



## Borough of Florham Park Borough Council Meeting Minutes August 19, 2021

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Mayor Taylor called the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council to order at 6:30 p.m. He asked the Clerk if the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act had been met. Acting Deputy Borough Clerk Danielle Lewis stated that adequate notice of the meeting had been made within the guidelines for public meetings by the State of NJ during the pandemic. Information on how to access the meeting, which was previously advertised at the beginning of the year in the annual legal notice, were provided to the public regarding in accordance with State guidelines.

Mayor Taylor asked the Acting Deputy Borough Clerk to call the roll as follows:

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	

Additional Borough Officials present were Acting Deputy Borough Clerk Danielle Lewis, Administrator William Huyler and Borough Attorney Joseph Bell.

### Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Taylor led the Salute to the Flag.

## Opening Statement by Mayor Taylor:

Mayor Taylor stated that the meeting was being recorded; therefore, anyone who did not wish to participate could elect to drop off at any time.

Mayor Taylor asked the Acting Deputy Clerk if the requirements of the Open Public Meetings act had been met. Ms. Lewis stated the Borough was in compliance with the requirements.

## MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Mayor Taylor asked for a motion to approve the following meeting minutes:

➤ Minutes of the July 15, 2021 Regular Meeting

Councilman Zuckerman made a motion to approve the minutes as stated above.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Carpenter.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Santoro			X		Absent 07/15/2021
Germershausen				X	
Cefolo-Pane				X	
Carpenter	X				
Malone				X	
Zuckerman	X				
Total	2		1	3	

## Council Portfolio Updates:

Councilwoman Santoro provided the following report:

### Water Utility:

Water rehabilitation and transmission project. Contractors are continuing with shop drawing submittals. The contractor demolished the interior of Well 305 for the well rehabilitation project. Asbestos removal and mitigation has been completed. For the well transmission line project, the contractor has pipe and equipment on-site and should be starting shortly.

For the water meter replacement project, National Metering Services is responsible for installing the 1,442 residential meters and approximately 721 meters have been replaced at this time. Coordination and logistic issues with National Metering Services have been addressed this week, final notices have been sent to residents, and meter replacement requests are up. They are hoping to have the project completed within the next two months.

Continuing to work with the Borough attorney regarding antenna leases and relocation of facilities once the water tank rehabilitation project begins. Lease amendments have been sent out to all cellular carriers.

The water department completed manual meter readings, valve exercise program and obtained pool water samples for laboratory work, repaired 5 curb boxes and a valve leak, continued triennial lead and copper testing.

Permanent repair to the balance tank in the municipal pool is scheduled for September after the pool closes for the season.

### **Sewer Utility:**

Colliers Engineers & Design, the consultant for the sewer plant, has completed the water pollution control facility evaluation report. The report included process optimization recommendations, plant upgrade evaluation, and capital improvement recommendations with costs for a capital improvement plan.

The sewer pump station projects for Carrigan Lane/Burnet Road are underway and under final design; once complete will receive permits from New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

For the projects on Beechwood/Elmwood, sewer staff completed video updates and proposals have been requested from two design consultants to complete the plans and specifications for this sewer pipe lining project for next spring.

### **Councilman Carpenter Provided the following report:**

#### **Police Department:**

Received a grant in the amount of \$73,000 for the purchase of body worn cameras with a total project cost of \$126,000.

National Night Out was a huge success and Mr. Carpenter thanked everyone for their support.

The recruiting and hiring process is in full swing for the replacement of a retiring Sergeant. There will be a physical agility test scheduled for October 24, 2021.

**IT Department:**

In the process of specking out an infrastructure overhaul to provide higher speed and capacity to the internet data line to all the Borough buildings.

**Fire Department:**

Had three recruits in the Morris County Police and Firefighter Training Academy and they assisted in the Madison fire on Tuesday.

**First Aid Squad:**

Has three applicants and they are in the licensing process pending review from State.

**Department of Public Works:**

A lot of curb and concrete work has been completed at the Columbia/Park Street intersection and there will be a wait for some of the structures to be there. The traffic signal equipment has been ordered. The County paving has been delayed until next spring due to budgetary issues.

