

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 2, 2021
MINUTES**

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

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE. MAYOR ROBBINS ASKED ALL TO KEEP JANET HELLER AND KEVIN OLIVER, BOTH LIFELONG RESIDENTS OF THE BOROUGH, IN THEIR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

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 SEPTEMBER 2021, 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 HODGES: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN LOWE: ABSENT
COUNCILMAN DAVIS: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: ABSENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT	

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso review the regular meeting agenda.

LAKEHURST POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION:

Lieutenant Iain James, on behalf of the Lakehurst Police Department, presented two Certificates of Appreciation to Borough Attorney Ian Goldman for his support and sponsorship to the Lakehurst Police Association Golf Outing and to National Night Out.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:33 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:33 p.m.

Council President Oglesby commented how well the ordinance for Lake Horicon is working adding there have been no complaints of overflow parking. Mr. Oglesby reported that he and Public Works Department Head, Dave Winton, met with a tree company in regard to planting of trees in the downtown area and it was recommended that Kwanzan Cherry Trees are the best fit. Mr. Oglesby stated the tree grows in a vase shape and added if the tree is bought at what is called a “7-foot standard”, the first branch is 7 foot high, you can walk underneath it. Mr. Oglesby went on to say an example of the Kwanzan Cherry can be seen in Mayor Tilton Park. Mr. Oglesby further reported a 3-foot square of sidewalk will be removed to plant the tree and instead of a metal grate, it was recommended that the area be filled in with mulch and stone on top, this will prevent water leaking out. Mr. Oglesby stated it was also recommended that a watering tube be put in place for easier watering adding the tube will go directly to the roots. Mr. Oglesby went on to report the cost of a tree runs between \$750 to \$950, depending on the trunk of the tree and added the borough will apply for a grant to cover some, if not all, the cost.

Mayor Robbin responded Dr. Brian Klohn offered to help replace the trees.

Mr. Oglesby stated the borough could also receive quotes for better pricing but added that this company specializes in tree planting for municipalities and has planted over 20,000 trees across the state. Mr. Oglesby also stated the trees are to be planted in April, this gives the borough time to have a plan in place.

Councilman DiMeo asked if the Kwanzan Cherry is a fruit-bearing tree that will leave a mess on the sidewalks.

Mr. Oglesby answered the beauty of this tree is that it is fruitless and the leaves disintegrate when they hit the ground.

Mayor Robbins reported that Councilman Lowe was unable to attend tonight’s meeting but thanked Municipal Clerk Capasso for the handling of the Hold Harmless Agreement with the Board of Education for the use of the Fuccile Park.

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: Brian DiMeo

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To approve minutes of August 19, 2021 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 #21-115 re: Payment of Bills
2. Resolution #21-116 re: Adopting Form Required to be Used for the Filing of Notices of Tort Claims
3. Resolution #21-117 re: Approval of Police Department Workout Center Waiver Form

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Request to donate a park bench at Lake Horicon in memory of a loved one.

Councilwoman Hodges acknowledged the generosity of the donated bench and suggested that the bench coincide with the benches that are already in place at the lake.

Municipal Clerk Capasso stated she had spoken with Public Works Department Head, Dave Winton, about generating a quote for the bench.

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

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

ORDINANCES NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2021-07 entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, FULLY FUNDED BY THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND" (#2021-07) Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Councilman DiMeo stated a few meetings back a resident reported there was no crosswalk markings at the intersection of Lilac Street and Poplar Street and ask if that was resolved.

Mayor Robbins responded that crosswalk will be addressed with the Lake Street Project late September.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:47 p.m.

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, asked if there was any movement from Wawa.

Mayor Robbins responded Wawa was still waiting on the Department of Transportation.

Mr. Margenson questioned if there was any consideration of a shelter for residents in case of a tornado or hurricane.

Council President Oglesby answered the Office of Emergency Management, OEM, has had discussion in the past and added the problem is the Red Cross has specific regulations for a shelter. Mr. Oglesby stated being the borough is a small municipality there is problem with staffing a shelter, suppling food, sleeping arrangements as well of other responsibilities. Mr. Oglesby also stated in the OEM Response Plan to disasters, the Community Center would serve as a transport hub were people would be brought to the Community Center waiting to be transported somewhere else. Mr. Oglesby went on to say the borough had an arrangement with Manchester High School but since Manchester has changed their emergency set-ups with paid First Aid Squads, and possible paid Fire Department, he is not sure if that is a reliable option or is an option. Mr. Oglesby further stated unfortunately the borough does not have the money, the resources, or the personnel to be able to house a shelter.

Mr. Margenson stated people would not care if there was food for them or a bed to sleep, they just would like a place to be safe adding something has to be done.

Mr. Oglesby replied that the Community Center is not a secure building.

Mr. Margenson asked if Lakehurst Elementary School could serve as shelter.

Mayor Robbins stated the governing body does not have the authority to make the school a shelter and added he needed to bring his concerns to a Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Margenson asked if the council could present to the Board of Education the urgency of having a shelter.

Mayor Robbins responded there is still an issue of staffing and the liability of the people.

Discussion continued regarding shelter during a disaster.

Mr. Oglesby stated he will be attending the OEM meeting next month and will bring the concerns of a shelter there.

Mr. Margenson thanked the governing body.

Alan Hurley, 219 Cedar Street, questioned Ordinance #2021-07.

Municipal Clerk Capasso responded the bond ordinance is to fund police radios for \$32,000, computers for the police department for \$6,000, public works equipment for \$25,000, street signs for \$10,000, bulkhead improvements for \$20,000, and a rowboat for \$7,000.

Mr. Hurley questioned bulkhead improvements.

Mr. Oglesby responded that is to help solve the erosion at the lake.

Time closed: 8:03 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:04

Maryanne Capasso, RMC
Municipal Clerk