

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – May 19, 2014

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on May 19, 2014 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
Deputy Mayor Clark
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Michael Voll, Township Manager, Ron Gelzunas, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Clerk's Office

Proclamation - Click it or Ticket

Mayor Beck opened the meeting with a proclamation declaring Lower Township's support of Click it or Ticket Seatbelt Mobilization, May 19th through June 1st, 2014.

Presentation - National Boat Safety Week - Lois Grimes

Lois Grimes spoke about her family history and gave a presentation promoting National Boat Safety Week. She discussed the best ways to stay safe on the water including attending a boating safety class, getting a free vessel safety check, wearing a personal floatation device, and filing a float plan.

Work Session

Steve Delmonte - Delmo Sports - Update on Escape the Cape Triathlon, June 8, 2014

Steve Delmonte, event director for Escape the Cape Triathlon, spoke about the success of last year's event thanks to the cooperation of the Delaware River and Bay Authority and the Township. He discussed the plan for this year's event with double the number of participants and an added kid's race. He informed about road closures the morning of the event and offered incentives for local organizations who volunteer. He hopes to receive the same support and enthusiasm from residents as was received during last year's event. Mayor Beck vowed his support and thanked him for a well-organized, first class event.

Lower Township Kayak Club

Mark Lovell, organizer for the Lower Township Kayak Club, gave an update on this year's annual Bay Kayak Rally and Fun Race. He informed about the details of the race and encouraged anyone interested to join their club. He requested Council's support in promoting the event as well as supplying bottled water and a patrolman to direct traffic. Mayor Beck complimented Mr. Lovell's efforts with the event and the club.

Ms. Judy Gillis –

Judy Gillis, volunteer organizer of the beach clean-up last week, reported the success of the clean-up and thanked everyone involved, including Mayor Beck, Seashore Church of the Nazarene, the Environmental Science Class, Recreation Aids, Boy Scout Troop 87 and the Women's Community Club of Cape May. Mayor Beck praised Ms. Gillis for her passion and efforts to keep our township clean.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes	May 5, 2014
Res. #2014-148	Payment of Vouchers - \$265,324.52
Res. #2014-149	A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bond For Block 545, Lots 28-30, 133 Racetrack Drive (\$500.)
Res. #2014-150	Authorization for Refund of Taxes (3 properties \$2,636.64)

- Res. #2014-151 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (\$4,000. Click it or Ticket)
- Res. #2014-152 A Resolution Requesting Release of Performance Guarantee for Garden State Dredging; Block 899, Lot 1, Escrow #Z07-11-07 (\$1,000.)
- Res. #2014-153 Approval to Co-sponsor and Contribute \$1,700.00 Towards the Delaware River and Bay Authority 2014 Summer Events Held at the Cape May Lewes Ferry Terminal (July 9,23, Aug 20 & 27)
- Res. #2014-154 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and the County of Cape May for Law Enforcement Coverage at a Township Event (June 8th triathlon)
- Res. #2014-155 Issuance of 2014 Taxi and Operator License (Ocean Cab Services)
- Res. #2014-156 Renewal of 2014 Campground License (Cold Spring Campground Inc)

Mayor Beck brought attention to Res. #2014-153, noting the added events. He spoke about our partnership with the DRBA and stressed the importance of publicizing these events.

Ed Butler, Villas, appreciated the explanation and asked for clarification of Res. #2014-154.

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

Regular Agenda

- Res. #2014-157 Payment of Vouchers - Lower Twp Rescue \$35,000 Contribution due 6/3/14

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

- Res. #2014-158 Resolution of the Township of Lower Supporting Action by the Board of Education of the Lower Cape May Regional School District for a Referendum on the City of Cape May's Proposal to Modify the Method of Apportionment of Taxes for the Operation of the Lower Cape May Regional School District

Councilmember Conrad indicated that this resolution is for the good of our residents, taxpayers, and children.

Councilmember Neville agreed.

Mayor Beck explained that this resolution is supporting the rights of the voters.

Solicitor Gelzunas clarified the resolution even further. He updated on an additional resolution passed by Cape May City's Council to change the membership make-up of the school board based on monetary contribution rather than population.

Mayor Beck spoke about his disapproval to Cape May City Council's request and his feelings about representation.

Solicitor Gelzunas gave the statutory reference for representation, N.J.S.A. 18A:13-8.

Mayor Beck vowed to continue the fight if necessary.

Ed Butler, Villas, compared his assessed property value to Cape May. He stressed to the people of Lower Township to address this with priority.

Mayor Beck stressed the importance of education and his desire to see the quality of education continue.

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

Administrative Reports

Personnel Action Report

Monthly Reports - Clerk, Construction, Dog, Police, Tax Collector, Vital Statistics

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad thanked Judy Gillis for the work she does throughout the township. He also reminded about Memorial Day to recognize our veterans and those that have fallen.

Councilmember Neville reminded about the Beach Drive Access Plan meeting at Township Hall on May 31, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. He informed that we're trying to get the plans on the Township website.

Deputy Mayor Clark talked about working with future generations and economic development. He also recalled his experience attending the armed services ceremony at the World War II Tower. He thanked both Johnny Walker for accompanying him and Mayor Beck for the opportunity.

Mayor Beck reminisced about his past experiences at the armed services ceremony. He also made the following announcements: Memorial Day Services, Public Hearing for Exit 0 and Route 109 (Garden State Parkway Improvements), Beach Drive Access Plan meeting, Community Day & Shredding, Escape the Cape Triathlon, and season pool passes on sale at the Recreation Department.

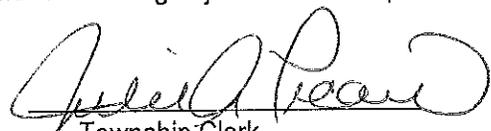
Call to Public

No one wished to speak

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Neville, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.


Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: June 2, 2014