

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – July 17, 2023

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on July 17, 2023 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: David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Proclamation – Supporting the Summer Shore Pedestrian Awareness Campaign from July 10 - August 14, 2023
Mayor Sippel read a Proclamation Supporting the Summer Shore Pedestrian Awareness Campaign.

Proclamation – Rose Moore

Mayor Sippel read a Proclamation, on behalf of Council, thanking Rose for her dedicated years of service to the Township and congratulating her on her retirement.

Proclamation - Joseph Castellucci

Mayor Sippel, on behalf of Council, read a Proclamation recognizing Joe Castellucci for his dedication to the students of Lower Township and congratulating him on his retirement.

Assemblyman Simonsen presented a Citation to Mr. Castellucci from Legislative District 1 wishing him well in his retirement.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – July 5, 2023

- Res. #2023-251 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers \$ 1,007,701.70
- Res. #2023-252 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (J.Scheck \$7,096.16)
- Res. #2023-253 A Resolution Requesting Release of Maintenance Guarantee for Block 505, Lot 18.03; Maintenance Bond; Irene Hober;
- Res. #2023-254 A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bond for Block 509.02, Lot10; 803 Meadowview Road, Lower Township, NJ;
- Res. #2023-255 2023 Summer Shore Awareness Campaign
- Res. #2023-256 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Youth Leadership Grant \$5,042.45)
- Res. #2023-257 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Pedestrian Awareness \$5,250.00)
- Res. #2023-258 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (M.Nuscis \$7,096.16)
- Res. #2023-259 Renewal of Commercial Excavation (Gravel Pit) Licenses
- Res. #2023-260 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund \$9,925.07)
- Res. #2023-261 A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with Any Excuse for a Party, LLC, for the provisions of Recreational Amenities at Lower Township National Night Out on August 1, 2023

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

Regular Agenda

Res. #2023-262 Approval of an Alcoholic Beverage Control Plenary Retail Consumption License (Pocketed) Person to Person Transfer, License 0505-33-012-012, From PM Cape May, LLC to RL Farms, Inc.

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

Ordinance #2023-15 An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 3, Parking, Specifically SS7-3.3, Parking Prohibited at All Times on Certain Streets, of the Code of the Township of Lower to Prohibit Parking on Village Road and Bates Avenue. This is the second reading and public hearing for 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	X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Engineer Report

Will Hanson gave Council an update on the following projects being handled by DeBlasio & Associates including: Diamond Beach Park Improvements; Replacement of Various Pavilions; Municipal Pool Renovations; 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 and Reconstruction of Ridgewood Avenue. Mayor Sippel inquired about the timeframe to use the grant funds for Rotary Park Renovations. Mr. Hanson responded and informed about a second round of funding in September.

Administrative Reports

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Vital

Public Comment

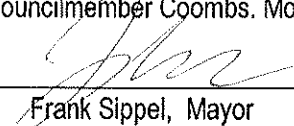
Cherie Eleissawy thanked Mayor Sippel for his prompt response and requested the Solicitor speak to her about the Cannabis Overlay Zone. Solicitor Stefankiewicz recommended she speak to Manager Laffey since the lawsuit was dismissed.

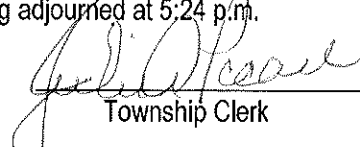
Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad – no comments
Councilmember Coombs – no comments
Councilmember Roy commended the Engineers for keeping Council well informed of project updates. Deputy Mayor Perry echoed Councilmember Roy's comments. Mayor Sippel announced the following: National Night Out, the Benefit Concert and the Police Youth Camp.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Deputy Mayor Perry, seconded by Councilmember Coombs. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.


Frank Sippel, Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: August 7, 2023