

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – January 3, 2022

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on January 3, 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.

Police Chaplain, Leo Dodd, gave the Invocation.

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 and David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor, via phone.

Work Session

Presentation – Chief William Priole - Mayor Frank Sippel

Mayor Frank Sippel and Township Council presented Chief William Priole with a plaque and a Proclamation celebrating his retirement. They thanked him for his 30 plus years of dedicated service to the residents of Lower Township.

Oath of Office – Chief Kevin Lewis – Mayor Frank Sippel

Mayor Frank Sippel administered the Oath of Office to Kevin Lewis. The Bible was held by his son, Kody, and his daughter, Brooklyn, pinned his badge.

Res. #2022-01 Appointment of Municipal Solicitor for the year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Stefankiewicz & Belasco NTE \$150,000)

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

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – December 20, 2021

- Res. #2022-02 Appointment of Township Labor Attorney for the year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (W. Blaney NTE \$40,000)
- Res. #2022-03 Appointment of Township Tax Appeal Attorney for the year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (M. Karavan NTE \$10,000)
- Res. #2022-04 Appointment of Paul J Baldini, Esq as Conflict Counsel for the Township of Lower as a Professional Service Contract without public bidding (NTE 7,500)
- Res. #2022-05 Appointment of Lower Township Conflict Hearing Officer as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (NTE \$7,500)
- Res. #2022-06 Appointment of Municipal Prosecutor for the Year 2022 (Blaney, Donohue & Weinberg \$42,500)
- Res. #2022-07 Appointment of Municipal Public Defender for the Year 2022 (S. Fuscellaro \$16,500)
- Res. #2022-08 Appointment of Municipal Auditor for the Year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Ford, Scott NTE \$40,000)
- Res. #2022-09 Appointment of Public Information Officer for the year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (L. Suit \$16,280)
- Res. #2022-10 Appointment of Municipal Engineer for the Year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (DeBlasio & Associates NTE \$450,000)

