

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION

December 13, 2006

8:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Fratinardo called the meeting to order. President Fratinardo led the Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

The Township Clerk read the Opening 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 8, 2006; given to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board.

ROLL CALL

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Bruce Garganio, Elizabeth Ryan, Jerry Sandusky, John Fratinardo

Also Present: Mayor Michael Muchowski; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; Russell Trice, Township Water and Sewer Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy Weiler, Township Clerk

HONORING JUDGE ROGER P. MAIN ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mayor Michael Muchowski stated that it was his privilege to be able to honor Judge Roger P. Main on his retirement. He expressed his respect and appreciation to Judge Main for protecting the integrity of the Florence Township Municipal Court throughout his tenure. On behalf of himself and Council he presented Judge Main with a clock/plaque as a tribute to and in honor of his retirement.

Judge Main stated that it has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with the Mayor, Council and Administration. He praised the work of the Police Department for whom he has a tremendous respect. He also praised Darlene Taylor, Court Administrator; he stated that he holds her in high regard. Judge Main stated that Ms. Taylor is the backbone of the Court Department and makes him look good. He expressed appreciation for the employees of the Court Department who deal with the day-to-day happenings. Judge Main stated that it has been a pleasure and a privilege working in Florence Township.

Administrator Brook praised Judge Main's integrity and thanked him for his service to the municipality.

Chief Gordon Dawson shared some of his experiences with Judge Main. He has a strong respect for him and has worked hard to gain his respect. He expressed his appreciation to Judge Main.

Captain Joe Gadbois stated that he will miss Judge Main immensely and recalled some of his fondest memories.

Many Florence Township Police Officers were in attendance and shook Judge Main's hand and wished him well.

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Darlene Taylor, Court Administrator, has worked with Judge for many years; he is the last of an era and will be missed. She thanked Judge Main for his kind words.

RECESS: 8:15PM, Council President Fratinardo announced that there are refreshments in the front conference room.

MEETING RESUMED: 8:30PM

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nothing at this time.

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

TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER ENGINEER

Greenbriar: Sections 1 – 5, Punch List Status Report

Russell Trice, Township Water and Sewer Engineer, reported that they have completed a majority of the punch list items. After inspecting, there are some field punch list items left to complete. Mayor Muchowski asked if any of the items left are in conflict with the paving? Mr. Trice stated that the items that would have been in conflict with paving have been taken care of. Council President Fratinardo asked if the work affects the Bonds? Mr. Trice stated that the Bonds cannot be released until the work is complete. He stated that he has not received as-built drawings for Water or Sewer. No formal request for release of the Bonds has been received.

Update: Well No. 6

Mr. Trice is basically ready to advertise the job for bids. Dave Lebak, Water and Sewer Superintendent, still has a few questions for Mr. Trice to address. Should be able to advertise and accept bids in January.

Update: Hydrogeologic Report

Mr. Trice stated that he has not heard back from NJDEP yet.

Griffin Pipe's Well

Council Member Garganio expressed concern regarding the security of Griffin Pipe's well behind the new park. Their well goes down into the township's well field and he is worried about contamination. He asked if, by Ordinance, they could be required to secure their wells? Mr. Trice can bring it up to DEP. Administrator Brook does not believe the State is very strong when it comes to security of well sites. They are more concerned about contamination. Most of what the township has done in regards to security has been on its own. Council President Fratinardo suggested that Griffin Pipe be called and asked to install a fence on their own. Administrator Brook will speak with Mr. Lebak to get his input on what security measures would be appropriate and report back. It is an opportune time to approach Griffin Pipe since they will be bringing a Treatment Works Application before Council.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Greenbriar: Site Improvements – Status Report

Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reported that there are a number of site improvements that remain. He has been working with the developer to get as much as possible done by the end of the year. The top asphalt paving is done on almost all of the roads.

