

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 18, 2017

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on December 18, 2017 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 David Perry
- Councilmember Roland Roy, Jr.
- Deputy Mayor Frank Sippel
- Mayor Erik Simonsen

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

Work Session

Consent Agenda

- Approval of NJ Firemen's Assoc Membership Application - L.Megonigal, Jr. – Townbank Volunteer Fire Co
- Approval of Minutes December 4, 2017
- Res. #2017-331 Authorization for Payment of Vouchers \$ 1,232,972.30
- Res. #2017-332 Authorization for Refund of Taxes (5 properties \$5,077.37)
- Res. #2017-333 A Resolution Approving a Professional Service Contract with P.M. Consultants, LLC as a Deferred Compensation Analysis Consultant (\$175.00 per hour not to exceed \$8,000)
- Res. #2017-334 Resolution Authorizing A Request for Funds from the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority (allowable amount \$314,644.70; request is for \$70,000)
- Res. #2017-335 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (D.Whitten \$7,658.00)
- Res. #2017-336 A Resolution Authorizing an Inter-Local Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and the Lower Township Municipal Utilities Authority
- Res. #2017-337 Authorization for the Payment of College Credits (J.Scheck \$660.)
- Res. #2017-338 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (J.Felsing \$2,262.36)
- Res. #2017-339 Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (M.Gamble \$2,209.76)
- Res. #2017-340 A Resolution Approving the Release of a Cash Site Plan Performance Guarantee and Replacement of Same with Irrevocable Letter of Credit for FCF Realty, Inc. Block 776; Lots 10-20 and 34-38 (\$301,167.60)
- Res. #2017-341 A Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding for Assigning Personnel to the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office Gangs, Guns and Narcotics Task Force
- Res. #2017-342 Contract Award for Vehicles Through the New Jersey State Division of Purchase and Property (T2007 & T2776) to Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. (Authorizing the purchase of two vehicles)
- Res. #2017-343 Approval of Change Order #3 for Additional Engineering Work for the Roseann Avenue/Bayshore Estates Drainage and Stormwater Management Improvements Project (Mott MacDonald \$3,500)
- Res. #2017-344 Transfer of 2017 Appropriations (\$189,000 from Insurance & Solid Waste to Capital, DPW, Court & Police)

Councilmember Conrad motioned to **Table Resolution #2017-336**, seconded by Councilmember Perry.

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

On the Consent Agenda:

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

Regular Agenda

Ordinance #2017-15

Salary and Benefit Ordinance for the Township of Lower – This Ordinance is required to be adopted annually. This is the second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

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

Ordinance #2017-16

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance #2017-07; Amending the Construction Code - This Ordinance amends the Construction Code Fee Schedule; changing the last line of two sections; and adds the State Mandated section entitled Mechanical Inspections. This is the second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

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

Engineer's Report- Mott MacDonald

Mark Sray, Mott MacDonald, gave an update and timeline on both the Beach Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project and the Roseann Avenue Roadway and Utility Improvement Project. Manager Ridgway thanked Atlantic City Electric for agreeing, at no charge to the Township, to relocate the 13 polls that conflict with the proposed improvements.

Administrative Reports

Personnel Action Report

Monthly Report - Clerk, Construction, Dog, Tax, Treasurer, Vital Statistics

Manager Ridgway gave a brief end-of-the-year report on several departments including Clerk's Office, Grants, Finance, Tax Assessor, and Planning/Zoning. He anticipates a project presentation at the January Reorganization meeting. He thanked Council for their support and wished them a merry Christmas.

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad informed about a link on the Township website for Energy Assistance Programs from the NJ Department of Community Affairs. He also wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Councilmember Perry gave an update on the County's schedule for road improvements in the Township that include Bayshore, Seashore and Townbank Roads, as well as their plan to seek federal funding for the Middle Thoroughfare Bridge Project. He wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Councilmember Roy gave an update on infrastructure and road improvements including the completion of Sheriff Taylor Boulevard and progress on Old Route 9. He wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Deputy Mayor Sippel wished everyone a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Mayor Simonsen announced the 2018 dog license fees and thanked all municipal workers for their efforts in moving forward. He offered Christmas blessings to all and a reminder to be kind and generous, especially to those less fortunate than us.

Call to the Public

Closed Session

Res. #2017-345

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. **Contract negotiation update – Chief of Police**

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

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

Council returned to Open Session at 7:36 p.m.

Res. #2017-346

A Resolution Approving an Agreement between the Township of Lower and William Mastriana, Lower Township Chief of Police

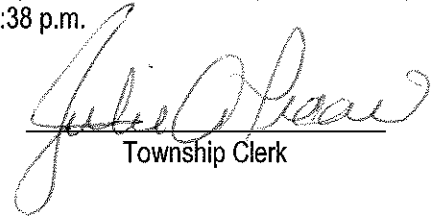
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
PERRY			X			
ROY			X			
SIPPEL	X		X			
SIMONSEN		X	X			

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Perry, seconded by Mayor Simonsen. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: 1-3-2018