

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 17, 2015

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on August 17, 2015 at 7:00 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 David Perry
Councilmember Erik Simonsen
Deputy Mayor Clark
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: James Ridgway, Township Manager, David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Public Hearing - Small Cities Public Facilities Application and Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program

Historic Preservation Committee discussion - Councilman Conrad

Councilman Conrad informed that the Cape May County Historic Society approached the Township about purchasing the third oldest building in the Township, the Nathaniel Foster House, built in 1724. He introduced John Louderbach and expressed the interests of concerned citizens in preserving the history of the Township.

John Louderbach, president of Friends of Fishing Creek School and member of newly formed Historical Society of Lower Township, spoke of the necessity to revive the Historic Preservation Commission in an effort to protect our historic treasures.

Laurie Thomas spoke about the history of the Judge Nathaniel Foster House as well as the history of Lower Township and how it is unique to New Jersey. She pointed out that the Heritage Biway was rerouted on account of the Nathaniel Foster House. She asked Council to reestablish an historic preservation committee and urged support from the community to protect these structures and preserve our rich history.

Councilman Conrad voiced an interest in reestablishing an historic preservation committee.

Deputy Mayor Clark thanked Laurie Thomas, Lou, and John Louderbach for their passion and efforts and pointed out the impact of moving the structure. He also thanked Councilman Conrad for his efforts with this mission.

Mayor Beck agreed and thanked John Louderbach for his efforts.

Dan Stango, 603 Clubhouse Drive, inquired about the asking price of the house and suggested the community rally together to save it.

John Louderbach reminded that there is already an agreement of sale on the property. The focus now is to find an interested party to move the building.

Roseanne Avenue Presentation - Councilman Perry/Hatch Mott MacDonald

Councilman Perry recapped Council's decision to move forward with the Bayshore Estates Stormwater Investigation and invited Hatch Mott MacDonald to present their report.

Mark Shray, Hatch Mott MacDonald, updated on the progress of the study and informed about the hydraulic model of the existing system as well as material testing.

Bob Mainberger, Hatch Mott MacDonald, provided an overview of the completed study of the Bayshore Estates and Schooner's Landing Developments in relation to Cox Hall Creek. He offered three alternatives to correct the problem: 1) clean the sediment from the existing system, 2) replace the pipeline, 3) replace the pipeline and add a pump station. The first alternative was not recommended. In addition, he fielded questions from Council members and Manager Ridgway.

Sally Yerk, Roseann Ave, voiced concern about the time frame and the possibility of receiving grant funding.

Ed Sherretta, Roseann Ave, addressed the groundwater problem and offered a solution for the property owners. He expressed an interest in option 3 for resolving the flooding problems efficiently and voiced concern about flood insurance costs driving people away from their homes.

Ed Butler, Villas, expressed concern about the location of the pump station affecting the flow.

Jay Young, Villas, questioned Manager Ridgway about funding for the project.

Marilyn Meakle, Mindy Ave, questioned how the project would affect street flooding on Heidi and Mindy Avenues. She voiced her preference to option 3 and urged Council to make the right choice for the residents.

Tom Frisoli, Villas, questioned the possibility of the MUA and Department of Public Works managing the silt.

Bill Greenfield, Villas, voiced concern about any of the proposed options solving flooding problems under high tidal conditions.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes August 3, 2015
- Res. #2015-245 Payment of Vouchers \$480,519.42
- Res. #2015-246 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (K.Black \$1,696.77)
- Res. #2015-247 Resolution Amending Resolution #2015-230; Appointment of a Municipal Prosecutor for the year 2015 (amending to make a professional service contract)
- Res. #2015-248 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (\$5,000 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over)
- Res. #2015-249 Amending Resolution #2015-209; Appointment of Ford Scott and Associates as a Professional Service Contract in Connection with the 2015 Bond Sale (adding \$4,000)
- Res. #2015-250 A Resolution in Support of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Regarding Route NJ109 in the Township of Lower, County of Cape May (No Passing Zone – near M.P. 2.67 Tranquility Drive)
- Res. #2015-251 Adoption of State Model Citizen Participation Plan for DCA Small Cities Program (requirement from the State to apply for a public facilities grant and Housing Rehabilitation loan program)
- Res. #2015-252 Identifying Small Cities Fair Housing Officer (C.Crippen)
- Res. #2015-253 Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program Policy and Procedural Manual (State requirement)
- Res. #2015-254 Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Grant Management Plan (State requirement)
- Res. #2015-255 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (W.Priole \$9,226.32)
- Res. #2015-256 Resolution Increasing the Bid Threshold Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 (from \$36,000 to \$40,000)

