

# Minutes of the January 3, 2012 Florham Park Borough Council Reorganization meeting

## 1. Call to Order

**MAYOR:** Happy New Year Everyone and welcome to the 2012 Annual Reorganization Meeting. At this time I would like to call the 2012 Re-organization meeting to order.

Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call of the 2011 Council please?

2. Clerk: Boy, Taylor, Wikstrom

## 3. Open Public Meetings Act Announcement

**MAYOR:** Mrs. Williams have all the requirements of the Open Public Meetings act been met?

**Williams:** Pursuant to NJSA 10:4-9, I hereby state for the record that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public via posting the annual notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building as well as publication in the official newspaper of the Borough, The Florham Park Eagle.

**MAYOR:** Thank you Mrs. Williams.

## 4. Acknowledgement of Guests

**MAYOR:** At this time I would like to recognize the following guests.  
(Mayor recognizes various guests in the audience)

## 5. Invocation:

**MAYOR:** We are pleased to have with us this evening Monsignor Raymond Kupke who will provide the invocation this evening. Monsignor Kupke was the pastor at Holy family Church for many years and is now the Pastor at St. Anthony's in Hawthorne. Monsignor, welcome and thank you for coming.

## 6. Opening Ceremony-Flag Salute:

**MAYOR:** This evening we also have with us members of the Color Guard of The Florham Park Police Department who will lead us in the Flag Salute. Please welcome Sgt. Matt Gatzke, Sgt. Karl Svenningsen, Patrolman Brian Mensing and Patrolman Joel Phillips.

**PLEASE STAND.**

**MAYOR:** Please remain standing for the singing of the Star Spangled Banner, which will be sung by Florham Park's own Alexandra Armeni

7. 2011 Old Business

**MAYOR:** At this time I would ask the Borough Council to address some old business from 2011

**PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS:**

**Boy:** I would like to make a motion to approve the current bills list from December 2011 in the amount of \$1,389,483.05

**Taylor:** I will second that motion.

Roll Call: Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes

8. Resolutions:

**Resolution #11-164** Authorizing the Transfer of 2011 Appropriations

**Boy:** I would like to make a motion to approve Resolution # 11-164 to authorize budget transfers for 2011 funds. I will ask that the Borough Clerk read this Resolution into the record. So moved.

**Wikstrom:** 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**MAYOR:** Roll Call Please.

Roll Call: Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes

**Resolution # 11-165** Authorizing a Tax Lien Redemption, Block 804, Lot 8.003

**Boy:** I would like to make a motion to approve Resolution #11-165 Authorizing a Tax Lien Redemption, Block 804, Lot 8.003. I will ask the Borough Clerk to read this resolution into the record. So moved.

Roll Call: Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes

**MAYOR:** Seeing that the 2011 unfinished business has been addressed I will now close this portion of the meeting. Can I have a motion of the Council to close this portion of the meeting?

Taylor: So moved.

Wikstrom: 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor: All in favor.

All: AYE

**NEW BUSINESS 2012:**

**9. Swearing in of 2012 Mayor & Council:**

**Mayor:** We will now move in to our 2012 business. I will ask the Borough Clerk to step up to swear in our newly elected officials, including myself.

Borough Clerk swears in Mayor Scott Eveland. (Mayor returns to dais)

**Mayor:** I would like to move on to the swearing in of our newly elected Council people.

First, our newest Councilwoman, Carmen Cefolo-Pane Please step forward to be sworn in. (Clerk swears in Ms. Cefolo-Pane and she returned to the dais).

Next we have Councilman Charles Germershausen. Please step up to be sworn in.

(Clerk swears in Mr. Germershausen and he returned to the dais)

Last but not least we have Councilman Bill Huyler. Please step up to be sworn in.

(Clerk swears in Mr. Huyler and he returned to the dais)

Congratulations to you all. It is an honor to serve the people of Florham Park with you. Please step forward to be sworn in by the Borough Clerk

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a Roll Call of the 2012 Council Members please?

