



Florham Park Borough Council
Thursday, July 13, 2017
Work Session Minutes

Mayor Taylor called the Work Session to order at 6:30 p.m. He asked the Borough Clerk for a roll call:

Governing Body	Present	Absent
Mayor Taylor	X	
Council President Zuckerman	X	
Councilman Germershausen	X	
Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane	X	
Councilman Carpenter	X	
Councilman Malone	X	
Councilman Michalowski		X

Council Portfolio Updates:

Council President Zuckerman provided the following report:

Environmental Commission:

- Ted Trautman, Chair of the Commission resigned; we will need to make a new appointment. Also, the bylaws indicate a member of the Planning Board should be on the Committee. We need to think about that as well.

Municipal Pool:

- Waiting for responses from food trucks at the pool
- Membership is slightly down
- Annual Pool Day is July 22nd

- Per Dir. of Community Services Carl Ganger, the lifeguards held a lifesaving drill at the Pool; they did such a good job that everyone thought the emergency was real. They received a round of applause from the patrons at the pool.

Board of Education:

- It was announced that there was going to be a new position which would be a dean of students; they would be in charge of discipline. It is unclear if this is a new position or if this would become part of someone's job.
- They renewed the contract of Dr. Varley; they awarded her a merit increase of \$22,000 for meeting five goals. Her new contract includes a \$152,050 for the upcoming year; a 5.3% increase

Councilman Germershausen provided the following report:

- Nothing to Report

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane presented the following report:

Senior Citizens

- Joe Bell assisting the Seniors with 501C3 status;
- Senior Club has new officers
- New VP Paul Chase and I had a meeting with Bill Huyler regarding what the role of the Council and Bill Huyler is regarding the Senior Club; Senior Club is a Charter Organization and not an extension of the Borough

Gazebo Committee:

- The Gazebo had a good turnout at the concert last week; next concert is Desert Highway
- Pizza Vita gave us last minute notice that they are not going to sell at any more concerts; cited low sales as the reason; sales usually depend on the concert.

Planning Board:

- Held a meeting on the 10th
- Approved a sign variance for 23 Vreeland;
- Approved one-year extension for the Coviello property; where the greenhouses are.
- Pulte Homes is carried again; need to renotice

- Denied a change in Tenancy for 187 Columbia Turnpike for a nail salon; it was denied on the basis of safety. It was a double space, 4000 square feet. It would contain pedicure stations, manicure stations as well as massage and waxing.
- Residents concerned about making a left out of Shetland; bushes are obstructing the view; also at 256 Columbia, just past the Nagle Center. Borough Engineer Mike Sgaramella stated he would check the areas. Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane said she would email the information to him.
- First Street; getting bad there. There is a lot there, where the house was torn down, and they are currently not working on the lot. Zoning Officer Steve Jones indicated that he would look into it.

Councilman Carpenter presented the following report:

Florham Park Police Department

- 350 residents showed up for Ice Cream with the Police; successful event!
- Two new officers are now undergoing in the field training
- Department has been assisting the Secret Service with road closures as a result of President Trump flying in and out of Morrisown Airport.

Florham Park First Aid Squad

- Ordered new rig; will be delivered in spring.
- Will keep old rig as a disaster support rig or to support the emergency response team.

Florham Park Fire Department

- Swearing in a new firefighter tonight
- Got hit with a rash of repairs on the ladder truck; needed a generator as well as other items. It is now back in service.

Department of Engineering

- Borough Engineer Mike Sgaramella provided an overview of projects the Engineering Dept. is working on. East Madison is in full construction now; curb work, JCP&L should be finished Monday. Next, Borough will have to deal with the cable company and Verizon.

- Heritage Road drainage basin is about 75% complete; great help and support by the DPW; they unearthed a manhole and found a clogged pipe. Thanked Carl Ganger and Frank Esposito for their assistance
- Doing curb work in preparation for additional paving on Northern, Sherbrooke, Joyce, Milton, Deerfield, etc.; has some extra money to do some curbing work on Ridgedale.

