

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES –September 21, 2015

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 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
Councilmember Erik Simonsen
Mayor Michael Beck

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

Mayor Beck opened the meeting with Councilman Conrad introducing Chief Harron and Deputy Chief Stone from the Villas Volunteer Fire Company to speak about the ISO rating. On behalf of Fire District No. 1, Chief Harron thanked residents and Council for their continued support and explained how they achieved an ISO rating of 3, accrediting the cooperation of both the LTMUA and LTPD 9-1-1 dispatch. In addition, he informed that a low ISO rating means better service and fire protection, as well as rate reductions on homeowners insurance. Upon request from Councilman Conrad, he described the training entailed with becoming a fire fighter and revealed periodic training with other local fire companies. Manager Ridgway thanked and commended them for reducing their ISO rating.

Work Session

Best Practice public discussion on created authorities – Manager Jim Ridgway .

Manager Ridgway gave a brief statement describing the requirements of Council for the Best Practices Worksheet regarding fire districts and municipal utilities authorities.

Councilman Conrad thanked all the authorities for working together for the good of the residents. He also announced that Phase I of Villas has been approved for water hookups in spring 2016.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes	September 9, 2015
Res. #2015-279	Payment of Vouchers \$ 1,007,949.02
Res. #2015-280	Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (\$5,091.99 Bulletproof Vest Partnership)
Res. #2015-281	A Resolution Approving A Professional Service Contract with Marcus Karavan, Esq. as a Conflict Attorney for Three (3) Tax Appeal Cases (not to exceed \$6,500.)
Res. #2015-282	Authorization: Determination of Municipal Service Fees for 2016 (\$120 per manufactured home within a mobile home park)
Res. #2015-283	2015 Salary Resolution (required by Township Code and Best Practice worksheet)
Res. #2015-284	A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property Not Needed for Public Use by Private Sale (2 service weapons @\$275 each Hickok/Beeby)
Res. #2015-285	A Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application and the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for Roseann Avenue
Res. #2015-286	Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property Not Needed for Public Use by Private Sale (ballistic vest to Hamilton Twp \$445)
Res. #2015-287	Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GOVDEALS Online Auction Website

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

Regular Agenda

Administrative Reports

Monthly Reports: Clerk, Construction, Dog, Police, Vital, Tax

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad looks forward to new water hookups for Villas residents. He reminded about the Run for the Fallen ceremony at Sunset Beach honoring Marvin Hume. He also commented on the Historical Preservation Committee getting started.

Councilman Perry encouraged everyone to be mindful of school children at bus stops and to take safety precautions before running heating units.

Councilman Simonsen gave an update on the LCMR Football team and informed about the LCMR Key Club sponsored Lock-in event to support anti-drug awareness.

Mayor Beck reminded that the Run for the Fallen begins at the Lighthouse.

Call to the Public

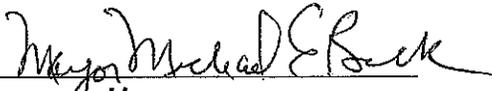
Steve Sheftz, member of the LTMUA, gave a brief history of his background in engineering and revealed the steps that led to the state loan program that allows residents to borrow up to \$10,000, interest free, for water hook-ups. He strongly encouraged people to attend the LTMUA meetings and thanked Councilman Conrad for his past attendance.

Helen Thompson, Villas, sought an answer about jurisdiction of property at Douglass Park. Manager Ridgway informed that Chapter 178 applies to all sections of the beach controlled under public access of the state.

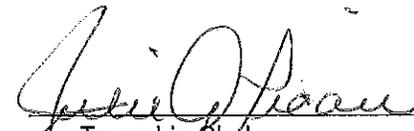
Steve Sheftz announced that additional information and maps of Phase I and II are available on the LTMUA website.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Simonsen, seconded by Councilmember Perry. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



 Mayor



 Township Clerk

Approved: *Oct 5, 2015*