**Roll Call:** Council President Huyler, Councilman Germershausen, Councilman Boy, Councilman Taylor, Councilman Wikstrom, Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane

**Nomination of Council President:**

**Mayor:** At this time, I call for a motion of the Council for a nomination for the 2012 Council President

**Huyler:** I would like to make a motion to nominate Councilman Mark Taylor to serve as Council President for 2012

**Wikstrom:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, Abstain; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I would like to take a moment to thank Councilman Huyler for his support during 2011 and congratulate Council President Taylor.

**11. Appointment of Borough Officials:**

**Taylor:** Mr. Mayor I would like to make a motion to appoint the following Borough Officials:

Search Assessment Officer	<b>Sheila Williams</b>	<b>1 year term, expiring 12/31/12</b>
Tax Search Officer	<b>Kimberly Kientz</b>	<b>1 year term, expiring 12/31/12</b>
Pension Certifying Official	<b>Kimberly Kientz</b>	<b>1 year term, expiring 12/31/12</b>

**Germershausen:** I will second the motion.

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes;  
Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** At this time I would like to welcome Judge Gary Troxel who was kind enough to attend this evening to swear in some of our Borough Officials.

Judge Troxel administers the Oath of office to Borough Officials. (Williams, Kientz)

**12. Council 2012 Portfolio Assignments:**

**Mayor:** I will now announce the portfolio assignments for the Council members for 2012:

**Dept of Community Services: Councilman Bill Huyler**

**Council Liaison to:**

Public Works, Water Utility, Engineering, Construction, Sewer Utility,  
Town Center Task Force, Florham Park Fire Department

**Planning & Development – Council President Mark Taylor**

**Council Liaison to:**

Planning Board Class III Member, Board of Adjustment, Construction Board of Appeals, Morris Land Conservancy, SEAMLESS, Environmental Commission, First Aid Squad

**Public Safety: Councilman Charles Germershausen**

**Council Liaison to:**

Police Department, Project Community Pride, OEM, Municipal Court

**Finance: Councilman Fred Boy**

**Council Liaison to:**

CFO, Tax Assessor, Capital Improvement Committee,  
Historic Preservation Commission, Library Board of Trustees, Board of Education

**Community Affairs: Councilwoman Carmen Cefolo-Pane**

**Council Liaison to:**

Senior Citizens, Board of Health, Community TV, July 4<sup>th</sup> Committee, Gazebo Committee

**Recreation: Councilman David Wikstrom**

**Council Liaison to:**

Recreation Department, Municipal Pool, Pool Advisory Committee,  
Airport Advisory Committee

**13. Police Department Appointments:**

**Mayor:**

Next we will move on to some other appointments for the Police Dept.  
I recommend the appointment of the following officers as **INTERNAL  
AFFAIRS OFFICERS** for a term of 1 year:

Captain Robert Treiber  
Detective Lieutenant Mark Garcia  
Lieutenant Mike Voitcu  
Lieutenant Matthew Gatzke

I also recommend the following appointments:

**School Crossing Guards:**

Patty Yee Normand  
Penny Pryer  
Vinnie Maggiulli

**Police Matrons:**

Patty Yee Normand  
Penny Pryer

**Mayor:**

I hereby make the following recommendations for the  
**Office of Emergency Management** for a term of 1 year:

**OEM Coordinator:**

Chief Patrick Montuore

**Deputy Coordinators:**

Robert Treiber  
Scott Bartell  
Michael Sgaramella  
Frank Esposito  
Steve Jones  
Carl Ganger  
Michael Cannilla  
Jonathan Young  
Phil Infantolino

**Mayor:** I hereby recommend the following appointments in the Florham Park Police Department:

**Per Diem Dispatchers:**

Garrett Janes  
Matthew Melillo  
Alyssa Kirby

**Special Law Enforcement Officers – Class II**

Rocco Scanniello  
John Novalis

**Germershausen:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Taylor:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** Will the **Police Department and OEM Members** please come forward to be sworn in by Judge Troxel

**14. Fire Department:**

**Mayor:** I recommend the appointment of the following to the Florham Park Volunteer Fire Department **Board of Fire Engineers for a term of one year:**

