

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 5, 2024

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on August 5, 2024 at 5:00 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 Kevin Coombs
Councilmember Roland Roy, Jr.
Deputy Mayor David Perry
Mayor Frank Sippel

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

Work Session

Mayor Sippel thanked the Police Department for another successful Youth Camp and recognized former Township Manager Jim Ridgway.

Oath of Office - Officer Nicholas Romantino

Police Chief, Kevin Lewis, shared Nicholas Romantino's biography.

Mayor Sippel administered the Oath of Office to Officer Romantino as his girlfriend, Lexi O'Connell, held the Bible and his father, Mark Romantino, pinned his badge.

Presentation of Proclamation - Corporal Jonathan Scheck

Police Chief, Kevin Lewis, presented the Distinguished Service Award to Corporal Jonathan Scheck in recognition of his life-saving, decisive actions while vacationing in Florida.

Mayor Sippel presented a proclamation to Corporal Scheck, on behalf of Council, for his brave and selfless actions.

Presentation of Proclamation - Noah Plenn

Mayor Sippel recognized Noah Plenn for his accomplishments and thanked his family for their attendance.

Councilmember Coombs read the proclamation presented to Noah Plenn, on behalf of Council, congratulating him on his outstanding accomplishments.

Jim Ridgway thanked Council for continuing to recognize the youth in our community. He shared favorable comments about Noah and his accomplishments and wished him all the best.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – July 15, 2024

Res. #2024-247 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers \$ 1,809,151.82

Res. #2024-248 A Resolution Urging the State of New Jersey to Take An Incremental and Targeted Approach to Adopting the Proposed "Protecting Against Climate Threat (PACT) Resilient Environments and Landscape (REAL)" Rules

Res. #2024-249 A Resolution Requesting Replacement of Performance Guarantee for San Fernando Major Subdivision

Res. #2024-250 A Resolution Requesting Release of Maintenance Guarantee for Block 697, Lot 3-7; Maintenance Bond Island West Development, LLC

Res. #2024-251 A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bond for Block 633, Lot 12; 408 Pacific Avenue, Villas, New Jersey

Res. #2024-252 Authorization for Refund of Taxes

Res. #2024-253 Award National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Sourcwell to Hunter Jersey Peterbilt to Purchase One (1) 2025 or Newer Peterbilt 548 Tandem Axle Cab & Chassis with a 62,000 LB. GVW

Res. #2024-254 Award National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Sourcwell to Granturk Equipment Co. Inc. to Purchase One (1) Leach 29 Cu. Yd. 2R-III Rear Loader, Mounted on a Customer Supplied Chassis

Res. #2024-255 Authorizing Pay Out of Terminal Leave (M. Willis, \$773.85)

- Res. #2024-256 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (A. Marroquin, \$3,546.73)
- Res. #2024-257 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (S. Gellura, \$2,446.02)
- Res. #2024-258 Bid Acceptance and Award of 6010P Industrial Tub Grinder to Granturk Equipment Co. Inc.
- Res. #2024-259 Approval for St. Barnabas By-the-Bay Episcopal Church to Conduct a Flea Market
- Res. #2024-260 Annual Renewal of a Liquor License for the Year 2024-2025 (Seapointe Village Master Association)
- Res. #2024-261 Approving Change Order #2 with DeBlasio & Associates for Additional Site Security Lighting Design Services to Phase II of the Rotary Community Park Renovation (LT-C-028)
- Res. #2024-262 A Resolution Approving the Execution of an Agreement of Sale Pertaining to Certain Real Property Located at 38A W Virginia Avenue, A/K/A Block: 163, Lot: 7
- Res. #2024-263 A Resolution Approving the Execution of an Agreement of Sale Pertaining to Certain Real Property Located at 101 Georgia Avenue, A/K/A Block: 233.01, Lot: 1
- Res. #2024-264 Authorizing Payment of 2024 County Taxes (Second & Third Quarters)
- Res. #2024-265 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over \$5,250)
- Res. #2024-266 A Resolution Requesting Release of a Demolition Bond for Block 516, Lot 7; 109 Pinewood Road, Villas, NJ
- Res. #2024-267 Approval of Change Order #1 for Remington and Vernick Engineers for the Revised Design and Re-Bid Services of Cresse Lane – Entire Length West from Route 9 (2024-186)
- Res. #2024-268 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GOVDEALS Online Auction Website
- Res. #2024-269 Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Marissa McCorkel as the Lower Township Deputy Tax Assessor
- Ordinance #2024-11 An Ordinance of the Township of Lower Vacating, Surrendering, and Extinguishing the Public Rights of a Portion of Mill Road.
- Ordinance #2024-12 An Ordinance Amending Chapter Seven, "Traffic " of the Municipal Code of the Township of Lower to Install Stop Signs at the Intersection of East Webber and Mowery Avenues
- Ordinance #2024-13 An Ordinance Amending Chapter Seven, Traffic, of the Municipal Code of the Township of Lower to Modify No Parking Designations Within the Township of Lower
- Ordinance #2024-14 Salary & Benefit Ordinance for the Township of Lower

This is the first reading of Ordinances 2024-11; 2024-12 and 2024-13. The second reading and public hearing will be scheduled for Sept 4, 2024.

Motion to remove Resolution #2024-262

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

Motion to Amend Ordinance #2024-14

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

On the Consent Agenda

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

Regular Agenda

Ordinance # 2024-09

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 600, Towing and Storage Area Requirements, Specifically Subsection 6(A)(1), Towing and Storage Fee Schedule of the Code of the Township of Lower. This is the second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

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

Ordinance #2024-10

An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 523, Rental Properties, of the Code of the Township of Lower in Order to Provide Lead-Based Paint Inspections of Certain Rental Properties and to Enact Inspection Fees in Compliance with P.L. 2021,C.182 This is the second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

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

Administrative Reports

Treasurer

Certification of Mailing of Tax Bills

Public Comment

Kevin Gore, Village Road, addressed Council to thank them for the repairs to the beach access at Village Road.

Council Comments

Deputy Mayor Perry commented in favor of the improvements to Wildwood Ave and Bay Drive.

Councilmember Roy – no comments


Councilmember Coombs – no comments

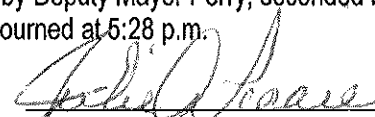
Councilmember Conrad commended the Recreation Department and the DRBA for the concert series and urged residents to stay tuned for information regarding the NJDEP regulations.

Mayor Sippel announced National Night Out and Youth Soccer and commented in favor of progress at the Recreation playground.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Deputy Mayor Perry, seconded by Councilmember Roy. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.


Frank Sippel, Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: Aug. 19, 2024