

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – May 1, 2017

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on May 1, 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

Presentation of Certificates to South Shore Basketball League Champions –Coaches Bob Bonner & Bruce Fournier – Mayor Simonsen congratulated Coach Bonner and Coach Fournier of the South Shore Basketball League "A" Division and presented certificates of congratulations to the 3rd and 4th Grade Team players on their 2017 championship: Ty Bonner, William Garoh, Johnny Montgomery, Jaxon Turner, Dorian Allen, Jake Robson, Braswell Thomas, Mason Cronin, Brian McNeal, Brayden Melo, Zac Castellano, and Matt DiCave.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes April 3, 2017 & April 12, 2017
- Approval of Closed Session Minutes March 20, April 3 & April 12, 2017
- Res. #2017-133 Payment of Vouchers \$ 1,196,789.19
- Res. #2017-134 Authorization for Refund of Tax (5 properties \$3,767.99)
- Res. #2017-135 Approval for Roadside Solicitation by Villas Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. (various dates throughout the summer)
- Res. #2017-136 Click It or Ticket 2017 Seat Belt Mobilization (May 22 through June 4, 2017)
- Res. #2017-137 Approval of Victoria Manor's Alzheimer Walk Team's Request to Conduct a Flea Market (6/10/2017)
- Res. #2017-138 A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Lower and the City of Wildwood for Emergency Medical Services (year 1 \$1,000)
- Ordinance #2017-07 An Ordinance Amending the Uniform Construction Code; To Update The Fees Related to Chapter 235 - This is the 1st reading of this Ordinance. The 2nd reading and public hearing will be scheduled for May15, 2017.

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

Regular Agenda

Res. #2017-139 Authorization to Remove Special Conditions on Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0505-33-010-009 T/A "5 West Bar and Grill"

Motion to amend Resolution to KEEP the following condition: **THE PATIO AREA SHALL BE OPEN FROM THE HOURS OF 12:00 NOON UNTIL 10:00 PM** moved by Councilman Perry, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sippel. Motion to amend unanimous.

Roll call on the amended Resolution:

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

Ordinance #2017-06 An Ordinance Governing the Registration of Vacant Properties in the Township of Lower – This is the 2nd reading and public hearing for this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

Jonas Curtis, 222 Vermont Ave, addressed Council in favor of the ordinance for the health of the community.

Robert Rizzo, Mickel's Run, addressed Council in favor of the ordinance.

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

Administrative Reports

1st quarter Treasurer's report
 Monthly Report - Police

Council Comments

Councilman Conrad pointed out his discord with the group trying to prevent the Township from obtaining funds from Open Space for the Beach Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project. He spoke about the success of Little League's Opening Day and thanked volunteers including Walter Matkowski and Craig Goss for their years of service. He commented on feedback regarding the beach access paths, and gave an update on initiatives in Ward 1 including Fulling Mill Road repairs, the Coastal Resiliency Study, and the Township's temporary win with the FEMA flood maps. He thanked Council, Manager Ridgway, Bill Galestok and Township employees for their assistance with the FEMA fight and announced the final cleanup at the Bethel Union Cemetery.

Councilman Perry announced the news regarding speed limit reductions on Bayshore Road.

Manager Ridgway reiterated news regarding Bayshore Road speed limit reductions and FEMA. He announced the increase to Township Code Enforcement and gave information on the Diamond Beach Dune project, the prescription drug drop-off program and the CRS program.

Councilman Roy announced the bay cleanup scheduled for May 20 and encouraged volunteers to help.

Deputy Mayor Sippel – no comments

Mayor Simonsen communicated an initiative with Cape May City Council regarding abandoned vessels in the Cape May Harbour. He announced the Coast Guard Community Festival, Rededication of the Union Bethel Cemetery, and Local Eagle Scout Projects.

Call to Public

Mike Rosenburg, 100 Coral Road, addressed Council regarding inadequate street repairs and cracks from heavy equipment.

Mary Reader, W. Drumbed Road, addressed Council about exemplifying civility and respect.

Closed Session

Res. #2017-140

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 **Possible Litigation**

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

Council adjourned to Closed Session at 7:36 p.m.


Council returned to Open Session at 8:40 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Deputy Mayor Sippel, seconded by Councilmember Roy. Motion to adjourn unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: *May 15 2017*