

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2020
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 THIRD DAY OF DECEMBER, 2020, 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:

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

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:32 pm

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:32 pm

Councilman DiMeo asked if there was any movement concerning 6 Union Avenue.

Borough Attorney Ian Goldman responded a letter was sent to the owner yesterday stating the danger that the building imposes on public safety and that it must be demolished immediately.

Council President Oglesby asked if the owners were given a time frame.

Mr. Goldman responded no time frame was given adding he had given them a time frame with the first letter of concern.

Mayor Robbins stated that the borough will give them till end of next week and then will take action to demolish the building adding a lien will be placed on the property for the cost of the demolition.

Mr. Oglesby suggested the borough purchase one or two drones. Mr. Oglesby stated drones are now inexpensive and that they would be a multi-use tool for all borough departments. Mr. Oglesby further stated public works can do water tower inspections, police could use it if they were searching for someone, and the code enforcement officer could use one instead of stepping foot on to someone's property.

Mayor Robbins responded the borough is in a no-fly zone and would have to obtain special permission adding it should not be problem for a municipality to obtain.

Councilman Lowe questioned the trees along Maple Street that are lifting the sidewalks and having public works cut the trees down.

Mayor Robbins responded it is the homeowner's responsibility.

Mr. Goldman responded sidewalks lifting causing a tripping hazard is more likely a borough issue adding the borough could be named in a lawsuit. Mr. Goldman stated if there is an issue with the sidewalks coming up, the borough needs to be notified and then address it.

Mr. Lowe responded the borough can have Public Works go over to the site and measure the sidewalk. Mr. Lowe stated if there is a tripping hazard, public works can remove the tree and "skim" the sidewalk down to eliminate any lifts.

Mr. McCarthy stated he will reach out to Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, advising him there is equipment that will grind down cement.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: James Davis

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Robert McCarthy

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

To approve minutes of November 5, 2020 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters to be considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

A. RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution #20-157 re: Payment of Bills
2. Resolution #20-158 re: Appointing Kori Brennan as Alternate Deputy Registrar
3. Resolution #20-159 re: Utility Account Adjustment for Block 27; Lot 4.03; account 274-0
4. Resolution #20-160 re: Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with the Ocean County Prosecutor's office for Drug Recognition Expert Callout Program
5. Resolution #20-161 re: Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with the Ocean County Prosecutor's office for Driving While Intoxicated Program
6. Resolution #20-162 re: Raffle Licenses for St. John's RC Church
7. Resolution #20-163 re: Approving Membership in Lakehurst Fire Department for Drew D. Robinson
8. Resolution #20-164 re: Resolution Urging Maximum Penalties for Attacks and Crimes Against Police Officers and Other First Responders
9. Resolution #20-165 re: Supporting the Efforts to Increase the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

RESIGNATIONS:

1. Acceptance of resignation of Police Records Clerk Sharon Van Berkel
2. Acceptance of resignation of Detective Robert Schroeck

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Robert McCarthy

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the exception of Council President Oglesby who abstained to Resolution #20-164 for he is a member of the First Aid Squad and would indirectly benefit from it and Councilman Lowe abstained to Resolution #20-162 for he is a parishioner of the church.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council President Oglesby reported the Personnel Committee report will be during executive session. Mr. Oglesby also reported the Ordinance Committee along with the borough attorney are putting “tweaks” on the parking at the lake ordinance adding they will present to councilmembers at the next meeting.

Councilman McCarthy reported for the Public Safety Committee the fire department has a new fire chief, Danny Dries adding he is a lifelong resident of the borough. Mr. McCarthy also reported the fire department made a purchase to update the department to be compliant with OSHA adding it is a tag system on the equipment to account for their whereabouts in a fire. Mr. McCarthy further reported Sharon Van Berkel, Police Records Clerk is retiring after being with the police department for over 30 years. Mr. McCarthy went on to report Detective Robert Schroeck resigned adding Chief Kline would like to move a Lakehurst Police Officer laterally into the detective position.

Mr. McCarthy reported the Board of Education had a Friday, 9:00am, special emergency meeting adding he was unable to attend. Mr. McCarthy also reported on the agenda there was no monthly bills statement but it did state September 30th balance of \$173,173.21. Mr. McCarthy further reported the agenda had multiple topics like personnel, monthly budget items, and announcements and added it was basically a regular meeting.

Mr. Oglesby asked if a special emergency meeting is called, are you restricted by law to publish the nature of the urgency.

Mr. McCarthy responded that in the open public meetings act adding the Board of Education agenda does not state the emergency.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Robbins reported Dr. Klohn gave kudos to the Public Works Department. Mayor Robbins stated Dr. Klohn had sanitary back up into his office the other night and was worried he would have to cancel all appointments the following day. Mayor Robbins further stated public works came out in the evening to repair the problem. Mayor Robbins quoted Dr. Klohn “I am blessed to be in the Borough of Lakehurst”.

Mayor Robbins reported there will be no Tree Lighting Ceremony this year due to the pandemic.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:49 pm

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, questioned the operating of the drones.

Mayor Robbins responded a pilot license is needed to operate a drone.

Mr. Margenson stated the trash issue at the trailer park is still on going.

Mayor Robbins responded he will reach out to the code enforcement officer.

Mr. Margenson gave kudos to the Public Works Department for the lights along Union Avenue adding they look festive.

Time closed: 7:51 pm

CLOSED SESSION:

Resolution to go into closed session read:

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

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

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: Gary Lowe

