

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
MAY 2, 2019
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 PM BY MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS.

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY MUNICIPAL CLERK CAPASSO:

“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 SECOND DAY OF MAY 2019, 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:

COUNCILWOMAN BUSCH: PRESENT COUNCILMAN LOWE: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DAVIS: PRESENT COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

WORK SESSION:

PROCLAMATION REGARDING ANNUAL “BUDDY POPPY” SALES BY VFW POST 10061 AND VISIT BY POPPY PRINCESS:

Poppy Princess Carmela kicked-off the annual “Buddy Poppy” sales after which Mayor Robbins read a proclamation presented by VFW Post 10061

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:39 pm

Allen Hurley, 301 Cedar Street, questioned resolution approving financial advisory services.

Council President Oglesby reported the Personnel Committee will have a report during close session.

Councilman Davis reported he met with the borough administrator and public works department head and supervisor to finalize the plans for the first stage of the Veteran's Memorial Walkway adding it will be ready for Memorial Day. Mr. Davis further added on every occasion that there is a gathering at the memorial, names will be added to the walkway.

Mr. Davis also reported he was advised by Public Works Department Head Dave Winton that some of the pear trees have reached their life expectancy adding they will be taken out and replaced with something hardier.

Mayor Robbins asked where the pear trees were located.

Mr. Davis responded on Union avenue and some on Maple Street.

Mayor Robbins responded he will get a contact from the county for Mr. Davis to help with replacing the trees.

Councilman McCarthy reported the Board of Education had a budget adoption meeting on April 30th. Mr. McCarthy also reported the budget was adopted with a total budget of \$9,837,880.00 with a borough tax levy is \$1,304,652.00 adding the difference from last year's budget is an increase of \$1,326,859.00 and an increase of \$34,000 in the borough tax levy.

Mr. McCarthy also reported he has information on the remediation funding from a newspaper article adding the Board of Education had no comment on remediation funding at a prior meeting. Mr. McCarthy reported the article states that the state has agreed to loan the school approximately \$800,000 adding the Board of Education hopes to pay back in ten \$80,000 annual payments. Mr. McCarthy also added these payments are similar to a loan they are completing this year. Mr. McCarthy further added there is no mention if the loan covers the entire remediation cost or the equipment needed to prevent a recurrence in the future.

Mr. McCarthy further reported that there was another article in the newspaper regarding the school playground being locked on weekends due to vandalism and "unfavorable" activities and that it was reported to the school resource officer. Mr. McCarthy stated Police Chief Higgins had no knowledge of these issues prior to the last Board of Education meeting along with no formal complaints.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:52 pm

Jean Roseti, 800 Cedar Street, questioned the ordinance that increases to the budget cap from 2.5% to 3.5%.

Mayor Robbins responded all budget questions will be open for public comments at the next meeting held on May 16, 2019.

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, asked with the upcoming Memorial Day Ceremony could something be done with the PA system adding it is hard to hear the presentation.

Mayor Robbins responded the VFW brings their own PA system.

Councilwoman Hodges suggested the borough bring their own system adding it is new and is loud for all to hear.

Mayor Robbins responded he will let the VFW aware our system is available for use at the Memorial Day Ceremony as well as the Veterans Day Ceremony.

Mr. Margenson complimented the borough on the new bench swings at the lake adding if the borough could get swings for the children adding he had asked a few years ago but was told it was an insurance liability.

Mayor Robbins responded he will speak with JIF in regard to the swings.

Time closed: 8:00 pm

16. CLOSED SESSION:

Municipal Clerk Capasso 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:

