

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2016

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on August 1, 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, David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Consent Agenda

- Approval of NJ State Firemen's Association Membership Transfer – William A. Belles IV, Villas Volunteer Fire Co
- Approval of Minutes July 18, 2016
- Res. #2016-218 Payment of Vouchers \$722,464.01
- Res. #2016-219 Authorizing Payment of 2016 County Taxes -Third and Fourth Quarters (\$2,500,285.86 per quarter)
- Res. #2016-220 Authorization for Waiver of Fees for Calvary Chapel Cape May (new entry way into main meeting area)
- Res. #2016-221 Refund of Taxes (2 properties \$1,045.69)
- Res. #2016-222 Cancellation of Taxes on 4 Clear Water Drive (\$2,467.51)
- Res. #2016-223 Authorization for Waiver of Fees for Erma Fire District #3 (building repairs)
- Res. #2016-224 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving A Shared Service Agreement Between the County of Cape May and the Township of Lower for Public Safety Answering, Dispatch and Related Services
- Res. #2016-225 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (J.Saunders \$3,088.92)
- Res. #2016-226 Renewal of Commercial Excavation (Gravel Pit) Licenses (Brodesser & Cape Mining)
- Res. #2016-227 Resolution Requesting Release of Performance Guarantee for Jeffrey Van Mourik Site Plan; Block 416, Lot 1.10 Escrow #Z14-08-04 (\$1,650)
- Res #2016-228 Approval for an Event at Mulligan Field (fundraiser Aug 20)

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

Regular Agenda

Res. #2016-229 Delaware Bayshore Council Resolution (appointment to Council)
 Mayor Beck voiced his desire for Deputy Mayor Clark to be appointed to the Delaware Bayshore Council, as he is a founding member. Councilman Perry reaffirmed his interest in waiting until January to make appointments. Deputy Mayor Clark encouraged representation from both Township Council and Manager Ridgway and stressed the importance of their initiative. Councilman Simonsen agreed that Council should be represented. Councilman Conrad volunteered for the position until the end of the year. Deputy Mayor Clark moved to appoint Councilman Conrad to the Delaware Bayshore Council, with Manager Ridgway as an alternate member. Councilman Simonsen seconded the motion.

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

Administrative Reports

Quarterly Report - Treasurer

Manager Comments

Manager Ridgway made a presentation to update Council on the financial health of the Township. He applauded the financial team responsible for the Township's favorable position, including the Auditing Firm, Township CFO, Township Tax Collector, and Township Tax Assessor. He highlighted items from the end of the second quarter of the budget year including the Bond Rating, the Current Fund Balance, the Budget Status and Expenditures, Tax Collection Rate, Tax Appeal Count, and Credit Rate. Despite the crippling effects from the June storm, he affirmed that the Township remains in great financial condition.

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad commended the Recreation Department and DRBA for a successful Concert Series and thanked the Department of Public Works for cleaning up the streets. He encouraged everyone to support the police department and thanked Manager Ridgway for the financial update.

Councilman Perry thanked the Department of Public Works for their hard work despite the extreme heat. He hopes to have a report from the County by mid-September regarding the Bayshore Road Speed Study and Engineering Study from Lincoln Boulevard to Townbank Road.

Councilman Simonsen gave an update on Seashore Road, south of the bridge, and assured that the Township is fighting for a lower speed limit and double, no passing lines. He also thanked Manager Ridgway and the financial team for the presentation and encouraged attendance and support for the police at National Night Out.

Deputy Mayor Clark thanked the Cape May County Emerald Society for hosting a Police Demonstration, an event to "Support our Police", held in front of the Old Court House, and thanked Mayor Beck for his attendance.

Mayor Beck declared his support for the police and announced the upcoming events including the Concert Series, National Night Out and the Coombs/Douglass Memorial Bayfront Run.

Call to the Public

Closed Session

Res. #2016-230

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. **POLICE CONTRACT UPDATE**

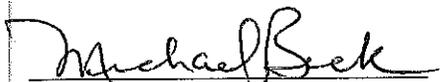
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
PERRY			X			
SIMONSEN		X	X			
CLARK			X			
BECK			X			

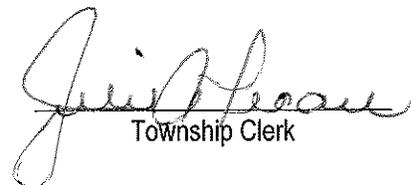
Council adjourned to Executive Session at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Council returned to Open Session at approximately 7:47 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Simonsen, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:47p.m.


Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: *Aug. 15, 2016*