

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – September 16, 2024

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 16, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the meeting room of 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 Kevin Coombs via phone
Councilmember Roland Roy, Jr.
Deputy Mayor David Perry
Mayor Frank Sippel

Also present: Michael Laffey, Township Manager, Robert Belasco, Township Solicitor (via phone) and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – September 4, 2024

- Res. #2024-291 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers \$ 1,222,692.20
- Res. #2024-292 Authorization for Refund of Taxes
- Res. #2024-293 Contract Award through New Jersey NASPO Contract to Insight Public Sector for up to Eight (8) Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) Flock Cameras
- Res. #2024-294 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Emergency Management Performance Grant)
- Res. #2024-295 Resolution of the Council of the Township of Lower Appointing a Municipal Housing Liaison
- Res. #2024-296 Authorization for the Waiver of Permit Fees for Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum associated with the Restroom Rehabilitation
- Res. #2024-297 A Resolution Authorizing a Moratorium Waiver to Permit the Issuance of a Road Opening Permit to Complete the Installation of Utility Services at the Property Located at 201 Millman Lane and to Authorize the Execution of a Memorandum of Agreement to Memorialize the Rights, Responsibilities and Obligations of the Parties
- Res. #2024-298 Approving Change Order #2 to Fred M Schiavone Construction, Inc. for the Installation of 12" HDPE Pipe Connection on Maryland Avenue for Francis Avenue Emergency Storm Sewer Piping at Ohio Pump Station (LT-C-045) (\$27,428.90)
- Res. #2024-299 Approving Change Order #1 with DeBlasio & Associates for Assistance with the Open Space Grant Application for David Douglass Sr Memorial Park Renovations (LT-C-043) (\$3,500)
- Res. #2024-300 A Resolution Calling for a Public Hearing and Investigation into Unexpected Increases in Energy Bills Issued by Atlantic City Electric; and Calling for a Moratorium on all Utility Shut Offs and Rate Increases until an Investigation has Concluded
- Res. #2024-301 Resolution to Award State Contract Vendor Axon Enterprise, Inc.- to Purchase Three (3) Axon Air Drone Licenses and Eight (8) Pilot Licenses for the Police Department (\$66,625.20)
- Res. #2024-302 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (DEDR \$26,215.)
- Res. #2024-303 Resolution Recognizing October 6, 2024 as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day
- Res. #2024-304 Bid Acceptance and Contract Award for the Rebid for the Reconstruction of Cresse Lane (2024-186) (\$279,300.)
- Res. #2024-305 Bid Acceptance and Contract Award for the Resurfacing of Corson Lane – Woolson Road to Southern End of Corson Lane (LT-C050) (\$163,685.)
- Res. #2024-306 Approving Change Order #2 with DeBlasio & Associates for Memorial Monument Concept Design for David Douglass Sr. Memorial Park Renovations (LT-C-043) (\$9,500.)
- Res. #2024-307 Approving a Professional Service Contract with DeBlasio & Associates for Engineering Services for Town Bank ADA Ramp and Striping Project (LT-C-056) (\$20,000.)
- Res. #2024-308 Approval of Change Order #2 for Remington & Vernick Engineers for the Construction Phase Re-Bid of Cresse Lane – Entire Length west from Route 9 (2024-186) (\$23,000.)
- Res. #2024-309 Approving Change Order #1 for DeBlasio & Associates for the Construction Phase of the Resurfacing of Corson Lane – Woolson Road to Southern End of Corson lane (LT-C-050) (\$10,000.)
- Res. #2024-310 A Resolution Authorizing Increases for Non-Union Employees

- Res. #2024-311 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (K.Walker \$12,418.28)
- Res. #2024-312 Appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (T.Doherty)
- Res. #2024-313 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GOVDEALS Online Auction Website
- Res. #2024-314 Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (J.Baker)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY	X		X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Engineer Report

Will Hanson gave Council an update on the following engineering projects being handled by DeBlasio & Associates, including: Rotary Community Park Renovations; Bay Outfall Extensions; Reconstruction of Ridgewood Avenue; 2023 Stormwater GIS Mapping Services; Frances Avenue Storm Sewer Evaluation; David Douglass Sr. Memorial Park Renovations; Public Works Building Concept Design; Corson Lane Roadway Resurfacing; Holmes, Gorham & Scott Avenues Storm Sewer & Roadway Improvement Project; Municipal Pool Building Evaluation; and Reconstruction of Beach Avenue.

Administrative Reports

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Vital
Personnel Action Report

Public Comment

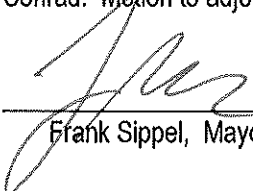
Walt Rosenberg, 103 Apple Blossom Dr., addressed Council with concern about the production company that filmed on Lower Township beaches and damaged the dunes.
Mayor Sippel thanked Mr. Rosenberg for his concern and assured him that the Township is aware and the matter is being handled.

Council Comments

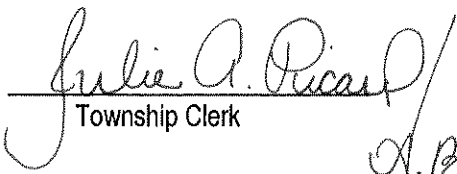
Councilmember Conrad – no comments
Councilmember Coombs – no comments
Councilmember Roy – no comments
Deputy Mayor Perry – no comments
Mayor Sippel thanked all Township staff involved with the 9/11 ceremony and he announced the upcoming NJ Run for the Fallen.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Mayor Sippel, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.



Frank Sippel, Mayor



Township Clerk

A.B.

Approved: *October 7, 2024*