

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – September 20, 2021

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on September 20, 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: David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – September 8, 2021

- Res. #2021-289 Authorization for the payment of Vouchers \$1,140,881.04
- Res. #2021-290 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (W.Kocis \$3,593.25)
- Res. #2021-291 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (list attached \$1,236.99)
- Res. #2021-292 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus no longer needed for public use on Govdeals Online Auction Website
- Res. #2021-293 Award National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Sourcewell to Hunter Jersey Peterbilt for One (1) 2022 Peterbilt 548 Tandem Axle Cab and Chassis (\$115,062.)
- Res. #2021-294 Award National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Sourcewell to Granturk Equipment Company for one (1) 2021 or newer Leach 29 Cu Yd 2R-III Rear Loader to be mounted on existing new 2022 Peterbilt 348 Cab and Chassis (\$100,963.20)
- Res. #2021-295 Approving Change Order #2 to Fred M Schiavone Construction for the Clem Mulligan Sports Complex Renovations Project; Replacing Seed and Mulch for the Athletic Field Section to Sod and Additional Irrigation (\$66,743.60)
- Res. #2021-296 Certification of Lot Clearing Charges to the Tax Collector (\$10,270.00)
- Res. #2021-297 Authorizing the Disposal of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use
- Res. #2021-298 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (3 properties)
- Res. #2021-299 A Resolution Increasing the Bid Threshold Pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-3 (\$44,000)
- Res. #2021-300 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Drive Sober \$6,000)

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

Regular Agenda

Engineer's Report

Cody Stanford gave an update on the engineering projects being handled by DeBlasio & Associates, including: Reconstruction of Wilson Drive; Diamond Beach Park Improvements; Seaview Avenue Drainage Improvements; Flooding Investigation on Cloverdale, Evergreen and Spruce Avenues; Clem Mulligan Sports Complex Renovations; And Reconstruction of Atlantic, Howland, Mowery Avenues and Millman Lane.

Deputy Mayor Perry shared information from the Cape May County Mosquito Control regarding drainage issues on Rochester and Madison Avenues.

Administrative Reports

Monthly Reports – Clerk, Construction, Dog, Finance, Tax, Vital

Public Comments

Mayor Sippel reminded of the guidelines for public comment period.

Jim Sanford, Diamond Beach, addressed Council regarding reports from Inspira and voiced his concerns about EMS response times.

Gregory Boris, Rochester Ave., addressed Council regarding an incident at Diamond View Condos that required emergency medical assistance and alleged the Township's negligence for not partnering with Wildwood Crest for EMS services.

Susan Zumar, Richmond Ave., commented on the Township's responsibility to address the DEP violations regarding clogged outfall pipes.

Jim Pomponi, Richmond Ave., inquired further about Deputy Mayor Perry's information from the CMC Mosquito Control and also asked about the street sweeper.

Ray Flickinger, Washington Blvd., thanked Manager Laffey for addressing the overgrown vegetation along the bay. He also suggested investing in better equipment to maintain the sidewalk vegetation.

Chief Priole complimented the success of Military Appreciation Night and refuted previous comments regarding the incident at Diamond View Condos. He highlighted great improvements with Inspira and the positive feedback from the Police Department regarding EMS.

Mayor Sippel thanked Chief Priole for offering his perspective about Inspira.

Deputy Mayor Perry commended the officers and emergency responders that responded to the call for Mr. Brown.

Eileen Kreis thanked the community for their overwhelming support during Military Appreciation Night, giving special thanks to local businesses for their donations and sponsorship of NJ Run for the Fallen.

Council Comments

Mayor Sippel thanked the Greater Cape May Elks for their generous donations to the Township. He announced the NJ Run for the Fallen, Veteran's Day Parade, Beach Sweeps and the fall edition of the Township Newsletter.

Deputy Mayor Perry clarified the intent of the previously referenced Wildwoods meeting that is held annually. He also complimented Eileen Kreis on the success of Military Appreciation Night.

Councilmember Roy congratulated Eileen Kreis on the 9/11 ceremony and gave an update on the MUA Sewer Expansion Project in Erma.

Councilmember Coombs gave a brief update on Bayshore Road paving.

Councilmember Conrad thanked Eileen Kreis and family for their help with various veteran events and he encouraged residents to admire the improvements at Clem Mulligan Park.

Closed Session

Res. #2021-301 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**

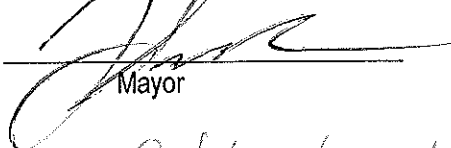
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
COOMBS		X	X				
ROY			X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 7:34 p.m.

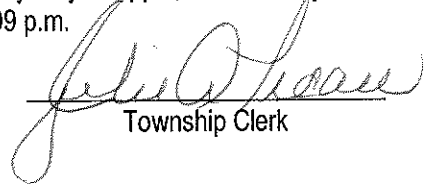
Council returned to Open Session at 8:08 p.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Mayor Sippel, seconded by Councilmember Conrad. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *October 4, 2021*