

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - April 15, 2013

The regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on April 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Township Hall, 2600 Bayshore Road, Villas, New Jersey.

The 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 Clerk:

Councilmember Thomas Conrad  
Councilmember James Neville  
Councilmember Glenn Douglass  
Deputy Mayor Norris Clark  
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Charles W. Sandman, III, Solicitor, Michael Voll, Manager and Karen Fournier, Clerk's Office

Presentation - Arrow of Light Daniel Krueger & Jacob Allen  
Not Present

Presentation - Steve Sheftz to Jerome Keelen

Steve Sheftz addressed Council to publicly thank and recognize Jerome Keelen, Director of the Single Family Division of New Jersey Housing Mortgage and Finance Agency, for establishing the State's potable water loan program and for his effort and support in handling the water issues in the Township.

Mayor Beck, on behalf of Council and the Citizens of Lower Township, acknowledged and thanked both Mr. Keelen and Mr. Sheftz for their hard work and dedication.

**Work Session**

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Beck motioned to Table Res. #2013-114 (Approval of 2013 Rotary Towing Licenses – 3 contractors) at the request of Manager Micheal Voll, seconded by Councilmember Conrad.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
NEVILLE			X			
DOUGLASS			X			
CLARK			X			
BECK	X		X			

John Kirk, owner of JJ's The Shop, addressed Council regarding the rotary towing licenses. His location is used as a drop off yard for a particular towing company, therefore he is concerned about a loss of income if they are dropped from the list.

Manager Voll stated that an investigation is still being conducted, therefore he cannot comment at this time.

- Approval of Minutes April 1, 2013  
 Res. #2013-112 Payment of Vouchers \$ 2,421,006.97  
 Res. #2013-113 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (1 property duplicate pymt \$761.17)  
 Res. #2013-115 Approval of Cold Spring Presbyterian Church Application to conduct Flea Markets for 2013 ( May 25, June 29 and August 31, 2013)  
 Res. #2013-116 Award of Contract for Concession for 2013 Independence Day Festival (Wizards \$12,500.00)  
 Res. #2013-117 Approval of Annual Contribution to Volunteers in Medicine (2013 - \$7,690.)  
 Res. #2013-118 Authorizing Application for Reassessment of Real Property in the Township of Lower  
 Res. #2013-119 A Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application to the Cape May County Open Space Program for ADA Upgrades at the Paul R. Will Recreation Complex  
 Res. #2013-120 A Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application to the Cape May County Open Space Program for Construction of a Promenade at the North Jetty of the Cape May Canal

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
NEVILLE		X	X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

**Regular Agenda**

- Res. #2013-121 Payment of Vouchers List II (Douglass Landscaping \$10,385.)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
NEVILLE		X	X			
DOUGLASS					X	
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

**Administrative Reports**

Department Monthly Reports: Animal Control, Construction, Dog License, Municipal Clerk, Police, Tax Collector, Vital Statistics

**Council Comments**

Councilmember Conrad requested we keep the victims of the Boston explosions in our prayers. He also pointed out that a special edition of "Locked-up Abroad" will be featured on Wednesday night on the National Geographic Channel. He quoted John McCain's words, "every American should watch this".

Councilmember Neville agreed that prayers are needed for the Boston victims. On a lighter note, he complimented the Lower Cape May Little League on their Opening Day events and the 460 plus kids they serve.

Councilmember Douglass reiterated that prayers are needed for Boston and added that we had some local people at the event. He also commented on the success of Little League's Opening Day and the kickoff of the Economic Committee.

Deputy Mayor Clark shared with us some of the programs promoting private support of public education in the Township and their relevance to the Fishing Creek School.

