

Regular & Work Session Meeting Minutes - August 20, 2012

The regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on August 20, 2012 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 Walt Craig
Councilmember Glenn Douglass
Mayor Michael Beck

Also present: Michael Donohue, Solicitor, Michael Voll, Manager and Asst. Clerk Picard

Meeting called to order.

Opening Announcement
Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence
Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Presentation - Municipal Clerk Claudia Kammer's Retirement

Mayor Beck expressed that no one has had an impact on our Township -in a quiet way- more than Claudia Kammer over the past 37 years, recognizing the importance of her job and her zest remaining the same today as it was the first day she started working, always professional. He affirmed that she is loved and respected by all and will be greatly missed.

Lisa Stefankiewicz, on behalf of the Cape May County Municipal Clerk's Association, presented Claudia with a plaque in appreciation of her service, loyalty and dedication over the past 37 years to the CMC Municipal Clerk's Association, the citizens of Lower Township, Cape May County and the State of NJ.

Kevin Yecco, Clerk/ Administrator of Wildwood Crest, presented Claudia with roses and described her as a shining star. He also stated that the Township will not easily replace her and she will be missed forever.

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton and Freeholder Vice-Director Susan Sheppard presented a plaque on behalf of the Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Mr. Thornton noted that Claudia has been a viable part of Lower Township as well as the County of Cape May and that elected officials come and go, but Claudia has been the continuity of government in Lower Township. He congratulated her and wished her well in her retirement. Ms. Sheppard also offered her congratulations to Claudia and pointed out the importance of a wonderful clerk.

Rita Fulginiti, County Clerk, celebrated Claudia as a professional, a guide and a friend and thanked her for all that she has done for us.

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Mayor Beck introduced Claudia's husband Jack Kammer and their lovely daughter Victoria. Mayor Beck and Council addressed Claudia and presented certificates of honor from both Congressman Frank LoBiondo and Governor Chris Christie. In addition, Mayor Beck and Council presented Claudia with flowers and a proclamation for her dedicated service to the citizens of Lower Township.

Former Township Mayor Jack Sparks declared that he had the distinct honor of hiring Claudia 37 years ago. She was the last person that he hired before his term ended and she has served the township well. Councilman Tom Conrad stated that Claudia will be severely missed but knows that she is not leaving us because she is still involved in this community and this is her home.

Councilman Walt Craig described Claudia as the consummate professional, always fair and impartial, never to waiver even during rocky times. The township is going to miss her.

Councilman Glenn Douglass recollects his time as special police officer back in the 1980's when he relied on Claudia to have all the answers, and with such professionalism she did.

Mayor Beck concludes by applauding Claudia for being there in the big things and small things, and stating that her reputation is built upon these accomplishments.

Claudia expressed her gratitude to everyone stating how she truly loved her time here at the township and leaves feeling humbled and honored from the outpouring of love and support she has received by all.

Work Session

Viet Nam Veteran's Museum, Tom Collins

Mayor Beck addressed Tom Collins' earnest plea for support of the Forgotten Warriors Museum at the Cape May County Airport. Mayor Beck referred to it as "our museum", belonging to all of us at the Township, although it is solely operated by Mr Collins and his wife and a few good volunteers. Mayor Beck stated that he would love to see more people support the museum- especially veterans -by volunteering their time, or becoming a member for just \$15.00 a year, to keep the museum afloat.

Mr. Collins addressed Council and explained how the museum got started. He expressed his appreciation to the County for renting him the property for just \$1 a year, and Naval Air Station Wildwood for their support. Due to limited space and funding and lack of volunteers, he urged the community at large to help support his efforts.

Mayor Beck offered his admiration to Mr. Collins for his mission and urged all of us to get involved in some way.

Bill Howard of VFW Post 5343 and District 17 Commander spoke of Mr. Collins being instrumental in many ways in supporting the veterans, but emphasized the importance of the educational aspect of the

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museum and encouraged any support that people can give Mr. Collins.

After further discussion of Mr. Collins' tankers and various vehicles, Mayor Beck and Manager Mike Voll suggested to Mr. Collins that he had a good audience for his mission with Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton in the house. Mr. Thornton reflected upon the importance of Mr. Collins and his wife because of all they have done for the veterans of our county. Mr. Thornton assures him that he is working on finding the space needed for the museum and he will be added to the agenda of his upcoming meeting with the County Commanders in September. He credits Mr. Collins for founding the museum and bringing his dream to fruition. In conclusion, Mr. Thornton announces that we have an obligation to support Mr. Collins and all of our veterans and assures Mr. Collins that he will get him help.

