

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 4, 2021

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on October 4, 2021 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 (via phone)
- 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 - Mayor Frank Sippel

Mayor Sippel reflected on the importance of positivity and gratitude as he honored Township retirees for their hard work and sacrifice. Plaques and commemorative coins were presented to Ray Small, Steve Lonergan and Steve Parker, on behalf of Mayor and Council and Manager Laffey, congratulating them on their retirement and thanking them for their dedicated years of service to the Township.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – September 20, 2021

- Res. #2021-302 Authorization for the payment of vouchers \$335,243.99
- Res. #2021-303 Authorization: Determination of Municipal Service Fees for 2022 (\$120.00)
- Res. #2021-304 Resolution Amending Resolution #2021-283; Authorizing the Annual Coombs/Douglass Memorial Bay Run; Changing the Date (October 30, 2021)
- Res. #2021-305 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (4 properties)
- Res. #2021-306 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GovDeals Online Auction Website
- Res. #2021-307 Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day, October 6, 2021
- Res. #2021-308 Authorizing the Payout of Terminal Leave (W.Johns \$1,263.25)
- Res. #2021-309 Authorizing Payout of Amended Terminal Leave (R.Hartman, Jr. \$1,672.96)
- Res. #2021-310 Approval of Change Order #1 to South State Inc, for Additional Paving on the Star Avenue Project (\$11,500)
- Res. #2021-311 Award National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Sourcewell To Altec Industries, Inc. for One (1) New 2022 Ford F550 Chassis with Altec Articulating Bucket Aerial Device (\$128,426.00)

Ordinance #2021-20; An Ordinance Amending Chapter 400, Land Development, of the Code of the Township of Lower, to Designate Class 5 Cannabis Retail Licenses and Class 6 Cannabis Delivery Licenses as Conditional Uses in the GB-1, MD-2, and Industrial Zoning Districts. This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The second reading and Public Hearing has been scheduled for 11/1

Motion to **TABLE Ordinance #2021-20** moved by Mayor Sippel, seconded by Deputy Mayor Perry.

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

Thomas Freeman, 103 Ellery Road, addressed Council to voice concern about the Township Code, Chapter 400-19, Land Development, Industrial.

Mayor Sippel recognized Mr. Freeman's concern and agreed to look into it.

Solicitor Stefankiewicz acknowledged an accidental omission and agreed to look into the matter further.

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

Manager's Report

Personnel Action Report

Monthly Reports

Treasurer

Public Comment

Ray Flickinger, Washington Blvd., complimented Gary Douglass and DPW for the work they did on Washington Blvd. and throughout the Township.

Council Comments

Mayor Sippel announced the following upcoming events: National Night Out, Halloween Costume Parade at HCSV, Trunk-or-Treat at Ferry Terminal, Coombs/Douglass Run, Trick-or-Treat, Veteran's Day Parade, Early Voting, Flu Clinics and Beach Sweeps. He also reminded about the fall edition of the Township Newsletter.

Deputy Mayor Perry shared information from NJDOH website regarding EMS data. He requested the manager look into establishing average response times within Cape May County.

Manager Laffey indicated the state's recommended response time and voiced confidence in Inspira's services.

Councilmember Roy – no further comments

Councilmember Coombs congratulated and thanked Township retirees for their years of service.

Councilmember Conrad commented on the infrastructure improvements happening within the Township. He also advised of changes with EMS services use of red lights and sirens.

Mayor Sippel thanked Gary Douglass for his attendance at the meeting in honor of his retired employees.

Closed Session

Res. #2021-312 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**

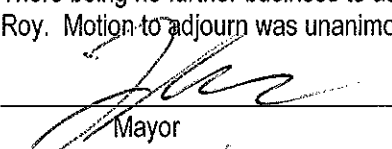
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Council Adjourned to Closed Session at 7:23 p.m.

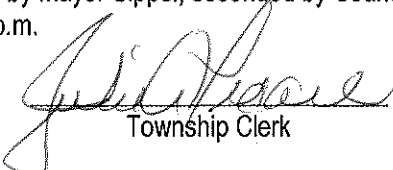
Council returned to Open Session at 7:56 p.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Mayor Sippel, seconded by Councilmember Roy. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: 10/18/2021