Councilman Malone presented the following report:

Finance:

Per CFO Patrice Visco:

- Tax bill mailing will have a slight delay; Florham Park will be getting some more school aid; the budget needs to be recertified. The Borough must wait to receive the County tax rate. According to State law the bills will be due 25 days after the date they are mailed. An explanation of payment due dates due to the delay will be put on the Borough website.

Recreation:

- Selected by a subcommittee, the Lou Boyd and Fred Stobaeus awards were given to Ava Gallo and Michael Lagravis respectively at the 4th of July Celebration
- Asked Borough Engineer Sgaramella to provide a report on the Stobaeus Trail :

Mr. Sgaramella stated a pre-construction meeting was held with the County two weeks ago. They made some suggestions regarding staying in compliance with National Forrest Service trail guidelines. We incorporated the spur into Felch Road. Project should be complete with our design by next week and will be sent out to contractors shortly; need to see how pricing comes in.

Councilman Malone asked if this project would be done in time for school opening.

Borough Administrator Huyler stated that is the goal, but we shall see.

Councilman Malone asked Recreation Director Timmons for an update:

- 3rd full week of day camp; around 220 campers. Things have been going well. Staff is good, with the exception of a few small hiccups.

- Teen Camp in 2nd week. 2nd week much bigger than first week.
- Also starting to set-up for fall sports programs
- Cheerleading has begun this week as well
- Mets trip coming up; 6 tickets remain if anyone is interested
- Movie Night August 1; in conjunction with Safe Night Out

Mayor Taylor:

- Thanked Borough Clerk Sheila Williams for ordering the shirts and hats for the 4th of July
- Request from the Jewish Center to advertise in their calendar; asked the Council to look at that; not sure the Borough can do it
- Received a letter regarding recyclables; contacted the resident

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting for public comment as follows:

Maureen Mulligan, 9 Kice Road

Mrs. Mulligan asked what the Borough's position with regard to the helipad at the JETS.

Mayor Taylor stated that the Borough sent a positive letter back.

Mrs. Mulligan asked if consideration was given to all the reasons not too allow it, such as more activity? Who is going to defend Florham Park from more over flights?

Mayor Taylor stated that it is a helicopter that would only be used by Woody Johnson of the JETS. It is his own helicopter. The property is owned by the NJ Sports Exposition Authority. This is a new area there that they are going to use for parking, training camp and the helipad.

Mrs. Mulligan asked if the Council discussed the matter

Mayor Taylor stated that the Borough has no authority; all Council were made aware. It is the FAA and the DOT that has jurisdiction over it.

Mrs. Mulligan asked a question regarding the General Development on Park Avenue; what is the tax abatement rate?

Mayor Taylor stated there isn't a tax abatement rate; nothing on Exxon property.

Mrs. Mulligan asked if there aren't any abatements, why haven't our taxes gone down?

Mayor Taylor stated that when we receive a Tax appeal for a commercial development, it equals way more than any taxes that could be saved. 58.3 cents of every dollar goes to the school. We operate on 27 cents on a dollar.

Mrs. Mulligan stated that if you add up all the ratables, it makes sense that taxes should go down.

Mayor Taylor stated that the Borough has had some very big tax assessments

Mrs. Mulligan stated she would be interested in seeing some numbers.

Mayor Taylor stated that he could show her some.

Mrs. Mulligan asked what the status of the Recycling Center was?

Mayor Taylor stated that the Borough eliminated Northcreek. They are no longer there.

Mrs. Mulligan stated she does appreciate what was done there. It seems that there are still mountains of mulch there.

Administrator Bill Huyler stated that there isn't any wood mulch there anymore; it is all leaf mulch which are leaves that are decomposing from last year's leaf season.

Mrs. Mulligan asked about the employees. Are they affected by the air quality there?

Mr. Huyler stated what the leaf mulch is much less offensive. The mulch that was creating the offensive odor was wood mulch and it's a much higher concentration.

Mrs. Mulligan asked what they named the Building?

Ralph A. Loveys Municipal Complex

