

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – November 3, 2014

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on November 3, 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
- Councilmember Erik Simonsen
- Deputy Mayor Clark
- Mayor Michael Beck

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

Consent Agenda

Approval of NJ State Firemen's Membership Application- Brian A. Rodgers, Jr -Town Bank Volunteer Fire Company

Approval of Minutes October 20, 2014

Res. #2014-289 Payment of Vouchers \$2,896,326.03

Res. #2014-290 Issuance of a 2014 Limousine and Operator Licenses (G Transportation)

Res. #2014-291 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (3 properties \$1,716.42)

Res. #2014-292 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (D.Bohn \$4,376.41)

Res. #2014-293 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (R.Hansberry \$5,153.70)

Res. #2014-294 Bid Acceptance and Award for One (1) 2014 or Newer Six Wheel Regenerative Air Street Sweeper (Granturk \$222,597.05)

Res. #2014-295 Bid Acceptance and Award for One (1) 2014 or Newer Wheel Loader Backhoe (Jesco, Inc \$107,100.00)

Res. #2014-296 Transfer of 2014 Appropriations (\$116,100.00)

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

Regular Agenda

Res. #2014-297 Authorizing the Payment of Vouchers \$9,230.00 (EDA \$4,930. & Craig Testing \$4,300. For DPS Bldg)

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

A Resolution Authorizing the Solicitor to Expand Collection of Information and Evidence for Presentation to the Local Finance Board and Attorney General's Office Regarding Mismanagement and/or Official Misconduct of Board Members at the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority

Councilmember Conrad addressed Solicitor Gelzunas about the last investigation by the prosecutor. Solicitor Gelzunas explained that the previous resolution was limited to a certain time frame. This resolution expands the scope of time. Councilmember Conrad commented in favor of the operations of the LTMUA since the new board took over. Councilmember Simonsen inquired about this interfering with the first investigation. Solicitor Gelzunas explained that the County Prosecutor is looking at the criminal allegations, whereas the Local Finance Board encompasses a much broader scope. Discussion ensued. Deputy Mayor Clark clarified his intent of the proposed motion to include all three authorities. Councilmember Conrad voiced his concern about impeding on an existing investigation. Solicitor Gelzunas explained the chain of command. Mayor Beck discussed the purpose of expanding the time frame.

Tom Frisoli, LTMUA Board Member, commented about what took place at the last Council meeting in his absence. He expressed discontent at the allegations of mismanagement of the LTMUA and faulted the Township for being the leader.

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

Administrative Reports

Finance Quarterly Report

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad encouraged all residents to vote "no" on the school question.

Councilmember Neville also encouraged a "no" vote on the ballot question pertaining to the school funding issue. He gave an update on the Clubhouse Drive project to start after the contract date. He also commented on the LTMUA budget and his eagerness to see the line item for penalties to the DEP.

Councilmember Simonsen reminded everyone to exercise their right to vote and pay close attention to the questions.

Deputy Mayor Clark expressed his gratitude for Council's accord on the school issue and discussed the potential consequences if Cape May succeeds in their pursuit. He remains prayerful that Cape May City Council will back out, but stressed the importance of everyone's vote.

Mayor Beck commented on the newspaper article, crediting Glenn Sundstrom for his courage. He also thanked the Lower Township Taxpayer's Association for their efforts encouraging residents to vote "no".

Manager Voll informed of the loss of valued Public Works employee, George Letzgas. He authorized the use of the Millman Center for his funeral reception.

Call to Public

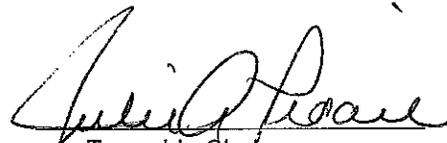
John Skowronski, 607 Arctic Avenue, addressed Mayor Beck, Deputy Mayor Clark and Councilmember Neville to express his gratitude for the admirable work they have done for the Township.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Neville, seconded by Councilmember Simonsen. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *Nov. 17, 2014*