Mayor Beck requested Resolution #2015-247 be moved to the regular agenda

Consent Agenda:

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
PERRY			X			
SIMONSEN		X	X			
CLARK	X		X			
BECK			X			

Regular Agenda

- Res. #2015-247 Resolution Amending Resolution #2015-230; Appointment of a Municipal Prosecutor for the year 2015 (amending to make a professional service contract)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
PERRY			X			
SIMONSEN		X	X			
CLARK				X		
BECK				X		

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD					X	
PERRY			X			
SIMONSEN	X		X			
CLARK		X	X			
BECK			X			

Administrative Reports

Monthly Reports – Clerk, Code Enforcement, Construction, Dog, Tax, Treasurer, Vital Statistics

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad gave an update on some recent grant funded projects in the Township. He also praised the Villas Fire Co. and Fire Commission on their ISO rating.

Councilman Perry validated the source of statistics regarding dog bites. He assured of his diligence in resolving the flooding problems on Roseann Avenue and wished everyone a safe Labor Day weekend.

Councilman Simonsen thanked the Police Department and Officer Barkas for the success of National Night Out. He conveyed hope for resolving the complaints with Icona. He thanked everyone for their support on behalf of the Laffey Family and gave an update on the Exit 0 interchange.

Manager Ridgway credited Senator VanDrew for his help with the Exit 0 interchange. He also noted progress with the noise violations in Diamond Beach.

Councilman Simonsen congratulated his father, Captain Frank Simonsen, on retirement after forty years of coaching in the Township.

Deputy Mayor Clark acknowledged and thanked the many organizations and individuals who give voluntarily to help our community.

Mayor Beck announced the following: Run for the Fallen, Flag Ceremony at Sunset Beach, Labor Day and School Opening. He reminded that the next Council meeting is scheduled for September 9.

Call to Public

Ed Sherretta, Roseann Avenue, voiced concern about the speed limit on Bayshore Road near Roseann Avenue and Old Mill Drive.

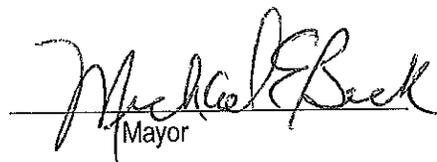
Sally Yerk, Roseann Avenue, added to the comments about the speed limit on Bayshore Road and agreed that a change is needed.

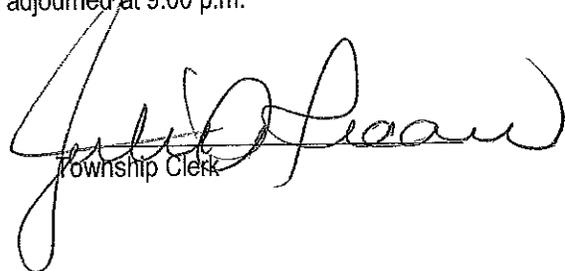
Steve Morey, Erma, suggested a crosswalk at the above location and pointed out another location that needs painting on Townbank and Bayshore Roads.

Councilman Simonsen suggested crosswalks at Washington Boulevard and Rosehill Parkway.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilman Conrad, seconded by Councilman Simonsen. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: Sept. 9, 2015