

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – November 21, 2022

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on November 21, 2022 at 7:00 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

Office of Emergency Management Briefing

Ed Donahue, Township OEM Coordinator, shared his annual report with Council. See report attached.

Mayor Sippel thanked Mr. Donahue for his work and inquired about Fare Free Transportation for the warming centers. Mr. Donahue responded.

Councilmember Conrad commended Mr. Donahue on his work.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – November 7, 2022

Res. #2022-356 Authorization for the payment of vouchers \$ 339,695.06

Res. #2022-357 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Sustainable Communities Environmental Stewardship grant \$5,000)

Res. #2022-358 Authorization for Refund Tax

Res. #2022-359 Appointment to Recreation Advisory Board (E.Collins)

Res. #2022-360 A Resolution Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with the County of Cape May for Fleet Maintenance Services

Res. #2022-361 Approval for Lower Township Ferry Merry Christmas

Res. #2022-362 Award of Professional Service Contract Without Public Bidding to Wizards Festival of Fun for Entertainment at the Ferry Merry Christmas Event December 18, 2022 (\$6,450.00)

Res. #2022-363 Approval for 2022 Christmas Parade

Res. #2022-364 A Resolution Amending Manager Michael Laffey's Agreement with the Township of Lower

Res. #2022-365 Authorizing the Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate

Res. #2022-366 Affidavit of Assignment Posting and Publishing

Res. #2022-367 Transfer of 2022 Appropriations

Res. #2022-368 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (K. O'Brien \$6,574.30)

Res. #2022-369 Authorization for the Payment of College Credits (\$36,150.)

Res. #2022-370 Authorization for 2022 Incentive Award for Insurance Waiver (\$51,666.67.)

Ordinance #2022-14 Re-Appropriation Ordinance of the Township of Lower, in the County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, Providing for Various Road Improvements and Re-Appropriating \$497,414.23 of Excess Bond Proceeds from Bond Ordinance 2019-09 to Finance the Cost Thereof. This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The second reading and public hearing has been scheduled for December 5, 2022.

Ordinance #2022-15 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 400, Land Development, of the Code of the Township of Lower, to Create An Overlay Zoning District in the GB-1 Zone to Govern Class 5 Cannabis Retail Licenses and Class 6 Cannabis Delivery Licenses. This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The second reading and public hearing has been scheduled for December 19, 2022.

On the Consent Agenda:

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

Regular Agenda

Engineer Report

Marc DeBlasio, Township Engineer, gave an update on the current projects being handled by DeBlasio & Associates, including: Cloverdale, Evergreen and Spruce Storm Sewer Improvements; Reconstruction of Mowery, Harvard, Peters Rd. and Howland Avenues; Reconstruction of Fire Lane; Diamond Beach Park Improvements; Replacement of Various Pavillions; Municipal Pool Renovations; and Storm Sewer Outfalls in Villas. Mr. DeBlasio wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Manager's Report – no report given

Monthly Report -

Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Vital

Public Comment – no comments

Council Comments

Mayor Sippel announced the Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Rotary Christmas Parade. He also commented on a productive meeting with residents from Holly Estates, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Deputy Mayor Perry commented in favor of engineering project getting done and thanked Mr. DeBlasio for his work. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

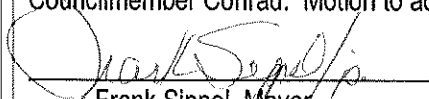
Councilmember Roy thanked Mr. DeBlasio and Mr. Donahue for their comprehensive reports and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

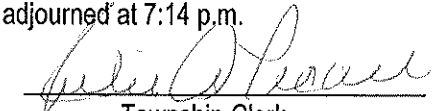
Councilmember Coombs congratulated Councilmembers Conrad and Roy on the election and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Conrad commented on infrastructure projects and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Coombs, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.


Frank Sippel, Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: December 5, 2022.