Mayor Beck expressed his appreciation to Norris Clark and Council and all who are involved in the Fishing Creek School project. He also announced the following: Genesis Health Fair -Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-4:00 at the Recreation Center, Arbor Day – April 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. behind Town Hall, Escape the Cape Triathlon – June 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Bay Front, Suspicious Activity? Hear it...See it...Report it! to the Police Department at 886-2711, and the Cape May-Lewes Ferry is offering 30% discounts to local residents for midweek departures through May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Beck attended both the Little League Opening Day and Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremonies over the weekend and stated how refreshing it was to see the parental involvement at each of the events.

Councilmember Douglass announced that the Public Works Department completed the paving at Douglass Park.

Mayor Beck thanked Colleen Crippen, Township Grant's Coordinator, for her efforts with the application process of the Open Space Program. He stated that the efforts to build a concrete promenade are in the making.

### **Call to the Public**

Eleanor Chestnut, 9 Beverly Road, Nurse at Rainbow Pediatrics, addressed Council regarding the rampant drug problem in our area and urged Council to proceed with moving the police station back to the Villas where it belongs.

Mayor Beck stated that he, along with 14 other Mayors, met with the Governor in Princeton last week. One of the topics discussed at length was the drug problems throughout New Jersey. Council is aware and is as concerned with this as the residents. He agrees with moving the Police Department back to the Villas. He thanked Ms. Chestnut for her concern and advised her to stay tuned.

Kevin Maloney, 664 Sunset Boulevard, representing the Cape May Maritime Museum Education Center addressed Council to inform about a youth outreach boat-building program as well as a county wide rowing program. He hopes that these programs will bring about positive changes in the community.

Deputy Mayor Clark offered Mr. Maloney information about getting a truck to transport the boat materials from Maine. Mr. Maloney thanked Deputy Mayor Clark for his support and for suggesting the Open Space Funding Program for his project of reconstructing the 1876 Life Saving Station.

Councilmember Conrad affirmed that his son- who is enrolled in the LCMR High School woodshop class- professed his excitement about the boat-building program.

Johnny Walker, Cape May County Commander of DAV Chapter 40, addressed Council to inform of a memorial service honoring 4 Veterans whose cremation remains have been sitting on a shelf awaiting

proper burial. The service will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5<sup>th</sup> and Wesley in Ocean City at 11:00 a.m., followed by a motorcade to the Cape May County Cemetery for a military funeral. Mr. Walker requested that Council spread the word of this event out of respect for our Veterans.

Nancy Rodan, 209 Shadeland Ave, addressed Council regarding the condition of the roads where the water mains have been put in and inquired about who will do the repairs. Manager Voll responded that the repairs will be handled by a combination of both the Township's Public Works Department and the Municipal Utilities Authority. They are temporarily patched where the pipes have been installed.

Mayor Beck informed that the MUA is a separate authority with their own budget so the repairs will be made by their contractor.

Mrs. Rodan also responded to Mrs. Chestnut's concern about the drug situation. She insinuated that a doctor in Villas has continued to refill prescriptions, one after another with simply a phone call. She has filed numerous ethics complaints, but to no avail.

Mayor Beck and Manager Voll advised Mrs. Rodan to bring the information to their office.

Mayor Beck informed that the Township is offering to dispose of unused prescription medications. The drop off location is at the Lower Township Police Department.

**Closed Session**

Res. #2013-122

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.(Personnel Matters, Collective Bargaining and Possible Litigation with DRBA/County)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
NEVILLE			X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

Council returned to Open Session at 7:47 p.m.

Res #2013-123

Council Request to Tax Collector to Remove from the April 16, 2013 Tax Sale the Properties Listed Below Located in the Cape May County Airport and Industrial Park

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
NEVILLE			X			
DOUGLASS		X	X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

Res. #2013-124

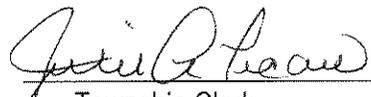
A Resolution To Ratify the Memorandum of Understanding Between Lower Township and the Lower Township Superior Officers Association

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
NEVILLE			X			
DOUGLASS		X	X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Neville, seconded by Councilmember Clark. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

  
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Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Township Clerk

Approved: May 6, 2013