BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST REGULAR MEETING JUNE 6, 2024 MINUTES

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

ALL STOOD FOR 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 MEETING 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 SIXTH DAY OF JUNE, 2024, 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 DIMEO: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN DUGAN: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:33 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:33 p.m.

WORK SESSION:

Councilman McCarthy reported that he has been meeting with the Personnel Committee and retooling a few items.

Councilman Oglesby stated that a few years ago we were working with Maria Sessa from JCP&L upgrading our street lighting to LED lighting adding we did about 10 streetlights and then Ms. Sessa retired. Mr. Oglesby asked if we reach out to JCP&L to see if this program is still up and running.

Mayor Robbins asked Municipal Clerk Capasso to send him the contact information for JCP&L and he would make the call.

Councilman Oglesby also stated that the sand is still blowing at the lake. Mr. Oglesby suggested staggering the barricades to have complete access to the lake. Mr. Oglesby also mentioned that it is mosquito season and he noticed that a lot of people are using pesticides, but pesticides kill the honeybees so please use it sparingly.

Mayor Robbins stated that we are hoping to attract pollinators with the addition to the circles.

Councilwoman Hodges stated that you do not want to attract them to kill them off.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan Seconded by: James Davis To adjourn work session. Roll call vote held.

X

Council Ayes Nays Abstain Absent

Council President Oglesby x

Councilman Davis x

Councilman DiMeo x

Councilwoman Dugan x

Councilwoman Hodges x

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman McCarthy

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan Seconded by: Steven Oglesby To approve minutes of the May 16, 2024 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby	X			

Councilman Davis	X		
Councilman DiMeo		X	
Councilwoman Dugan	X		
Councilwoman Hodges		X	
Councilman McCarthy	X		

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 #24-098 re:	Payment of Bills

2. Resolution #24-099 re: Appointing Municipal Clerk Capasso as Employee

Benefits Clerk

- 3. Resolution #24-100 re: Appointing Deputy Municipal Clerk Lowe as Employee Benefits Clerk
- 4. Resolution #24-101 re: Approving membership in Lakehurst Fire Department for Marvin E. Dolor
- 5. Resolution #24-102 re: Approving membership in Lakehurst Fire Department for Rory I. James
- 6. Resolution #24-103 re: Approving membership in Lakehurst Fire Department for Jerry L. Thomas
- 7. Resolution #24-104 re: Hiring Christopher Bier as Part-time Police Officer
- 8. Resolution #24-105 re: Hiring Anthony Farmer as a Permanent Public Works Laborer
- 9. Resolution #24-106 re: Approving Clerk 2 Provisional Appointment for Kori Brennan
- 10. Resolution #24-107 re: Approving Clerk 3 Provisional Appointment for Renee James
- 11. Resolution #24-108 re: Authorizing 2024 salaries for non-contractual employees
- 12. Resolution #24-109 re: Raffle Licenses for Lakehurst Historical Society
- 13. Resolution #24-110 re: Raffle Licenses for Lakehurst Volunteer Fire Company
- 14. Resolution #24-111 re: Mayor's Award for Academic Excellence
- 15. Resolution #24-112 re: Renewal of liquor license for Lakehurst VFW Post
- 16. Resolution #24-113 re: Renewal of liquor license for Best Liquors
- 17. Resolution #24-114 re: Authorizing An Update to A Shared Services Agreement for Municipal Court Facilities and Personnel Between Manchester Township and The Borough of Lakehurst

B. ORDINANCES APPROVED ON FIRST READING:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FIXING AND DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF SALARIES AND WAGES FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS IN THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY" (#2024-03)

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISTION OF UTILITY EQUIPMENT AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$92,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, FULLY FUNDED BY THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND" (#2024-04)

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan Seconded by: James Davis

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby			X #12 Member	
Councilman Davis			X #12 Member	
Councilman DiMeo	X			
Councilwoman Dugan			X #12 Member	
Councilwoman Hodges	X			
Councilman McCarthy	X			

ORDINANCES NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2024-02 entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK". Roll call vote.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby	X			
Councilman Davis	X			
Councilman DiMeo	X			
Councilwoman Dugan	X			
Councilwoman Hodges	X			
Councilman McCarthy	X			

Time opened: 7:39 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:39 p.m.

