth Avenue and possibly to Seventh Avenue. He will be providing updates as the work progresses and will keep everyone informed when work starts on the various streets in the township.

The **Community Development Block Grant** project that started about three weeks ago is completed. There were sidewalks installed on Hamilton Avenue and a really nice rehabilitation of sidewalks on Railroad Avenue. Amboy Avenue was done a couple years ago, so that area has been addressed.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 6/01/16

Three and a half hours after it was posted to Facebook, there were nearly four thousand people commenting on the announcement of the first **Farmer's Market**. It will be held at Nyikita Field at the newly expanded parking area behind the back stop. The first day of the market is June 23. Right now there are four farmers committed and there is a fifth who has expressed some interest. It will be held every Thursday from 3:00pm-7:00pm. Hopefully it will continue to grow. Mayor Wilkie and Council commended the efforts of Assistant Administrator Sahol for creating the farmers market.

New Business None at this time.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Reverend McWilliam Colon, 1285 Hornberger Avenue, thanked the Mayor and Council for the resolution. He invited them to the church's open house scheduled for June 11th at 2:00pm. Mayor Wilkie confirmed he would be attending. Rev. Colon said it would be nice to see some Council Members and other members of the community attend.

Julia Foulks, 337 West Second Street, thanked everyone for the farmer's market that is going to be held in town. It means a lot to the seniors.

It was the Motion of Woolston and seconded by Sandusky to close the public comments. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:36 PM MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Sandusky to adjourn to closed session. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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