

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

The regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on June 18, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Township Hall, 2600 Bayshore Road, Villas, New Jersey.

The Assistant Clerk announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided according to law.

The following members of Council were present for roll call taken by the Assistant Clerk:

Councilmember Thomas Conrad
Councilmember Walt Craig
Councilmember Glenn Douglass
Deputy Mayor Kevin Lare
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Michael Donohue, Solicitor, Michael Voll, Manager and Asst. Clerk Picard

Presentation - Certificate of Recognition - Josephine Caranci, 100th Birthday

Mayor Beck and Council presented Josephine Caranci with a certificate in Celebration of her 100th Birthday. Mayor Beck and Ms. Caranci spoke of her memories back to World War I. She questioned how many people remember black and white tv and spoke of how she remembered the radio and the first song she remembered being played on the radio was Jingle Bells. She remembers the first walk on the moon and even the invention of the first car. She spoke of her three children, grand-children, great grandchildren and even great-great grandchildren. She attributes her longevity to staying active and not taking any pills. Mayor Beck read the certificate and asked everyone to join him in a chorus of Happy Birthday to Josephine. Josephine stated she was honored to be at this meeting.

Work Session

Review of Cable Franchise Renewal Agreement

Chris Kobik addressed Council and stated he is the director of curriculum at the Lower Cape May Regional High School and is a resident of Lower Township. He stated that he remembers working with a group of people 15 years ago to develop the last franchise agreement. He stated how impressed he was with Michael Donohue and what a great job both Michael Donohue and Michael Voll did with the negotiations and the preparation of this agreement. The new agreement will provide additional support for the PEG Channel. Eric Simonsen stated this has been a long process starting last summer. One of the features of the agreement includes digital capabilities which will also have live capabilities to actually broadcast from the school and township. He stated this will be a great asset for both the children and the Township. Mr. Simonsen also reminded everyone of the internet essentials program - available to households who meet certain criteria. Mr. Simonsen thanked Mr. Kobik, Manager Voll and Solicitor Donohue. Mr. Kobik stated that over 50% of the children attending LCMR qualify for the internet essentials program and thanked the manager and solicitor. Mayor Beck questioned if there will be an issue with the PEG channel being crowded. Mr. Kobik replied Lower Township has majority of the access to the channel. If there is an issue, it will be addressed.

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

Deputy Mayor Lare stated in prior years, local sporting events had been televised and questioned if that will be happening again? Mr. Kobik replied he has not heard anything about that. Mayor Beck thanked everyone for a job well done.

Discussion on 2013 Triathlon - Race Director Stephen Del Monte

Jim Ridgeway and Mitch Plenn addressed Council and stated six months ago, they were challenged to think out of the box and come up with some new events for Lower Township. They have done so with the new music program at the Ferry, the senior computer program at the Millman and so on, but tonight's presentation could bring over 2000 people to Lower Township for the first ever Lower Township Triathlon. Mr. DelMonte addressed Council and stated this night has been two years in the making. He stated he would like people to discover the beauty of Lower Township through a triathlon. He stated the triathlon consists of a run, biking and swimming. He expressed that the event must encompass the community, which is why the DRBA has been cited for the set-up station. Mr. DelMonte stated most of the participants are of the average age of 41 and with a median income of approximately \$125,000. He reiterated that drawing this amount of people to Lower Township for an event like this, will be a positive impact. He stated everyone seems to be on board and he has received nothing but positive feed-back and looks forward to this being the first of an annual event. Councilman Douglass replied he believed it would be a great event and looks forward to attending the one in Wildwood. Councilman Conrad requested Council receive a copy of the route for the race. Mr. DelMonte replied as soon as it is drawn up, Council will receive it. Mayor Beck stated he appreciated the passion and work that has been put into the event and believes it will be a great event for the Township. Deputy Mayor Lare stated he believes, next to the fire-works, it will be the most attended event in the Township and questioned what the youngest age to compete will be. Mr. DelMonte replied he does have some competitors in the 13-14 age range. When questioned on the number of participants involved in the competition, Mr. DelMonte replied the cut-off would be 1,000 participants...and the event will sell out. Council stated they look forward to being updated on the event.

