

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – June 18, 2018

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on June 18, 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

Swearing in of Sergeant John Armbruster – Mayor Simonsen

Mayor Simonsen administered the Oath of Office to John Armbruster as Sergeant of the Lower Township Police Department. Sergeant Armbruster's wife Adrienne "AJ" held the Bible and pinned his badge.

Swearing in of new officers - Officer Thomas Shough & Officer William Omrod – Mayor Simonsen

Mayor Simonsen administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman William Omrod. Officer Omrod's daughter Leila held the Bible, and his uncle, Joseph Marchina, pinned his badge.

Mayor Simonsen administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman Thomas Shough. Officer Shough's daughter Kaylie held the Bible and his mother Lisa pinned his badge.

Certificate of Appreciation – Kevin Hoffman – Mayor Simonsen

Chief Mastriana commended the efforts of Kevin Hoffman for his quick and selfless response to a fire at Snug Harbor Marina. Mayor Simonsen, on behalf of Council, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Hoffman for his courage and outstanding efforts.

Presentation - Louis Joyce, South Jersey Economic Development District

Jeff Lindsay, Cape May County Counsel, introduced Louis Joyce, Executive Director South Jersey Economic Development District, to explain the redevelopment plan at the Cape May County Airport.

Mr. Joyce addressed Council to present an overview of the redevelopment plan. He communicated the County's intent to apply for grant funding to construct the first building known as Cape May County Airport Tech Village. The presentation included site plans and the proposed architectural design, reflective of historic airport structures.

Mr. Lindsay informed about the size and cost of the buildings and the opportunities the plan will present, including year round employment. He reviewed the necessary steps to completion and anticipates it moving forward quickly.

Councilman Conrad voiced favor with the demolition of the Everlon building and redevelopment of that area.

Deputy Mayor Sippel inquired about the size of the proposed building relative to the Everlon building.

Mayor Simonsen thanked the County for their continued partnership and looks forward to more positive improvements for the community.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes June 4, 2018

Res. #2018-204 Payment of Vouchers \$1,148,073.60

Res. #2018-205 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Alcohol Education & Rehabilitation \$1,025.25)

Res. #2018-206 Authorization for 2018 Incentive Award for Insurance Waiver (\$57,500 - 23 employees)

Res. #2018-207 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (2 payments \$1,803.95)

Res. #2018-208 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Clean Communities \$73,775.05)

Res. #2018-209 Annual Renewal of Liquor Licenses for the Year 2018-2019 (final 3 licenses)

- Res. #2018-210 Re-Appointment to the Planning Board (D.Senico)
- Res. #2018-211 Re-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (E.Utsch, III)
- Res. #2018-212 Award of Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding to Wizards Festival of Fun for Various Events (Halloween Parade \$750/Ferry Merry \$5,750/New Year's Eve \$2,500)
- Res. #2018-213 Approving a Professional Service Contract with Engineering Design Associates, PA, for Professional Engineering Services for Schellinger Landing Safety Improvements & Identification Program (\$5,500)
- Res. #2018-214 Approving a Professional Service Contract with Mott MacDonald for Professional Engineering Services for the Beach Access Improvements Project (\$28,700)
- Res. #2018-215 A Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Lower Township Planning Board to Review and Report on the Cape May Airport Tech Village Redevelopment Plan (Block 410.01, Lot 36) Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1Et Seq.
- Res. #2018-216 Approval of Change Order #1 for Marcus Karavan, Esq. – Amending Scope of Service (adding specialized legal work)

Bill Greenfield inquired about Resolution #2018-214. Councilman Conrad communicated the plan for additional beach access paths and widening some of the existing paths. Mr. Greenfield made suggestions about specific streets. Manager Ridgway confirmed the same.

On the Consent:

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

Regular Agenda

Ordinance #2018-08 Amending Chapter 583 – Streets and Sidewalks – of the Code of the Township of Lower; Article 1, Subsection 583-4 Excavation; Restoration and Refilling of Roads, Streets and Alleys ; Paragraph (8) Street Restoration; Adding New Sections (g), (h), & (i) – Five (5) Year Moratorium – 2nd reading and public hearing. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public

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

Ordinance #2018-10 An Ordinance Amending Chapter Seven, Entitled "Traffic" of the General Ordinances of the Township of Lower; Adding Section 7-3.5 (a) No Parking / No Stopping / No Standing 2nd reading and public hearing. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public

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

Ordinance #2018-11 Amending Chapter 7 – Traffic – of the Code of the Township of Lower; Adding Article II, Regulating the Use and Operation of Bicycles within the Township of Lower. 2nd reading

and public hearing. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public

Thomas Poussart, Villas, inquired about the rules for bicyclers. Councilman Conrad explained. Mayor Simonsen informed that revisions are made based upon the advice of the solicitor.

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

Manager's Report

Manager Ridgway congratulated Karen Fournier on passing the NJ Registered Municipal Clerk's exam. He gave an update on several matters including police patrol, fireworks approval, progress of the public safety building, the purchase of police radios, additional school resource officer, code enforcement's monthly report, and the efforts to create an equitable tax program at the Cape May County Airport.

Engineer's Report

Mark Sray gave an update on the Roseann Avenue Project and the Beach Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project. Manager Ridgway confirmed the punch list completion date with Mr. Sray.

Administrative Reports

Monthly Reports - Clerk, Construction, Dog, Police, Tax, Vital Statistics
Personnel Action Report

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad spoke briefly about code enforcement and vacant property registration, Escape the Cape triathlon, County road improvements, MUA fire hydrants, the Township's acceptance into the CRS program, and the Nathaniel Foster House.

Councilman Perry confirmed about benches along the Bayfront with Manager Ridgway and commented about dune vegetation and the preconstruction meeting for Roseann Ave.

Councilman Roy voiced favor with the proposed safety improvements to the Schellinger Landing area. He spoke about the MUA's plan for water and sewer in Erma Park and reminded to use caution as children are out of school for summer.

Deputy Mayor Sippel shared the news of WWII veteran Ed Weber's 100th birthday. He also spoke about the success of the Court Advocate and looks forward to another successful Youth Camp.

Mayor Simonsen spoke briefly about the DOT grant for Schellinger Landing, and the Safe Routes To School grant (SRTS) he intends to pursue. He congratulated all graduates and, on behalf of Delmo Sports, he thanked all volunteers for helping to make the triathlon a success. Lastly, he announced the summer concert series.

Call to the Public

Cozette Gaser, Bayshore Road, inquired about the NJ Transit bus route on Breakwater Road. Mayor Simonsen gave a brief update on the matter.

Ray Flickinger, Washington Blvd, thanked Gary Douglass and DPW for patching the area at Douglass Park. He voiced concern about the area at Lincoln Blvd and made a few suggestions regarding signage.

Closed Session

Res. #2018-217 A Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance With The Provision of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 **Attorney/Client Privileged**

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

Council adjourned to Closed Session at approximately 8:01 p.m.
 Council returned to Open Session at approximately 8:32 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Perry, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sippel. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.



 Mayor



 Township Clerk

Approved:  July 2, 2018