<b>Fire Chief</b>	Jonathan R. Young
<b>Deputy Chief</b>	Scott Carpenter
<b>Assistant Chief</b>	Chuck Keel
<b>Assistant Chief</b>	Brian Magee
<b>Fire Inspector</b>	Al Kellogg
<b>Fire Official</b>	James Fonzino

**Huyler:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Wikstrom:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** Will the Fire Appointees please come forward to be sworn in by Judge Troxel

Judge Troxel Administers the Oath of Office to the Police and Fire Appointees

Mayor: Thank you very much Judge Troxel. Next on to appointment of our Boards and Commission Members.

**15. Boards & Commissions:**

**Mayor:** I hereby make the following appointments to the Florham Park Planning Board:

Michael Cannilla	4 year term	expiring 12/31/2015
Jane Marguiles	4 year term	expiring 12/31/2015
Charles Malone	filling 4 yr.	unexpired term until 12/31/2014
Gina DeLuca	filling 2 yr.	unexpired term until 12/31/2012
Anne Maravic	filling 2 yr.	unexpired term until 12/31/2012

**Mayor:** I hereby make the following appointments to the Zoning Board of Adjustment:

Matthew DeAngelis	4 year term	expiring 12/31/2015
Lambert Tamin	4 year term	expiring 12/31/2015
Martin Chiarlanzio	2 year term	expiring 12/31/2013

**Taylor:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Germershausen:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** Will those members please step forward to be sworn in by Mrs. Williams

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the Board of Health:

Ruth Purdy	3 year term	expiring 12/31/14
Stanley Wisnewski	3 year term	expiring 12/31/14
Tana LaPlaca	3 year term	expiring 12/31/14
Marianne Nucci	1 year term	expiring 12/31/12

**Cefolo-Pane:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Boy:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** **I recommend the following appointments to the Library Board of Trustees:**

Donna Rose                      5 year term    expiring 12/31/16

Hilde Dyer                      Superintendent's Representative

**Mayor:** **I recommend the following appointments to the Historic Preservation Commission:**

Christine Davidson              3 year term    expiring 12/31/14

Patrick Dolan                      3 year term    expiring 12/31/14

**Mayor:** **I recommend the following appointments to the Construction Board of Appeals:**

Joseph Phillipone              4 year term    expiring 12/31/15

Mark Iantosca                      filling a current unexpired term due  
To expire 12/31/12

**Taylor:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Huyler:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** **I recommend the following appointments to the Environmental Commission:**

Charles Malone                      filling unexpired term of Carmen Cefolo-Pane  
Expiring 12/31/13

Laura Iandorio                      3 year term    expiring 12/31/2014

**Taylor:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Wikstrom:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** Will all appointees from those Boards and Commissions please step forward to be sworn in by Mrs. Williams

**16. Committees:**

**Mayor:** Next we will move on the appointments of our various committee members. Committee members do not have to be sworn in; however, I would like each member stand up to recognized after their name is called.

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the Airport Advisory Committee:

**Jim Jannicelli, Chair**

Mark Walsh, Wendy Nunn, Kenneth Parker, Jack Dalton, Debbie Bester

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the **Gazebo Committee:**

**Joseph Jagiello, Jr. , Chair**

Andrew Williams, Rosemary Roser, Ken Roser, Winnie Shurek, Judy Wisnewski, Stan Wisnewski, Jim Dirlam, Annemarie Landishman, Matthew Epstein, Angel Salsido, Gabe Rhodes

**Cefolo-Pane:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Taylor:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the **Town Center Task Force:**

**Michael Prokop, Chair**

Carole Anderson, Steve Jensen, Donald Lepore, Michael Mehl, Ann Morano, Lou Nucci, Morris Hoover, Doug Asral

**Huyler:** I move for approval of these appointments.

**Germershausen:** 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the  
**Capital Improvement Committee:**

**Jeffrey Noss, Chair**

Robert Criswell, Steve Jensen, George McGuirk, William Pellettiere,  
John Prokop, Douglas Stolpe, Lou Nucci, John Treiber, Rudi Bester

**Boy:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Germershausen:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the **Florham Park Community TV Committee:**

**David Ackerman, Chair**

William Ackerman, Patty Foley, Joseph Guerin, Suzanne Guerin,  
Joseph Jagiello, Jr.