Kevin Maloney - Update on Coast Guard Life Saving Station - Councilman Douglass

Mr. Maloney addressed Council and gave a brief history of the Coast Guard Life Saving Station stating in 1889, it became an operational station near the lighthouse, but was destroyed in the 1950's. He then updated Council on the plans to reconstruct the station - with all volunteers - and have it rebuilt near the former magnesite area. He stated how this would be an opportunity to create a jewel for the area. He explained that there would be access for handicapped persons and there would be daily demonstrations, the parking area would be expanded and a nature trail would be included. Mr. Maloney explained how this would be a great addition to the community and would also be a great tourist destination. Mr. Maloney requested council's support in this endeavor. All of council agreed this is a wonderful idea and would be happy to provide a letter of support from Lower Township.

Review of Consent & Regular Agenda Items

Public Comment -

Mr. Greenfield questioned the length of the previous cable agreement. Mayor Beck replied 10 years. Solicitor

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

Donohue explained how because the contract is driven by surrounding communities, all of the surrounding contracts are also for 15 years, but Lower Township has also received the largest grant for technology, \$100,000. Manager Voll also stated that this does not mean a resident has to contract with Comcast, they can choose any provider they wish, although there is not a lot of competition in the area.

Ray Demarino addressed Council and stated if you do not choose Comcast, you will not receive channel 9. Manager Voll replied the \$100,000 grant will be split half to the school for technology upgrade and the other half to the Township.

Frank Serraco addressed Council and questioned Resolutions #2012-153 and 214 - weren't the contracts already awarded for the projects. Manager Voll replied this is the next phase of the outfall project and would complete the entire project.

John Skronski addressed Council and questioned what Resolution #2012-155 is. Manager Voll replied this project will widen Beach Drive.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes	June 4, 2012
Membership Applic.	NJ State Fireman's Assoc. - Robert Gould, Jr. & Cody Sheets for Townbank Volunteer Fire Co.
Res. #2012-144	Payment of Vouchers, \$ 2,050,752.10
Res. #2012-145	Appointment of Blane Steinman Architects Without Public Bidding (Prof contract - Millman Center Renovations)
Res. #2012-146	Approval of Lower Township Future Wastewater Facilities and Service Area Map, Endorsing Wastewater Facilities and Service Areas in Lower Township (DEP requirement)
Res. #2012-147	Requesting Release of Maintenance Guarantee for The Grand at Diamond Beach; Block 700.01 Lots 3-9, et al (Improvements installed and acceptable)
Res. #2012-148	Approval for Fireworks by Grucci, Inc. To Load A Fireworks Barge In Lower Township (Annual Approval)
Res. #2012-149	Authorizing Assistance to Lower Township Youth Groups (Lower Twp. Little League & Lower Cape Hockey Assoc. \$1500 each from Rec. Budget)
Res. #2012-150	Annual Renewal of Liquor Licenses for the year 2012-2013 (Annual Approval)
Res. #2012-151	Submission of a Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Application, \$200,000. (Annual Application)
Res. #2012-152	Public Facilities Grant Application \$400,000, Various ADA Improvements (Annual Application)
Res. #2012-153	Bid Acceptance and Contract Award for Tide Flex Check Valves or Equal (Outfall Project)
Res. #2012-154	Bid Acceptance and Contract Award for Material & Pipe Supplies (Outfall Project)
Res. # 2012-155	Approving Project Proposal Between Hatch Mott MacDonald and the Township of

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

- Lower for Permitting and Engineering Services For Beach Drive Pedestrian Access Improvement Project
- Res. #2012-156 Resolution Authorizing Payment to Subcontractor and Acceptance of Discharge of Lien (Payment to Atlantic Arial, subcontractor)
- Res. #2012-157 Resolution Urging passage by the New Jersey Legislature of the Jessica Lunsford Act (requesting 2500 ft child protection zone - schools, playgrounds or child care centers)
- Ord. #2012-15 An Ordinance Granting Renewal of Municipal Consent to Comcast of Wildwood, LLC to Construct, Connect, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television and Communications System in Lower Township, New Jersey 1st rdg (Cable franchise agreement -15 years) 2nd rdg & public hearing 7/2

Motion to approve the consent agenda moved by Councilmember Douglass, seconded by Councilmember Conrad.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
CRAIG			X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
LARE			X			
BECK			X			

Regular Agenda

- Res. #2012-158 Appointment to the Planning Board of Adjustment (1 alternate member)
 Motion to adopt moved by Deputy Mayor Lare, seconded by Councilman Craig.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
CRAIG		X	X			
DOUGLASS			X			
LARE	X		X			
BECK			X			

