



Florham Park Borough Council
Thursday, December 17, 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 | |
| Councilman Zuckerman | X | |

Council Portfolio Updates:

Councilman Germershausen provided the following report:

Water Utility:

- Water Department personnel responded to and repaired an 8” water main break near 25 Hanover Road. The break was located under a 24” storm sewer. Fortunately the main ran near the roadway shoulder so disruption to traffic was minimal.
- Preferred Tank & Tower inspected the interior and exterior of both water tanks. The internal inspection was done using a robotic

swimmer and digitally recorded the inspection. The exterior was visually inspected and videoed by a tank climbing inspector. As soon as they send their findings they will be distributed for review.

- Water Department personnel responded to and attempted to repair a 4” water main break near 40 Riverside Drive which was discovered by water coming up near the driveway. After searching for the break it was determined it is actually a partial water service break to 37 Riverside. It appears the break is middle third of the roadway. What made this difficult to locate was the resident still had water so there was no report of interrupted water service to us.
- Water Superintendent Zipeto and Carl Ganger met with Madison Borough’s Water Department to check and test the interconnection between the two water systems. They have provided a copy of the data for review and our records.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane provided the following report:

- AARP & Seniors both had holiday luncheons; both were very well Attended; over 200 from Seniors Club came out
- Gazebo Committee had a few members leave; we have new members coming on. Our first meeting we will start considering bands.
- Planning Bd – Normany Partners seeking to subdivide in C-3 Zone; it did not go to a vote. It is 230 Park Avenue
- YTD Permit fees for Construction are \$1.5M compared to \$772K last year

Councilman Carpenter provided the following report:

Department of Public Works:

- Councilman Germershausen had concerns about leaves in the street. The Borough code allows that if it is within seven days of pick-up, which is in concert with state guidelines. Frank said he was on or a
- Salt shed is complete per Frank Esposito.
- Yard Waste report; program working and can reduction continues. Total man 1,337 hours which is a savings of 21 calendar days for DPW

Fire Department:

- Fire Department has two new guys in the pipeline.

Police Department

- Continued traffic studies are taking place
- PD has a couple of significant arrests.
- All personnel changes are complete and PD members have all be assigned to their new positions.
- New Patrolman Richard Wronski graduated from the Police Academy and is now in service training and out on the road.

Engineering Dept.:

- Borough Engineer Sgaramella provided update. Sgaramella stated: Completed 2015 construction. There is some budget money left over and are now starting to plan for 2016.

Councilman Michalowski provided the following report:

Sewer Utility:

- Sewer Utility having a problem with the sewer on Woodbine and Timber; heavy rains caused the pipes to collapse; there is a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an *Emergency Expenditure* of \$250,000. The monies will be from the fund balance.

Library Board:

- Carl Ganger met with Librarian Joan Hipp to review the bids for the library
- Library working on a 5 year Master Plan

Board of Health:

- Board of Health - 107 cats and dogs were vaccinated
- Board of Health has new member; Peter Kleban

Councilman Zuckerman provided the following report:

Board of Education:

- Councilman Zuckerman met with the Superintendent of Schools to discuss the heroin presentation that was given by the prosecutor in Atlantic City. She was in favor of having that presentation after the 1st of the year. Parents, teachers, the entire community would be invited to come to Ridgdeale School.
- Historic Preservation will be getting bids for the Little Red Schoolhouse in the spring.

Municipal Pool:

- Met to discuss 2016 pool rates; there will be no increase over the 2015 rates; making a change to the individual rates from age 18 to 16
- Fund balance of \$226,000 will be kept; this year we will make first note payment of \$43,000, which includes interest of \$10,000
- Carl will negotiate with New Horizons for an increase in usage fee for the pool
- Historic Preservation Commission meeting was held last night. Pieces of the cemetery were cleaned up in 2016; more work to do there.
- Historic Preservation also looking to make more repairs to the Little Red Schoolhouse in 2016.

Mayor Taylor opened the meeting to the public.

Builder Art Pizzi was in attendance to discuss the property on 6 Keyes street that was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Pizzi explained that he is designing a house. The issue is the driveway that is there is practically on top of a tree that is there. He would like to excavate the driveway to put Belgian block there and if does that he feels that could damage the tree. He stated he is prepared to remove the tree. The Council discussed issues with Mr. Pizzi.

