

Florence Township Council Regular Session 2/5/20

Florence, New Jersey
February 5, 2020

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. Council President Sandusky led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice was posted on the municipal bulletin board on January 15, 2020; published in the Burlington County Times on January 14, 2020; placed on the Township website, and given to the Trenton Times for information on January 12, 2020.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Bruce Garganio, Paul Ostrander, Dave Woolston, Jerry Sandusky

Also Present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie, Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator, Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Administrator, Kelly Grant, Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Township Clerk

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Reorganization Meeting of January 8, 2020
- Closed Session of January 15, 2020

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the minutes as submitted. Voice vote – all ayes.

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to receive and file the following reports. Voice vote – all ayes.

- CFO's Report of Sale of Taxable Bond Anticipation Notes Series 2020B and Sale of Bond Anticipate Notes, Series 2020A.
- Court Administrator's Monthly Report for January 2020.

Motion of Woolston, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the **Treasurer's Bill List**.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

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REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. On-Premise Merchandise Raffle for Florence Twp. Mem. H.S. Parent Organization, March 27, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. located at 1050 Cedar Lane, Florence, NJ
- B. On-Premise 50/50 Raffle for Florence Twp. Mem. H.S. Parent Organization, March 27, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. located at 1050 Cedar Lane, Florence, NJ
- C. On-Premise Merchandise Raffle for Florence Township Baseball Association, March 1, 2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. located at Florence Township Community Center, 69 Main Street, Roebling, NJ
- D. On-Premise 50/50 Raffle for Florence Township Baseball Association, March 1, 2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. located at the Florence Township Community Center, 69 Main Street, Roebling, NJ

Councilman Woolston asked to be recused from Applications A & B.

Motion by Ostrander, seconded by Sandusky to approve Applications A&B.

Upon roll call for Applications A&B only, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to approve Applications C&D.

Upon roll call for Applications C&D only, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous vote – Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Sandusky opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to close the public portion of the meeting. Voice Vote – all ayes.

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-51
Authorize Electronic Tax Sale**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-52
Authorize Fees for Mailing Tax Notice**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-53
Award Short-term Administrative Services Contract to J.H. Services, Inc.**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-54
Appointing Stephen Fazekas as new Township Administrator**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-55
Amending Resolution 2020-30 Continuing Disclosure Agent**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-56
Approve Payment #4 and C.O. #1 for 2019 Road Program**

It was the Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Woolston to approve Resolution Nos. 2020-51 through 2020-56.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous vote – Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-01
MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)**

Administrator Brook explained that the State of New Jersey puts a few different caps on municipal budgets. One is a spending cap, which allows the municipality to exceed the spending cap as long as an ordinance is adopted to do so. When the ordinance is adopted, you are allowed to bank some of that spending appropriation if you ever have to use it in the near future. Each year, as a matter of routine, the township has adopted the ordinance which allows itself to exceed the State's municipal cap. We have never really used it, nor do we expect to use it this year, but you can bank it for two years in the case of an emergency or significant expenditure that is not anticipated. For example, last year we had bad storms that came in and we had to use a lot of outside help and expend a great deal of overtime. Any time in a year, an emergency can occur so we adopt this ordinance as a preventative measure and we put those funds in a cap bank (it is not physical money, it allows you to operate within the parameters of the department of community affairs regulations).

Council President Sandusky opened up the meeting to the public at this time.

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Garganio to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-01. Voice vote – all ayes.

It was the Motion of Garganio, seconded by Woolston to approve Ordinance No. 2020-01.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: None Unanimous vote – Motion carried.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Councilman Woolston said that Reverend Scott Karge of the Riverside Chapel church at 500 West Front Street attended the Recreation meeting on February 3, 2020 and stated that they had put forth some effort in cleaning up Wilkie Park in the spring. He said that they love the township and want to be more involved and help in any way that they can. He said that the church had painted some benches, which Reverend Karge mentioned are in deplorable condition and asked if they could replace the wood. Councilman Woolston explained that it would be nice of them but the township would supply the wood.

Councilman Ostrander explained that there is a vacancy on the Zoning Board. Shawn Mount, who was approved for Alternate #2 had to resign for personal reasons. Councilman Ostrander made a motion to nominate Nicholas Haas, Jr. and his replacement on the Zoning Board, which was seconded by Garganio.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS:	Baldorossi, Garganio, Ostrander, Woolston, Sandusky
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

Council President Sandusky stated that he was in the Community Center recently and saw the defibrillator. He thanked the efforts to get the defibrillators in place and only asked that it be made known that it is there.

REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION

Mayor

The Mayor explained that the Economic Development Committee met and discussed the zip code consolidation. In 2007 Council passed a resolution to look to consolidate the zip codes and, in essence eliminate the Bordentown and Burlington zip codes and combine them into Florence with Roebling staying on its own. An election was done by the postal service in 2008 and only 52-56% of the people responded and it was defeated because an 85% response is needed. The Economic Development Committee thought it would be good to take a look at it again this year. If Council agrees, he would like to at least put it on the table for next week's work session.

A few things going on in the community for the next few weeks; Saturday, February 8, 2020 is Casino Night at the Community Center and the Fire District Election is February 15, 2020 from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Firehouse at 401 Firehouse Lane.

The Open Space discussion will be on the agenda for next week and the Township Solicitor will be providing a draft referendum question for Council to consider and discuss. We are looking to possibly expand the 1 cent tax on Open Space and taking on additional properties, which will be discussed next week with Council.

Administrator

Administrator Brook thanked the Township Clerk, her office, the other staff members and Anthony Arcchi in Public Works for their efforts Saturday, January 18, 2020 at the free rabies clinic. 207 dogs and cats were licensed and 162 dogs and cats were vaccinated. He is grateful that they came out on a Saturday to help members of the public.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

BOARD OF HEALTH

None at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Sandusky opened the meeting to the public.

Michael Stein, 9 Broad Street, stated that he has asked the Public Works Department repeatedly to take care of the alley by filling in big potholes with crushed stone but he has gotten no response. He put his request in writing, went to the front desk several times and was told it would be taken care of. He felt that he had no other choice but to come to Council to see if maybe it can be taken care of.

The Mayor asked that Mr. Stein leave his phone number and someone will be in touch with him. Administrator Brook apologized and said that there is no reason why this could not be handled rather quickly.

It was the Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Garganio to close the public comments. Voice vote – all ayes.

Motion of Garganio, seconded by Woolston to adjourn to Closed Session at 8:15 p.m. where no action will be taken. Voice vote – all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Council returned to the Regular meeting at 8:55 p.m. No action was taken. Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn. Voice vote – all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk
/jns