



BOROUGH COUNCIL
Borough of Florham Park
Thursday, April 6, 2023

Work Session Minutes

Mayor Taylor called the Work Session of the Borough Council to order at 6:31 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.

EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION

Jake Ferrara of Boy Scout Troop 25 presented his idea for Book Exchange Boxes to the Mayor and Council. The boxes would be filled with children's books and the idea is that someone would take a book from the box and leave another book behind.

He explained that the boxes will be built in the design of the Little Red School House and would be about 3-4 feet off the ground and posted in the ground.

He received a donation from Jaycee's that would cover the majority of the costs, if not all of them.

Mayor Taylor stated that he would have to coordinate with the Director of Public Works, Mike Smith, to make sure water lines or sprinkler lines are not hit while digging to install the boxes.

Mr. Ferrara asked to place book boxes at Spring Garden Lake, the Tot Lot, and Stobaeus Field. He stated that these boxes really would not require any maintenance, other than if they were to fall over or be damaged due to a storm.

The Council voted in consensus to approve Jake Ferrara's project.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PORTFOLIO UPDATES

Council President Malone:

Council President Malone commended the Borough Police Department for their response to an incident at St. Elizabeth University's campus on Tuesday. He received numerous compliments about the Department and the exemplary job that they did.

Council President Malone said that he and Councilman Carpenter approached Administrator Huyler and Mayor Taylor about increasing the Borough's presence on social media to provide periodic updates and issue factual information.

Recreation:

There will be a meeting held tomorrow with the Florham Park Little League to discuss field concerns in light of recent posts and comments shared on Facebook.

The recent Easter Egg Hunt was a success.

Spring cheer is underway, Pilates, day camp registration, pickle ball, Falcons football sign-ups will begin soon.

Finance Committee:

The presentation, public hearing and adoption will be held on the April 20, 2023 Borough Council meeting.

Councilman Germershausen:

Historic Preservation Commission:

The Commission is reviewing the list of historic home sites that was submitted.

Councilman Carpenter:

Fire Department:

There are three new members on the Fire department. The department received 35 more calls than average and 129 calls that required a response during the first quarter of 2023.

The First Aid Squad is averaging approximately 3.87 calls per day and covering 11 out of the 14 shifts. They received their licensure and are billing at 100% of their calls.

Department of Public Works:

Director Mike Smith shared that the Department received a new pick-up truck for the road department. Three new dump trucks will be coming soon.

Administrator Huyler advised that interviews will be conducted for two openings in the department. The new fuel management software will be set up.

Mayor Taylor said he and Mr. Smith met this morning regarding the dog park.

Engineering:

Elm Street Road and Drainage Improvement Project – Project has been staked out by surveying crew. Structures have been delivered. NJDOT grant of \$411,700 was received for construction.

Plans and specifications were submitted for the Dellwood, Woodbine, Puddingstone and Rustic sidewalk and repavement project to NJDOT for review. Awaiting comments, then will bit out upon NJDOT approval.

Annual Milling and Paving projects for Manker Drive, Totty Court, Kenneth Court, Knapp Avenue, Lloyd Avenue, Hillside Avenue, and Riverside Ave (West End to Rockwood) will be delayed until later this year due to PSE&G replacing gas mains on several of the listed streets. This project may be publically bid instead of using the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council Paving Contractor due to unfavorable Co-Op pricing. PSE&G is scheduled to start their work in the middle of April.

Police Department:

The speed enforcement initiative for the month of March resulted in 687 motor vehicle stops and will be continuing indefinitely. A Distracted Driving Grant was received recently in the amount of \$7,000. Junior Police Academy applications are now available. The first 40 applicants will secure a spot.

Councilman Marchal:

Water:

The Water Department will be conducting their annual hydrant flushing program beginning Tuesday, April 11, 2023, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. The program will take approximately two weeks to complete. This is part of our continuous efforts to improve water quality to our customers. It also serves the following purposes:

- It flushes sediments from mainline pipes.
- It verifies the proper operation of the fire hydrants.

Well Rehabilitation Project - Water Department has completed training for Well #5 operation. Few minor general punchlist items to be resolved. Project complete. Closing out project.

Water Meter replacement project - There are approximately 55 residents remaining that need their water meter replaced. Meter Replacement fines were issued last water bill to first group. Final warning letters going out the end of April for next group.

