



BOROUGH COUNCIL
Borough of Florham Park
Thursday, March 2, 2023

Work Session Minutes

Mayor Taylor called the Work Session of the Borough Council to order at 6:34 p.m.

Mayor Taylor asked Borough Clerk Danielle Lewis to call the roll as follows:

Governing Body	Present	Absent
Malone	X	
Germershausen	X	
Carpenter	X	
Santoro	X	
Marchal	X	
Cicarelli		X
Mayor Taylor	X	

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

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Borough Clerk Danielle Lewis stated that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. Chapter 231, have been met.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF DANIEL HEDDEN, NEW HIRE IN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Councilman Carpenter introduced Daniel Hedden, who is a recruitment from the Police Academy.

Mr. Hedden spoke to the Mayor and Borough Council about his background and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to work for the Borough of Florham Park.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PORTFOLIO UPDATES

Council President Malone:

Finance Committee:

The introduction of the 2023 Budget will be held at the March 16, 2023 Borough Council meeting and the presentation, public hearing and adoption will be held on the April 20, 2023 Borough Council meeting.

The Finance Committee met regarding the health insurance for Borough employees. The Borough is self-funded and is in good shape.

Recreation:

John Timmons stated that there are about two weeks left in the basketball season. Lacrosse starts on Monday and the grass fields will open on April 1. Girls' softball will have their season opener on April 21 and Baseball day will be on April 22 this year.

This year's Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 2. Other upcoming events include the Car Show on May 20, the Halos for Angels fundraiser on June 3, a cornhole tournament on June 15, and a music and arts festival on October 21. Senior citizens trips have been planned for the spring.

Mayor Taylor requested that the 200 Club event on September 23, 2023 be added to the Community Calendar.

Mayor Taylor:

There will be Law Enforcement Night at Mennen Arena tomorrow.

Councilman Germershausen:

Historic Preservation Commission:

Pre-qualifications are due on March 8 for restoration contractors for the Little Red Schoolhouse. There are field trips scheduled to the Little Red Schoolhouse this week and next week.

Board of County Commissioners:

The 2023 budget was introduced and there will be no increase in the tax rate for the fourth consecutive year.

Councilman Carpenter:

Police Department:

The department will be enforcing a zero tolerance campaign in response to speeding complaints on cut-through streets.

Department of Public Works:

The department has only had to salt five times this season and plow once.

The hot box is up and ready to go and the new fuel management software is ready to be scheduled.

Florham Park Update:

The draft of the next edition will be completed around mid-May for a mid-June release date.

Engineering:

Columbia Turnpike/Park Street Intersection Improvement Project – Project completed.

Elm Street Road and Drainage Improvement Project – Work will commence in the spring of 2023.

The Engineering department is working on the plans for the Dellwood, Woodbine, Puddingstone and Rustic sidewalk and re-pavement project. They are looking to submit to NJDOT for approval.

Florham Park Environmental Commission will be sponsoring a stormwater presentation by the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) at the Library on Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00pm.

Councilwoman Santoro:

Planning Board:

1-year extension was granted to the Sisters of Charity for their site plan for 2 Convent Road. The next meeting is March 13, 2023.

4th of July Committee:

The Committee met last night and is finalizing a theme and catch phrase. Volunteer outreach will begin with several local organizations.

The Committee is looking into obtaining its own gaming license for fundraising events.

Asked for the Mayor and Council to approve a July 8 rain date for the 4th of July fireworks and social garden. This is different from the traditional day, but would end approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the fireworks to avoid patrons traveling home. There was consensus to approve this request by the Mayor and Council.

Councilwoman Santoro on behalf of Councilman Cicarelli:

Board of Education:

Mr. Robert Foster was hired as the new principal for Brooklake Elementary School.

The dress rehearsal for Chicago at Hanover Park High School was a big success.

Environmental Commission:

Eagle Scout Ryan Takla presented on his project at the last meeting and it was approved for him to begin in the upcoming weeks to improve the southwest corner of Spring Garden Lake. This is a four phase project that will include the removal and cleaning of excess brush, the planting of new trees/plants, and scheduling upkeep and maintenance to prevent overgrowth.

The Earth Day event will be held on April 22, 2023 from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Marketing and early steps of preparing for the event will begin shortly.

The Pollinator Garden Project for Ridgedale Middle School is continuing to grow steam and will hopefully be in place by the end of this year's school year.

Municipal Pool:

Has spoken with two current members about potential meeting dates and identifying areas of concern.

Councilman Marchal:

Water:

Well Rehabilitation Project – The project is complete and training continues on Well #5.

Water Meter replacement project - There are approximately 61 residents remaining that need their water meter replaced. Meter replacement fines will go out with the next water bill.

Water Tank Rehabilitation Design Project – No new updates

Florham Park Pool – The pool has been drained. Hydrostatic valves have been replaced and the main drain passed a pressure test indicating no leakage. The Recreation director is working on getting a pool company to perform minor tile and caulking repairs and to acid wash and polish the pool finish.

Daily and weekly duties completed including sampling at new Well #5, probing for leaking water main at 2 Dellwood, and repairing ultrasonic measuring device for chlorine level in holding tank.

Sewer:

Sewer Plant Flood Hazard Area and Wetland Permit applications have been submitted to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The Flood Hazard Area Verification has been received from NJDEP and we are waiting on wetland delineation.

Colliers Engineers continues with generator, bar screen, and clarifier designs. The generator project has been advertised for bid this week for a bid opening on March 7, 2023. Clarifier and bar screen are unfunded but the design will be complete in mid 2023.

The Liquid Sludge Transport contract to the Passaic Valley Sewer Commission facilities in Newark ends this year. The bid opening will be on March 7, 2023.

Carrigan Lane/Burnet Road Sewer and Sewer Pump Station Project – The project has been approved by the Green's Engineer. Working with the Green's new development association on agreement to share sewage transmission costs from this project. A bid advertisement will be soon thereafter.

Library:

Community Conversations are underway

Gazebo Committee:

So far there are 170 attendees and \$13,000.00 has been raised so far for the St. Patrick's Day dinner at Holy Family.

CONSENT AGENDA – RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL

Council President Malone made a motion to approve the presented Resolution via a single motion of the Council, which was pulled. The Resolution listed below is appended hereto.

#23-49 AUTHORIZING TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND

The motion was seconded by Councilman Germershausen.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Malone	X			
Germershausen	X			
Carpenter	X			
Santoro	X			
Marchal	X			
Cicarelli				X
Total	5			

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

Council President Malone read a summary of the current bills list and made a motion to approve it in the amount \$4,391,978.60. The motion was seconded by Councilman Marchal.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Malone	X			
Germershausen	X			
Carpenter	X			
Santoro	X			
Marchal	X			
Cicarelli				X
Total	5			

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 asked if the tax overpayment refund Resolution pertained to a residential or commercial property. He was informed that this Resolution is for a residential property.

It was regularly moved by Council President Malone and seconded by Councilman Germershausen that the work session be adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Danielle M. Lewis, RMC, CMC
Borough Clerk
March 2, 2023