

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – January 19, 2022

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on January 19, 2022 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 Kevin Coombs
- Councilmember Roland Roy, Jr.
- Deputy Mayor David Perry
- Mayor Frank Sippel via phone

Also present: Michael Laffey, Township Manager, David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – January 3, 2022

- Res. #2022-61 Authorization for the payment of vouchers \$234,874.13
- Res. #2022-62 Authorizations for Refund of Taxes
- Res. #2022-63 Authorizing Payment of 2022 County Taxes (First Quarter) and 2021 Added Taxes
- Res. #2022-64 Appointment of Keith Bonchi, Esq. as Tax Foreclosure Attorney for the Township of Lower as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding
- Res. #2022-65 A Resolution Awarding a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding to Surenian, Edwards & Nolan, LLC to Serve as Special Counsel to the Township of Lower for Affordable Housing Matters/Litigation (NTE \$25,000)
- Res. #2022-66 Approval of a Secondhand Merchant and Dealer of Precious Metals License
- Res. #2022-67 A Resolution Awarding a Professional Service Contract without Bidding to Thomas Planning Associates, LLC to serve as the Professional Planner to the Township of Lower for Affording Housing Matters/Litigation (NTE \$16,000)
- Res. #2022-68 Final Year Contract Award to Provide the 2022 Fireworks Show Including the Barge to S. Vitale Pyrotecnico Industries, Inc. (\$53,100 w Rain Delay Terms \$7,685.)
- Res. #2022-69 A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Cape Mining and Recycling, LLC for the Removal and Disposal of Woodchips Located at the Municipal Utility Authority on an As Needed Basis
- Res. #2022-70 Authorization for 2021 Incentive Award for Insurance Waiver (C.Vanaman \$1,825.)
- Res. #2022-71 Issuance of 2022 Taxi, Limousine and Operator Licenses

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

Regular Agenda

Engineer Report

Cody Stanford gave Council an update on the current engineering projects being handled by DeBlasio & Assoc., including: Reconstruction of Wilson Drive; NJDEP CAFRA permit application; Cloverdale, Evergreen and Spruce Avenues Storm Sewer Improvements; Clem Mulligan Sports Complex Renovations; Reconstruction of Atlantic, Howland, Millman and Mowery Avenues; Millman Center Improvements; and Reconstruction of Fire Lane.

Manager Laffey gave Council an update on the status of the Seaview Avenue Drainage Improvements.

Manager's Report – no further comments

Monthly Report

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Vital
Annual Report on Variances heard by Zoning Board – 2021
2021 Tax Collector Year End Report

Public Comment – no comments

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad pointed out that projects are being delayed due to weather and encouraged everyone to stay safe.

Councilmember Coombs inquired about fencing around Clem Mulligan Sports Complex and expressed a desire to do the same for Jonathan Hoffman Park. Cody Stanford responded. Manager Laffey agreed to look into the matter.

Councilmember Roy encouraged residents to stay safe and healthy.

Mayor Sippel commented on the 2021 Tax Collector Year End Report and commended the Tax Collector for an outstanding collection rate. Manager Laffey agreed.

Deputy Mayor Perry commented on infrastructure projects throughout the Township.

Manager Laffey commented on the positive trend with Inspira as the Township's EMS provider.

Closed Session

Res. #2022-72 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. **Attorney-Client Privilege**

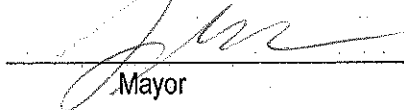
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS	X		X				
ROY			X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 7:14 p.m.

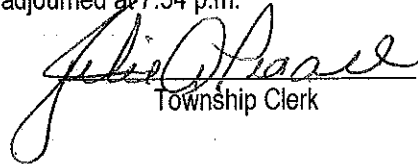
Council returned to Open Session at 7:53 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Roy. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: Feb 7, 2022