

Florence Township Council Regular Session 1/19/22

Florence, New Jersey
January 19, 2022

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey. Members of the public were invited to attend the meeting electronically, in person attendance was not encouraged.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Garganio at 7:00 p.m. Council President Garganio led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was posted on the municipal bulletin board on January 7, 2022; published in the Burlington County Times on January 19, 2022, placed on the Township website and given to the Trenton Times for information on January 19, 2022.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Nicholas Haas, Kristan Marter, Paul Ostrander, Bruce Garganio

Also Present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie, Stephen Fazekas, Township Administrator; Kelly Grant, Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Township Clerk; Jenise Silinsky, Deputy Township Clerk

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Closed Session of January 12, 2022

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

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Motion of Haas, seconded by Marter to approve the following correspondence.

- Court Administrator's Monthly Report for December 2021
- Township Clerk's Monthly Report for December 2021
- Tax Collector's Monthly Tax Report and Water & Sewer Report for December 2021
- Treasurer's Monthly Cash Reports and Budget Reports for November 2021

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Baldorossi, Haas, Marter, Ostrander, Garganio
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: None
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

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Motion of Ostrander seconded by Baldorossi to approve the **Treasurer’s Bill List**.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Baldorossi, Haas, Marter, Ostrander, Garganio
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: None
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

- A. Riverbank Charter School, (3 Licenses) Designer Purse Bingo, On-Premise Merchandise Raffle and On-Premise 50/50 Raffle on May 21, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Riverbank Charter School, 1300 Hornberger Avenue, Roebling, NJ 08554
- B. Florence Township Civic Association, to benefit American Legion Post 194, (3 Licenses) Night at the Races, On-Premise Merchandise Raffle and On-Premise 50/50 Raffle on March 11, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. at American Legion Post 194, 601 Broad Street, Florence, NJ 08518

Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Haas to approve the applications.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Baldorossi, Haas, Marter, Ostrander, Garganio
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: None
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-51
Approve Current Estimate No. 2 for Sewer Treatment Plant Screw Press Upgrade**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-52
Approve Partial Payment No. 3 for Potts Mill Road Pedestrian Boardwalks
& Streambed Erosion Repairs**

It was the Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Marter to approve Resolution Nos. 2022-51 and 2022-52.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Baldorossi, Haas, Marter, Ostrander, Garganio
 - NOES: None
 - ABSENT: None
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCES

None at this time.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Council Representative Marter asked Mayor Wilkie to explain the workings between the Township and the Environmental Protection Agency and how it all fits together as far as the mill site is concerned. He had spoken about this in the Environmental Commission meeting and she thought it would be helpful to give a rundown as to that relationship because, as a resident, she didn't understand it and she is sure there are a lot of others that do not understand it as well.

Mayor Wilkie stated that it would be better to go over that at the workshop meeting and to have Mark Remsa present to clarify and field questions. Mark wrote the first Area In Need of Redevelopment back in 1998-2000 timeframe which got the mill in that designation. In his capacity as working as the County Planner and head of Economic Development he was intricately involved in all of the meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency over the last 20 years.

REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie went over the appointments for the Economic Development Committee. He reappointed Kate Wittkamp, Rose Sullivan, Joe Bongiorno and Rich Popso. New appointments include Mike Rinaldi and Bridget Wiese with the Emeritus members, which Council created back in 2012, remaining Mrs. Geary and Mr. Wainwright.

Motion by Haas, seconded by Ostrander to approve the appointments. Voice vote – All ayes.

Mayor Wilkie also announced appointments to the Environmental Commission which do not require Council approval. Deepa Patel was appointed to the At-Large Commissioner position expiring 12/31/2024, Dave Yansick was appointed as Alternate #1 expiring in 12/31/2022 and Kelly Doyle was appointed Alternate #2 expiring 12/31/2023. And on the Shade Tree Commission, Brandon Myslinski was appointed to the unexpired term expiring 12/31/2022.

Administrator

Administrator Fazekas stated that there will be a sewer connection going in next week on Railroad Avenue for the company operating near Pinnacle. Railroad Avenue will be closed Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

On January 27th the School District in conjunction with the Township Emergency Management will be holding a vaccination clinic at the school.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Representative Baldorossi asked for a follow up on the street lighting in Roebbling brought up at the last meeting by Rachel Leister and whether or not Administrator Fazekas reached out to Public Service. Administrator Fazekas stated that an email was sent out to our representative at Public Service and he has not yet received a response back. He asked what wattage it can go up to, what the cost would be for the town and what the process is.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Representative Haas asked about the striping on Olive Street and Railroad Avenue, it doesn't seem to have been completed. Mayor Wilkie explained that the contractor only had to do the paving on their area.

Council Representative Haas also asked about the parking lots on Summer Street, stating that during sporting events in the summer parking can get tedious. And, on Potts Mill Road now that the major

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construction has been done, can we check the speed limit there? Administrator Fazekas has already spoken to Chief Boldizar about getting the speed calculation unit out there.

Council Representative Haas stated that residents have asked if a stop sign or a possible four-way stop can be looked into at the intersection of Kinsman Drive and Grove Street because that has turned into a cut-through with people trying to avoid the intersection at Delaware and Hornberger Avenues. Administrator Fazekas will check with the Chief and get back to him.

BOARD OF HEALTH

None at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Bryan Hewitt, 1080 Grove Street, stated that the big plans that everyone is talking about for the mill is fantastic and he would love to see something really large and awesome down there but, in the meantime, he thinks we could start small and build momentum. He asked what the limitations to doing smaller events like a beer or food festival down there would be? He is curious if there are things that we can start putting together in spring and summer if Covid is calmed down by then and what the limitations may be.

Mayor Wilkie explained that he would have to apply for a park permit through the Township Clerk's Office. Obviously, alcohol is not permitted and there are insurance requirements and liability and other things to protect the town. Typically, an event like a food event would go through the museum because, even though the Township owns it, they have a little more protection.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, it was a motion of Ostrander, seconded by Haas to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Voice vote – All ayes.

Motion of Haas, seconded by Marter to adjourn to Closed Session at 7:20 p.m. where no action will be taken. Voice vote – all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Council returned to the Regular meeting at 7:32 p.m. No action was taken. Motion of Haas seconded by Marter to adjourn. Voice vote – all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk

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