



Florham Park Borough Council
Thursday May 6, 2021
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 Member	Present	Absent
Mayor Taylor	X	
Council President Santoro	X	
Councilman Germershausen	X	
Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane	X	
Councilman Carpenter	X	
Councilman Malone	X	
Councilman Zuckerman		X

Mayor Taylor asked the Clerk to enter into the minutes that the statutory requirements of RS 10:4-1, Open Public Meetings Act have been met.

Mayor Taylor stated that County Administrator John Bonnani asked him for a letter supporting a possible grant for the US Infrastructure Act. This is coming from our Representatives Mikie Sherrill's office, our congresswoman. I promptly prepared a letter of support for the Rt. 24, Park Avenue and Columbia Turnpike intersection, which would help us with traffic. I submitted the letter on 4/19. I received a note from a County Commissioner That Florham Park and Hanover Township were the only two towns to send a letter in support of the Grant. Morris Township, Madison, Chatham Township and Chatham all decided unilaterally that they would no support the project; they don't like it. There was a meeting last year to discuss this. This means we will see no traffic relief on those roads.

Ongoing issue at 89A Brooklake Road. The right-of-way was not deeded properly at the County level. The neighbor has a waterline that goes through his property. The waterline is leaking again. Mike Sgaramella and his team have a solution that we relieve the homeowner of the tap fee and road fee. Councilman Carpenter agreed that we should offer relief. Councilman Malone asked if there are other issues there.

Mr. Sgaramella stated there is a water line and sewer line easement. For some reason it wasn't recorded in 2006. The sewer line is a different pipe, so hopefully nothing will happen to it.

Council agreed to waive the fees.

Mayor Taylor discussed with the Council a wall that erected on a property in Seneca Heights. It was a prerequisite that they establish a 25 foot easement for conservation. There is a home at the top of the hill who violated the easement and erected a wall. It is a 25 foot wide easement over a 75 length of wall. It's a one foot encroachment there.

Mr. Sgaramella wants to know how to handle it. The Borough Council can rule on encroachments. The retaining wall was built without a permit and they owe us trees. We don't know when the trees were taken down or when the wall was built.

Councilman Carpenter asked Mr. Sgaramella to prepare a report so they can see exactly what is happening there.

Mr. Sgaramella told them they have to remove the wall. They want to file an application with the Council to keep the wall. It's a concrete block wall. It ranges from 2' high to 6' high.

Councilman Malone also thinks a report would be beneficial from Mr. Sgaramella.

Mr. Sgaramella will prepare a report.

COUNCIL PORTFOLIO UPDATES:

Council President Santoro provided the following report:

Water Utility:

- Well Rehabilitation and Transmission Project- Continue to coordinate with NJAW to perform additional leak detection of 3,200 LF of water main from Ridgedale to ASCO. Plans have been forwarded to the Jets and Rockefeller, but no comments received. Bid opening today for The Exxon Rehabilitation Project and the Water Main Transmission Project.
- Water Meter replacement project- National Water Meter will be responsible for installing the 1,500 permanent residential meters. Approximately 300 meters have been replaced.
- Water Tank Rehabilitation Design Project- Working with Borough Attorney to revise Antenna leases to place burden of relocating their facilities when the Borough starts a Tank Rehabilitation Project. Updating leases will likely span over several months and could affect income.

- Water Department is flushing hydrants, reading meters, assisting with the pool opening, and turn ons for Recreation Department and Community Garden.
- Daily and Weekly Duties completed.

Sewer Utility:

- Joe Depasquale, Acting Plant Manager, passed the NJDEP S-3 Exam and is now eligible to become the Plant Manager for the Sewer Plant.
- Sewer Consultant presented a Draft Water Pollution Control Facility Evaluation Report which included Process Optimization recommendations, Plant upgrade evaluation, and Capital Improvement recommendations with costs for a Capital Improvement Plan. We have reviewed and submitted comments to the Consultant so that report may be finalized.
- Carriagan Lane/Burnet Road Sewer and Sewer Pump Station project- Engineering Department obtained sewer invert elevations at each home so that Consultant can finalize their design. Information has been given to the Sewer Consultant to finish their design work.
- The Cured-In-Place pipe lining project at Spring Garden Lake is completed. Project closeout commencing.
- Ridgedale Pump Station- New pumps have been installed, and the electrical control panel is now in service.
- Sewer Staff did the following over the past two weeks:
 - -Cleaned out Black Brook pump #2 and replaced softstarter in pump #1
 - -Started repair on gravity filter #1 washwater pump and cleaning of sand cells
 - -Repaired waste pump #3
 - -Continued assembly of rotor paddles for oxidation ditch #2 repair
 - -Changed oil in main blower #1
 - -Soldered and replaced chemical analyzer capacitors
 - -Replaced chemical analyzer motor
 - -Continued painting and landscaping
 - -All weekly operations and laboratory duties performed

