

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 2, 2017**

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on October 2, 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**

Mayor Simonsen read a proclamation from President Trump ordering the American Flag be flown at half-staff until October 6<sup>th</sup> in respect of the victims of the Las Vegas shootings.

Fire Prevention Week Proclamation – Mayor Erik Simonsen

Mayor Simonsen read a proclamation proclaiming October 8-14, 2017 as Fire Prevention Week in Lower Township, thanking all fire personnel for their services and urging residents to develop and practice a fire escape plan.

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Proclamation – Mayor Erik Simonsen

Mayor Simonsen read a proclamation declaring October 10, 2017 as "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" in Lower Township - in an effort to increase awareness about safe driving behaviors and keep the roadways fatality free for one day.

**Consent Agenda**

- Approval of Minutes September 18, 2017
- Res. #2017-262 Authorization for payment of vouchers \$ 166,494.57
- Res. #2017-263 Authorization for Payout of Accumulated Compensatory Time (J.Anzelone \$6,805.44)
- Res. #2017-264 Award of Professional Service Contract Without Public Bidding to Wizards Festival of Fun for Various Events (Ferry Merry Christmas \$5,500/Halloween Parade \$750/New Years Eve \$2,500)
- Res. #2017-265 Re-Appointments to the Historical Preservation Commission (L.Thomas, B.Tell, K.Hayes and J.Gillis)

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

**Regular Agenda**

Ordinance #2017-11 An Ordinance Amending Chapter Seven Entitled "Traffic" of the General Ordinances of the Township of Lower – This Ordinance establishes three (3) 4-way stop intersections within the Township. This is the second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been posted, published and made available to the public.

Councilman Perry explained the need for the additional stop signs.

Robert Rizzo, Mickel's Run, inquired about the location of the stop signs and suggested more police patrol.

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

Res. #2017-266

Authorization for Payment of Voucher \$5,000.00- Final Expense Payment, Rescue

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

**Manager's Report**

Manager Ridgway gave a report on several items including the FEMA Mitigation Grant, Employee and Family Health Fair, the Roseann Avenue Project, Hidden in Plain Sight, the Aquatic Center, Township Recreational Programs, Trunk or Treat, and DOT recommendations for Route 109 and Schellenger's Landing.

**Administrative Reports**

Monthly Report – Construction

**Council Comments**

Councilman Conrad gave a brief update on progress with flood insurance relief and shared news about the CRS program, thanking key players for their efforts. He encouraged donations to the food banks and Puerto Rico relief efforts.

Councilman Perry reminded residents to have heating systems serviced and batteries tested in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Councilman Roy informed of the County's first case of West Nile Virus and encouraged residents to be cognizant of standing water. He also commended the volunteer fire service members for their time and dedication.

Deputy Mayor Sippel shared an FBI report of 50 most violent towns in NJ, and happily added that Lower Township was not on the list, giving credit to the various organizations for their efforts with our youth.

Mayor Simonsen announced the Haunted High School event and gave special thanks to the Villas Volunteer Fire Co. for hosting Hidden in Plain Sight. He also announced the next Municipal Alliance meeting.

**Call to the Public**

Chris Marlowe, Sea Grove Ave, voiced concern about the absence of street numbers on houses and suggested an ordinance mandating them. Councilman Perry reminded that it must align with the NJ Uniform Fire Code. Councilman Conrad stated that an ordinance is already in place but is tough to enforce.

George Doherty, Seashore Rd, inquired about the haunted hayride. Mayor Simonsen informed that it has been replaced with Trunk or Treat at the Recreation Center.

Robert Rizzo, Mickel's Run, suggested painting numbers on curbs or sidewalks and asking for donations. Councilman Conrad agreed that it needs to be addressed.

**Closed Session**

Res. #2017-267


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 **Acquisition of Land/Negotiations/Attorney-Client Privileged/Personnel Issue**

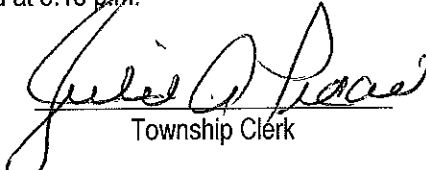
	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X			
PERRY			X			
ROY	X		X			
SIPPEL		X	X			
SIMONSEN			X			

Council adjourned to Closed Session at approximately 7:34 p.m.  
 Council returned to Regular Session at approximately 8:17 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 8:18 p.m.

  
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 Mayor

  
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 Township Clerk

Approved: *Oct 16 2017*