

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – November 6, 2017

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on November 6, 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

### Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes            October 16, 2017  
Approval of Closed Session Minutes - October 16, 2017  
Res. #2017-283            Authorization for payment of vouchers \$ 679,371.28  
Res. #2017-284            Rescinding the Assignment of Tax Sale Certificates (1600 Star Ave & 323-325 Oak Lane)  
Res. #2017-285            Authorizing the Assignment of A Tax Sale Certificate (712 New England Rd \$26,906.74 to C. Lizzi)  
Res. #2017-286            Insertion of Special Item of Revenue Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159 (Bulletproof Vest Partnership \$2,565.22)  
Res. #2017-287            Resolution Acknowledging the Award to South Jersey Energy for Natural Gas Supply Service Under the South Jersey Power Cooperative for the Township of Lower (GS \$4.500/dth GSG-LV/NVG \$4.345/dth CTS \$3.744/dth)  
Res. #2017-288            Lower Cape Alliance (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)  
Res. #2017-289            Resolution Supporting the Annual Greater Cape May Elk's/Tom Beheler Youth Basketball Tournament  
Res. #2017-290            Certification of Lot Clearing Charges to the Tax Collector (9 properties \$8,175.00)  
Res. #2017-291            Approval of Change Order #2 for Additional Work- Pre Construction Soil Sampling Services and Design Services for Construction Dewatering for the Roseann Avenue/Bayshore Estates Drainage and Stormwater Management Improvements Project (\$13,950.00)  
Res. #2017-292            Transfer of 2017 Appropriations (\$16,000)  
Res. #2017-293            Bid Acceptance and Award of Eleven (11) Open Top Roll-Off Containers for Lower Township Public Works Department (C.S. Products Inc \$51,573.50)  
Res. #2017-294            Bid Acceptance and award of One (1) Stainless Steel Dump Body, Spreader & Snow Plow to be Installed on New Existing 2017 Ford F-450 DRW Chassis (Intercon Truck Equipment Inc. \$36,107)  
Res. #2017-295            Approval of Contribution to Lower Township Rotary (\$800.00 Tree Lighting/Veterans Ceremony/Christmas Parade)  
Res. #2017-296            Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time ( J.Scheck \$1,357.42)  
Res. #2017-297            Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (E.Edwards \$4,850.04)  
Res. #2017-298            Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed For Public Use on GOVDEALS Online Auction Website  
Res. #2017-299            Authorization for the Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (M.James \$1,709.35)  
Res. #2017-300            A Resolution Ratifying a Four (4) Year Contract Agreement Between the Township of Lower and the Lower Township Superior Officers

Councilmember Perry commented on Resolution #2017-291, informing that it will trigger the bid process for the Roseann Ave/Bayshore Estates Drainage and Stormwater Management Improvement Project.

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

**Regular Agenda**

Ordinance #2017-12

Authorization for the Sale of Land to A Contiguous Land Owner (15 Sprucewood Ave Block 362 Lot 7 to Meca Investments, LLC \$11,100.00) – 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	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X			
PERRY			X			
ROY			X			
SIPPEL		X	X			
SIMONSEN			X			

Ordinance #2017-13

An Ordinance for Special Emergency Appropriation As Per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53, Authorizing the Preparation of An Approved Tax Map - This is the second reading and public hearing for this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

Diane Kelly, 675 Crawford Road, addressed Council to ask why the contract was not put out to bid. Manager Ridgway assured Ms. Kelly that the Township did their due diligence before awarding the contract. Solicitor Stefankiewicz informed Ms. Kelly that Professional Service Contracts for Specialized Services are exempt from the public bidding process. Ms. Kelly voiced disapproval with the process.

Ray Wisnieski, 28 Texas Ave, inquired about the award of the contract.

Manager Ridgway informed Mr. Wisnieski that the contract was awarded to Van Note-Harvey Associates, and stated that the tax maps are over 50 years old.

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

**Manager's Report**

Manager Ridgway reported on several project throughout the Township including plans for a new liquor store and deli next to Cape Urgent Care, 2-way traffic at the exit of Bayshore Mall onto Sandman Blvd approved by the DOT, and progress at the entrance to the airport including 8 new potential businesses.

**Administrative Reports**

Monthly - Treasurer's Report/3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Treasurer's Report

**Council Comments**

Councilmember Conrad reminded about voting, urged residents to donate to the local food banks, and informed about the Veteran's Day Ceremony at the VFW in Villas.

Councilmember Perry stressed the importance of testing smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms, and reminded to check on neighbors during the cold winter months.

Councilmember Roy, no comments

Deputy Mayor Sippel, spoke about working with Cape Assist on programs to aid with the drug abuse problem. He also informed about Veterans programs and reminded about local Veteran's Day services.

Councilmember Conrad provided the Statute number for Ms. Kelly's earlier inquiry.

Mayor Simonsen informed about LCMR integrating an ROTC program. He also reported on several past events including the annual Pumpkin Festival, LCMR homecoming, bon fire, and ribbon cutting for the new Field House, Trunk or Treak, Haunted High School, and Lower Township's Employee Health Fair. He communicated meeting a with South Jersey Transportation Organization and the Bridge Commission about bridge development, and a meeting with NJ Transit to discuss adding a new route for public transportation to the airport. Lastly, he announced the fundraiser for NJ Run for the Fallen to be held on Feb. 3, 2018.

**Call to the Public**

Mike Rosenberg, Villas, pointed out a change in the location of the County's Veteran's Day Ceremony.

Ray Wisnieski, 28 Texas Ave, thanked Manager Ridgway and Eileen Kreis for their help and voiced concern about the drug situation in his neighborhood.

Manager Ridgway assured Mr. Wisnieski that his concerns are being addressed.

Councilmember Conrad reiterated Council's intent to be proactive.

Mayor Simonsen pointed out the education factor and assured that Council will continue to fight.

**Closed Session**

Resolution #2017- 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.

**Appointments**

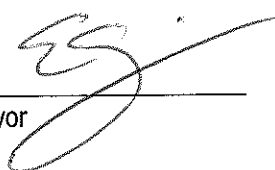
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
PERRY		X	X			
ROY	X		X			
SIPPEL			X			
SIMONSEN			X			

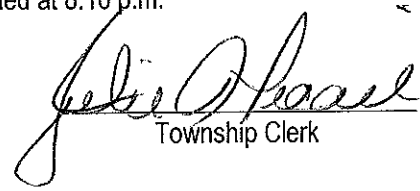
Council adjourned to closed session at 7:35 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 8:15 p.m.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Roy, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sippel. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

  
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Mayor

  
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Township Clerk

Approved: *Nov 20, 2017*