There was a pre-construction meeting for the Briarwood and Ridgedale intersection improvements and the job is scheduled to start around August 30, 2021. If it is not completed before school starts, provisions will be made for pedestrians. Notifications will be sent to residents and the school. The traffic signal equipment shop drawings are being completed for submission.

The pre-bid meeting for Borough HVAC improvements was held on August 18, 2021 and the bid opening is scheduled for September 2, 2021, with a possible award scheduled for the Council meeting on September 16, 2021. They had several interested general HVAC contractors and subcontractors present at the meeting.

Two projects with local aid funding have been completed for Rustic Court and Timber Court for milling, paving, sidewalks and reconstruction of associated curbs. The Murphy Circle project for milling, paving, sidewalk repairs and associated curbing is complete.

Mayor Taylor said he spoke with the Morris County Commissioners about the Columbia Turnpike paving job and offered that the Borough would be very satisfied if they did half of the project this year and have of the project next year.

Mayor Taylor thanked Jersey Central Power and Light for the installation of 15 new telephone poles.

**Councilman Zuckerman Provided the following report:**

**Board of Education:**

The current enrollment is 953, down by 19 students since the last report. A presentation was made to the Board by their energy consultant with the recommendation that they install solar panels on the roofs of the three schools. A discussion was held regarding fire safety and the savings that might be expected by converting to solar but actual savings will not be known until bids are submitted for the project.

Mr. Zuckerman asked the audience if he missed anything for the Board of Education and someone responded that as of today, students will have full-day in-person school this fall.

**Environmental Commission:**

The Commission is looking at updating the open space and recreation plan, which was prepared in 2011. The last report was done in partnership with the Land Conservatory of New Jersey and the Commission is looking to partner with them again.

**Borough Pool:**

Membership dollars have doubled this year over, but expenses are higher than the budget. Due to these expenses, an emergency appropriation resolution is on this evening's consent agenda for \$50,000 for salaries and other expenses, which will be covered in next year's budget.

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING & FINAL ADOPTION**

- **#21-15 An Ordinance to Provide for General Capital Projects and to Provide for the Funding thereof**

Councilman Zuckerman read the title of Ordinance #21-15 entitled:

**BOROUGH OF FLORHAM PARK  
COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE #21-15**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR GENERAL CAPITAL PROJECTS  
ENUMERATED WITHIN FOR THE BOROUGH OF FLORHAM PARK, COUNTY  
OF MORRIS AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING THEREOF**

Mayor Taylor asked Acting Deputy Borough Clerk to read a summary of the legal notice. Acting Deputy Borough Clerk Danielle Lewis read a summary of the legal notice and stated that the Ordinance had been published as required by law, posted on the bulletin board in Borough Hall and that copies had been made available to members of the general public desiring same.

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting to the public on the Ordinance and stated that any taxpayer of the Borough of Florham Park or any interested persons could be heard. Seeing no members of the public who wished to be heard, Mayor Taylor closed the meeting to the Public. Councilman Zuckerman read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, that the Ordinance, as read by title, on second reading, at this Regular meeting, be adopted and finally passed. 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	3			3	

Mayor Taylor declared that the Ordinance was finally adopted and asked the Acting Deputy Borough Clerk to print the notice of adoption in the proper places.

- #21-16 An Ordinance of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Florham Park in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 228 of the Code of the Borough of Florham Park, Entitled, “Towing/Wrecker Operators”

**BOROUGH OF FLORHAM PARK  
COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE #21-16**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE  
BOROUGH OF FLORHAM PARK IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW  
JERSEY, REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 228 OF THE CODE OF THE  
BOROUGH OF FLORHAM PARK, ENTITLED, “TOWING/WRECKER  
OPERATORS”**

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RESOLVED, that the Ordinance, as read by title, on second reading, at this Regular meeting, be adopted and finally passed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Zuckerman.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Santoro	X				
Germershausen				X	
Cefolo-Pane				X	
Carpenter	X				
Malone				X	
Zuckerman	X				
Total	3			3	

Mayor Taylor declared that the Ordinance was finally adopted and asked the Acting Deputy Borough Clerk to print the notice of adoption in the proper places.