Safe Streets to Schools Grant

Mr. Guzzi reported that the Safe Streets to Schools Grant application has been prepared. He has a Resolution with him this evening that authorizes filing the application and signing the agreement by the Mayor, if Council wishes to act on. It can be held until next week but the application must be filed by the end of the year. The sidewalks are listed on Schedule “A”.

Road Program 2007

Mr. Guzzi reported that the township received \$130,000 grant for the road program for next year. The application included five (5) different portions of road totaling approximately \$400,000. Not all of the roads on the application have to be done. Mayor Muchowski asked Mr. Guzzi the priority order. Mr. Guzzi stated that Baird Drive and Schisler Drive are in bad shape. He will put the list in order of condition. There is time to think the project out; the earlier a decision is made there is a better chance to get the work done over the summer opposed to running into the fall. Mayor Muchowski requested that Assistant Administrator Sahol take pictures. Mayor Muchowski will meet with Administrator Brook and look over from a budget and condition standpoint and report back in January.

New Public Works Facility: Current Estimate No. 21 (Final) & Change Order No. 4

Mr. Guzzi reviewed and recommends Current Estimate No. 21 and Change Order No. 4. He left sufficient time go by to make sure nothing has popped up before making the final payment. The Change Order is a deduction. Mayor Muchowski questioned the status of the windows and doors. Mr. Guzzi stated that they have been redone and have not leaked in the past several months. There is a factory warranty for the windows plus a two-year Maintenance Bond. Council Member Garganio asked how much money is left on the Bond? Administrator Brook will look up and email Mayor and Council tomorrow. A Resolution will be prepared for next week’s meeting.

Park Program: Current Estimate No. 5

Mr. Guzzi reviewed and recommended Current Estimate No. 5. He stated that there are only punch list items left to complete at Roebing Park and Veterans Park. The majority of the work left is at Marter Park. A Resolution will be prepared for next week’s meeting.

Council Member Garganio asked if there was a projected completion date for Marter Park? Mr. Guzzi stated that they will be back out working when it dries out. Council Member Garganio stated that the lower existing soccer field there floods any time it rains. He asked if there was a way to help dry out that field. Mr. Guzzi will look into.

ABC LICENSE REQUEST; CHRISTMAS EVE

Mayor Muchowski explained that the governing body has the ability to extend Sunday night hours for special holidays but does not believe that hours should be extended for Christmas Eve. Council agrees.

REGISTRAR'S REQUEST: FEES

Council Member Sandusky asked how many certificates are issued? He understands Willingboro and Mt. Holly charging more because they have a hospital in their municipality. Joy Weiler, Township Clerk, explained that the Registrar has been extremely busy doing birth certificates due to the new NJ Motor Vehicle requirements. Council Member Sandusky agrees with increasing fees in that case but not for issuing a birth certificate for a baby just born in town. Solicitor Kearns suggested if an adjustment is done on fees, to look at all fees and do one (1) Ordinance that addresses all fees. Administrator Brook and Assistant Administrator Sahol will review and report back.

TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Council Member Garganio stated that the program was started to bring business into town and is only costing the township money and believes it should be ended. Mayor Muchowski agrees but believes a sunset date should be put on it. This will give them time to get their plans, approval and get in the ground to enjoy the benefit. Council Member Garganio agrees to give one year that way anyone in the process that are counting on the tax abatement will receive it. This would be for commercial abatements. Mayor Muchowski would like to review further before making a final decision.

SIDEWALK REPAIRS – INSPECTIONS

Will be discussed in January 2007.

ACTION

MINUTES

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

CDBG Public Hearing December 6, 2006

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-209

**AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AND
TOWNSHIP ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR TO
DEVELOP COST ESTIMATE FOR
NJ DOT MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM – SAFE STREETS TO SCHOOL
AND FILE APPLICATION**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio that Resolution 2006-209 be approved.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

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Unanimous approval.

9:05 PM MOTION by Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn to Closed Session. Action may follow Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

9:05 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab

Note: No action taken following Closed Session.