

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 17, 2019  
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 PM BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT STEVEN OGLESBY.

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 SEVENTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER 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: ABSENT  
COUNCILMAN DAVIS: PRESENT      COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: ABSENT  
COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT      COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT  
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: ABSENT

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Maryanne Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:33 pm

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, questioned shared services agreement with Manchester Township Court Services.

Council President Oglesby responded Lakehurst Borough Court Administrator resigned and the Borough ran a significant deficit last year adding the most practical solution was sharing Manchester Township's court. Mr. Oglesby further responded, right now it is temporary adding we will review again next year.

Mr. Margenson asked how was there a deficit when quite a few officers out patrolling.

Mr. Oglesby stated two years ago the State of New Jersey changed the structure on how people pay their fines. Mr. Oglesby further stated if a person is fined \$250, they can pay \$5 a month adding the State of New Jersey basically took all punishments away. Mr. Oglesby further added the new bail reform is not only “hitting” the borough hard but all municipalities.

Mr. Margenson voiced his concerns about other services the borough provides eventually going to Manchester Township as well. Mr. Margenson added the borough’s police officers are the lowest paid officers in the county further adding what is stopping them from going to Manchester.

Mr. Oglesby responded the Borough of Lakehurst is Civil Service, Manchester Township is not, adding, Lakehurst could take over Manchester, Manchester cannot take over Lakehurst. Mr. Oglesby further added the Borough of Lakehurst has no desire to lose the police department or any other service that Lakehurst provides. Mr. Oglesby stated moving Lakehurst Court Services to Manchester Township was “forced” upon us due to the new bail reform and the borough’s court administrator resigning.

Borough Attorney Ian Goldman stated shared service contracts are typically three to five years, the shared service contract for court services between the Borough of Lakehurst and Manchester Township is only fourteen months adding it was the Borough’s objective to make this a short-term contract so it can be “revisited” after a year.

Councilwoman Hodges stated Lakehurst Court Services is only utilizing Manchester Township’s court room adding Lakehurst has its own judge, prosecutor, public defender and three police officers for security.

Mr. Oglesby stated the Borough was notified several years ago by the state that the borough’s court room was inadequate adding there is supposed to be a bullet proof barrier for the judge, a separate entrance for the judge, a secured cashier’s room and record’s room, and private rooms for both the prosecutor and public defender. Mr. Oglesby further stated the borough got estimated cost to renovate the community center adding the lowest bid came in at a couple hundred thousand dollars adding shared services with Manchester was the better option.

Time closed: 7:44 pm

#### ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges

Seconded by: Robin Busch

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

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To approve minutes of October 3, 2019 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the exception of Councilwoman Busch and Councilman Davis who abstained to their absence at the October 3, 2019 regular meeting.

## 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. #19-157: Resolution re: Payment of Bills
2. #19-158: Resolution re: Appointing Tracy Barcus to Provide Court Administrator Services
3. #19-159: Resolution re: Authorizing shared services agreement with Manchester Township to provide Municipal Court services
4. #19-160: Resolution re: Raffle license for VFW Post10061

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Robin Busch

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

## COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Davis reported both veteran's organization, VFW and the Fleet Reserve, have about hundred names to be added to the Memorial Walk this Veteran's Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Council President Oglesby stated on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am is the Borough's Annual Halloween Parade, October 31<sup>st</sup> is Halloween, the Rabies Clinic will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 am to 12 pm, and Election Day is November 5<sup>th</sup> reminding everyone to get out and vote.

## COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:47 pm

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, asked if the borough was still looking for judges for the Halloween Parade.

Council President Oglesby responded yes.

Mr. Margenson stated he read an article in the Asbury Park Press about Lakehurst Police Officers are poorly paid. Mr. Margenson added the article stated Lakehurst Police start at \$24,000 and the top police officer is making \$44,000 after working for the borough for several years.

Mr. Oglesby responded the Asbury Park Press is using old data adding the starting pay for a borough police officer is about \$30,000. Mr. Oglesby stated when a police officer finishes the academy, they are given a several thousand dollar increase and after field training they move up to about \$40,000. Mr. Oglesby also stated the borough police sergeants are earning close to \$70,000 a year.

Mr. Oglesby stated over the last three contract negotiations with the police department, the borough has gradually increased the salary for the borough police officers so tax payers could afford it and the police officers understood it.

Time closed: 7:54 pm

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:

### **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS PERSONNEL MATTERS**

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

