

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – September 9, 2015

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 9, 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

Roseanne Avenue Project – Councilman David Perry

Councilman Perry invited Mark Shray and Bob Mainberger, Hatch Mott MacDonald, to field questions regarding the study for the Bayshore Estates Project.

Councilman Perry asked for clarification with the behavior of the pipeline under difference conditions.

Councilman Conrad inquired about Option 2 and the cost to add the chamber at a later date.

Deputy Mayor Clark asked if it would be more cost effective to do Option 3 from the start.

Mayor Beck expressed concern about the cost and voiced a desire to get help from state and federal government.

Bob Mainberger pointed out the necessity to decide on a location for housing the generator included with Option 3.

Councilman Perry inquired about a portable generator.

Councilman Conrad asked what the cost savings would be without the generator.

Ed Butler, Villas, asked for a description about the operation of the transition box and inquired about DEP/CAFRA permits.

Bill Murphy, Townbank, voiced concern about staying within the estimated cost for Option 3.

Sally Yerk, Roseann Avenue, asked about the location of the generator and pointed out that the flooding problem impacts much more than Roseann Avenue.

Tom Frisoli, Villas, commended Council for their diligence on this project. He spoke about the difference between gravity flow and a pumping station and stressed the importance of a generator.

Jay Young, Villas, asked about the cost of the project, how it will be paid, and how it will impact taxes. Manager Ridgway informed about possible grant money and bonding capacity.

Helen Thompson, Villas, asked how often the existing pipes are cleaned and how many streets will be affected.

Mayor Beck pointed out the flawed design in the existing pipes.

Councilman Conrad listed the streets that will be impacted.

Dave Elliott, 321 Roseann Avenue, commended Hatch Mott MacDonald for their work and voiced concern about the noise from the generator.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

August 17, 2015

Res. #2015-258 Payment of Vouchers \$ 636,234.20
 Res. #2015-259 Certification of Lot Clearing Charges to the Tax Collector (10 properties \$7,905.)
 Res. #2015-260 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (8 properties \$5635.41)
 Res. #2015-261 A Resolution Amending Resolution #2015-71 and Resolution #2015-120; Changing Appropriation Lines to be Charged (\$21,825.27 from O/E to Capital)
 Res. #2015-262 Resolution Amending Resolution #2015-228; Confirming the Appointment of Jennifer Dowe as the Lower Township Tax Assessor (State requested term be clarified on resolution)
 Res. #2015-263 Bid Award for one (1) 2016 Police Chevrolet Tahoe SSV 4X4 (Hertrich \$36,483.)
 Res. #2015-264 Appointment of Class II Member to the Planning Board (J.Dowe, Twp Assessor)
 Res. #2015-265 Approval of Public Facilities Grant Management Plan – Roseanne Avenue Improvements
 Res. #2015-266 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (D.Hickok \$85,003.26)
 Res. #2015-267 Resolution Awarding A Professional Service Contract to Hatch Mott MacDonald For Geotechnical Testing at Freeman Douglass Field (\$8,825.00) *Revised 9/8/2015.*
 Ord #2015-09 An Ordinance of the Township of Lower Amending Chapter 318 of the Code of the Township of Lower (re-districting a parcel of ground from Fire District #1 to Fire District #3) First Reading - Second reading and public hearing scheduled for September 21

Councilman Conrad requested to move Resolution #2015-258 to the Regular Agenda.

Jay Young, Villas, inquired about Resolution #2015-266. Mayor Beck responded the payout was due to contractual obligations.

On the Consent:

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

Regular Agenda

Res. 2015-258

Payment of Vouchers \$636,234.20

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

Res. #2015-268

Appointment to the Planning Board (J. Dilworth resignation)

Councilman Perry moved to nominate Andrew Bulakowski, seconded by Councilman Conrad.

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

Res. #2015-269 Appointment to Planning Board (P. St. John resignation)
 Councilman Conrad moved to nominate Christopher Vassar, seconded by Councilman Perry.

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

Res. #2015-270 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class A Member Term Expiration
 9/30/2019
 Councilman Conrad moved to nominate Lewis Thomas, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clark.

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

Res. #2015-271 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Member Term Expiration
 9/30/2019
 Councilman Perry moved to nominate Margaret Strolle, seconded by Councilman Conrad.