Motion by: Brian DiMeo Seconded by: Seven Oglesby To adopt Ordinance #2024-02. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

RESOLUTIONS NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Resolution #24-115 re: Authorizing the Budget to be Read by Title Only

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan Seconded by: Brain DiMeo To open public hearing on 2024 Municipal Budget. Roll call vote held.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby	X			
Councilman Davis	X			
Councilman DiMeo	X			
Councilwoman Dugan	X			
Councilwoman Hodges	X			
Councilman McCarthy	X			

Time opened: 7:40 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:40 p.m.

Motion by: Brian DiMeo Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan To close public hearing on 2024 Municipal Budget. Roll call vote held.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby	X			
Councilman Davis	X			
Councilman DiMeo	X			
Councilwoman Dugan	X			
Councilwoman Hodges	X			

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ADOPTION OF 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan To approve resolution #24-116 adopting 2024 Municipal Budget. Roll call vote held.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby	X			
Councilman Davis	X			
Councilman DiMeo	X			
Councilwoman Dugan	X			
Councilwoman Hodges	X			
Councilman McCarthy	X			

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman DiMeo reported Youth and Recreation had a meeting this past Monday with the LCC. Mr. DiMeo stated that there is some good information coming out about an event that is being held later in the year that deals with helping children and young adults with mental illness. Mr. DiMeo went on to say that this event is being sponsored by Robert Wood Johnson and will be held at Proving Ground Church. Mr. DiMeo also stated that the Youth and Recreation Committee supported the Police Department with the Bike Rodeo and that there was a fair number of kids in attendance and commended the Polce for doing a great job.

Councilwoman Dugan reported that the budget was adopted and that they did the best they could, and they are always looking for ways to generate more revenue.

Mayor Robbins commended the Finance Committee and the CFO on the budget.

Councilman Davis stated that they are moving ahead with the car show and hopefully they will have luck with the weather.

Councilman McCarthy reported that the Fire Company is picking up more members and that the Police Department gained a new office tonight. Mr. McCarthy also reported that we do not have a lifeguard so there is no swimming, and it will be strictly enforced. Mr. McCarthy went on to say that Lieutenant James set up Hazardous Mitigation Training of the 26th for OEM and he looks forward to taking the class.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:45 p.m.

Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road, did you ask for comments on the budget.

Mayor Robbins responded yes.

Mr. Margeson also asked if the lake is closed to swimming.

Councilman McCarthy responded yes, without a lifeguard there is no swimming

Mr. Margeson stated that the barriers at the lake should be raised to bench height and that would be more practical.

Mr. Margeson also gave information on the petition he circulated in reference to the farm animals in town. Mr. Margeson stated that by not letting them replace animals that they are essentially being put out of business and that he implores the Council to reconsider the ordinance.

Mayor Robbins questioned whether the petition was to have the matter placed on the ballot.

Mr. Margeson stated that no it was just for the Council to revisit the ordinance and if the outcome was not favorable then he would want it placed on the ballot.

Robin Busch, 407 Union Avenue questioned the removal of the Bradford Pears in town and wanted to know if they would be replaced.

Mayor Robbins stated not at this time and that people are steering away from them now.

Councilwoman Dugan stated that they are starting with the diseased ones first.

Council President Oglesby stated that Quonset Cherry Trees were brought up by Councilman Lowe but due to budget constraints we were not able to do them at this time.

Robin Busch also questioned the subject of the petition.

Mayor Robbins stated that we are not going to call it a petting zoo, the residence by the lake with farm animals has a traveling petting zoo. Mayor Robbins further stated that the petition is for the owners of the traveling petting zoo to be able to replace the animals when they expire.

Robin Busch also requested permission to plant a corkscrew willow tree in the back of the lake in remembrance of Becky Malden.

Mr. Oglesby stated that he was all for it.

Mayor Robbins stated that he did not have a problem with that.

Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road stated that it is a mobile petting zoo and that there are no vicious animals.

Mayor Robbins questioned was there anything said about the animals being vicious, adding that we all know what animals are there.

Crystal Parker, 206 Pine Street, wanted to give more information about the Mental Health Workshop that Councilman DiMeo spoke about earlier. Mrs. Parker stated that the workshop is for any adults working with young people on Tuesday, July 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Proving Ground Church. Ms. Parker also stated that this is a free course and lunch will be provided but you must registrar.

Mayor Robbins asked if there was a flyer and possibly putting them up in the windows of local businesses.

Time closed: 7:58 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Brian DiMeo Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held.

Council	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Council President Oglesby	X			
Councilman Davis	X			
Councilman DiMeo	X			
Councilwoman Dugan	X			
Councilwoman Hodges	X			
Councilman McCarthy	X			

Time: 7:58 p.m.

Amy Lowe. RMC

Deputy Municipal Clerk