**Cefolo-Pane:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Wikstrom:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following 2 year appointments to the  
**Recreation Committee, which terms will expire 12/31/2013:**

Scott Carpenter  
Joseph DeFina  
Marlene Rawson  
Michael Murphy

And also Adam Lieb, Recreation Director for a term of 1 year

**Wikstrom:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Taylor:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the  
**July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee:**

**Rocco Scanniello, Chair**

Ed Enderle, Patty Foley, Joseph Guerin,  
Suzanne Guerin, Alison Farrell, Linda Michalowski, Tom Michalowski,  
Susan Novalis, John Novalis, Russ Corrao, Karen Corrao

**Cefolo-Pane:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Boy:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**Mayor:** I recommend the following appointments to the  
**Pool Advisory Committee:**

Mike Murphy, Victor Guerra, Tom Padden, Carl Ganger, Frank Newman

**Wikstrom:** I move for confirmation of these appointments.

**Taylor:** I will second that motion.

**Mayor:** Mrs. Williams, may I have a roll call please?

**Roll Call:** Taylor, Germershausen, Boy, Wikstrom, Huyler, Cefolo-Pane

17. **Borough Employees**

**Mayor:** I recommend the continued employment of all Borough Employees who were on the Payroll on December 31, 2011, except for any employees whose service with the Borough may have been terminated at or on December 31, 2011.

**Wikstrom:** So moved.

**Germershausen:** Second.

**Roll Call:** Germershausen, yes; Boy, yes; Taylor, yes; Wikstrom, yes; Huyler, yes; Cefolo-Pane; yes

**18. *Announcement of Council Meeting Dates by the Council President:***

**Taylor:** The Open Public Meeting Law, which is commonly referred to as the “Sunshine Law”, establishes the right of all citizens to have adequate advance notice of all public meetings and the right to attend those meetings at which any business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon.

It also requires the official announcement during the first ten days of the New Year of all the official meeting dates. We have scheduled the Council Meetings as follows:

**Regular Monthly Public Council Meetings in 2012:**

The Public meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time with a work session preceding at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

January 17th, February 21st, March 20th, April 17th, May 22nd,  
June 19th, July 17th, August 14th, September 18th, October 16th,  
November 20th, December 18<sup>th</sup>

**Council Work Sessions for 2012 are as follows:**

February 7<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>, June 5th,  
September 4th, October 2nd, November 6th, December 4th

All work sessions will be held in the Council Conference Room beginning at 6:30 p.m. Business conducted at the work sessions will include such matters as may come before the Council, including the taking of official action when deemed necessary by the Governing Body. Work Sessions are open to the public for questions and comments.

I would like to mention at this time that the law specifies nine exceptions to the requirements for admitting the public to meetings. These exceptions would allow the Governing Body to enter into a closed session. They are:

1. Matters ruled confidential by law.
2. Matters that would impair monies.

3. Matters constituting invasion of individual privacy.
4. Matters involving collective bargaining, including negotiations.
5. Tactics and techniques involving protection, public safety and property as well as investigations of possible violations.
6. Matters involving acquisition of real property and investment of funds.
7. Litigation, contract negotiations, or matters involving attorney client relationships.
8. Personnel matters such as hiring, firing, disciplinary action, etc.
9. Deliberations after public hearing that may result in civil penalties or loss of a license or permit.

**Taylor:** I move that the meeting dates for public meetings and work sessions be accepted as read.

**Cefolo-Pane:** I will second that motion.

**Roll Call:** Taylor, Germershausen, Boy, Wikstrom, Huyler, Cefolo-Pane

**Mayor:** At this time I will ask Mrs. Williams to notify the proper newspapers of the meeting dates for 2012.

**Clerk:** So noted.

### **19. Resolutions – Consent Agenda**

**Mayor:** Can I have a motion to allow the resolutions listed on the agenda to be approved by consent agenda of the Council please?. If there are any questions from the public regarding them, please ask them at this time.

