

Florence, New Jersey
October 1, 2003

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

The Township Clerk read the following statement: "Notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times on January 5, 2003 and given to the Register News for information. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board."

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

John Hofflinger, President
Frank Baldorossi
John Fratinardo
Bruce Garganio
Jerry Sandusky

Also present:

Michael Muchowski, Mayor; Richard Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William Kearns, Township Solicitor; Joy Weiler, Township Clerk

PRESENTATION: PATRICIA J. BEAHM – RETIREMENT

In honor of Patricia J. Beahm's retirement after 23 years of service, Mayor and Council presented her with flowers and a clock. Mayor, Council and Administrator Brook stated that it has been a pleasure working with her and wished her well. Ms. Beahm thanked Mayor, Council, Administrator Brook and co-workers.

Valerie Sweeney, co-worker, on behalf of fellow employees presented Mrs. Beahm with a photo album of pictures. A reception for Mrs. Beahm immediately followed.

Recess: A motion for a brief recess was approved.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: REPORT 9/23/03 TORNADO

Phillip Drangula, Emergency Management Coordinator, stated that the storm on the morning of 9/23/03 was officially declared a tornado. He reviewed the path of the storm and the damage it left behind. He discussed financial aid that may become available. Mayor Muchowski commended all departments and people involved after the storm; everyone worked very well together.

MINUTES

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

Regular Session
Closed Session

September 3, 2003
September 3, 2003 and September 17, 2003

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/01/03

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Sandusky made a MOTION; seconded by Fratinardo to approve the Treasurer's Bill List. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nick DiLullo, 416 E. Fourth Street, questioned Resolution No. 2003-144. Mayor Muchowski explained that the Resolution awards the contract for the construction of a new public works facility and the rehabilitation of the existing public works building.

Mr. DiLullo asked where the new senior center will be located? Council President Hofflinger stated that a definite location has not been decided on, but it may be near the Sterling House on Broad Street. Mr. DiLullo feels that the Senior Center should be located in the Roebling Fire House. He believes that is a convenient location. Council explained that the Township does not own the Fire House. Discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of different locations.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, MOTION by Garganio; seconded by Fratinardo to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-144

**AWARD CONTRACT FOR NEW PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY AND
REHABILITATION OF EXISTING PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
TO RMS CONSTRUCTION
1955 DUTCH MILL ROAD, FRANKLINVILLE, NJ 08322**

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-166

**REFUND PARK PERMIT FEE
CANCELLATION DUE TO STORM DAMAGE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-167

**AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER
ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND
SOLICIT BIDS FOR INSTALLATION OF
WATER MAIN ON SECOND AVENUE
FROM HORNBERGER AVENUE TO MAIN STREET**

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-168

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON
MAKING APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD AND FURTHER
REQUESTING THAT A NON-CONFORMING MATURITY SCHEDULE BE
APPROVED**

RESOLUTION 2003-169

**APPOINTING REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS
Valerie Sweeney**

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-170

AMEND 2003 CAPITAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-171

**AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AND CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORP.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-172

REFUND TAX OVERPAYMENTS

RESOLUTION #2003-173

A RESOLUTION CANCELING INTEREST

Joy Weiler, Township Clerk, advised Mayor and Council that Resolution No. 2003-144 has been amended to include the base bid, alternate #1 and alternate #3 at a total of \$2,304,500.

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky that Resolutions 2003-144 and 2003-166 through 2003-173 be adopted.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinardo, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2003-21
(2nd Reading)**

A BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$600,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$570,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATIONS; AND MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinaro to approve Ordinance No. 2003-21 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Hofflinger opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinaro to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinaro, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2003-26
(2nd Reading)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING \$100,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWNSHIP WATER WELL NUMBER 5

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinaro to approve Ordinance No. 2003-26 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Hofflinger opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nothing at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/01/03

