

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 21, 2019

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on October 21, 2019 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

Aquatic Center Information Work Session – Manager Jim Ridgway

Manager Ridgway presented information regarding the proposed aquatic center including the origin of the idea, feasibility study, bonding potential, grant funding, benefits and pool facts, location, and potential partnerships. He pointed out the projected expenses and fielded questions from the public.

Joe Jackson, 51 Trotter Way, commented in favor of the aquatic center and stated additional benefits to swimming that were not included in the brochure.

Bill Greenfield, Villas, inquired about staffing and employment opportunity.

Best Practices Inventory Authority Discussion – Manager Jim Ridgway, CFO Lauren Read

Clerk Picard informed that CFO Lauren Read was unable to attend, however, she provided Council with a graph indicating that the MUA, Fire District 1, Fire District 2 and Fire District 3 are in compliance with all the statutory requirements. Manager Ridgway pointed out the increase in Best Practices Inventory questions, highlighting the focus on shared services and opportunity zones.

### Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes/Closed Session Minutes – October 7, 2019

Res. #2019- 317- Payment of Vouchers \$ 632,525.10

Res. #2019-318- Certification of Lot Clearing Charges to the Tax Collector (5 Properties \$7,010.)

Res. #2019-319 - 2019 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Year End Holiday Crackdown

Res. #2019-320 - A Resolution Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Cape May County Municipal Utilities Authority for Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services

Res. #2019-321- Approving a Professional Service Contract with Mott MacDonald for Professional Engineering Services for Stairs Design Plan for Shadeland Avenue, Hollywood Avenue, Rosewood Avenue and Redwood Avenue (\$8,600)

Res. #2019-322 - Certification of Best Practices Inventory

Res. #2019-323 - Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (J.Boyle \$58,132.32)

Res. #2019-324 - Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (R.Hartman, Jr. \$47,036.78 to Def Comp)

Res. #2019-325- Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GOVDEALS Online Auction Website (Kanguru DVD Duplicator)

Res. #2019-326- Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (D.Whitten \$31,205.24 to Def Comp)

Res. #2019-327- Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (M.lames \$2,427.60)

Res. #2019-328 – Bid Acceptance and Award of one (1) 2020 Ford Explorer 4WD XLT for the Construction Office (Kindle \$33,604.70)

On the Consent:

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

**Regular Agenda**

Res. #2019-329 Authorizing the Payment of Vouchers – L/T Rescue - \$35,000

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

Ordinance # 2019-14 - Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Safety and Identification Improvements to Schellenger's Landing, By and In The Township of Lower, in the County of Cape May, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$1,000,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$950,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof. This is the second reading and public hearing for this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

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

Ordinance #2019-15 - An Ordinance of the Township of Lower Amending Chapter 340, Fire Prevention, Subsection 340-13 (B)(14) Through (16) Fire Prevention, of the Code of the Township of Lower. This is the second reading and public hearing for this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

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

**Manager's Report**

Manager Ridgway gave an update on Capital Improvement Projects, Budget Hearings and the Police Department's request for "no shave November".

**Administrative Reports**

Monthly Reports – Clerk, Construction, Dog, Fire, Tax, Vital Statistics

**Council Comments**

Councilmember Conrad reminded about hydrant flushing; he commended Township employees for compliance with the Best Practices Inventory; he gave an update on Village Road emergency access and commented on the aquatic center.

Councilmember Perry updated on the Roseann Ave project; he commented on the engineering design plan for beach access stairs; and informed of changes in speed limit and no-passing zones on Townbank Road.

Councilmember Roy gave an update on the work being done to the bike path.

Deputy Mayor Sippel reminded about the Veteran's Day Parade and encouraged residents to vote on Election Day.

Mayor Simonsen thanked Donna Blackley, Ed Lord and the Erma Fire Department for their assistance with the bonfire at LCMR; he reminded about the Autumn Fest and Trunk or Treat, and announced trick-or-treat, 5-7 p.m.

**Call to the Public**

Mary Lou Frick-Neal, 318 Shadeland Ave, voiced favor with the aquatic center and expressed concern about the beach access on Shadeland Ave.

Councilmember Perry advised that the path should be blocked from access.

Manager Ridgway communicated the DEP's involvement in the project.

Lynette Goodstine, 308 Shadeland Ave, voiced concern about the Township's plan for Shadeland Ave beach path.

Mary Lou Frick-Neal spoke about the original path.

Lynette Goodstine complained about the Township's negligence in maintaining the path.

**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 7:48 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *Nov 4, 2019*