

Florence Township Council Regular Session 4/20/22

Florence, New Jersey
April 20, 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 in person or electronically via Zoom.

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; Robert N. Wright, Jr., Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Township Clerk; Jenise Silinsky, Deputy Township Clerk

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting of April 6, 2022
- Closed Session of April 6, 2022
- Regular Meeting in April 13, 2022
- Closed Session of April 13, 2022

Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to approve the minutes as submitted.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Tax Collector’s Monthly Tax Report and Monthly Water & Sewer Report for March 2022
- Municipal Treasurer’s Cash Reports and Budget Reports for March 2022

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 Marter 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. Social Affair Permit Florence Township Flames Girls Softball Quoit Tournament on June 11, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Francis W. Robbins Post 194 American Legion, 601 Broad Street, Florence, NJ 08518

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

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. 2022-87
Authorizing Electronic Tax Sale**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-88
Authorizing a Fee for Mailing Tax Sale Notices**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-89 NOT ACTED ON
Payment #2 for Pine Grove Ln Remediation/Stormwater Improvements**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-90
Award Contract Wilbur Henry Dr. Resurfacing & Paving Improvements
to Richard T. Barrett Paving**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-91
Authorizing Assignment of Agreement for Tax Exemption 2001 Rt. 130**

Chairman Garganio said that Resolution 2022-89 was pulled due to a discrepancy and would be acted on at a future meeting.

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It was the Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Haas to approve Resolution Nos. 2022-87 through 2022-91, excluding 2022-89.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-04

**Fixing the Compensation of Certain Officials and Employees of the Township of Florence
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adopt)**

Council President Garganio opened up the Public Hearing on Ordinance No 2022-04. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was a Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public comment portion. Voice vote – All Ayes.

It was a Motion of Marter, seconded by Haas to approve Ordinance No. 2022-04.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-05

**Bond Ordinance for Acquisition of Police Vehicles
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adopt)**

Council President Garganio opened up the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2022-05. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was a Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Marter to close the public comment portion. Voice vote – All Ayes.

It was a Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Ostrander to approve Ordinance No. 2022-05.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-06

**Bond Ordinance for Reconstruction and Upgrade of Sewer Pump Stations
(2nd Reading, Public Hearing & Adopt)**

Council President Garganio opened up the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2022-06. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was a Motion of Ostrander, seconded by Haas to close the public comment portion. Voice vote – All Ayes.

It was a Motion of Baldorossi, seconded by Haas to approve Ordinance No. 2022-06.

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Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

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

REPORTS OF COMMITEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Council Representative Marter requested the Council meetings be recorded and posted to allow the residents to view the meetings at their convenience. Administrator Fazekas stated that we have been working with our IT provider and web site administrator to determine the most effective method of recording and posting meetings.

Council Representative Marter also mentioned that she met with Marty Eckert regarding the website and some issues she noticed and they are going to work together at getting some of those things taken care of and that she would be happy to meet with the web designer as well.

Council Representative Marter asked Council to help support the Thoroughbreds basketball team, created for high school students that may not want to go to college but want to play basketball. She stated that Burlington City and Edgewater Park have already written letters of support and the team reached out to her to see if she would write a letter. She is asking Council to support the idea of having a Burlington County basketball team. They have already spoken with Marty about doing some free clinics here for the students to be able to learn techniques. Council Representative Marter offered to reach out to the representative for the team if Council would like to know more about it.

Mayor Wilkie recommended that this issue be referred to the Recreation Committee before Council acts upon it. This way the Recreation Committee can do the due diligence.

REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie read an excerpt from the April 24, 1891 Council Meeting minutes.

Mayor Wilkie thanked Council Representative Marter for her persistence with Congressman Kim. Administrator Fazekas followed up with them and we have now submitted for grants for two sewer pump stations and he submitted to the two Senators as well. There is no guarantee, but hopefully there will be some opportunity there.

Mayor Wilkie stated that Amazon is having a tree planting on Earth Day, Friday April 22nd at 10:30 a.m. at the field hockey fields. Shade Tree is doing the dedication of Michael's Grove at the end of Second Avenue on May 7th at 9:30 a.m. On April 30th the Roebling Museum is hosting their car show from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and the Blue and Gold Banquet is at 2:30 p.m. at Riverfront School.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Representative Marter asked the Solicitor for an update on the ordinance related to the clearing of land prior to all permitting being in place. Solicitor Wright stated that he did not have an update at this time but he will bring it to Council at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

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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, mentioned that there may be some eligibility for state grants to help restore the old bank on Main Street in Roebing. The New Jersey EDA is hosting a webinar on May 12, 2022. There is \$50 Million that they are awarding in grants for up to 45% back in construction costs for repairing/restoring historic buildings and bringing them back to use. He knows that private parties are eligible but he is not certain if government is eligible but he thinks it is something that should be looked into to help restore the bank building. He shared the web address (historictaxcredit@njeda.com) with Council. Council agreed to have someone look into it.

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.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion of Marter seconded by Haas to adjourn. Voice vote – all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk
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