Library Board of Trustees:

- The next Library Board meeting will be held on May 17 at 7:00 pm

Board of Health:

- The Pequannock Health Department and Walmart held a vaccination clinic at the Florham Park Community Center today

4th of July:

- The Committee is discussing what the 4th of July Parade will look like this year; awaiting guidelines from the Governor.

Councilman Germershausen provided the following report:

The Gazebo Committee:

- A meeting will be held tonight at 7 pm
- 3 more bands verified their availability
- The donations are coming in slowly; no accounting yet

The Morris County Board of Commissioners:

- Steven Shaw mentioned they started the 6th year of the County Recreation Grants program. The deadline is June 30th to apply. \$1.6M will be available to Morris County towns. Grantees have two years to complete the project. The application is on their website.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane provided the following report:

- A draft was circulated from Joe Bell to see if we can help out local businesses with parking. Is this even needed anymore if restrictions can be lifted? Joe Bell IV said he submitted a letter to the owner, but haven't received a response.

Planning Board:

- There were a couple of changes in tenancy approved; one at 6 Vreeland and 215 Ridgedale Avenue.
- Two Resolutions of approval; Pets Supplies Plus and one for conveyance of the land from Rock GW to the Borough

Board of Adjustment:

- Artis, the memory care Center asked for a one year extension until March 2022. That is located on Elm/Columbia.
- Two other matters; both approved. A pool which exceeded lot coverage and a fence on Country Club Lane.
- Discussed doing something to make people purchasing homes to be aware of lot coverage regarding Pools.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane discussed that there were dump trucks being parked on some construction sites. Mr. Huyler stated that when Mr. Guilfoyle checked into it, they were utilized

- 814 inspections; last April 742
- Issued 105 permits and 14 CO's in April
- LCS started site work
- Vreeland Road is in frame stage
- Del Web project has 160 residents who received CO's
- 1 Vanderbilt; issued CO's – by June it should be full

Senior Citizens:

- AARP held their meeting this month; nationally they are continuing their policy of no “in person” meetings through at least September
- Senior Citizens Club still having no “in person” meetings.

Historic Preservation Commission

- The Commission did not have a monthly meeting; their next meeting is in May.

Councilman Carpenter provided the following report:

Engineering:

- Columbia/Hanover Intersection: All work is complete.
- Columbia/Park Street Intersection Improvement Project- Under final design. This project is slated to start in late Spring or Summer.
- Park Street (north)- Contractor to re-seed lawn areas behind curb and still has the JCP&L driveway to complete.
- Briarwood Road & Intersection Improvements- 90% Submittal received and under review. This project is scheduled to start late Spring or Summer with cost sharing from County and a grant from NJDOT.
- Milling and paving by Morris County Co-Op paving company Schifano is complete for the following roads: Smithfield, Deerfield, Crane, Forest, Sutton, Kice, Spring Valley, and Harvale.
- HVAC M & E Consultant EI Associates submitted 90% design submittal for the HVAC construction drawings for the Borough Hall. Under review.
- Attended a Zoom meeting with surrounding Town Engineers and the County Engineer on 4/27 to discuss the Park Avenue Bypass Road. Campus Drive alternative has been eliminated and not viable. The hotel site is now committed to Hanover Township's Affordable Housing Plan. Morris County will be conducting the

preliminary and final design, however, there are many issues that need to be resolved, i.e. Property acquisition at 200-220 Park Avenue, Delaware Road egress, and funding.

Fire Department:

- Got the striping done; so Fire Trucks will go in the back of the Firehouse and will no longer need Police assistance.

First Aid Squad

- The Squad was able to cover their shifts with volunteers and per diems; using the County and Atlantic a little bit less.

Police Department

- Have begun planning for the 4th of July and also for the Safe Night Out Celebration with the guidance of the Governor's
- Working on upgrade to Borough's video surveillance. DPW has been very helpful in assisting them with the upgrade.