Water Tank Rehabilitation Design Project - No update

Florham Park Pool - Pool was drained. The butterfly valve and float valve were found to be leaking over the winter. These valves will be removed and replaced by the Water and Sewer Departments. A final air and pressure test will be done on Main Drain tomorrow. The Recreation Director is working on getting a pool company to perform pool light replacement, minor tile and caulking repairs.

Sewer:

Sewer Plant Flood Hazard Area and Wetland Permit applications have been submitted to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

Colliers Engineers continues with bar screen and clarifier designs. The generator project will be awarded at the next Council meeting.

The Liquid Sludge Transport contract has been awarded and executed.

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.

Beechwood/Elmwood Cured-In-Place Lining Project – CDM has completed specifications for the project. This should be ready for bidding in early-to-mid 2023. The bid will be advertised after the budget is passed.

Library:

The Library concluded its annual Community Conversations series. This year’s discussion was a productive one that centered on volunteerism around town. As a result of the discussions, a coordinated effort to establish quarterly meetings for leaders and representatives from Florham Park volunteer organizations to discuss their projects, ideas, and needs will take place.

Donna Rose, the President of the Library Board of Trustees, is stepping down from her position after 22 years of service. She will be greatly missed. A list of nominees for the Library Board of Trustees has been shared with the Mayor for his consideration.

Councilman Cicarelli:

Board of Education:

The new administrative contract and new budget were approved by the Hanover Park Regional School District Board of Education. Numerous student awards were presented.

Updates were given on the referendum and facilities project at the Florham Park Board of Education meeting.

Environmental Commission:

The Earth Day event will be held on April 22, 2023 from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

The ANJEC event will be on April 19 at 7:00 P.M. at the Florham Park Library.

The EC and school district how mare looking for funding for the pollinator garden at Ridgedale Middle School.

Municipal Pool:

Updates have started and there will be a new pool manager this season.

Senior Citizens:

The Brooklake Elementary School Children's choir performed at the last meeting and the next meeting will be held on April 12. The newsletter will be released in upcoming weeks.

Mayor Taylor

Mayor Taylor met with Superintendent Steve Caponegro and Business Administrator John Csatlos regarding the Jerry Gibson Theater. They are also looking at areas for a community garden that the school children could use.

CONSENT AGENDA – RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL

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

- #23-61** AUTHORIZING PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSFER OF PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE NO. 1411-44-004-003 FROM DANISHEK BROS INC. (184 COLUMBIA TPK, FLORHAM PARK, NJ 07932) TO 184 SHIVAAM LLC (115 WATCHUNG AVE, MONTCLAIR, NJ 07043) FOR THE PREMISES KNOWN AS FLORHAM PARK LIQUORS, 184 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE, FLORHAM PARK, NJ 07932
- #23-62** AUTHORIZING THE PROVISION OF A LOAN PURSUANT TO THE BOROUGH OF FLORHAM PARK AFFORDABILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE PURCHASER OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT
- #23-63** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A HUMANE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (HLEO)
- #23-64** AUTHORIZING OFFICERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POLICE UNITY TOUR SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9, 2023 THROUGH MAY 14, 2023
- #23-65** AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A SUBGRANT AWARD OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022 OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ASSISTANCE
- #23-66** AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO D'ONOFRIO & SON, INC. FOR GRASS CUTTING SERVICES
- #23-67** GRANTING A PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION TO PROPERTY OWNED BY BERGEN COUNTY'S UNITED WAY AND MADELINE HOUSING PARTNERS
- #23-68** DESIGNATING 165 PARK AVENUE (BLOCK 1401, LOT 5.01) AS A NON-CONDEMNATION AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT

The motion was seconded by Councilman Carpenter.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Malone	X			
Germershausen	X			
Carpenter	X			
Santoro				X
Marchal	X			
Cicarelli	X			
Total	5			1

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

Council President Malone read a summary of the current bills list and made a motion to approve it in the amount \$3,023,849.90. 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			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: Mr. Winters commented about the state of the Borough facilities for baseball. He asked if Resolution #23-63 pertained to a new position. Administrator Huyler said this appointment replaces the Officer who retired who was previously in the position. Every Police department is required to have a HLEO.

Mr. Winters asked about several other Resolutions and was provided explanations on all.

It was regularly moved by Council President Malone and seconded by Councilman Carpenter that the work session be adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Danielle M. Lewis, RMC, CMC
 Borough Clerk
 April 6, 2023