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

Res. #2015-272 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class B Member Term Expiration
 9/30/2018
 Councilman Conrad moved to nominate Pary Tell, seconded by Councilman Simonsen.

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

Res. #2015-273 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Member Term Expiration
 9/30/2018
 Deputy Mayor Clark moved to nominate John Louderback, seconded by Councilman Conrad.

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

Res. #2015-274 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Member Term Expiration 9/30/2017

Councilman Conrad moved to nominate Lori Thomas, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clark.

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

Res. #2015-275 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Member Term Expiration 9/30/2017

Councilman Perry moved to nominate Kurt Hughes, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clark.

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

Res. #2015-276 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Member Term Expiration 9/30/2016

Councilman Simonsen moved to nominate Karlson Hughes, seconded by Councilman Conrad.

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

Res. #2015-277 Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Alternate Member Expiration 9/30/2017

Councilman Conrad moved to nominate Kathleen Hayes, seconded by Councilman Simonsen.

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

Res. #2015-278

Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission / Class C Alternate Member
Expiration 9/30/2016

Councilman Conrad moved to nominate Bruce Tell, seconded by Councilman Simonsen.

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

Administrative Reports

Certificate of Determination and Award – Bond Sale
Monthly Report - Police Department

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad reminded that school is back in session and to be mindful of children and busses. He voiced an interest in saving the Foster House if not already under contract.

Councilman Perry stressed urgency in moving forward with the Bayshore Estates Stormwater Project. He suggested being proactive by evaluating infrastructure throughout the Township. Upon Councilman Perry's request, Manager Ridgway gave a good report on the Bay-water testing results.

Councilman Perry publically acknowledged Gary Douglass, Director of Public Works, on an outstanding job. He also informed that September is Childhood Cancer Awareness and Sickle Cell Awareness Month and asked for support for the Valeri Fund.

Councilman Simonsen encouraged people to attend a 9-11 ceremony as well as the ceremony at Sunset Beach for the Run for the Fallen. He also asked for prayers for Peter Tourison.

Deputy Mayor Clark thanked Councilman Perry for initiating the Roseann Avenue Project. He pleaded for Council to put the project out to bid. He gave an update on the Delaware Bayshore Council's plan for beach replenishment and protection. He apologized in advance for his absence at the next meeting and thanked Manager Ridgway for holding off on the Public Safety Building discussion until his return. As always, he thanked the taxpayers for their taxes.

Manager Ridgway appealed to Council to consider the time and money already invested into Hatch Mott MacDonald when deciding on an engineering firm for the Roseann Avenue Project.

Mayor Beck stated his support for Option 3 and voiced his desire for the project to be put out to bid. He also announced the following: 9-11 Ceremony at Sunset Beach, Run for the Fallen, and Lifeline Community Healthcare Event. He reported on receiving the federal grant to help fight substance abuse and thanked the many people involved, including Cape Assist, The Lower Township Police Department and Colleen Crippen.

Manager Ridgway credited Council for their efforts in the fight against drug abuse.

Call to Public

Mary Reader, W. Drumbed Road, voiced favor with Councilman Conrad's desire to see the Foster House restored and suggested it would be a great project for school kids.

Joe Thomas, Roseann Avenue, asked about the requirement to bid out large projects.

Janet Pitts, Villas, questioned Manager Ridgway about the location of the Bay-water testing. She inquired about a petition mentioned in Spout-off regarding Open Space. She asked for clarification about Victoria Manor property transfer.

Tom Sullivan, 240 Lennox Avenue, voiced discontent with the quads and dirt bikes in his neighborhood.

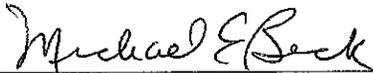
Jerry Sullivan, 240 Lennox Avenue, added to her husband's comments about the dirt bikes and shared her neighbors concern for safety.

Helen Thompson, Villas, inquired about jurisdiction of property at Douglass Park and how it would affect dogs entering the beach. She also voiced disfavor with the Township's disregard for Villas.

Tom Frisoli, Villas, disputed the time frame when the engineering firm began their study on the Bayshore Estates Project and voiced concern about unnecessary delays. He also expressed interest in Council resolving the problems at Diamond Beach before next season.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clark. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *Sept. 21, 2015*