

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 17, 2014
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS.

ALL STOOD PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY MUNICIPAL CLERK DUGAN:

“IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, AND POSTED, THAT A WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF APRIL, 2014, WITH THE WORK SESSION TO BEGIN AT THE HOUR OF 7:30 P.M. AND THE REGULAR MEETING TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AT THE LAKEHURST COMMUNITY CENTER, 207 CENTER STREET, LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY, AT WHICH TIME, THE BUSINESS OF THE BOROUGH WILL BE CONDUCTED.”

ROLL CALL:

ROBIN BUSCH: PRESENT

GLENN MCCOMAS: PRESENT

JAMES DAVIS: PRESENT

STEVEN OGLESBY: PRESENT

GARY LOWE: PRESENT

EDWARD SEAMAN: PRESENT

MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

WORK SESSION:

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Mayor Robbins to present proclamation for National Library Week to Ocean County Library Manchester Branch library representative Rebecca Schoonmaker who stated that the library offers free e-books which have no fines. Ms. Schoonmaker described a new mobile app that permits readers to search the library's data bases.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Dugan reviewed the regular agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:35 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:35 p.m.

Council President Oglesby reported that the Barnegat Bay Blitz is scheduled for Friday, April 25, 2014 with participants scheduled to gather at 9:00 a.m. with safety vests and work gloves being provided. Mr. Oglesby added that Lake Horicon and Division Street will be the cleanup areas.

Council President Oglesby further reported that he and Mayor Robbins went to Congressman Smith's office regarding the government housing project.

Mr. Oglesby also reported that the Public Safety Committee met with Lakehurst Police Association representatives which will be discussed in executive session.

Councilwoman Busch stated that the Youth and Recreation Committee was considering beach volleyball during the summer months and asked if the net could be left up at night.

Mayor Robbins stated that the Public Works Department can set up the net each day and take it down.

Borough Attorney Sean Gertner reported that he and Councilmen Lowe and McComas met with Mike Meriney of Excel Environmental regarding restoration of funding for brown fields grant for remediation of the former landfill site. Mr. Gertner stated out of pocket costs would be \$500 for the application fee and \$5,000 for a Licensed Site Remediation Specialist. Mr. Gertner asked permission to invite Mr. Meriney to the May 1st Council meeting to discuss his services in executive session.

Mayor Robbins stated that brown fields grants allow municipalities to seek funding for remediation of contaminated sites such as the former landfill site located on Proving Ground Road.

Mr. Meriney will be invited to attend the May 1, 2014 Council Meeting

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Glenn McComas

To adjourn work session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Robin Busch

To approve minutes of April 3, 2014 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

CONSENT AGENDA:

approximately 36 vacant homes which will not be issued Certificates of Occupancy until the meters are installed by Public Works personnel.

Mrs. Busch also reported that the annual Easter Egg Hunt was well attended with beautiful weather for the event.

Mrs. Busch announced that the Youth and Recreation Committee has scheduled a Cinco de Mayo dance for Friday, May 2nd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Community Center for students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.

Mrs. Busch reported that the Orchard Street curb and sidewalk project has been started which is funded by a Community Development Block grant.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:47 p.m.

Sue Barker, 409 Cedar Street, asked about brown field grant for former landfill site.

Mr. Gertner replied that grant funding is available for to make the site viable and obtain a No Further Action letter concerning contamination remediation to remarket the property which is the largest vacant property in the Borough. Mr. Gertner added that the Borough will need to hire a consultant and pay a \$500 application fee and decide whether the costs associated with the project are worth getting the property on the tax rolls.

Mrs. Barker asked when the budget will be available.

Councilman McComas stated that the budget will be available in a "couple of weeks."

Bobbi Pratt, 703 Oak Street, stated that she picked up newspapers on Oak Street. Mrs. Pratt added that there are "a lot of foreclosures on Oak Street" and further added that "there is a lot of trash on the 800 block." Mrs. Pratt also stated that "code enforcement should be done by one person."

Mrs. Pratt asked which fire truck the fire company wants to replace.

Councilman Davis replied that there are a few plans which are being considered including refurbishing a truck and maintenance of a smaller fleet of vehicles.

Mr. Davis that the fire company is researching grants in an attempt to obtain funding.

Mrs. Pratt added that she wrote an essay to try to obtain funding for the July 4th fireworks display.

Patricia Hodges, 212 Cedar Street, asked why the discussion concerning the landfill grant representative will be discussed in executive session as opposed to the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Gertner replied that the matter will be discussed in executive session as it concerns contract negotiations.

Time closed: 7:55 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Clerk Dugan reads resolution to go into closed session:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, **and**

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lakehurst, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is as follows:

PERSONNEL MATTERS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by: Glenn McComas

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To approve resolution to go into closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Time into closed session: 7:56 p.m.

Time out of closed session: 9:15 p.m.

Motion by: Glenn McComas

Seconded by: James Davis

To end closed session. Roll call vote held.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Glenn McComas

Seconded by: James Davis

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 9:15 p.m.

Bernadette Dugan, RMC/CPM
Municipal Clerk