**Taylor:** I would like to make a motion to allow the resolutions listed on the agenda to be approved by consent of the Council via a single motion

**Huyler:** Second

**Roll Call:** Taylor, Germershausen, Boy, Wikstrom, Huyler, Cefolo-Pane

### **Appointments:**

#### **Planning & Zoning, Board of Health, Borough Clerk -**

Taylor: I would like to make a motion to approve the following appointments:

I would like to make a motion to approve the following appointments and resignations:

Maryann Lang as Board of Health Secretary and Registrar effective January 1, 2012 to remain at her current salary

Marlene Rawson as the Secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board effective January 1, 2012 at the salary of \$58,203.00

Suzanne Guerin as Asst. to the Borough Clerk effective January 1, 2012 at the salary of \$41,038

The resignation of Sharon Tunis as Planning and Zoning Secretary effective January 20, 2012.

Please note that we are not creating any new positions. Sharon Tunis is leaving our employment in January after doing a fantastic job as the Planning and Zoning Secretary. We wish Sharon the best of luck with her new home in Florida and thank her for the excellent job she did with the Boards.

Huyler: I will second the motion.

**Roll Call:** Taylor, Germershausen, Boy, Wikstrom, Huyler, Cefolo-Pane

**Fire Department New Hires:**

Huyler: I would like to make a motion to appoint Dean Marelli and Fred Haberman as regular firefighters in the Florham Park Fire Department effective immediately. So moved.

Taylor: 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Roll Call:** Taylor, Germershausen, Boy, Wikstrom, Huyler, Cefolo-Pane

**20. Mayoral Address to the Citizens**

Good evening and welcome everyone to our 2012 Re-Organization Meeting. Thank you for joining us tonight.

First, I would like to congratulate Councilwoman Carmen Cefolo-Pane and Councilman Bill Huyler and Councilman Charles Germershausen on their re-election to our Borough Council.

**Mention campaign and thank Bill for Council Pres.**

And, I thank you for electing me to serve as your mayor for four more years. I am truly humbled again that you have put your faith and support in me and I promise to do everything I can not to let you down. Four years ago, I took an oath to “justly, impartially and faithfully perform the duties of Mayor,” and since then my respect for that pledge has only grown. I renew my pledge to you that I will work diligently in these next four years to always do what is best for Florham Park.

This year, *New Jersey Monthly* named Florham Park the 6<sup>th</sup> best place in the state to live. We are very proud of this accomplishment— it didn't happen over night, and I am not going to take all the credit for that and I am just happy to be a part of that and to continue that tradition and improve on it. Fact is, it couldn't have happened without the hard work of many different employees and volunteers throughout the Borough like those gathered here tonight. Congratulations and thank you for all that you do for our community!

And it's not just about hard work, it's about commitment. You can work hard, but if you are not committed to a common goal, you are not going to get anywhere, regardless of how hard you work. And it all starts right here.

I renew my commitment to continue to work with this Council and this outstanding staff, to continuing to demonstrate sound fiscal responsibility and financial management while delivering the opportunities and services that residents expect and deserve. I renew my commitment to work as hard as I possibly can to make Florham Park even better, for everyone from the kids to the seniors (let's get #1 next time!). My personal pride is going to be when I leave this office in being able to hold my head up high knowing that through teamwork we left it better than when I first assumed this awesome responsibility; and I am committed to working toward that goal each and every day.

Although it starts here, clearly, nothing can be done alone. I am blessed with an outstanding Council that is committed to those goals. I am blessed with an outstanding administration that is committed to those goals. I am blessed with outstanding employees who are committed to those goals. I can honestly say that this has been at the forefront our last years of work together.

