

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – November 7, 2016

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on November 7, 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 Minutes October 17, 2016
- Res. #2016-297 Payment of Vouchers \$573,233.18
- Res. #2016-298 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (1 property \$444.10)
- Res. #2016-299 Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund Application, \$7,714.01
- Res. #2016-300 2016 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Year End Holiday Crackdown Grant
- Res. #2016-301 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund \$7,714.01)
- Res. #2016-302 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over \$5,000)
- Res. #2016-303 Certification of Lot Clearing Charges to the Tax Collector (11 properties \$12,661.)
- Res. #2016-304 Award of Professional Service Contract Without Public Bidding to Wizards Festival of Fun for Entertainment at Ferry Merry Christmas Event December 18, 2016 (\$5,500.)
- Res. #2016-305 Transfer of 2016 Appropriations (\$220,000)
- Res. #2016-306 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving an Interlocal Service (Shared Services) Agreement between the Borough of Wildwood Crest, Wildwood Crest Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, the Commissioners of Lower Township Fire District No. 3 and the Township of Lower for the Furnishing of Fire Protection Services (Diamond Beach Area)
- Res. #2016-307 A Resolution Approving an Interlocal Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and Lower Township Fire District #3
- Res. #2016-308 Approval of Change Order #1, Contract Price Reduction for the Tennis/ Basketball Court Renovations at the Freeman Douglass Park (Total project \$229,684.58 decrease of \$2,500.42)
- Res. #2016-309 A Resolution Supporting Senate Bill 2663 and Assembly Bill 4234 (allowing Joint Insurance Funds to invest in debt obligations of any government entity)
- Res. #2016-310 A Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of A Tire Changing Machine No Longer Needed For Public Use to the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority
- Res. #2016-311 Processing Final Payment to Ricky Slade Construction as per Resolution #2016-308 (\$229,684.58)
- Res. #2016-312 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (5 dispatchers \$30,720.40)
- Res. #2016-313 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (P.Hildreth \$17,631.)

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

Regular Agenda
Res. #2016-314

Authorizing the Payment of Vouchers- Lower Twp Rescue Final Payment \$35,000 & Final Expense Payment \$5,000

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

Administrative Reports

Finance - Quarterly Report; Police – Monthly Report

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad gave an update on MUA news including no rate increase for next year, progress with Phase I water hookups and the Bayshore Road detour, and an approximate timeframe for Phase II. He commended DPW and the Recreation Department on the new beach access paths. He thanked the Recreation Department, Eileen Kreis and the Clerk's Office on the Spooktacular event and Trunk or Treat. He also encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote.

Councilman Perry thanked DPW for their work on the beach access paths and communicated the positive feedback he received from the public.

Councilman Simonsen supplied information from the League of Women Voter's to assist with the ballot questions for the election. He also encouraged everyone to check out the beach access paths and the Eagle Scout project at the Cold Spring Presbyterian Cemetery honoring U.S. veterans. He thanked the Recreation Department for honoring Captain "Coach" Frank Simonsen for his many years of volunteerism. He congratulated Matt Szczur for bringing a World Series ring back to Lower Township.

Deputy Mayor Clark spoke about the 50th Anniversary celebration of Maud Abrams School and the time capsule created by the school children.

Mayor Beck spoke highly of the Eagle Scout project and the history at the Cold Spring Presbyterian Cemetery and encouraged everyone to visit the site. He announced the Rising Nation Celebration at Sunset Beach Sportsmen's Club and the Veterans Day gathering at VFW post 5343.

Manager Ridgway gave an update on Central Dispatch, effective from November 1st. He commended the OEM team on their security plan for Election Day and informed that police officers will be equipped with body cameras as of January 1st, 2017.

Call to the Public

Kim Sorber addressed Council to request a copy of the Elementary School's 3VP curriculum in an effort to verify that her ideas were not used. Manager Ridgway agreed to accommodate her request. Ms. Sorber declined.

Closed Session
Res. #2016-315

A 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. CONTRACT NEGOTIATION –Flexible Spending Accounts - Possible Award

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

COUNCIL MAY RETURN TO TAKE ACTION

Council adjourned to closed session at 7:20 p.m.

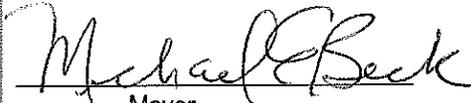
Council returned to open session at 7:30 p.m.

Res. #2016- 316

Authorization of an Agreement with American Fidelity to Provide Employee Flexible Spending Accounts

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

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Simonsen. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:31p.m.


Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: *Nov 21, 2016*