

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 16, 2023

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on October 16, 2023 at 7:00 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 Roland Roy, Jr.
- Deputy Mayor David Perry
- Mayor Frank Sippel

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

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – October 2, 2023

- Res. #2023-333 Authorization for the payment of vouchers \$ 391,043.75
- Res. #2023-334 Approval for the 2023 Lower Township Veterans Day Parade
- Res. #2023-335 A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bonds for Block 350.01 Lot 13 107 Wildwood Avenue, Wachowski/Robb Demolition Bond \$250.00; Block 494.34 Lot 12 123 Heidi Avenue Delbuono, Demolition Bond \$1,500.00; Block 587 Lot 4 & 5 305 Beach Drive, Mader Michael, Demolition Bond \$1,500.00; Block 639 Lot 9, 506 Atlantic Avenue, Stay-Ro Builders Demolition Bond \$2,000.00; Block 678 Lot 9 717 Arctic Avenue, Cullen William, Demolition Bond \$500.00; Block 748 Lot 7.04 594 New England Road, Ewing George, Demolition Bond \$5,000.
- Res. #2023-336 Approving Final Change Order #3 to Fred M Schiavone Construction for A Reduction of As-Built Quantity Adjustments (LT-C-025)
- Res. #2023-337 Approving a Professional Service Contract with DeBlasio & Associates for Emergency Engineering Services to Survey and Base Mapping/Specfication and Full Time Construction Observation During the Repair at Ohio Avenue and Delaware Avenue (\$ 39,000)
- Res. #2023-338 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Emergency Management Performance Grant \$10,000)
- Res. #2023-339 Approval for 2023 Christmas Parade
- Res. #2023-340 Approving a Professional Service Contract with DeBlasio & Associates for Frances Avenue Storm Sewer Evaluation Survey and Engineering Phase Services (LT-C-045 \$31,000.)
- Res. #2023-341 Certification of Best Practices Inventory
- Res. #2023-342 Approving Change Order #3 to MJJ Construction, LLC for a Reduction of As-Built Quantity Adjustments (LT-C-035)
- Res. #2023-343 Amend Resolution #2023-08; Appointment of Municipal Engineer for the year 2023 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding
- Res. #2023-344 Approval of Change Order #1 for DeBlasio & Associates for Engineering and Regulatory Permitting Phase for Additional Services Shadeland and Spruce Avenue Outfalls (LT-C-041)

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

Regular Agenda

Res. #2023-345 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (M. Perry \$7,374.07)

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

Ord #2023-18 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 95, Regulation of Professional Service Contracts, of the Code of the Township of Lower, to Ensure Consistency with the Enactment of the New Jersey Election Transparency Act. 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				

Ord #2023-19 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 432, Mercantile Licenses, in order to Modify the Annual Late Fee Imposed for Failing to Timely renew Annual Mercantile License. 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	X				
COOMBS							X
ROY	X		X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL							

Engineer's Report

Will Hanson gave Council an update on the following engineering projects being handled by DeBlasio & Associates including: Diamond Beach Park Improvements; Replacement of Various Pavilions; Reconstruction of Wildwood Avenue; Reconstruction of Carriage Lane, Briarwood Drive, Bridle Path, Paddock Lane, Timber Lane and Trotter Way; Lincoln Boulevard Restroom Facility; Beach Access Paths Survey and Installation; Rotary Community Park Renovations; Bay Outfall Extensions; Reconstruction of Ridgewood Avenue; and 2023 Stormwater GIS Mapping Services.

Councilmember Conrad inquired about seeking emergency permits for two outfalls.

Mr. Hanson referred to Resolution #2023-340 seeking relief for Frances Ave. while permits are being sought after for approval to extend the outfalls.

Reports

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Vital

Public Comment

Theresa Breslin, Shawcrest resident, inquired about an update regarding rent control for Shawcrest.

Mayor Sippel stated that Manager Laffey will touch on the subject.

Manager Laffey communicated his efforts and offered to discuss with Ms. Breslin when more information becomes available.

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad voiced his anticipation for improvements to Fishing Creek Road.


Councilmember Roy – no comments

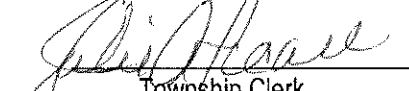
Deputy Mayor Perry – no comments

Mayor Sippel announced the following: Shred Day, Free Flu Shots, Veterans Day Parade and Haunted Trails.

Adjourn

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Roy, seconded by Deputy Mayor Perry. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.


 Frank Sippel, Mayor


 Township Clerk

Approved: NOV 6 2023