



Florham Park Borough Council
Work Session Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2022

Mayor Mark Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, and asked the Deputy Clerk for a roll call:

Governing Body Member	Present	Absent
Mayor Taylor	X	
Council President Carpenter	X	
Councilman Germershausen	X	
Councilman Malone	X	
Councilman Zuckerman	X	
Councilwoman Santoro	X	
Councilman Marchal		X

Additional Borough officials in attendance were: Borough Administrator William Huyler, Borough Attorney Joseph Bell IV, and Deputy Clerk Maryann Lang.

The requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act had been met.

Councilman Carpenter made a motion to approve Resolution #22-59, authorizing the Council to enter into Executive Session at 6:33 pm, seconded by Councilman Zuckerman.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Florham Park Borough Council Work Session resumed at 7:06 pm.

Appointment – Florham Park Volunteer Fire Department

Councilman Carpenter made a motion to appoint Andrew Waterman as a regular firefighter in the Florham Park Fire Department. Councilman Zuckerman seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Carpenter	x				
Germershausen	x				
Malone	x				
Zuckerman	x				
Santoro	x				
Marchal				x	
Total	5			1	

Mr. Waterman was sworn in by Deputy Clerk, Maryann Lang.

Presentation - Florham Park Environmental Commission - Spring Garden Lake Management Plan:

Sid Dvorkin, Vice Chair of the Environmental Commission, made a presentation to Mayor and Council.

Mr. Dvorkin began by thanking Councilman Zuckerman for his many years as Council Liaison to the Environmental Commission. He thanked Stan Wisnewski, longest serving member of the Environmental Commission. He also thanked the Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW), Michael Smith, and the DPW, for being great partners in maintaining Spring Garden Lake.

The Environmental Commission will be sponsoring Earth Day activities, on April 23, 2022, 10-3, at Spring Garden Lake.

A large portion of the Environmental Commission budget goes to Princeton Hydro. In addition, funds have gone towards maintenance and the installation of benches. Mr. Dvorkin acknowledged the Council's funding of the pedestrian crossing at the lake, which is instrumental in providing a safe pedestrian path around the lake.

Support Boy and Girl Scout projects that enhance the lake. Examples provided were: pollinator garden, rain garden, bat boxes, and the relining of the frog pond.

Spring Garden Lake is a unique and treasured resource. If not properly cared for, eutrophication may occur. Princeton Hydro has been managing the lake for twenty years. The company is very data driven, which can assist the Commission with measurable/actionable goals. An initial water quality assessment was done in 2002, with annual water quality surveys thereafter. Princeton Hydro prepared a watershed modeling study. A water depth study was conducted in 2002 and was compared to the present. There hasn't been a great increase of sediment, so dredging doesn't need to be done at this time. The focus now is on the long term health of the lake. Princeton Hydro has developed a lake management plan, assess health of the lake at 1, 2, and 5 year periods. This plan is viewed as a prerequisite for grants and funding. The New Jersey

Spring Garden Lake Management Plan Presentation (continued):

Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will soon be issuing an RFP, for a restoration grant.

Councilman Carpenter commented that it is good that we will have measurable goals with this plan, and can plan for the needs of the lake. Councilman Malone commented that the lake management plan may dovetail with the Recreation Master Plan.

Mr. Dvorkin commented that he lived in town for many years, before knowing of the existence of Spring Garden Lake. The first time he went to an Environmental Commission meeting, neighbors were worried about the increased use of the lake. They were concerned people would not be respectful of the lake, and the residents that lived around it. This has not happened, people are respectful.

General Council Portfolio Updates:

Councilman Carpenter provided the following update:

First Aid Squad:

The powerlift stretcher has been installed. The squad is looking to replace ambulance #63, which is fifteen years old.

Police Department:

Received a \$7,000 distracted driver grant. April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Distracted driving is the leading cause of accidents.

Engineering:

Columbia/Park Street intersection improvement project – still waiting for delivery of the traffic signal components.

Briarwood Road intersection improvements are complete.

Elm Street Road and drainage improvement project – survey obtained from residents has resulted in the proposed installation of angled granite block curbing along the Elm Street residential frontages. Granite block curb will be installed from the start of the project at Emmett Field, and will extend along the Elm Street Recreation area and DPW storage yard. Project scheduled to go out to bid spring/summer. New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) funding of \$411,700.00 is involved.

Farr Lane/Murphy Circle drainage study – stormwater ditch easements have been sent to two residents for sign-off.

Road maintenance – some driveway curb repairs will be needed prior to paving Murphy Circle, Farr Lane, Indian Lane, Cherokee Trail, Overlook Drive and Driftway.

Department of Public Works:

Lawn waste pick up has begun. Spring field maintenance is ongoing. Repair work is taking place on the gazebo.

Councilman Germershausen provided the following update:

Historic Preservation Commission:

The Historic Preservation Commission has a meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 9:00 at the Little Red School House (LRSH). There will be a Hancock Cemetery update. The LRSH will be open to the public from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The other Historic Preservation Commission Meeting dates are: May 1 at 11:00 at the LRSH, June 4 at 9:00 am at the LRSH and July 27 at 7:00 pm in the courtroom at Borough Hall.

Morris County Board of Commissioners:

There is nothing to report from the Morris County Board of Commissioners. Mayor Taylor asked if they talked about Columbia Turnpike, and Councilman Germershausen responded that they had not.

Councilman Malone provided the following report:

Finance:

The adoption of the 2022 municipal budget is scheduled for April 21, 2022.