Councilman Carpenter discussed gas lines and indicated that they other residents on the street asked to remove the trees for the same reason and they were told no. He stated he feels there is a reasonable solution for putting the driveway in.

Mr. Pizzi stated the driveway would be going up to the front door, that is the problem.

Councilman Carpenter said he understood that but the other residents on the street wanted to do the same thing and they were told no.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane said she reviewed everything and spoke with the Borough Employees regarding the issue. They are our paid professionals and we pay these people to look at the issues. All three department heads came to the same conclusion, that there were other options. As there was no dissension, I don't think its our job to question them as they are our paid professionals.

Councilman Germershausen would not like to see the streetscape changed. He would like it to as close to the original as possible.

Mr. Michalowski concurred with Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane. He stated we pay the professionals to make these type of determinations.

Further discussion on the matter ensued by the Council and Mr. Zuckerman abstained.

Maureen Mulligan, Kice Road

Mrs. Mulligan was part of a group several years ago to save trees in Florham Park. Sycamore trees are beautiful trees. It is not in the spirit of Florham Park to take them down and she asked the Council to take that into consideration

Keith Bush, 14 Keyes Street

3rd Generation home owner on Keyes. His family worked hard over the years to keep the aesthetic value of the home and that included keeping the shade trees that are so tied to the character of the street. He stated he understood that the builder needs to please the customer, but the character of the neighborhood is part and parcel with those trees. He further stated that he felt that taking down those trees for a driveway is inappropriate and asked the Council to consider that when rendering their decision.

Alissa Janicelli, 11 Keyes Street

Mrs. Janicelli stated she has been in the house for 22 years. 15 years ago they did their driveway and they requested to take down the tree. They were told by the town to respect the tree and they did.

Lonnie Zuckerman, 12 Keyes Street

My husband and I asked to take some trees down many years ago. We managed nicely with the existing driveway that was there when we bought the house. If we start giving permission to take these trees down because they builder wants to do it, you will open it up to the entire town. You will have to say yes to everyone else. There is so much construction going on in Florham Park, that in itself is changing the complexion of this town. The houses on Keyes are very well kept, and taking down a tree is the wrong thing to do. It is not our tree. It belongs to the town and taking it down would be a huge mistake.

The Mayor stated given the comments from the Council and the residents I guess you can figure out what you need to do Mr. Pizzi.

The Mayor called for a motion.

Councilwoman Cefolo-Pane made a motion to deny the request to take down the tree on Keyes Street.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Germershausen.

Roll Call: Germershuasen, yes; Cefolo-Pane, yes; Carpenter, yes; Michalowski, yes; Zuckerman; abstain

Mayor Taylor asked Borough Adminisrator Huyler if there was anything he needed to discuss.

Mr. Huyler stated that Gary Stein, from Florham Park Camera requested a temporary sign for 30 days.

Mr. Zuckerman made a motion to approve the signage, seconded by Germershausen

Roll Call: Germershuasen, yes; Cefolo-Pane, yes; Carpenter, yes; Michalowski, yes; Zuckerman; abstain

Maureen Mulligan, Kice Road

Asked the Council to look at the website. They have no way of knowing what is happening in Town. She needs more detailed information.

Councilman Zuckerman asked what she would like. He stated he is not sure what Mrs. Mulligan is looking for.

Mrs. Mulligan stated that for instance, the discussion of the tree she would like to have known about; possibly a quarterly newsletter.

Mrs. Williams stated that the Borough is currently working on a new website that will include what the Council would like to have residents be aware of.

Councilman Zuckerman again stated he is still not sure what she is looking for.

Mrs. Mulligan said she is looking for minutes that show discussions, more information.

Mrs. Williams stated the work session is all discussion and that is reflected in the minutes, so she was confused as to what additional information Mrs Mulligan was looking for.

Administrator Huyler suggested that Mrs. Mulligan take a look at the new website when its done and supply the Borough with feedback.

Seeing no more 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 8:22p.m. On a motion made by Councilman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Germershausen, the work session was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila A. Williams, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk
December 15, 2015