- Res. #2022-11 Appointment of Risk Management Consultant Atlantic County JIF (J. Byrne Agency year 2 of 3 year agreement)
- Res. #2022-12 Appointment of Health Insurance Brokerage Consultant for the Year 2022 as A Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Marsh & McLennan \$43,517.)
- Res. #2022-13 Approval of Petty Cash Funds – 2022 (annual)
- Res. #2022-14 Establishment of Council Meeting Dates and Times for the Year 2022
- Res. #2022-15 Setting the Interest Rate for Delinquent Taxes (annual)
- Res. #2022-16 Designation of Official Newspapers for Legal Advertising for the Year 2022 (annual)
- Res. #2022-17 Approval of Annual Contribution to Volunteers in Medicine (annual)
- Res. #2022-18 Appointment of Bond Counsel for the Year 2022 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Archer & Greiner)
- Res. #2022-19 Annual Approval of Emergency Management Council (annual)
- Res. #2022-20 Authorizing the Clerk to Issue Bingo & Raffle Licenses Throughout 2022 to Qualified Organizations (annual)
- Res. #2022-21 Authorization for Public Bidding (annual)
- Res. #2022-22 Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer for Lower Township (M. Vitelli, QPA)
- Res. #2022-23 Authorizing the Tax Assessor to file Tax Appeals (annual)
- Res. #2022-24 Resolution Establishing the Quote Threshold Pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-3a (annual)
- Res. #2022-25 Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (annual)
- Res. #2022-26 Designation of Official Depositories (annual)
- Res. #2022-27 Confirmation of Officials for Joint Insurance Fund and Municipal Excess Liability Fund (annual)
- Res. #2022-28 Authorizing the Cash Management Plan (annual)
- Res. #2022-29 Contract Award for Township of Lower Animal Control Services – Year 3 of 3
- Res. #2022-30 Renewal of Trailer Park Licenses for the Year 2022
- Res. #2022-31 A Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Lower Township Planning Board to Review and Report on a Redevelopment Plan for the Fulling Mill Road Area in Need of Rehabilitation Identified as Block 410.01; Lots 82,83,84 & 87.01 on the Tax Map of the Township of Lower
- Res. #2022-32 Approving 2022 Contract with Cape Assist (annual)
- Res. #2022-33 Approving a Professional Service Contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers for Design and Engineering on the Sheriff Taylor Boulevard and Cresse Lane Project (\$45,000)
- Res. #2022-34 Approving 2022 Contract with Cape Mediation Services (annual \$3,201.24)
- Res. #2022-35 Approval of Change Order #3 for a Reduction in the Contract Amount to Del-Tech Inc, for the Judge Nathaniel Foster House for the Final Payment
- Res. #2022-36 Contract Award to OceanFirst Bank for Banking Services for the Township of Lower 2022 & 2023
- Res. #2022-37 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (C.Crippen \$15,756.)
- Res. #2022-38 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (G.Douglass \$30,524.40)
- Res. #2022-39 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (E.Kreis \$15,010.)
- Res. #2022-40 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (L.Read \$16,012.63)
- Res. #2022-41 Approval of Change Order #5 to Fred M Schiavone Construction for the Clem Mulligan Sports Complex Renovations Project: Increasing Contract Time
- Res. #2022-42 Authorizing Payment for 2022 Local School Taxes to Lower Township Board of Education (annual)
- Res. #2022-43 Authorizing Payment for 2022 Regional School Taxes to Lower Cape May Regional (annual)
- Res. #2022-44 Authorizing Debt Service Payment for the Joint Public Safety Payment (annual)
- Res. #2022-45 Authorizing 2022 Annual Payments for Animal Shelter Fees to Cape May County (annual)
- Res. #2022-46 Adopting 2022 Temporary Current Budget (annual)
- Res. #2022-47 Authorizing Payment of 2022 Pension Amounts Due 4/01/2022
- Res. #2022-48 Resolution to Defer the Regional School Tax (annual)
- Res. #2022-49 Authorizing Payment of 2022 Debt Service (annual)
- Res. #2022-50 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (W.Priole \$58,473.79)
- Res. #2022-51 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with approved State Contract Vendors for Contracting Units Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a
- Res. #2021-52 Authorizing Payment for Dispatch Services
- Res. #2021-53 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (D.McFeeters \$11,579.76)
- Res. #2022-54 Junk Yard License for Cape May Associates, LLC for the Year 2022
- Res. #2022-55 Contract Award to Barber Consulting Services, LLC for Management Information System Consultant (MIS) for the Township of Lower Departments and Lower Township Police Department for 2022 with an option for 2023

- Res. #2022-56 A Resolution Reaffirming the Designation of Inspira Medical Centers, Inc. as the Provider of Basic Life Support and Emergency Medical Services Throughout the Township of Lower
- Res. #2022-57 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (1 property \$1,737.12)
- Res. #2022-58 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (\$32,813.00)
- Res. #2022-59 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers – 2021 \$ 283,304.46
- Res. #2022-60 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers – 2022 \$ 379,426.86
- Ordinance #2022-01 An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and To Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A.40A:4-15.14) This is the first reading of this Ordinance, The second reading and public hearing has been scheduled for January 19,2022.

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

Regular Agenda

Ordinance #2021-22; An Ordinance Amending Chapter Seven Entitled "Traffic" of the General Ordinances of the Township of Lower. This is the 2nd reading and public hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published 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				

Public Comment - None

Council Comments

Deputy Mayor Perry wished everyone a Happy New Year and spoke of the leadership at the Police Department. He also thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work and requested the public be patient with the storm cleanup.

Councilmember Roy wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated the Chief.

Councilmember Coombs wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated the Chief.

Councilmember Conrad wished everyone a Happy New Year and spoke of the fantastic work the Public Works Department is doing during this emergency.

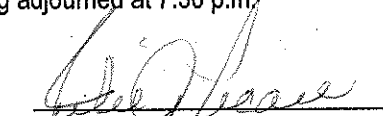
Mayor Sippel thanked the Department of Public Works for the great job they are doing noting that they have been preparing since Sunday. He also thanked OEM Coordinator Donohue for the fine job he is doing, noting that the Emergency Operation System has been activated today. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Coombs. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



 Mayor



 Township Clerk

Approved: 1/19/2022