

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – September 6, 2023

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 6, 2023, 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 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

Presentation of Plaques - Sponsors of the Coombs/Douglass Bay Run
 Mayor Sippel spoke briefly about the Coombs/Douglass Bay Run and, together with Council and the Recreation Department, presented plaques of appreciation to the sponsors of this year's event.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – August 21, 2023

- Res. #2023-296 Approval for the payment of vouchers \$ 645,528.65
- Res. #2023-297 Authorization for the Refund of Taxes
- Res. #2023-298 Authorization to Transfer Funds from the Tax Premium Account
- Res. #2023-299 Bid Acceptance and Contract Award of FY2020 NJDCA Small Cities Program ADA Compliance Improvements at Rotary Park (LT-C-028)
- Res. #2023-300 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (NJ DOT Local Transportation Projects Fund \$175,000)
- Res. #2023-301 A Resolution Providing a One-Time Waiver of the Imposition of Late Fees Associated with the Required Annual Renewal of Mercantile Licenses
- Res. #2023-302 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Cops in Shops \$1,440.00)
- Res. #2023-303 Approving Change Order #1 with DeBlasio & Associates for Additional Engineering Services for the Construction Phase for the Rotary Community Park Renovation Phase One (LT-C-028)
- Res. #2023-304 A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bond for Block 339, Lots 10,12,14 & 16; 330 Evergreen Avenue, Villas, N.L.Martucci Properties, LLC; P NLMARTUC
- Res. #2023-305 A Resolution Requesting Release of Demolition Bond for Block 595, Lot 11; 306 Brynmawr Avenue, R.Hickson; P Hickson
- Res. #2023-306 Approving a Professional Service Contract with DeBlasio & Associates for 2023 Stormwater GIS Mapping Services (LT-C-042) (\$57,000.)
- Ord #2023-17 An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 475, Parks and Recreation Areas, Article 1, General Rules and Regulations, to Address Recommendations Received from the Township's Insurance Carrier in Regards to Signage

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

Regular Agenda

Ord #2023-16 An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 400, Article VII, Exceptions, Modifications and Development Alternatives, Section 57, General Exceptions and Modifications, Subsection G, Beekeeping, of the Code of the Township of Lower due to Preemption by State Statute. This is the second reading and public hearing of 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	X				
SIPPEL			X				

Manager's Report

Manager Laffey thanked Mayor and Council for their commitment to outdoor recreation and noted significant improvements to several Township parks. He also gave an update on the Fishing Creek Road paving project, Schellenger's Landing traffic calming measures, and plans for Yuma Avenue.

Public Comment – no comments

Council Comments

Mayor Sippel announced the following: 9/11 Ceremony at NASW Museum; Public Works Fall/ Winter hours go into effect; Run for the Fallen at Sunset Beach; and school back in session.

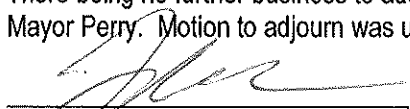
Deputy Mayor Perry – no comments


Councilmember Roy thanked Manager Laffey for his efforts.

Councilmember Conrad reminded about Family Fun Night and congratulated Joseph Donnelly for earning his Eagle Scout Award.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Roy, seconded by Deputy Mayor Perry. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.


Frank Sippel, Mayor


Township Clerk

Approved: *Sept 18, 2023*