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinardo to close the public hearing.
All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Council President Hofflinger asked Administrator Brook to explain this Ordinance.
Administrator Brook explained that this is a fully funded Ordinance, an old Ordinance of approximately \$150,00 was taken and \$100,000 reappropriated for improvements to the well and \$50,000 canceled to surplus. Some of the funds can also be utilized for the installation of a storm water interceptor to protect the well during the construction of the public works facility.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinardo, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2003-27
(2nd Reading)**

A BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO BROAD STREET AND ACORN COURT; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$45,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$42,750 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATIONS; AND MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Fratinardo to approve Ordinance No. 2003-27 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Hofflinger opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nick DiLullo, 416 E. Fourth Street, questioned Ordinance No. 2003-27. Administrator Brook explained this Ordinance appropriates the funds to make emergency repairs to a section of storm drainage pipe that has collapsed.

It was on the MOTION of Fratinardo, seconded by Hofflinger to close the public hearing.
All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinardo, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2003-28
(2nd Reading)**

A BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$265,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$251,750 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATIONS; AND MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinaro to approve Ordinance No. 2003-28 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Hofflinger opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Terri Cranmer, Route 130, asked what equipment is being purchased? Administrator Brook stated that there are two pieces of equipment, a roll off dumpster and an articulated loader. Discussion followed regarding the money the Township saves each year by having these pieces of equipment since private contractors do not have to be hired.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinaro to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinaro, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2003-29
(2nd Reading)**

A BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$350,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$332,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATIONS; AND MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinaro to approve Ordinance No. 2003-29 on second reading for adoption.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/01/03

Public Comment

Council President Hofflinger opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Nick DiLullo, 416 E. Fourth Street, asked where the Senior/ Community Center was going to be located. Council President Hofflinger stated that a final decision has not been made. Mayor Muchowski explained that this Ordinance appropriates some of the funding for the project.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Fratinardo to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinardo, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Council Member Sandusky commended Mr. Drangula for the report he gave this evening. He asked if notices will be sent to the residents that suffered damage from the storm notifying them that there may be funds available. Mr. Drangula stated that he will be working with Assistant Administrator Sahol to keep the residents up to date.

Mayor Muchowski

- Nothing at this time.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook thanked Mr. Drangula, Assistant Administrator Sahol, the County Highway Department and everyone else involved with the cleanup after the storm.
- Administrator Brook explained now that Ordinance No. 2003-28, Public Works equipment, has been adopted a Resolution authorizing bids and specifications to be prepared must be passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-174

**AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR
TO PREPARE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND OBTAIN BIDS
FOR PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT**

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky that Resolution 2003-174 be adopted.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/01/03

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Fratinardo, Garganio, Sandusky, Hofflinger
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

- Administrator Brook stated that Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, will be inspecting the riverbank along Riverview Drive and River Bank Drive to assess the damage and to see if the Township will be eligible for federal funding. Mr. Guzzi stated that he will have a report on the damage next week.

Assistant Administrator

- Assistant Administrator Sahol stated he has begun a letter writing campaign to State representatives and has also been contacted by some State representatives regarding grant and funding opportunities.
- Assistant Administrator Sahol reported that the Township is opting to join the County Electrical Co-operative, which will save money in the electric utility cost.

Council President Hofflinger thanked Assistant Administrator Sahol for all that he does.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this.

Township Engineer

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, stated he received quotes for replacing sidewalks in front of the Front Street businesses. The low quote was below the bid threshold. Mayor Muchowski will meet with the business owners to review the plan and the estimates.
- Mr. Guzzi stated that the quotes he has received for Maple Avenue and Bennett Street are above the bid threshold. He is waiting for additional quotes and will report back next week.

Council Member Garganio asked Mr. Guzzi for an estimate to repair the basketball courts. He also asked for an estimate for a new basketball court. Lights on the recreation fields were discussed.

Council Member Hofflinger questioned the work on Main Street. Mr. Guzzi stated that the contractor is working on punchlist items.

Council Member Garganio stated that home plate and the pitching mound on the Babe Ruth field is taking on a lot of water. Mr. Guzzi will look at.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session: 10/01/03

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

9:35 PM MOTION by Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn to Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

9:35 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab