



**Florham Park Borough Council
Thursday, November 19, 2015
Work Session Minutes**

Council President Malone called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m. He asked the Borough Clerk for a roll call:

Governing Body	Present	Absent
Mayor Taylor	X	
Council President Malone	X	
Councilman Germershausen	X	
Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane	X	
Councilman Carpenter	X	
Councilman Michalowski	X	Arrived 6:55 pm
Councilman Zuckerman	X	

Mayor Taylor announced that Alexander LoRusso was in attendance to discuss a proposal for an Eagle Scout Service Project.

Eagle Scout Presentation

Alex LoRusso stated he is a member of Troop 18 and is currently working on his service award project. He would like to restore and rejuvenate the Prudden Park area, which was named after Ms. Geneva Prudden who was a teacher at the Little Red Schoolhouse. He provided an overview of Ms. Prudden’s life and stated that he would like to create a memorial to her with shrubs and a landscape as well as rejuvenating the benches and sign. He is going to fund it through local donations and will work on that.

Mayor Taylor stated that Alex should get together with the Borough Engineer regarding the project.

Mayor Taylor congratulated Alex on a well done presentation.

Councilman Zuckerman made a motion to allow Alex to proceed with his project, the motion was seconded by Council President Malone.

Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Malone	X				
Germershausen	X				
Cefolo-Pane	X				
Carpenter	X				
Michalowski	X				
Zuckerman	X				
Total	6				

Mayor Taylor indicated that Mr. Art Pizzi was in attendance. He stated Mr. Pizzi is a builder who has built a few homes in Florham Park. He has run into an issue with a home he is building on Keyes Street. Mr. Pizzi has spoken with Borough Engineer Mike Sgaramella and hired an outside consultant to help him to figure it out. Mayor Taylor asked Mr. Pizzi to provide an overview of his issue.

Mr. Pizzi indicated that he builds homes in Florham Park. He bought a property at 6 Keyes Street. The house has been demolished and he ran into an issue with a tree that is on the right side of the property being in the way of the proposed driveway. He would like to cut down the tree. He contacted the Borough Engineer who visited the site. The issue is that the tree is not a dead tree. He received a denial letter, which stated the new driveway had to be constructed within a 20 foot radius of both the trees in the front. He stated he has issues with the catch basin and gas lines as well. Mr. Pizzi discussed issues with Belgian block as well. Mr. Pizzi would like to take the tree out and would replace the tree in accordance with the town ordinance. A discussion ensued between the Council members and the Borough Engineer regarding curbing and catch basin issues along the street.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane asked if this would open the door for people to come in and ask for similar approval.

Mayor Taylor stated every case should be decided on its own merit. He further stated that the reason he asked Mr. Pizzi to come before the Council is because it is a new home.

Councilman Carpenter asked if any other residents on Keyes have asked to remove trees?

Council President Malone asked if the trees would be replaced? Mayor Taylor stated they would be replaced in accordance with the Ordinance

Council President Malone said he would be comfortable granting it.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane stated she is not 100 percent comfortable because she thinks it might open the floodgates for other builders looking to do the same with tear downs.

Councilman Carpenter stated he tends to agree with Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane. Although the trees are way past their maturity, I don't think they have begun to decline.

They discussed excavation of the area. Mr. Pizzi stated, if he excavated in the area they discussed, the tree would probably die within 7 Or 8 months. Mr. Pizzi had an arborist look at it.

Councilman Cefolo-Pane stated she would like to review the Borough Engineer's report and the letter. She thinks we should push it to the next meeting.

Mayor Taylor stated that the Council would review documents and it could be discussed at the December 17th Council meeting.

Mayor Taylor indicated that they would dispense with the portfolio updates for the evening as they were out of time.

Borough Administrator Bill Huyler stated that Holy Family wanted to use Emmitt Field for an event. It will be a one mile “Fun Run”.

Councilman Zuckerman made a motion to allow Holy Family to hold the event. The motion was seconded by Councilman Michalowski.

Vote:

Council Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Comments
Malone	X				
Germershausen	X				
Cefolo-Pane	X				
Carpenter	X				
Michalowski	X				
Zuckerman	X				
Total	6				

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting to the public.

Seeing no members of the public who wished to be heard, Mayor Taylor closed the meeting to the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council returned to the work session after the Executive Session was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. On a motion made by Councilman Zuckerman, seconded by Councilman Michalowski, the work session was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila A. Williams, R.M.C.
 Borough Clerk
 December 10, 2015