

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 5, 2016

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on December 5, 2016 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, Robert Belasco, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Proclamation Supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Year End Holiday Crackdown
 Mayor Beck read the proclamation supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Year End Holiday Crackdown which pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.

Work Session

Mauricio Barragan – Small Cell Site Project, Verizon Wireless - Manager Jim Ridgway
 Manager Ridgway briefed Council on his interactions with Verizon Wireless and the need for increased wireless coverage in areas throughout the Township.
 Bill Flanagan, Tilson Technology, communicated the statewide project with Verizon Wireless to upgrade and enhance its network by deploying small network nodes to existing and new utility poles in the public right-of-way. Verizon Wireless is requesting Council's consent to locate and operate wireless facilities within the public right-of-way. Mr. Flannigan fielded questions from Manager Ridgway and Council including costs to the Township, experience in other municipalities and project locations.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes November 21, 2016
- Res. #2016-325 Payment of Vouchers \$539,586.36
- Res. #2016-326 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (6 properties \$10,891.26)
- Res. #2016-327 Authorizing the Payout of Terminal Leave (F.McCloskey \$749.79)
- Res. #2016-328 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (J.Saini \$2,941.07)
- Res. #2016-329 A Resolution Requesting Release of Revegetation and Restoration Guarantee for Dune Site Plan; Block 360.01, Lots 1-9 Escrow # Z04-05-02 (\$1,500)
- Res. #2016-330 Approval of Contribution to Lower Township Rotary (\$800.00 Tree Lighting/Parade)
- Res. #2016-331 Transfer Of 2016 Appropriations (\$77,000)
- Res. #2016-332 Authorizing the Payout of Terminal Leave (M.Alexander \$6,524.38)
- Ordinance #2016-07 An Ordinance of the Township of Lower Amending Chapter 400; the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Lower. This is the First reading of this Ordinance. The 2nd reading and public hearing has been scheduled for December 19, 2016
- Ordinance #2016-08 An Ordinance Transferring Ownership of Certain Real Property to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. This is the First reading of this Ordinance. The 2nd reading and public hearing has been scheduled for December 19, 2016.

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

Regular Agenda

- Res. #2016-333 Authorization for 2016 Incentive Award for Insurance Waiver (\$55,750)

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

Res. #2016-334

A Resolution Authorizing An Amendment to the Salary Ordinance (Increasing Mayor and Council Salary)

Manager Ridgway validated the request for the increase and pointed out that it had not been reviewed in 11 years. Mayor Beck voiced disapproval and urged Council to postpone the vote until new Council takes office in 2017. Councilman Conrad reminded that Council did away with medical benefits in 2008 to save the Township money. Deputy Mayor Clark indicated that his service to the public is not done for monetary reasons.

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

Ordinance #2016-09

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance #2016-06; Salary & Benefit Ordinance for the Township of Lower. This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The 2nd reading and public hearing has been scheduled for December 19, 2016.

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

Administrative Reports

Treasurer's Report

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad made favorable comments about the beach access improvements and encouraged safe driving during the Christmas season.

Councilman Perry gave a brief update on surveying progress along Bayshore Road between Townbank and Washington Boulevard.

Councilman Simonsen asked for prayers for the Klecz Family and encouraged everyone to enjoy the Christmas parade with Matt Szczur as Grand Marshal.

Deputy Mayor Clark – no comments

Mayor Beck thanked the Lower Township Rotary for the Tree Lighting Ceremony and announced the following upcoming events: Rotary Christmas Parade, Ferry Merry Christmas and Police Appreciation Month. Also, signs to support police are available for purchase at several businesses throughout the Township.

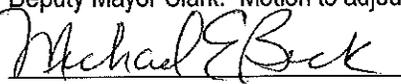
Call to Public

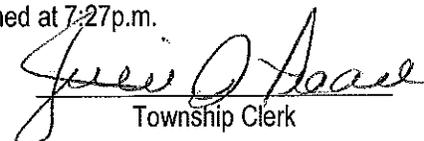
Dan Anderson, Townbank Road, reminded that Cape May beach tags are available free of charge to Veterans.

Bill Greenfield, Villas, addressed Council about moving the steps on New Jersey Avenue to access the beach.

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 7:27p.m.


 Mayor


 Township Clerk

Approved: 12-19-2016