

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 16, 2018

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on April 16, 2018 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 Roland Roy, Jr.  
Deputy Mayor Frank Sippel  
Mayor Erik Simonsen

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

### Work Session

Proclamation - Alcohol Awareness Month

Mayor Simonsen read the proclamation proclaiming April as Alcohol Awareness Month in Lower Township.

Proclamation - Autism Awareness Month – Jacyn Piseczko

Mayor Simonsen read the proclamation proclaiming April as Autism Awareness Month. He introduced Jacyn Piseczko and invited him to say a few words.

Jacyn Piseczko spoke about his "Huddle Up" experience at the Link.

Lisa Bryant, Jacyn's mom, thanked Mayor and Council for their continued support and shared a quote from Isabelle Mosca about the FACES of Autism.

Jacyn read his speech and shared his personal experience with Autism.

### Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes April 9, 2018  
Approval of Closed Session Minutes April 9, 2018  
Res. #2018-145 Payment of Vouchers \$ 102,047.20  
Res. #2018-146 Approval of Change Order #1 for LAN Associates, for Services Related to the Aquatic Center Presentation (\$7,018.47)  
Res. #2018-147 Capital Budget Amendment  
Res. #2018-148 Authorization to Transfer Funds from the Tax Premium Account (\$20,600)  
Res. #2018-149 A Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application and the Execution of an Agreement for A Rural Business Development Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture.  
Res. #2018-150 A Resolution Authorizing Cape May Limousine to Transfer a Limousine License  
Res. #2018-151 Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund Historic Site Management Grant  
Res. #2018-152 Resolution Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with the County of Cape May for Heavy Equipment Fleet Maintenance  
Res. #2018-153 A Resolution Awarding a Professional Service Contract Without Public Bidding to Dante Guzzi Engineering Associates, LLC for Professional Services Associated with Pending Complaints in the Tax Court of New Jersey  
Ordinance #2018-07 Bond Ordinance Providing for Various 2018 Capital Improvements, By and In the Township of Lower, in the County of Cape, State of New Jersey (The "Township"); Appropriating \$2,250,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,135,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Costs Thereof. This is the First reading of Ordinance #2018-07, the second reading and public hearing has been scheduled for May 7, 2018.

Motion to table Resolution #2018-153 moved by Mayor Simonsen; seconded by Councilman Conrad.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
PERRY			X			
ROY			X			
SIPPEL			X			
SIMONSEN	X		X			

Resolution #2018-153 will be tabled until the proper paperwork is received.

On the Consent Agenda:

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
PERRY		X	X			
ROY			X			
SIPPEL	X		X			
SIMONSEN			X			

**Manager's Report**

Manager Ridgway gave an update on tax appeals and shared news about future credit card acceptance for tax payments. He reminded that LAN Associates will be presenting the feasibility study on the aquatic center May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Engineer's Report**

Presentation - Road Surface Evaluation – Jim Ridgway, Twp Manager; Gary Douglass, DPW Superintendent; Mark Sray, Engineer

Mark Sray, Mott MacDonald, summarized the Roadway Evaluation Report and fielded questions from Council. Gary Douglass, Superintendent of Public Works, informed of his plan to add drainage and infrastructure issues to the database before prioritizing.

Councilmember Perry stressed the importance of infrastructure improvements and maintenance.

Manager Ridgway shared his projected plan for road improvements.

Mr. Douglass suggested implementing a moratorium on openings of newly paved roads.

Mark Sray gave a brief update on the Roseann Avenue Project and the Beach Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project.

**Administrative Reports**

March Reports – Clerk, Construction, Dog, Fire Safety, Tax, Vital Statistics

**Council Comments**

Councilmember Conrad gave an update of the progress on Bayshore Road.

Councilmember Perry advised to use caution along Beach Drive due to construction, and he reminded bicyclers to stay off the sidewalk.

Councilmember Roy shared news about the Ocean Drive Upgrades and Bridge Improvements Local Concept Development Study and informed of a public meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Crest Pier Rec. Center. More information can be obtained at [www.capemaytwomilebridge.com](http://www.capemaytwomilebridge.com).

Deputy Mayor Sippel reminded of upcoming dates to honor Veterans including Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day. He also thanked the Police Department for their efforts with the youth camp.

Mayor Simonsen spoke briefly about his involvement with Autism awareness and encouraged others to get involved. He announced the following events: Knockout Opioid Abuse Town Hall Series, Ocean Drive Bridge Project Meeting, New England Mid-Atlantic Community Resiliency Workshop, Earth Day Event at Fishing Creek School, Summer Concert Series, and Arbor Day Celebration.

Councilmember Conrad commented on Little League's Opening Day and shared news of Tod Shoffler retiring from the position of board president.

Mayor Simonsen shared an encouraging update on Jerry Griffin.

**Call to the Public**

Robert Rizzo, Mickel's Run, addressed the Superintendent of Public Works to voice a complaint about the trash collectors. He also thanked Jacyn Pisieczko for a job well done.

Dan Anderson, Townbank, shared sad news of the passing of his uncle, former freeholder Ralph Bakley.

Ray Flickinger, Washington Blvd, addressed Council with concern about road conditions at Douglass Park. He also suggested signage to keep bikers off the sidewalk on Beach Drive. Manager Ridgway communicated his plan for signage. Mayor Simonsen also offered a suggestion for signage.

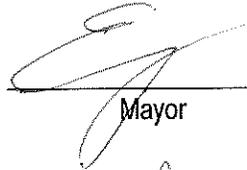
Bill Tirrell, Beach Drive, commended Manager Ridgway for handling a previous concern. He made a recommendation for signage along Beach Drive, and for allocating money annually as part of the comprehensive plan for road and sidewalk repairs. He voiced favor with the progress of the Beach Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project with the exception of Verizon failing to move poles in a timely manner.

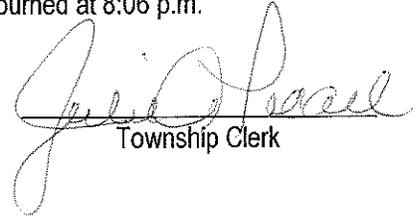
Deputy Mayor Sippel countered Mr. Rizzo's comment about trash cans and thanked Public Works for their continued hard work.

Mayor Simonsen communicated the Township's capital budget plan for road repairs.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Perry, seconded by Councilmember Roy. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

  
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Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Township Clerk

Approved: *May 7, 2018*