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

Res. #2012-159 Appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 regular members/1 alt member)
 Motion to adopt moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilman Craig.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
CRAIG		X	X			
DOUGLASS			X			
LARE			X			
BECK			X			

Ord. #2012-11 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 400 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Lower 2012 (Establishing guidelines for Beekeeping in Lower Twp.) 2nd reading & public Hearing
 Motion to amend Ordinance #2012-11(now Ordinance #2012-11A) and approve as first reading moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Douglass.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
CRAIG			X			
DOUGLASS		X	X			
LARE			X			
BECK			X			

Clerk Kammer stated that copies of the amended Ordinance will be available at the Clerk's Office and will also be placed on the Township website. The public hearing and final adoption of this Ordinance is scheduled for the July 2, 2012 meeting.

Administrative Reports

Department Monthly Reports - Animal Control, Dog Licensing, Construction, Engineer, Municipal Clerk, Municipal Court, Police, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Vital Statistics

Manager Voll stated that the Township will have an inspector on the road on Saturdays for code violations, yard sale violators and so on.

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad advised everyone of the hot temperatures on the way this week and requested that neighbors look in on the elderly.

Deputy Mayor Lare stated after the closed session, Council will be returning to vote on the Teamsters contract. He stated he believes the contract is fair to both the employees and the tax payers.

Mayor Beck stated the Fishing Creek School had its first concert last week and was very well attended. Mayor Beck also announced that our Fourth of July Festival will be held on July 3, 2012 from 5-9 pm and the Whale of a Day Festival is scheduled for Saturday, July 7th.

Call to the Public

Gary Schemp, New Jersey Bee Keepers Association and Middle Township resident, addressed Council and started that at the last meeting, Mayor Beck had a great question about a basketball hitting a bee hives and informed Council he actually threw a basketball at a couple of his hives and nothing happened. He stated honey bees are pretty tame. He also stated many volunteers check and monitor the hives to make sure they stay healthy. Mr. Schemp stated there are 566 municipalities in the state and if each municipality passes its own Ordinance with guidelines, it would be difficult to manage. The State provides guidelines and feels it would be best if all municipalities follow the same guidelines.

Emily Krider, Lincoln Boulevard, addressed Council and presented a petition with over 100 signatures against the fishing pier. She stated the main concern is the location.

Bob Pilo addressed Council and stated he thought a committee was supposed to be formed and suggested a resident from the effected area be on the committee. Mayor Beck replied this will be a long journey with a lot of steps that have to be taken. He stated he lives across from Milligan Field and one of his first votes was to allow the hockey rink across the street from his house. The issue is we live in a community of 23,000 people and decisions are always about what is best for the community. Mayor Beck stated if the pier does not go in that area, it does not work. Mayor Beck stated an organizational meeting will be held in the next week and stated the concerns of the neighbors will be addressed. Mayor Beck questioned if the residents don't like the location or don't want the pier at all. He stated he will do what is best for the community. Mayor Beck invited Mr. Pilo to the meeting so that some of the concerns can be addressed.

Frank Serraco addressed Council and requested an explanation of the closed session item of land acquisition. Solicitor Donohue replied there is a portion of law which allows Council to discuss a possible purchase of land in closed session.

Eric Simonsen addressed Council and stated there was a hockey rink at Mulligan Field prior to the Mayor purchasing his home.

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

Closed Session

Res. #2012-160

Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12." (Collective Bargaining Update - Teamsters; Possible Land Acquisition)

Motion to approve moved by Councilmember Douglass, seconded by Councilmember Conrad.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		x	x			
CRAIG			x			
DOUGLASS	x		x			
LARE			x			
BECK			x			

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 7:38 p.m.. Mayor Beck reminded everyone that Council will be returning to Open Session

Council returned to Open Session at 8:15pm.

Res. #2012-161

A Resolution To Ratify the Memorandum of Understanding Between Lower Township and Teamsters Local Union No. 676

Motion to approve moved by Deputy Mayor Lare, seconded by Councilmember Craig .

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
CRAIG		X	X			
DOUGLASS			X			
LARE	X		X			
BECK			X			

Motion to authorize Manager Voll to proceed as discussed in closed session moved by Councilmember Douglass, seconded by Councilmember Conrad

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - June 18, 2012

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
CRAIG			X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
LARE			X			
BECK			X			

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Douglass, motion to adjourn unanimous by verbal ayes. Council adjourned at 8:20p.m.


 Mayor


 Township Clerk

Approved: July 2, 2012