

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 4, 2013

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on November 4, 2013 at 6:00 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 James Neville
- Councilmember Jacqueline Henderson
- Deputy Mayor Clark
- Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Michael Voll, Township Manager, Chuck Sandman, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Clerk's Office

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes October 21, 2013
- Res. #2013-278 Payment of Vouchers \$489,937.85
- Res. #2013-279 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (1 sold / 6 properties paid twice)
- Res. #2013-280 Requesting Release of Performance Guarantee for Family Promise (\$4,261.05)
- Res. #2013-281 Transfer of 2013 Appropriations (\$50,200.)
- Res. #2013-282 Resolution Approving and Celebrating the Grand Re-Opening Of the Lower Township Millman Community Center (Nov 12 - 16, 2013)
- Res. #2013-283 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and County of Cape May for use of Emergency Management Equipment (available equipment for emergencies so we don't need additional resolutions for the year 2014)
- Res. # 2013-284 Approval of Contribution to Lower Township Chamber of Commerce (\$1,000. For hospitality night and \$3,000 for the annual directory)
- Res. #2013-285 Award of Contract to Terrence J. Crowley (school litigation feasibility consultant not to exceed \$15,000)
- Res. #2013-286 Award of Contract to Wyns Consulting, LLC (school litigation financial analysis consultant not to exceed \$5,000)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
NEVILLE			X			
HENDERSON		X	X			
CLARK	X		X			
BECK			X			

Regular Agenda

- Res. #2013- 287 Authorizing the Payment of Vouchers \$35,000. (Rescue 2013 contribution)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD					X	
NEVILLE	X		X			
HENDERSON			X			
CLARK		X	X			
BECK			X			

Administrative Reports

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad commented on the LCMR Football program losing their varsity status. He saluted Coach Miller, the School Board and Superintendent for basing their decision on the safety of the players. He also mentioned the FEMA meeting and encouraged residents to check out the website at www.region2coastal.com for important information on the flood zones.

Councilmember Neville reminded residents to exercise their right to vote.

Councilmember Henderson attended the haunted trails event and commended Eileen Kreis and all the volunteers who helped to make it a successful evening. She also announced that this was her last meeting on Council and thanked everyone for making it possible. She highlighted what she learned from the experience and emphasized the value of communication to good government.

Deputy Mayor Clark gave an update on the Economic Development Advisory Committee. He informed that representatives from the high school will present at the next council meeting. He also updated on the progress at the Fishing Creek School.

Mayor Beck announced the closing of Township Hall for Election Day and Veteran's Day. He spoke briefly about the FEMA meeting and thanked Manager Voll and Connie Mahon for being instrumental in getting FEMA here. He and Council presented a certificate of appreciation to Jacqueline Henderson for stepping up to the plate and representing Ward 3.

Call to Public

Johnny Walker, DAV representative, announced the kickoff of the Veteran's Specific Resource and Homeless Prevention Fair at the Naval Air Station Museum on Thursday, November 14 from 10:00 to 2:00.

Robert Mason, 129 N Station Avenue, addressed Council with questions about the water tower at Diamond Beach. Mayor Beck suggested he speak to Bill Galestok, Township Planning Director. Manager Voll stated that there is a public safety need for fire suppression in the Diamond Beach area, but nothing has been approved yet. Mr. Mason expressed a great concern about a rumor of future development in that area. Mayor Beck replied that he is not aware of that information and that it would be an issue for the planning board. Manager Voll agreed to meet with Mr. Mason and Bill Galestok to get answers to his questions.

Bill Dunn of Villas addressed Mayor Beck, Council, Manager Voll and Solicitor Sandman to thank them for stepping up with regard to the MUA situation. He advised them to continue a close watch on the goings on there and referenced situations with certain employees.

Jaina Bailey, MUA employee who is currently on a paid leave of absence, explained her situation with the MUA. She thanked Council for their help and requested that they continue to look into the problems with the MUA.

Jay Young of Cape May Beach addressed Council regarding the paving of Clubhouse Road. Manager Voll informed that Gary Douglass, Public Works Director, is working on getting a paving crew together and the milling is set to start soon.

Frank Seracco of Villas addressed Council about FEMA and his concern for Fishing Creek. Mayor Beck stated that they just discussed it today. Councilmember Conrad informed that he discussed this with the County last year and it was supposed to go out to bid in February. He suggested that pressure be put on the County since it is a County installation and they are responsible for it. Mr. Seracco stated that he thinks

they want to keep the water there so that the Mosquito Commission can do testing. Mayor Beck said the best we can do is advocate.

Sue Bailey of Erma added to the earlier comments about management at the MUA. She stated that it dates back much further than a few years. She requested that Council continue to pressure the MUA board to straighten things out.

George Doherty of Seashore Road inquired about the FEMA meeting. Mayor Beck informed that the meeting was held last week.

Tom Frisoli of Villas, MUA board member, thanked Manager Voll, Councilmember Conrad, Councilmember Neville and Councilmember Henderson for showing concern for the safety of the MUA employees.

Nancy Embs of North Cape May thanked Council for starting the proceedings with the MUA board. She warned that the chairman of the board and the secretary are the puppet masters behind the strings. She asked about Mr. Ecker surrendering his phone.

Closed Session

Res. #2013-288

Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.

Litigation: Stango V Township ; Litigation Update White & Williams

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
NEVILLE	X		X			
HENDERSON			X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

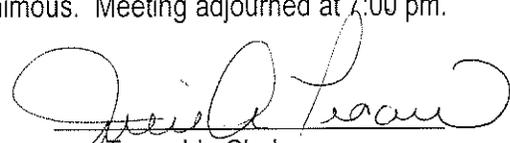
Council returned to open session at 6:59 pm.

Motion to proceed as discussed in closed session moved by Councilmember Conrad, Seconded by Councilmember Neville.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
NEVILLE		X	X			
HENDERSON			X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Henderson, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.


 Mayor


 Township Clerk

Approved: 11/18/13