

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 16, 2021

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on August 16, 2021 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, David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Swearing In of Police Chaplains: Tim West, Scott Durbin and Glenn Scheyhing

Mayor Sippel administered Oaths of Office to Police Chaplains Tim West, Scott Durbin and Glenn Scheyhing and thanked each Chaplain, on behalf of Council, for devoting their time to such a responsible task.

Captain Lewis presented Certificates of Distinction to each Chaplain for providing spiritual support and encouragement to Lower Township law enforcement officers, agency employees and their families.

Presentation of Plaques – Lower Township Police Administration

Officer Jordan Saini gave a brief explanation of the vest project and presented plaques to the following businesses for their generous contributions to the project: Aces Mechanical, ANA Towing and Recovery, Manco & Manco Pizza, Two Mile Landing and Ocean First Bank.

Proclamation - Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2021 Labor Day Crackdown

Mayor Sippel read a proclamation declaring Lower Township's support of the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2021 Labor Day Crackdown.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – August 3, 2021

Res. #2021-254 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers \$ 475,183.16

Res. #2021-255 Authorization for the Refund of Taxes

Res. #2021-256 A Resolution Requesting Release of Revegetation and Restoration Guarantee for Dune Site Plan; Block 512.14, Lot 9, Escrow #P09-06-01

Res. #2021-257 A Resolution Approving the Release of a Dumpster Bond for Jerry's Excavating

Res. #2021-258 Authorization to Cancel Uncashed Court General Account Checks

Res. #2021-259 Resolution in Support of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Project on State Route 47 Over Grassy Sound Bridge Rehabilitation

Res. #2021-260 A Resolution Requesting Release of the Demolition Bond for Block 669, Lot 16; 605 Hughes Avenue, North Cape May

Res. #2021-261 A Resolution Approving the Execution of an Agreement of Sale pertaining to Certain Real Property Located in the Township of Lower

Res. #2021-262 A Resolution Requesting Release of a Demolition Bond for Block 521, Lots 11-13; 11 Brookdale Road

Res. #2021-263 Authorizing a Professional Service Contract with Blauer Associates for the Application Submission and Administrative Work, If Needed, for Storm Drainage Project in the Villas

Res. #2021-264 Public Facilities Grant Application for \$400,000, Drainage Improvements in the Villas

Res. #2021-265 Identifying Small Cities Fair Housing Officer

Res. #2021-266 Adoption of State Model Citizen Participation Plan for DCA Small Cities Program

Res. #2021-267 Approval of Public Facilities Grant Management Plan; Drainage Improvements

Res. #2021-268 A Resolution Approving a Cyber Incident Response Plan and Master Technology Policy for the Township of Lower as Recommended and Required by the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

Res. #2021-269 Approval of Change Order #1 Final to South State for 2019 Road Program Resurfacing States Avenue

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

Regular Agenda

Res. #2021-271 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and the County of Cape May

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

Manager – Michael Laffey

Engineer's Report

Cody Stanford shared an update on the engineering projects being handled by DeBlasio & Associates, including: Reconstruction of Wilson Drive, Seaview Avenue Drainage Improvements, Rochester Avenue, NJDEP CAFRA Individual Permit Application, Rec. Center HVAC Upgrades, Flooding Investigation on Cloverdale, Evergreen and Spruce Avenues, and Clem Mulligan Sports Complex Renovations.

Administrative Reports

Monthly Reports – Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Vital Statistics

Public Comment

Bill Salvia, 401 Tahoe Drive, expressed interest in serving as a Police Chaplain and shared his qualifications as an Ordained Minister, Chaplain and retired NYC Police Officer.

Councilmember Conrad suggested Mr. Salvia reach out to Captain Lewis.

Jim Pomponi, Richmond Ave., WWC, commented on flooding issues in Diamond Beach and suggested the Township pursues funding assistance from state or federal agencies.

Jim Sanford, Diamond Beach, addressed Council to voice concern about EMS response times in Diamond Beach.

Council Comments

Mayor Sippel thanked the Police Department for a great job with the youth camp. He reminded about the Summer Concert fundraiser and Escape the Cape Triathlon and shared data from the US Census.

Deputy Mayor Perry commented on the drainage issues in Diamond Beach.

Councilmember Roy – no comments

Councilmember Coombs shared his participation with Escape the Cape Triathlon and reminded residents to use caution on the roads, as school will be back in session soon.

Councilmember Conrad acknowledged and thanked local pastors and churches for their community outreach. He also reminded about the Summer Concert Series and rebutted Mr. Sanford's comment about Title 40 and Title 41 money.

Closed Session

Res. #2021-270 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**

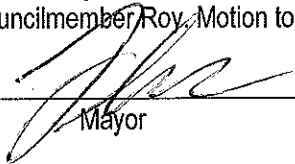
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY		X	X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 5:47pm

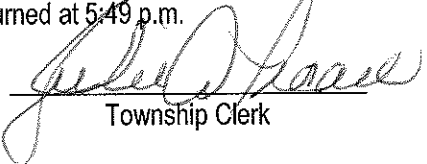
Council returned to Open Session at 5:48 pm

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 5:49 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *Sept 8, 2021*