In December 2021, Governor Murphy signed Chapter 317 regarding extending a moratorium on charging interest on delinquent residential water bills through March 15, 2022. This has been extended to sewer bills. Delinquent sewer statements were already sent out in March. We will have to see how to reverse the interest. Residents with delinquent water accounts can use a twelve month payment plan. These accounts can't be put on tax sale.

Recreation Department:

Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the turf field on April 10.

Day Camp registration is filling up, there are currently 138 registrations.

Spring Cheer will be from May 3 – June 2.

Pilates Class has started, will run through June 2.

Pickleball has begun.

Baseball opening day is April 23.

Rutgers Safety Clinic is May 17, over Zoom.

Community Garden spots are filled, waiting list now.

Councilman Zuckerman provided the following report:

Seniors:

Meeting held on March 23. Mayor's lunch will be on April 20. First meeting of AARP will be held on April 19.

Board of Education:

The Principal of Brookdale School has resigned. The 2022-2023 budget, of \$21,856,612 has been introduced; public hearing will be on May 2 at 7:00 pm.

Pool:

Frank Newman will not be coming back as pool manager. It would be nice to recognize Frank for his years of service at the pool. A pool survey is being prepared asking for recommendations for changes to the pool.

Environmental Commission:

Nothing to report – covered in presentation.

Councilwoman Santoro provided the following report:

Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment:

Planning Board approved a temporary sales trailer at the LCS Site.

Approval of extension of time to record minor subdivision, Sisters of Charity.

Denial without prejudice for site plan application, Alfieri.

Amended site plan, approval for concrete pad for chiller unit, Celularity.

Zoning review is nearing completion.

Two applications were approved for lot coverage, in connection with a patio and an in-ground pool.

Approval of one year extension of previously granted site plan and use variance, 301 Columbia Turnpike.

Fourth of July Committee:

Currently getting quotes from vendors, seeing increased costs from previous years. Fundraising needed.

Councilwoman Santoro asked Construction Official, Kevin Guilfoyle, for a Construction Department update:

There have been one hundred and four new permits, which included six new homes and ninety six alterations. There have been six hundred and seventy five inspections. In March of 2021, there were one hundred and twenty three permits, and five hundred and eighteen inspections. Year-to date 2021 permits was three hundred and sixteen; 2022, three hundred and ninety seven permits. There continue to be inspections five days a week at LCS and Pulte. Starting to see a lot of renovations at the large office complexes on Campus Drive, Park Avenue and Vreeland Road.

Councilman Carpenter provided the update on behalf of Councilman Marchal:

Library:

Library Board meeting on April 18.

Librarian will no longer moderate the Community Conversations series.

Touch a truck is being planned for October.

Board of Health:

Meeting on April 13.

Gazebo Committee:

There are two new volunteers on the Gazebo Committee.

Water:

Well rehabilitation project:

Most of the controls/instruments have been installed, and undergoing calibration and testing.

The NJDEP has been notified of pending operation of well. A permit to operate will be issued by NJDEP once all sampling, inspection, and as-built drawing is complete.

Water meter replacement project:

Good response to letters sent out, over forty meters have been installed. The installation fee will be reconsidered.

Sewer:

Flood hazard area and wetland permit applications have been submitted to NJDEP, for future improvements within the sewer plant, and possible expansion to the adjacent Borough owned property.

Colliers Engineering continues to work on the third clarifier, bar screen and generator design.

Design work continues on the Carrigan Lane/Burnet Road sewer and sewer pump station project.

Still working on specifications and construction plans for the Beechwood/Elmwood cured in place lining project.

Mr. Huyler brought up two items for Council review/discussion:

Modification of sign request from Delaney. The sizes are 4' x 3' and 8' x 3'. Mr. Zuckerman asked if it would still be for a one year period. Mr. Sgaramella responded yes, but it would be onsite where the trailer is located. Mayor and Council had no issues with the sign request.

Request for fireworks at Brooklake Country Club. It will be for approximately ten minutes. Mayor Taylor asked if it would occur on a school night. Mr. Huyler responded that it will take place on May 21st, which is a Saturday. Mayor and Council had no issues with the request.

Consent Agenda – Resolutions of Approval:

Councilman Carpenter made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Resolutions, via single motion of the Council. Councilwoman Santoro seconded the motion.

- #22-55 Appointing James Blair as Fire Inspector for Borough of Florham Park
- #22-56 Authorizing Police Officer participation in the 2022 Policy Unity Tour
- #22-57 Authorizing acceptance of federal funds to the Florham Park Police OEM to be used for emergency management purposes
- #22-58 Authorizing approval of a temporary municipal budget

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Carpenter	x				
Germershausen	x		X On Resolution 2022-25		
Malone	x				
Zuckerman	x				
Santoro	x				
Marchal				x	
Total	5		1 On Resolution 2022-25	1	

Payment of Vouchers:

Councilman Malone made a motion to approve the current bills list in the amount of \$2,993,971.56. The motion was seconded by Councilman Zuckerman.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Carpenter	x				
Germershausen	x				
Malone	x				
Zuckerman	x				
Santoro	x				
Marchal				x	
Total	5			1	

Privilege of the Floor:

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting to the public, and the following members of the public wished to be heard:

John Winters, 32 Brooklake Road:

Any response regarding the electronic company lowering rates? Mayor Taylor responded there has been no change.

Fish Property Trail open? Yes, Mike and crew did a good job.

ASCO status - Mayor Taylor responded that this will be discussed at a later time.

The public portion of the meeting was closed at 7:45 pm.

Adjournment:

On a motion made by Councilman Zuckerman, and seconded by Councilwoman Santoro, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maryann C. Lang, RMC
Deputy Borough Clerk