

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – September 8, 2021

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 8, 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
 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

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – August 16, 2021

- Res. #2021-272 Authorization for the payment of vouchers \$1,042,416.85
- Res. #2021-273 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (7 properties)
- Res. #2021-274 A Resolution Authorizing the Continued Use of Thirty Google Chrome book Laptop Computers by the Lower Township Elementary School District (2021/2022 School year)
- Res. #2021-275 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (OEM \$10,000)
- Res. #2021-276 Authorizing the Payout of Terminal Leave (J.Cella \$572.)
- Res. #2021-277 Authorizing the Payout of Terminal Leave (F.McCloskey \$3,617.)
- Res. #2021-278 A Resolution Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with the Cape May County Municipal Utilities Authority for Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Services (1/1/2022-12/31/2022)
- Res. #2021-279 A Resolution Authorizing the Township Manager and Clerk to Execute any and all Documents Necessary in order to Effectuate the Transfer of Title of Real Property Located at 101A Broadway, Block 384, Lot 60
- Res. #2021-280 Certification of Lot Clearing Charges to the Tax Collector (601 Lincoln Blvd)
- Res. #2021-281 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GovDeals Online Auction Website
- Res. #2021-282 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Fair and Open Contract for Installation of Security Cameras Various Parks in Lower Township (\$16,265.)
- Res. #2021-283 Approval for the Annual Coombs / Douglass Run (Sept 25, 2021)
- Res. #2021-284 A Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Delmo Pro for services at the Coombs/Douglass Run (Not to exceed \$2,600)
- Res #2021-285 Approving a Professional Service Contract with DeBlasio & Associates for the Design and Specifications Phase for the Reconstruction of Atlantic Avenue, Howland Avenue, Millman Lane and Mowery Avenue (\$298,000.)
- Res. #2021-286 Approval of Change Order #2 for the Final As Built Quantity Adjustment to Asphalt Paving Systems Inc for the Reconstruction of Miami Avenue, Florida Avenue, Jacksonville Avenue, Tampa Avenue and Elks Lodge Alley Project (\$7,539.93)
- Res. #2021-287 Authorizing the Pay Out of Terminal Leave (S.Parker \$12,798.01)

Mayor Sippel commented in favor of Resolution #2021-275 and Resolution #2021-282.

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

Regular Agenda

Ordinance #2021-19 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 592, Taxation, of the Code of the Township of Lower, To Impose A Transfer Tax on the Sale of Cannabis by Licensed Businesses Operating Within the Township and a User Tax on Concurrent License Holders Operating More Than One Cannabis Establishment within the Township. 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				

Manager's Report

Manager Laffey updated Council on measures taken to resolve the flooding issues on Cloverdale, Evergreen and Spruce Avenues. He also gave an update on flooding issues in Diamond Beach on Rochester, Madison and Seaview Avenues.

Administrative Reports

Certification of Mailing of Tax Bills
Monthly Reports –

Public Comments

Susan Zumar, 107 Richmond Ave., commented on the flooding issues in Diamond Beach and reminded that residents are waiting for a solution.

Jim Sanford, Diamond Beach, addressed Council regarding Inspira's reports and voiced concern that they do not identify which section of the Township the calls are made from. He suggested housing an ambulance closer to Diamond Beach and that the Township look into mutual aid.

Jim Pomponi, 111 E. Richmond Ave., addressed Council regarding the flooding in Diamond Beach and suggested using the street sweeper to alleviate some sand.

Eileen Kreis informed that the street sweeper was out of operation due to repairs.

Ray Flickinger, 1700 Washington Blvd., complimented the Township on the Summer Concert Series and various community events. He also informed of overgrown vegetation along Beach Drive.

Council Comments

Mayor Sippel pointed out an increase in compliance for Short-Term Rentals and thanked the clerk's office for their hard work. Mayor Sippel also announced the following upcoming events: 9/11 Ceremony, Military Appreciation Night at LCMR, and the Coombs/Douglass Run.

Eileen Kreis encouraged support of veterans, active duty military and first responders at Military Appreciation Night/ LCMR football game.

Deputy Mayor Perry shared an update on the County's plan for Bayshore Road safety and infrastructure improvements projected to be completed by December, 2021.

Councilmember Conrad complimented the Rec Department on a successful Summer Concert Series; he thanked NASW for their guest speaker during Airfest, Dr. Eugene Richardson; and he voiced favor with the demolition of the building next to Villas VFW. He also reminded residents to use caution with school back in session.

Councilmember Coombs gave an update on back-to-school safety protocols and congratulated Zeb Hinker for his achievement winning the Escape the Cape triathlon.

Councilmember Roy- no further comments

Closed Session

Res. #2021-288 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**

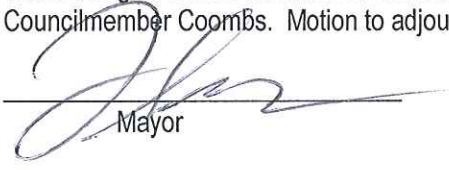
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 7:30 p.m.

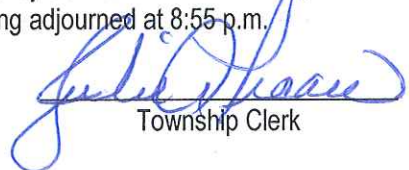
Council returned to Open Session at 8:54 p.m.

Adjourn

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 8:55 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *Sept 20, 2021*