**CONSENT AGENDA –RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

Council President Santoro made a motion to approve the presented Resolutions via a single motion of the Council. She asked the Acting Deputy Borough Clerk to read the Resolutions into the record. All Resolutions listed below are appended hereto.

- # 21-116 Authorizing Grant Agreement with Morris County
- # 21-117 Appointing Danielle Lewis to be Acting Deputy Municipal Clerk for a Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council on August 19, 2021
- # 21-118 Pulled
- # 21-119 Authorizing a Deer Management Program and Monitoring a Bow Hunting Program
- # 21-120 Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit
- # 21-121 Budget Amendment for OEM-EMAA Grant
- # 21-122 Budget Amendment for American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Revenue
- # 21-123 Approving the 2020 Corrective Action Plan
- # 21-124 Emergency Resolution for the Pool Utility Not Exceeding 3% of the 2021 Total Current and Utility Budgets
- # 21-125 Authorizing Execution of a Bill of Sale with New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc.
- #21-126 Appointing a Crossing Guard in the Florham Park Police Department

The motion was seconded by Councilman Zuckerman

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Santoro	X				
Germershausen				X	
Cefolo-Pane				X	
Carpenter	X				
Malone				X	
Zuckerman	X				
Total	3			3	

**PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS:**

Councilman Zuckerman read a summary of the current bills list and made a motion to approve it in the amount \$785,385.17. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Santoro.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Santoro	X				
Germershausen				X	



Cefolo-Pane				X	
Carpenter	X				
Malone				X	
Zuckerman	X				
Total	3			3	

Borough Administrator Huyler reported on the application for the sign extension for the northeast property.

Mr. Huyler advised that he has an application for an Eagle Scout who wants to build a compost area to be used by the community garden. He commented that it would be minimal expense and maintenance for the Borough and that it should last for 10-15 years.

Mr. Huyler stated that he spoke with Megan Mink about the town wide garage sale and he thinks it is a great way to minimize the impact on the Department of Public Works on heavy item pick-up days. They discussed that residents who wish to have the garage sales at their house could obtain a permit and do so or they could utilize either half of the Borough pool parking lot or the Recreation building parking lot. He noted that an employee from Public Works would be on site at either the pool or the Recreation building.

**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:**

Mr. Winters had the following questions/comments:

Regarding Resolution 21-125 – what is this related to?

- That is for a water line that the Borough is taking over and tying into a transmission line.

How are the sewer capital improvements going?

- Received final report

How are we doing with federal money received due to the pandemic?

- Funds are being used for the well transmission, there are many things that the money cannot be used for. Mayor Taylor said a new well is being put in the Borough and it will help because it does not have a high concentration of manganese.

Regarding Resolutions 21-124 – why are we behind here? (Pool project)

- Cost of materials have increased significantly.

Mr. Winters said the pool membership should be higher to account for the cost.

Regarding Resolution 21-118 – Resolution was pulled. Document was lost and recovered.

Asked for timeframe for the project on Hanover Road and Mayor Taylor said he hopes to receive answers shortly.

**Maria Quigley, 6 Insley Road:**

Thanked the Borough Council for meeting in person.

Ms. Quigley told a story about bringing her daughter to a pediatrician and discussing masks on children with the pediatrician.

Ms. Quigley asked for the Council to pass a resolution that parents have the right to make the decision for their children whether they wear masks or not. She expressed that she would like to see mask-optional policies put into place.

Mayor Taylor let Ms. Quigley know that they have no authority to do anything because Governor Murphy has mandated that masks be worn by children in schools.

Ms. Quigley said that other municipalities have passed resolutions or support of parent choice and that this would be symbolic in nature.

Ms. Quigley provided a sample draft resolution and distributed same.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

It was regularly moved by Councilman Carpenter and seconded by Councilman Zuckerman that the meeting be adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Danielle M. Lewis, RMC, CMC  
Acting Deputy Borough Clerk  
August 19, 2021