And it shows when you read the papers about all the other towns which are in dire financial straights in the worst economy since the Great Depression. While the tax base in other municipalities has shrunk drastically, we have been able to maintain ours, and one aspect of that

was BASF as well as other initiatives from our tax office that closed any gap in lost rateables. I commend Jim Gibbs and John Murray for their work. We will continue the trend of positive development and increasing tax ratables and other revenues in order to maintain our low municipal tax rate.

Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds." In Florham Park, "much has been given us", and in 2012 we will have another opportunity "to give that which is expected from us." As Theodore Roosevelt said, that opportunity is here for us in 2012.

Recently, Suzanne Guerin found some pictures in Borough Hall of our original recreation facilities and residents from 30 years ago making use of Emmett Field. I invite you to stop in and take a look at them – and to contribute copies of your own to our growing collage. I was inspired by the size of the commitment that our parents and grandparents made to ensuring that there were ample recreation opportunities for us in Florham Park. And I read all of the old newspaper articles and saw that it was not done without controversy. Thank God we had leaders then who were not afraid to shy away from controversy. The time has come for us to renew the same commitment to our community or shall I say investment in our community. In addition to low taxes and an outstanding school system, it's the quality of life and what a town has to offer is what attracts people to this place we call home.

**Bill Huyler and DPW:**

Commitment is especially evident in the efforts of our Borough following the two significant storms in 2011. I am proud of how well our various departments stood up to face these unexpected situations. Hurricane Irene and the October Snowstorm challenged our employees and our residents to come together to help one another. Story. Together we successfully weathered the challenges of prolonged power outages and significant debris.

I am proud of the patience and consideration of our residents who understood the challenges that our Department of Public Works faced in trying to assist JCP&L in restoring power and clear brush and debris. Our DPW employees have been working continuously since Hurricane Irene to make sure that all of our streets are safe, that drains are clear and that debris is picked up. Coupled with regular leaf pick up for the fall and a significantly reduced staff, they have certainly been busy. I received numerous letters and emails praising their efforts.

I am proud to say, though, that they have never departed from their professional attitudes or dedication to the job. Please join me in a round of applause for our Department of Public Works whose enduring spirit and dedication made the long process of cleaning up from the storm a quick and painless one in Florham Park. These guys have worked hard to make our town look as good as it does!

In Mark Taylor's portfolio, the Florham Park Memorial First Aid Squad demonstrated its commitment to the residents of Florham Park during this year's storms, staffing their building throughout the course of the Hurricane in order to decrease response time to residents in need. Two crews were on duty during these times, as well. New members to the Squad are mostly college age and attend the local colleges. We ask that anyone looking to join please contact the First Aid Squad.

Likewise, in Councilman Huyler's portfolio, the Florham Park Volunteer Fire Department responded to numerous calls during the storms, helped in pumping out over 50 basements, and aiding residents. They also volunteered to sleep in the firehouse during the storms to ensure quick response time.

In Councilman Taylor's portfolio, we have made a lot of progress in 2011 in terms of open space and preserving land in Florham Park, and our commitment to having a green Florham Park for future generations continues. In his portfolio, Councilman Mark Taylor helped us to continue land preservation around Stobaeus Field and Burnside Avenue. We have received funding from the

Morris County Preservation Trust to help fund the purchase to another piece of land in that area. We look forward to the day in the near future when we will be able to see the results of all of these preservation efforts in a greenway connecting our elementary schools, Brooklake and Briarwood, with Stobaeus Field. Thanks to the Morris County Freeholders for recognizing the importance of this project and their financial support. Councilman Taylor has also continued his close work with the Environmental Commission to further restore Spring Garden Lake. Environmental Commission Chair Blaine Rothhauser coordinated several Work Days with corporate volunteers from local corporations. We are working to restore Spring Garden to the pleasure area that we as Florham Parkers remember. In the year ahead we anticipate the beginnings of a dock and bridge to develop the lakeside area.