Review of Consent & Regular Agenda Items

Mayor Beck provided an update on the grant application on Clubhouse Drive (Res #2012-210). He is hoping to get word on the grant by the end of October. If approved, paving can begin shortly thereafter, otherwise we may get contributions from the MUA to aid in the cost of paving.. Regardless, he is hoping to have that area completely paved sometime in November.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes	August 6, 2012
Membership Applic.	NJ State Fireman's Association - Zachary R Banks, Townbank Volunteer Fire Company
Res. #2012-207	Payment of Vouchers, \$ 1,843,289.82
Res. #2012-208	Resolution Authorizing the Donation of A 2008 Ford Int/Crown Victoria No Longer Needed For Public Use to the Town Bank Volunteer Fire Company
Res. #2012-209	Resolution Amending Resolution #2012-75, Establishment of Council Meeting Dates and Times (setting meeting time at 6:00p.m.)
Res. #2012-210	Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application and the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Clubhouse Drive Project (reconstruction /resurfacing)
Res. #2012-211	Resolution Approving Project Proposal Between Hatch Mott Macdonald and the Township of Lower For Engineering Services Related to the Beach Drive Pedestrian Access Improvement Project (Traffic engineering services for project, \$2,900)
Res. #2012-212	Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program Policy and Procedure Manual (annual requirement)
Res. #2012-213	Resolution Approving Project Proposal Between Hatch Mott Macdonald and the Township of Lower For Engineering Services Related to the Reconstruction of Clubhouse Drive (preparation and submission of a DOT application, \$2,200)

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	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
CRAIG		X	X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
LARE						X
BECK			X			

Regular Agenda

Ord. #2012-19

Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Road and Drainage Improvements in and by the Township of Lower, in the County of Cape May, New Jersey, Appropriating \$1,790,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,700,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof. 1st rdg. (Annual road & drainage repair program) 2nd rdg. & public hearing

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
CRAIG			X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
LARE						X
BECK			X			

Administrative Reports

Certification of Determination and Award Bond Anticipation Note Sale

July Reports Animal Control, Construction, Dog Licensing, Engineer, Fire Safety, Municipal Clerk, Municipal Court, Police Department, Tax Collector, Treasurer

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad addressed Manager Mike Voll concerning the Outfall Pipes, inquiring whether or not we are looking to award the bid at the next meeting.

Manager replied that the bid is expected to be awarded at the second meeting in September.

Mayor Beck announced the following: Blood drive 8/21/12 at Township Hall 9/11 ceremony at Sunset Beach 6:00 p.m.

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Call to the Public

Senior Citizen Tax Rebate

Mary Packer, 15 Redwood Ave, Villas, addressed council regarding a letter she received from the Township stating she owes \$750.00 because she exceeded the \$10,000 limit for the senior citizen discount. She suggested it's time to raise the amount, since it has remained the same for 20 years. Mayor Beck replied that he spoke to Senator VanDrew regarding this issue and shares her concerns. Mayor Beck agrees that this issue needs to be addressed, however, the Township does not have the power to change it. He suggests that we consider putting a resolution through and sending it to the Legislators to be reviewed.

Closed Session

Res. #2012- 214 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.”
(Update on Police Personnel Issues)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
CRAIG			X			
DOUGLASS		X	X			
LARE						X
BECK			X			

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 6:53

Council returned to Open Session at 7:08

Return to Open Session

Res. # 2012-215 Authorizing Pay Out of Terminal Leave (C. Lambert \$20,431.50)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
CRAIG		X	X			
DOUGLASS	X		X			
LARE						X
BECK			X			

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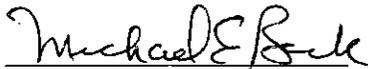
Res. #2012-216

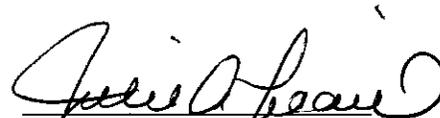
A Resolution Approving the Separation Agreement and General Release
For The Voluntary Resignation of Christian Lambert

Mayor Beck opened the floor for Public Comment - None

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
CRAIG		X	X			
DOUGLASS			X			
LARE						X
BECK			X			

Adjournment


Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: September 5, 2012