

Work Session & Regular Meeting Minutes – September 19, 2011

The regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 19, 2011 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 Glenn Douglass
Deputy Mayor Kevin Lare
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Michael Donohue, Solicitor, Michael Voll, Manager and Recording Clerk, Julie Picard
Excused: Councilmember Simonsen

Proclamation – Constitution Week September 17, 2011 - September 23, 2011

Proclamation - Supporting NJ Run for the Fallen - September 24 & September 25

Work Session

Update of Cox Hall Creek Restoration Project - Brian O'Connor, CMC Planning Department

Brian O'Connor addressed Council and gave an update on the Cox Hall Creek Restoration Project. Points included: The project started in 2001 and came out of the Watershed Management Grants Program. Three groups were formed: Citizen Advisory Group, Government Advisory Group and a Technical Group. A \$100,000.00 grant was secured to start the project which paid for elevation, environmental surveys and public meetings. After a feasibility study was analyzed, bringing the creek back to salt water in a controlled fashion was selected. Fresh Water Wet Land permits were applied for and received. Mr. O'Connor stated the final permit holding up the project was the Tideland Management Permit – which allows the NJ Fish & Wildlife Service to manage the area. The basic project was to connect the Delaware Bay to Cox Hall Creek through 400 foot of 48 inch pipe controlled by a double gated structure to control water levels. Funding included \$10,000.00 from the US Fish & Wildlife Service; \$25,000.00 for the purchase of materials from CWRP and US Fish & Wildlife Service in Delaware committed \$14,000.00. The Lower Township MUA had agreed to do some of the install work as well as the Lower Township Public Works Department agreed to put in the outfall work. The Cape May County Engineer Department would do all the lay outs for the elevations. An easement would be granted from Mr. Cahill. Once the Tidelands Permit was received, the materials would be purchased and installed.

Shared Services Discussion - Deputy Mayor Lare

Deputy Mayor Lare stated Council had been given a copy of an agenda from last months meeting of the MUA which stated there was a resignation of their CFO and requested Council give the Manager the approval to reach out to the MUA and explore the possibility of sharing a service.

Councilmember Conrad replied if Lauren thought she could do it, he would have no issue with it.

Councilmember Douglass replied it sounded like a good idea.

Mayor Beck stated he had no problem with it assuming that the MUA was on board.

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Review of Consent & Regular Agenda Items

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes September 7, 2011

Res. #2011-259 Payment of Vouchers, \$2,194,429.10

Res. #2011-260 Resolution Approving Project Proposal Between Hatch Mott MacDonald and the Township of Lower for Engineering Services Related to Bayshore Estates Stormwater Investigation (\$2250 to prepare RFP for diving firms to investigate evaluate Roseanne Ave. trunkline)

Res. #2011-261 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Beach Drive Pedestrian Access Improvement Project (Rescinding Res. 2011-250 adopted Sept 7 and replacing it to change roadway improvement to pedestrian access improvements)

Public Comment on consent agenda:

Joe Winters, Florida Ave, addressed Council regarding Resolution 2011-260, questioning if a camera could be used to view the pipe. Manager Voil replied because of the water and muck a diver was going to be sent through the line with a camera to give an actual assessment of the situation.

Motion to adopt the Consent agenda by Councilmember Douglass, seconded by Councilmember Conrad.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Conrad Yes, Councilmember Douglass Yes, Deputy Mayor Lare Yes
Mayor Beck Yes

Administrative Reports/Filings

Recreation Advisory Board Recommendation - Beach Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements

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

Certificate of Delivery & Payment for Refunding Bonds Aug. 31, 2011

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad spoke on the Run For The Fallen and urged residents to attend.

On September 28, 2011 Flu Vaccinations will be administered at Town Hall.

The DAV will be hosting a Flag Retirement at the Cape May County Park South on October 9, 2011 at 1:00.

Councilmember Douglass thanked everyone involved in the Sept 11 ceremony at Sunset Beach.

Deputy Mayor Lare reiterated a great job was done by Eileen and the Hume"s and everyone involved with the Sept. 11th event and also stated volunteers are needed for the Run for the Fallen breakfast.

Mayor Beck spoke on the Run For The Fallen and noted at every mile marker a veteran from the area will be honored. The Mayor also thanked Marvin Hume for his help with the service at Sunset Beach.

The Fishing Creek School Sneak Peak opening fund raiser is scheduled for Sunday, October 2, 2011 4-7 PM. The Mayor noted there was something magic about the School House which was originally meant for kids and now 130 years later, we were going to take it full circle and use it for early childhood intervention classes.

Call to the Public

Joseph Boyle, 313 Arizona Ave addressed Council and requested help to get his property cleaned.

Labor Contracts

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Joe Winters, Florida Ave, addressed Council regarding a Resolution at the last meeting which was not listed on the agenda. Mayor Beck replied Council tries to make sure all Resolutions are on the agenda so residents can review them prior to the meeting. Clerk Kammer stated the resolution, after its approval, was posted on the web-site along with all the other resolutions. This particular resolution was brought up during the meeting so there was no time to post it. Mayor Beck stated this issue had been debated several times over the past several months and action was taken.

Outdoor Wood Boilers

Diane Morton, 7 S. Andrielle, thanked Council for the smoke and fume Ordinance and questioned its status. Mayor Beck replied the second reading would be at the next meeting and it would be sent to the Zoning Board for their recommendations.

Labor Contracts

Ed Butler, Delaware Bay Drive, addressed Council regarding contracts and stated he felt Council was removing the public from contract negotiations and questioned what the cost would be to the taxpayers. Councilmember Douglass stated all approved Township contracts were on the Township Website.

Hurricane Irene Cleanup

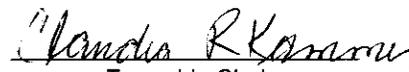
Robert Rizzo, of Mickels Run addressed Council and suggested changing the recycling schedule until the storm clean-up is complete. Mayor Beck replied there were some delays in the clean-up to ensure the Township would receive FEMA money to help defray the overtime costs. Manager Voll replied the storm was overwhelming and we are making every effort to get caught up. Our people were doing an outstanding job and it would be another 2-3 weeks to complete the clean-up.

Beach Access

Bill Greenfield, of the Villas, thanked the Manager and Public Works for putting the steps to the beach on New York and New Jersey Avenues.

There being no further comment, motion to adjourn by Councilmember Douglass, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.


Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: October 3, 2011