

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – July 18, 2022

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on July 18, 2022 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 and Robert Belasco, Township Solicitors and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

### Work Session

Presentation of Retirement Plaque – Allen Magnavita and Blanche Cameron

Mayor Sippel and Council presented Allen Magnavita with a plaque and certificate of congratulations on his retirement and thanked him for his many years of service to the Township.

Mayor Sippel and Council presented Blanche Cameron with a plaque and certificate of congratulations on her retirement and thanked her for her many years of service to the Township.

### Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – July 6, 2022

Res. #2022-226 Approval of Vouchers \$ 1,513,907.07

Res. #2022-227 Resolution of Support from Local Governing Body Authorizing the Sustainable Communities Grant Application Funded by Atlantic City Electric

Res. #2022-228 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (T.Shough \$5,680.20)

Res. #2022-229 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (S.Flitcroft \$11,708.67)

Res. #2022-230 Authorizing Payout of Terminal Leave (B.Cameron \$144.48)

Res. #2020-231 Approval of Final Change Order #2 to Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. for Reconstruction of Delaware Avenue, Delaware Bay Drive, Millman Lane and Atlantic Avenue (LT-C-024) for Asphalt Adjustments and As-Built Quantity Adjustments

Res. #2022-232 A Resolution Authorizing a New Club License for Seapointe Village Master Association #0505-31-031-001

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

### Regular Agenda

Ord. #2022-07 An Ordinance of the Township of Lower Vacating, Surrendering, and Extinguishing the Public Rights of Lucille Avenue, an Unimproved Paper Street. 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				
COOMBS		X	X				
ROY	X		X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Ord. #2022-08 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 475, Parks and Recreation, Subsection 16, Memorial Bench Dedication Program, of the Code of 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				
COOMBS			X				
ROY		X	X				
PERRY	X		X				
SIPPEL			X				

Res. #2022-233 Bid Acceptance and Contract Award of 2022 NJDCA Small Cities Program; Cloverdale Avenue, Evergreen Avenue and Spruce Avenue Storm Sewer Improvement (LT-C-026)  
Councilmember Conrad and Deputy Mayor Perry voiced favor to see progress on this project.

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

Res. #2022-235 A Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application and the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for Wildwood Avenue

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

**Engineer Report**

Cody Stanford gave Council an update on the current engineering projects being handled by DeBalsio & Associates, including: Reconstruction of Wilson Drive; NJDEP CAFRA Permit Application; Storm Sewer Improvements for Cloverdale, Evergreen and Spruce Avenues; Reconstruction of Delaware Ave., Delaware Bay Dr., Millman Lane and Atlantic Ave.; Reconstruction of Mowery Ave., Harvard St., Peters Rd. and Howland Ave.; Diamond Beach Park Improvements; Reconstruction of Fire Lane; Replacement of Various Pavilions; and Reconstruction of Wildwood Ave.

**Manager's Report**

Manager Laffey voiced favor with the many projects coming to fruition and gave Council an update on County planned improvements to Fishing Creek Road beginning this Fall.  
Mayor Sippel commented on the current condition of Fishing Creek Road.

**Monthly Report -**

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Vital Statistics

**Public Comment**

Mike Rosenberg, Villas, voiced discontent about the condition of certain roads, namely Fishing Creek Road and Bayshore Road.

Tim McKenna, 9601 Atlantic Ave., addressed Council regarding the Diamond Beach State Aid Agreement and hopes to collaborate with the Township on this matter.

Jim Yost, Grand at Diamond Beach, Seapointe Village, addressed Council regarding the Diamond Beach State Aid Agreement. He presented questions and concerns about the dune project and requested Township support with

shore protection efforts.

Mayor Sippel commented on the Township's position with regard to the Diamond Beach dune project and defended the Township's transparency throughout the process. He further stated Council's commitment to all Township residents.

Councilmember Roy thanked Diamond Beach representatives for their support and patience with the State Aid Agreement.

Councilmember Conrad reiterated the Township's transparency.

**Council Comments**

Mayor Sippel reminded about the upcoming Police Youth Camp and Military Appreciation Night and encouraged residents to register for the RAVE notification system.

Deputy Mayor Perry commented in favor of infrastructure projects coming to fruition. He shared complaints about traffic safety issues on Pilgrim Plaza and suggested a Fall fundraiser to benefit the children's youth program.

Councilmember Roy encouraged community members to consider volunteering for the local Fire Departments.

Councilmember Coombs commented in favor of infrastructure projects coming to fruition.

Councilmember Coombs thanked the Rec and Police Departments for their presence at Family Fun Night and commented on infrastructure projects.

**Closed Session**

Res. #2022-234 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.

**Contract Negotiations/Personnel/Attorney-Client Privilege**

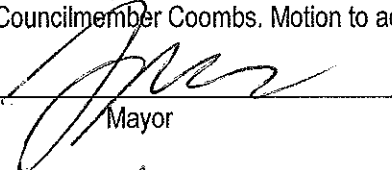
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
COOMBS		X	X				
ROY			X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

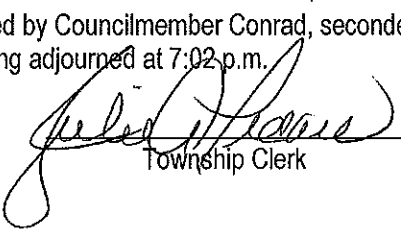
Council adjourned to Closed Session at 5:32 p.m.

Council returned to Open Session at 7:01 p.m.

**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 7:02 p.m.

  
Mayor

  
Township Clerk

Approved: August 1, 2022