Councilman Malone provided the following report:

Finance:

- Govdeals will be conducting an online auction on May 14 for obsolete DPW, Police, and fire vehicles and equipment. The Resolution is on the agenda tonight for approval.
- Planning to apply for a local recreation improvement grant for improvements to the tennis courts on Elm Street. This is for the set of two tennis Courts on Elm Street.

Recreation:

- Councilman Malone stated that a resident has come to John Timmons, myself and Councilman Carpenter looking to have a logo put on the main field at Volunteer's Park. This comes at a significant cost. I wanted to see if the Council would like to do it? I don't want to create tripping hazard. A piece of the field will have to be taken up.

Mayor and Council discussed. Councilman Carpenter said the resident saw it in Denville. They want to honor volunteer emergency services. Police, Fire, First Aid with their logos.

Councilman Malone stated it would be cutting out a section at the 50 yard line. Should we continue to pursue this? I want to get a flavor? Also, we would be cutting out a section of this at the 50 yard line. Also, the idea behind Volunteer's Field was for all Florham Park volunteers.

Councilman Carpenter thinks it's a great idea as long as its done professionally.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane asked if we can see plans.

Councilman Malone stated at this point it is just an idea. I just wanted to get a flavor to see what the Council wants to do.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane asked what the cost would be? Councilman Malone said they don't have an exact figure, but the cost will be significant. Councilman Malone said they will continue to explore and bring more information back to the Council.

- Councilman Malone mentioned that John Timmons would be a guest speaker on a PTA Zoom Call to highlight some of our programs and our recreation summer activities.

John Timmons provided the following report:

- PTA wants Mr. Timmons to update the school community on what the plans are for summer camp and the pool.
- There is a cheer clinic for pre-k -2nd grade at the turf field. They are practicing two nights per week. Will look for opportunitites for them in
- Spring sports up and running; soccer does a check in and the kids have to fill out a form before they can come to soccer. I may do the same before kids can come to camp.
- Baseball having a tricky tray on May 24. It will be outside under the tent. Hopefully they will have good weather.
- Sent email out to club leaders regarding Lou Boyd and Fred Stobaeus award. I have received a good amount of responses so far. I will bring those names to the Recreation Committee.

Mayor Taylor discussed dedicating the Library to John Cunningham. I would like to get that moving. We should really recongnize him. Council agreed it was a great idea.

CONSENT AGENDA - RESOLUTIONS OF APPROVAL:

Council President Santoro made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda Resolutions.

- # 21-79 Authorizing the Award of a Contract to D'Onofrio & Son for Landscaping Services
- # 21-80 Authorizing a Contract Award to Reilly Sweeping for Sweeping Services
- # 21-81 Authorizing a Contract with Morris County Cooperative (MCCPC)
- # 21-82 Authorizing the Auction of Surplus Borough Property

- # 21-83 Amending Salaries & Wages Ordinance for Non-Union, Seasonal Hourly, Temporary, Per-Diem and Part-Time Employees
- # 21-84 Establishing Salaries for Hourly, Temporary & Part-Time Employees

The motion was seconded by Councilman Germershausen

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Santoro	X				
Germershausen	X				
Cefolo-Pane	X				
Carpenter	X				
Malone	X				
Zuckerman				X	
Total	5				

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS:

Councilman Malone made a motion to pay vouchers in the amount of \$524,821.43. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carpenter.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Santoro	X				
Germershausen	X				
Cefolo-Pane	X				
Carpenter	X				
Malone	X				
Zuckerman				X	
Total	5			1	

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting to the public.

The following members of the public wished to be heard:

John Winters, 32 Brooklake Road:

Has concerns about messing with the field and putting a logo on it. Volunteer's Park was for all volunteers. Also, concerned about the cost factor. Also, could cause damage to the existing turf.

Newbies in town don't realize there are certain rules in town. Florham Park is nice for a reason. We have to keep it that way. We should try to get that message across.

School tax – I had some trouble getting on Board of Education meeting.

High School meeting – last year Florham Park's share went up 14 per 100. This is the same situation. We have a higher increase against the other schools. This year it is 13 per 100. Why is it so high? We have less students. We are getting penalized for our town maintaining our values. Not right.

Board of Education has had in person meetings. When are we going back to regular meetings?

Mayor Taylor stated they are working on a plan to be named shortly.

Seeing no more members of the public who wished to be heard, Mayor Taylor closed the meeting to the Public.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion made by Councilman Carpenter and seconded by Councilman Malone that the Work Session was adjourned by a unanimous vote at at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila A. Williams, R.M.C.

Borough Clerk

May 6, 2021