In the Planning Board area, among the improvements you can look forward to in 2012 are the opening of the Thirsty Turtle in the former Trader Joe's site and the completion of the facelift of the entire plaza. Further, we believe that resolution will be coming to the long term empty space where the Elks and Speedex were located. Development to this piece of land would be a huge asset in beautifying our downtown area as well as increasing our tax base. We look forward to this application being considered by the Planning Board shortly. As I mentioned before, the new headquarters building for BASF is anticipating completion around March of 2012. Several other commercial buildings should be making announcements about starting construction as well.

In Councilman Boy's portfolio, the Library stepped up to the plate and served as a port in the storms this year demonstrating that it is more than a place to check out books, that it is there to respond to the community's need. The Library was opened so that residents were able to use the Library for power, heat and Internet when various parts of the town did not have power. When the Recreation Center was damaged by Hurricane Irene, the Library again stepped up to host many of the events which would have normally been held at the Recreation Center, including Photos with Santa, Soccer Photos, and as a polling place in the November elections; it was used hundreds of

times for meetings by various community groups. Clearly, the Library is committed to the needs of our residents. Thank you Joan Hipp and Staff! Many new programs for adults were introduced by the outstanding Library staff this year. We had 200 children participate in the Summer Reading Program. The Library has also obtained a grant for a reading buddies program between young readers and local Girl Scouts. The Library remains committed to helping residents expand their minds and improve their lives.

Councilman Boy is also responsible for Finance, so his hard work goes without saying and can be seen in the modest tax increases we have had each year, even faced with unprecedented slashes in State aid, while all our pension, insurance and benefits increase and maintaining the services residents have come to expect and deserve. Along the way, we maintained our AAA bond rating.

I am also looking forward to Mr. Boy continuing with his plan for beautifying the area around the Little Red Schoolhouse. He has presented the Council with some outstanding landscaping and lighting plans and ideas, now we have to see those through as well.

There is kind of an overlap of many portfolios and really an effort of the entire council. In 2011, we renovated the road between Borough Hall and Emmett Park, including a new path system designed by our Engineering Department to link the parking lots, fields, and Senior Center on Borough property and to make it safer; we look forward to seeing the completion of this project soon. Upon completion of this road, we will be having a red-dedication ceremony to name the road in honor of long-time Administrator Dwight Longley. It will be renamed "Longley Lane."

We have improved the roadways and the lighting at the entrance to the Borough complex by the Gazebo, again making it safer for our Gazebo concert goers and pedestrians after dark. This past year improvements were made on Brooklake, Birch Lane, and Willow Way. The Crossroads @ Columbia Turnpike and Ridgedale Avenue was completed this fall, with almost \$600,000 in grant money to make the intersection ADA compliant. As you can see, our Engineer has been busy.

In Councilman Wikstrom's portfolio and the administration of Adam Leib and Carrie Kenner, our recreation department is constantly improving. The Engineering Department and the Recreation Departments frequently work together to improve our fields and recreation facilities. Emmett #1, Stobeaus and Borough Fields were improved with fencing, seating, etc. due to the collaboration between the Engineering Department and the sporting clubs; some of the soccer fields were re-graded and had new sod installed as well.

The New York Jets remain an integral part of our community, and in the fall the New York Jets and the United Way donated \$30,000 worth of fitness equipment that was added to the Emmett Park walking trail. During Hometown Huddle, ten fitness stations and safety surfacing was installed by Jets players, National Guardsmen, and Florham Park children representing all youth sports. And, the Recreation Committee updated the Recreation Master Plan after years of research and writing. It was reviewed by a private consultant and a landscape architect. A copy is available at the Library reference desk. In 2011, recreation met expanded needs of the community.

In Councilman Germershausen's portfolio, our Police Department remains the prime example of commitment. In 2011, in addition to responding to the numerous medical calls, Motor Vehicle Summons, and arrests, two lives were saved through CPR administered by the Police. More than \$253,000 was brought into the Borough through court fees and fines, extra duty fees, and grants. Simultaneously, the amount of overtime was decreased to continue saving the Borough money.

