

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 21, 2015

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was called to order on December 21, 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
 Deputy Mayor Clark
 Mayor Michael Beck

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

Mayor Beck invited Steve Selby, Lower Township's Healthy Youth Coalition Coordinator, to give an update on an upcoming event.

Mr. Selby announced that Lower Township's Healthy Youth Coalition will be hosting a public meeting on February 3, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and encouraged everyone to attend. He left his contact information for anyone with questions or concerns.

Work Session

Beach Access Update - Manager Jim Ridgway, Steve Morey

Manager Ridgway invited Steve Morey, Hatch Mott MacDonald, to give an update on the beach access presentation.

Mr. Morey informed that Hatch Mott MacDonald completed the photo documentation and topographic surveys of thirty-three eligible beach accesses. Emergency accesses were found at Emerson Avenue and Village Road. A proposed plan will be ready to present to Council at the first meeting in February.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Beck asked Solicitor Stefankiewicz about Resolution #2015-368 awarding the lease of public land. He expressed concern about the wording of the lease and possible use of land. Solicitor Stefankiewicz suggested more restrictive language with Council's consent.

Mayor Beck motioned to TABLE Resolution #2015-368 to allow the solicitor to tighten up the language.

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

- Approval of Minutes December 7, 2015
- Res. #2015-363 Payment of Vouchers \$ 845,761.80
- Res. #2015-364 Amend Township Manager James Ridgway's Memorandum of Understanding (adding vacation days)
- Res. #2015-365 Authorizing the Donation of Tumbling Mats no longer needed for Public Use to the Lower Cape May Regional School District
- Res. #2015-366 Reappointment to Recreation Advisory Board (R.Osborn)
- Res. #2015-367 Reappointment to Recreation Advisory Board (L.Bedell, Jr.)
- Res. #2015-368 A Resolution Awarding the Lease of Public Land Located at the Intersection of Seaview and Rochester Avenues after the December 1, 2015 Open Public Auction (\$10,000 per yr to Achristavest)

Res. #2015-369
 Res. #2015-370
 Res. #2015-371
 Res. #2015-372
 Res. #2015-373

A Resolution Supporting New Jersey State Assembly Bill No. 2733/A4764 "Reinstating Municipal to Regulate Residential Rental Properties"
 Amending Resolution #2015-332 – State Health Benefits Program Chapter 48, P.L. 1999
 Authorization for the payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (J.Piggott \$283.13)
 Transfer of 2015 Appropriations
 Approving Contract with USABLE for Group Life as an Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services Contract

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

Regular Agenda

Res #2015-374

Lower Township Rescue Squad Voucher \$5,000.00

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

Administrative Reports

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Finance, Police, Tax, Vital Statistics

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad informed that an open space grant application has been submitted for land acquisition of the Nathaniel Foster House and commended Grants Coordinator Colleen Crippen for her work. He extended wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and God's blessings to all.

Councilman Perry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Manager Ridgway commented on the success of the Ferry Merry Christmas Event and announced the upcoming New Year's Eve party at the Recreation Department. He also informed that the state is paying for body cameras for the Lower Township Police Department in the amount of \$23,000.

Deputy Mayor Clark gave an update on the progress of the Delaware Bayshore Council. He reflected on the spirit of the season and the message of hope that Christmas brings to Lower Township.

Mayor Beck announced the New Year's Eve Party at the Recreation Department and the Reorganization Council Meeting. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and Safe Traveling.

Call to Public

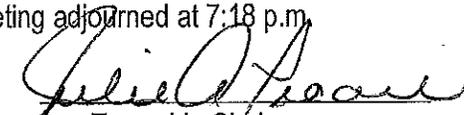
Dan Anderson, Townbank Road informed that Cape May beach tags are free to veterans and active military personnel and families.

Ed Butler, Villas, addressed Council regarding the beach access plan and expressed concern for the dunes.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Perry, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.


 Mayor


 Township Clerk

Approved: