

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – January 4, 2017

The Reorganization meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 6:00 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.

Invocation – Deacon Dan Money

Swearing in of Mayor Erik Simonsen – Freeholder Jeffrey Pierson

Freeholder Jeffrey Pierson spoke briefly about Mayor Elect Simonsen's impressive background and promising future. Freeholder Pierson administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Erik Simonsen while his wife, Anna Simonsen held the Bible. Also present were his daughters, Katya and Victoria, his mother and father, Elizabeth and Frank, his brother Frank and sister-in-law Dawn. Mayor Simonsen gave special thanks and recognition to his family. He thanked Councilmembers Conrad and Perry and all Township employees for their hard work and also thanked Deacon Money for the invocation and for mentoring him over the years. He introduced Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton and Command Sargent Major Frank Sippel.

Swearing in of Deputy Mayor Frank Sippel – Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton

Freeholder Director Gerald Thornton communicated his confidence in the changes taking place in Lower Township and wished everyone a Happy New Year. Freeholder Director Thornton administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Mayor Frank Sippel while his father, Frank Sippel Sr held the Bible. Also present were his brother, sister, children and granddaughter. Deputy Mayor Sippel thanked Freeholder Pierson and Freeholder Director Thornton for administering the oaths of office. He thanked his family and friends for attending, and Manager Ridgway and staff for organizing the meeting. He also thanked his boss, Martin Pagliughi and coworkers from Emergency Management, Bob Nolan, Jeff Lindsay and the Lower Township GOP organization, and all of his military brothers for attending.

The following members of Council were present for roll call taken by the Clerk:

Councilmember Thomas Conrad  
Councilmember David Perry  
Deputy Mayor Frank Sippel  
Mayor Erik Simonsen

Also present: James Ridgway, Township Manager, David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

### Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes December 19, 2016

- Res. #2017-01 Appointment of Municipal Solicitor for 2017 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (D. Stefankiewicz NTE \$125,000)
- Res. #2017-02 Appointment of Township Labor Attorney for 2017 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (W. Blaney NTE \$25,000)
- Res. #2017-03 Appointment of Municipal Judge (F. Thomas Hillegass 3 year appointment \$45,050.80 – yr 1)
- Res. #2017-04 Appointment of Bond Counsel for the Year 2017 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Archer & Greiner)
- Res. #2017-05 Appointment of Municipal Auditor for 2017 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Ford, Scott & Assoc NTE \$40,000)
- Res. #2017-06 Appointment of Municipal Prosecutor for the Year 2017 (Frank Guaracini/Blaney/Karavan \$ 27,500)
- Res. #2017-07 Appointment of Municipal Public Defender for the Year 2017 (V. Roach \$12,000)
- Res. #2017-08 Appointment of Public Information Officer for 2017 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (L. Suit NTE \$10,400)
- Res. #2017-09 Appointment of JIF Risk Management Consultant (J. Byrne Agency 5% of combined JIF/MEL assessment)
- Res. #2017-10 Appointment of Municipal Engineer for 2017 as a Professional Service Contract without Public Bidding (Mott, MacDonald NTE \$450,000)
- Res. #2017-11 Confirmation of Officials for Joint Insurance Fund and Municipal Excess Liability Fund (annual

- appointments)
- Res. #2017-12 Annual Approval of Emergency Management Council (annual appointments)
  - Res. #2017-13 Establishment of Council Meeting Dates and Times for the Year 2017 (annual)
  - Res. #2017-14 Designation of Official Newspapers for Legal Advertising for the Year 2017 (Star & Wave)
  - Res. #2017-15 A Resolution Authorizing the Clerk to Issue Bingo & Raffle Licenses Throughout the Year to Qualified Organizations (annual)
  - Res. #2017-16 Adopting 2017 Temporary Current Budget (annual)
  - Res. #2017-17 Designation of Official Depositories (annual)
  - Res. #2017-18 Resolution to Defer the Regional School Tax (annual)
  - Res. #2017-19 Authorizing Payment to Lower Township Board of Education (Jan thru July \$8,386,372.)
  - Res. #2017-20 Authorizing Cash Management Plan (annual)
  - Res. #2017-21 Authorizing Payment of 2017 Debt Service (annual)
  - Res. #2017-22 Authorizing Payment for 2017 Regional School Taxes (Jan thru July \$7,020,228.50)
  - Res. #2017-23 Annual Approval of Petty Cash Funds (annual)
  - Res. #2017-24 Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer for Lower Township (M.Vitelli – annual)
  - Res. #2017-25 Authorizing Tax Assessor to File Tax Appeals (annual)
  - Res. #2017-26 Authorizing Payment of 2017 Animal Shelter and Spay/Neuter Fees (annual)
  - Res. #2017-27 Setting Interest Rate for Delinquent Taxes (annual)
  - Res. #2017-28 Approval of Annual Contribution to Volunteers in Medicine ( \$7,690)
  - Res. #2017-29 Approving 2017 Contract with Cape Assist (\$3,213.)
  - Res. #2017-30 Award of Professional Service Contract with Marsh McLennan for Insurance Brokerage Services (\$26,664)
  - Res. #2017-31 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Sick Time (\$34,713.70)
  - Res. #2017-32 Authorization for Public Bidding (annual)
  - Res. #2017-33 Contract Award for Final Year (2017) Option for Fertilizing/Slice Seed Applications for Various Locations in Lower Township (Tru Green \$15,670)
  - Res. #2017-34 Contract Award for Final Year (2017) Option for Landscaping Services Various Locations in Lower Township (Douglass Landscaping \$47,485.)
  - Res. #2017-35 Bid Acceptance and Award of Lower Township Animal Control Services for 2017 with an Option of 2018 & 2019 (Shore Veterinarian Animal Control Services, LLC \$53,000)
  - Res. #2017-36 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Approved State Contract Vendors for Contracting Units Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a
  - Res. #2017-37 Approval of Seashore RV & Campsite Resort Submission of Application to the Department of Environmental Protection
  - Res. #2017-38 Authorizing the payment of 2017 Vouchers \$341,243.92
  - Res. #2017-39 Transfer of 2016 Appropriations (\$1,500)
  - Res. #2017-40 Payment of 2016 Vouchers \$217,446.03
  - Res. #2017-41 Appointment of Mayor's Designee to the Planning Board (M.Rosenberg)
  - Ordinance #2017-01 An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish A Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4.15.14). This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance will be scheduled for February 6, 2017.

Councilman Perry made a request to move Resolution #2017-39 to the Regular Agenda.

On the Consent Agenda:

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
PERRY	X		X			
SIPPEL			X			
SIMONSEN			X			

**Regular Agenda**

Res. #2017-39 Transfer of 2016 Appropriations (\$1,500) \$31,500

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
PERRY			X			
SIPPEL	X		X			
SIMONSEN			X			

Res. #2017-42 Resolution Designating the Lower Township Rescue Squad, Inc as the Provider of Emergency Medical Services in Lower Township

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD					X	
PERRY	X		X			
SIPPEL		X	X			
SIMONSEN			X			

Res. #2017-43 Appointment of Class III Member to the Planning Board (F.Sippel)

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X			
PERRY	X		X			
SIPPEL					X	
SIMONSEN			X			

**Council Comments**

Councilman Conrad thanked Deputy Mayor Sippel and Mayor Simonsen for stepping up and keeping the best interest of the Township at heart.

Councilman Perry wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated Mayor Simonsen and Deputy Mayor Sippel and said he looks forward to the future of Lower Township.

Deputy Mayor Sippel shared his desire to serve the residents of Lower Township.

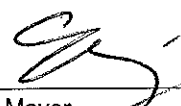
Manager Ridgway gave an update on progress at the Public Safety Building and announced the Szcz the Day fundraiser to benefit two Lower Township residents as well as the Andy Tally Bone Marrow Foundation. He also complimented the Recreation Department on the success of their most recent events and looks forward to building Lower Township into a place to remember.

Mayor Simonsen thanked the Lower Township Chamber of Commerce for the Police Appreciation Breakfast. He also thanked Doctor General Freeholder Pierson and Freeholder Director Thornton and all in attendance, and welcomed Deputy Mayor Sippel to Council. He reminded everyone of their purpose in serving the Lord, their families, their community and their country.

**Call to Public**

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Deputy Mayor Sippel, seconded by Councilmember Perry. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

  
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 Mayor

  
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 Township Clerk

Approved: Jan 18, 2017