

Florence Township Council Regular Session 2/19/25

Florence, New Jersey
February 19, 2025

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 Frappolli at 7:00 p.m. Council President Frappolli 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 3, 2025; published in the Burlington County Times on January 12, 2025, placed on the Township website and given to the Courier Post for information.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: John Fratinardo, Nicholas Haas, Talaya Loftin, Joseph Frappolli

Also Present: Mayor Kristan I. Marter; Thomas A. Sahol, Township Administrator; Robert Wright, Esq., Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Township Clerk; Jenise Silinsky, Deputy Township Clerk

Absent: Frank Baldorossi

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Closed Session of February 5, 2025
- Regular Session of February 5, 2025
- Special Budget Session of February 8, 2025

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to approve the minutes. Voice vote – All ayes.

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

- Township Clerk's Monthly Report for January 2025
- Court Administrator's Monthly Report for January 2025

Motion of Loftin, seconded by Haas to approve the financial correspondence. Voice vote – All ayes.

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to approve the **Treasurer's Bill List**.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

• YEAS:	Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
• NOES:	None
• ABSENT:	Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Letter from Judy King of the Florence Historical Society, requesting use of the 3rd Street Firehouse on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the Open House and on March 1, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the DAR Chapter Meeting
- B. Police Chief's Monthly Report for January 2025

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Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to receive and file the correspondence. Voice vote – All ayes.

APPLICATIONS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to open the Public Comment. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was a Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to close the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-57
To Support Publishing Legal Notices on Official Government Websites

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-58

Approve the Public Display of Fireworks for Florence Township's Patriotic Celebration Day

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-59

Authorize Refund of Housing Inspection Fee, Block 144, Lot 12

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-60

Authorize Refund of Housing Inspection Fee, Block 155.07, Lot 6

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-61

APPOINTING TWO FLORENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-62

Emergency Temporary Appropriation

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to approve Resolution Nos. 2025-57 through 2025-62.

Council President Frappolli took a moment to acknowledge Council Representative Loftin's efforts with the Housing Authority appointments and congratulated her because she went the extra mile and it worked out well.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi Unanimous vote – Motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-63
Transferring Certain 2024 Budget Appropriations

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to approve Resolution No. 2025-63.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi Unanimous vote – Motion carried

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03

Bond Ordinance for Improvements to Municipal Buildings in and for the Township Appropriating \$115,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$109,250 in General Improvement Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance the Same (2nd Reading, Public Hearing)

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to open the Public Hearing. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, a Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to close the Public Hearing.

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to approve Ordinance No. 2025-03.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-04

Bond Ordinance, for Improvements to Municipal Sidewalks, Ramps and Curbs in and for the Township, Appropriating \$180,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$171,000 in General Improvement Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance the Same (2nd Reading & Public Hearing)

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to open the Public Hearing. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, a Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to close the Public Hearing.

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to approve Ordinance No. 2025-04.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05

Bond Ordinance for the Acquisition of Remote Police Cameras in and for the Township, Appropriating \$210,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$199,500 in General Improvement Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance the Same (2nd Reading & Public Hearing)

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to open the Public Hearing. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, a Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to close the Public Hearing.

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to approve Ordinance No. 2025-05.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

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ORDINANCE NO. 2025-06

Bond Ordinance, for the Acquisition of Police Vehicles for the Township, Appropriating \$170,000, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$161,500 in General Improvement Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance the Same (2nd Reading & Public Hearing)

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to open the Public Hearing. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, a Motion of Haas, seconded by Loftin to close the Public Hearing.

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to approve Ordinance No. 2025-06.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-07

Bond Ordinance for Information Technology and Document Management Equipment in and for the Township, Appropriating \$160,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$152,000 in General Improvement Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance the Same (2nd Reading & Public Hearing)

Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to open the Public Hearing. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, a Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to close the Public Hearing.

Administrator Sahol explained that this ordinance is to continue a project that was started years ago with taking paper records that the township operates with and turning them into scanned images that could be contained in a very small space that is much more accessible and readily searchable through electronic mechanism for our staff when trying to satisfy the needs of the public with OPRA requests and things of that nature. It will move a lot of material storage from our building where there is very limited storage capacity.

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to close the Public Hearing. Motion of Loftin, seconded by Fratinardo to approve Ordinance No. 2025-07.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-08

Authorizing an Agreement for Tax Exemption with 900 Richards Run Investors, LLC for Property Located at 900 Richards Run, Block 158, Lot 5.01 (2nd Reading & Public Hearing)

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to open the Public Hearing. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, a Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Haas to close the Public Hearing.

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Motion of Fratinardo, seconded by Loftin to approve Ordinance No. 2025-08.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-09

Fixing the Compensation of Certain Officials and Employees of the Township of Florence (Intro. & 1st Read) (2nd Reading & Public Hearing March 5, 2025)

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to approve Ordinance No. 2025-09.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Haas, Fratinardo, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-10

Amending Chapter 134 of the Florence Township Code to Establish Parking Restrictions at 25 West Third Street and 69 Main Street (Intro. & 1st Read) (2nd Reading & Public Hearing March 5, 2025)

Motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to approve Ordinance No. 2025-10.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Haas, Fratinardo, Loftin, Frappolli
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous vote – Motion carried

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Council President Frappolli stated that at the last Recreation meeting they discussed fixing the lights that need to be repaired on the fields. He also received word from Marty Eckert that bylaws were established to include cricket and hopefully that will produce a positive outcome.

REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION

Mayor

Mayor Marter explained that she attended a Burlington County Climate Change Related Hazard Vulnerability Assessment Meeting and they are looking at things that impact us like flooding, heat-related issues, insect infestation, fires, etc. The first public meeting will be in Burlington Township and as soon as they release the date, they will let us know.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Avenue Parking Concerns

Administrator Sahol explained that the engineer evaluated the roadway and there are more spaces (90) than there are homes (58), but not 2 spaces for each house. If we were to issue two permits per household, they will exhaust pretty quickly and there won't be enough spaces on the street. If we line the spaces in hopes

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that people would adhere to the lines, maybe it will satisfy some of the concerns. He explained that there have been so many things that they have tried over the years and he does not believe there is anything else we can do. The best you can offer is to re-paint the lines so that people know how to park there.

He mentioned that he also spoke to someone at the museum regarding their parking lot and they do include suggestions on not parking on the residential streets in the correspondence that goes out and on their website. He did explain that we would gladly partner with the museum on a sign to direct people into their parking lot. We are going to do what we can to promote it.

Council agreed to have the lines repainted and Administrator Sahol will send a letter to the residents explaining that we feel it is the best decision.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Representative Haas asked to have Cedar Lane around the whirlybird restriped and also the guardrail repaired. Administrator Sahol thanked him for mentioning it again, and explained that the Chief had contacted the engineer's office and expressed concern because of people crossing over the center line.

Council Representative Haas also asked if someone can clean up the trash at the Wawa intersection at Route 130 and behind the Wawa and also that the Burger King parking lot is turning into a truck stop. Administrator Sahol stated that he will check with the chief to find out if we have the enforcement signature that is needed and, if we do we'll get right on it. But if we don't, we'll encourage them to get us a signature that is necessary to enforce.

BOARD OF HEALTH

None at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council President Frappolli explained that the library has opened a food pantry in the foyer and, if anyone would like to contribute any kind of nonperishable goods, you are able to drop things off anytime during business hours.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion of Loftin, seconded by Haas to open the meeting up to the public at this time. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was a motion of Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Voice Vote – All Ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion of Loftin, seconded by Haas to Adjourn. Voice Vote – All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk
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