

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 7, 2020

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held VIRTUALLY on December 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via GoToMeetings.

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 virtually 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; David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Proclamation - Supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2020 Year End Holiday Crackdown
 Mayor Sippel requested Clerk Picard read the Proclamation into the record. Clerk Picard read the Proclamation.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes/Closed Session Minutes November 16, 2020
- Res. #2020-309 Payment of Vouchers \$ 570,346.91
- Res. #2020-310 Resolution Approving A Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and Lower Cape May Regional School District – School Resource Officer (SRO) at the Lower Cape May Regional High School
- Res. #2020-311 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (5 properties)
- Res. #2020-312 A Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Firearms No Longer Needed to a Licensed Firearms Dealer for Private Sale (Whitten)
- Res. #2020-313 A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property Not Needed for Public Use by Private Sale (phone – Chief Mastriana)
- Res. #2020-314 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (NJ DOT Municipal Aid \$185,000)
- Res. #2020-315 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Drive Sober Year End \$6,000)
- Res. #2020-316 Transfer of 2020 Appropriations (\$10,000)
- Res. #2020-317 Authorizing Pay Out of Terminal Leave (R. Hartman \$66,960.51)
- Res. #2020-318 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Local Govt Emergency Fund \$96,000)
- Res. #2020-319 Amending Resolution #2020-28; Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved State Contract Vendors to Include DFFLM, LLC T/A Ditschman Flemington Ford – Contract #88211; to Purchase One (1) 2021 Ford F350 High Roof Van for the Recreation Department Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a (\$33,082.)
- Res. #2020-320 Approval of Change Order #1 for DeBlasio & Associates for Additional Professional Engineering and Architectural Services for the New Public Works Department Administration Building
- Res. #2020-321 A Resolution Amending Resolution #2020-173; Relaxing the Procedures Associated with Site Plan Review and Approval for Existing Restaurants in Relation to Current Social Distancing Restrictions Enacted in Connection With the Ongoing Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

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

Regular Agenda

Ordinance 2020-17; Salary and Benefit Ordinance for the Township of Lower - This is the second reading and public hearing for this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

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

Res. #2020-322 Authorization for 2020 Incentive Award for Insurance Waiver (\$55,416.67)

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

Res. #2020-323 Authorization for the Payment of College Credits (\$24,310.)

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

Monthly Reports -

Monthly Reports - Finance, Tax

Manager's Report

Manager Laffey updated Council on his meetings with department-heads and his on-site tours of various Township properties, parks and improvement projects. He complimented Mayor and Council on the Schellenger's Landing Project and stated his anticipated preparation for the 2021 budget. Manager Laffey also thanked the Lower Township Rotary, Eileen Kreis, and the Volunteer Fire Companies for their participation in the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Mayor Sippel thanked Manager Laffey and voiced confidence in his ability to do great things for Lower Township.

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad commented on his meeting with Manager Laffey concerning Ward 1 and he thanked Lower Township Rotary and the Volunteer Fire Companies for their participation in the tree lighting ceremony. He also encouraged residents to support the food banks and check on their neighbors.

Councilmember Coombs voiced favor with the repairs to Townbank Road and congratulated Manager Laffey on his first meeting.

Councilmember Roy congratulated Manager Laffey on his first meeting and voiced favor with the improvements to Schellenger's Landing. He also encouraged residents to stay safe and practice social distancing.

Deputy Mayor Perry gave a brief update on the Townbank Road improvements as well as upcoming improvements to additional County roads.

Mayor Sippel thanked Deputy Mayor Perry for taking the lead on infrastructure news. He also announced the following upcoming events: Santa Claus' arrival in Lower Township on Saturday evening and a drive-thru Children's

Toy Drive on Sunday at Township Hall. He also shared news from the state regarding Covid-19 vaccine and informed about a different venue for the January reorganizational meeting.


Manager Laffey shared details about the drive-thru Covid-19 testing at Erma Fire Hall.

Call to the Public

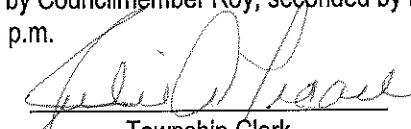
No comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Roy, seconded by Mayor Sippel. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: 12/21/2020