The Police Department under Chief Pat Montoure has renewed its commitment to being actively involved in the community near and far. To this end, they have participated in the Columbus Day Parade in NYC with the motorcycle unit, installed more than 78 child seats (**another service many towns don't provide**), and established SRO coverage in all of the Borough's schools in addition to streamlining emergency procedures. A new 9-1-1 system was installed to better protect our residents. Further, the Police Department now maintains a presence on Facebook and

Twitter, two social networking sources which were essential for communicating key safety information during Hurricane Irene.

Another area in Councilman Germershausen's portfolio is OEM. OEM did an outstanding job during Hurricane Irene. The Office of Emergency Management was very active in the preparations throughout the town and in making application to FEMA for restitution of 75% of the damage expenses, namely to Recreation Center. And, we are very proud of our police chief and the entire department for their ongoing work towards accreditation from the State Chiefs of Police Association, which we anticipate will be completed in June 2012.

And, saving the best for last, Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane. And I am saving this for last because she had some big shoes to fill and I would like to mention Councilwoman Judy Beecher. Unfortunately for us, Judy sold her house this year here in Florham Park and relocated to Brigantine after many years of service to the Borough. She did such a tremendous job not only as a Councilwoman, but as the Borough Clerk, fill in Administrator, and the countless other community volunteer groups she worked on (Rotary, Gift of Life, etc.). It will be tough to replace Judy and we thank her for her many years of service and commitment to the Borough. Judy did a tremendous job working with the Seniors and in helping the Senior Center become a reality.

So here comes Carmen, and man I can tell you she has hit the ground running since she has com on the council and has just done and an outstanding job. Then again I shouldn't be surprised because she has served the council with the same zeal, energy and commitment she does in everything she does. The same way she served the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission, sports and other activities for her children. I have already received raving compliments from the Seniors and she is already working hard on the Gazebo Concert series as well as 4<sup>th</sup> of July and will be presenting us with ideas for upgrading our Community TV.

It was Robert Kennedy who said, "The future does not belong to those who are content with today... Rather the future will belong to those who can blend passion, reason and courage in a personal commitment to the ideals of American society."

In 2012 we are looking forward to the future (and I can tell you it's exciting for me), and we are making a renewed commitment to our community's recreation needs and further investing in the Florham Park quality of life. We are looking forward to creating the new park on Elm Street. The Athletic Foundation will be a key component of this new project, so please feel free to call Borough Hall and ask how you can get involved. We need new volunteers. Mayor mentioned Jets involvement (direct, NFL, Corporate partners, events).

As part of this park, we sought out volunteers for the implementation of a dog park in the new recreation area and were amazed at the response of more than 60 volunteers for the committee. We look forward to having our first meeting early in the new year. Self funding, also mention other aspects, hockey, etc. This complex will become a reality and the pieces are all coming together thanks to the work of this Council and the Borough Engineer, Mike Sgaramella.

Through our Engineering Department, we are prepared to begin the bidding process for the new Elm Street Recreation Area. We will begin preparing the land for the improvements this month. This new recreation area will have opportunities for passive and active recreation for all age groups in our town. It will feature new fields and walking trails. It will be a place for our entire community to gather, for people of all ages to play, and for all of us to appreciate our environment. I look forward to seeing you there in the years to come!

Throughout 2011, we have worked hard to honor the commitments that we made to you at this time last year- improved roadways and recreational facilities, minimized tax increases while dealing with unprecedented emergencies, cuts in State Aid and the worst economy since the Great Depression. Truly this is a town we can all be proud of. In 2012, I renew those commitments to you and to invest in the quality of life and recreation opportunities for years to come in Florham

Park. I look forward to your participation and input as we take this exciting new step for the town.

Believe me, it doesn't mean it's the only thing, we have plenty on our plate.

It has been a challenging, although great, year behind us, and I know that with the dedication of our employees, volunteers and residents, 2012 will be a landmark year for Florham Park. Happy 2012! God Bless you all!

**21. Adjournment:**

**Huyler:** I would like to make a motion to adjourn the 2012 Reorganization meeting.

**Germershausen:** So moved.

**Mayor:** All in favor.

**Everyone:** Aye.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila A. Williams, R.M.C.  
Borough Clerk