

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 18, 2023
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. 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 EIGHTEENTH DAY OF MAY, 2023, 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	COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: ABSENT	COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN DUGAN: PRESENT	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 p.m.

Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road, questioned Resolution #23-098 asking if there is an increase and if so, how much.

Municipal Clerk Capasso answered that she does not have last year's municipal service fee for mobile home parks with her tonight and that when she is in the office tomorrow, she will reach out to Mr. Margeson with the figures.

Time Closed: 7:33 p.m.

ORDINANCES NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: James Davis

To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2023-13 entitled: "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". Roll call vote held. All vote affirmative.

Time opened: 7:36 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:36 p.m.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To adopt Ordinance #2023-13. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman McCarthy reported that the Tanker Task Drill went very well adding there were no complaints from the residents or business owners. Mr. McCarthy stated that there were many fire companies that came from a distance to participate, adding the drill was very productive.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Robbins reported that he spoke with Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, in regard to the loss of beach sand at Lake Horicon and added that Mr. Winton is receiving estimates for a retaining wall along the beach. Mayor Robbins stated that the retaining wall will not only keep the sand from blowing into the street and parking lot but will also act as a bench.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:38 p.m.

David Burton, 501 Lilac Street, questioned the Road Opening Permit going from \$75 to \$350 adding that is an increase of 367%. Mr. Burton asked what the justification was for raising the fee such a large amount in a year.

Mayor Robbins replied that the Road Opening fee has not been raised for over 20 years.

Mr. Burton stated that other municipalities that are relative to the borough in size range from \$35 to \$100.

Councilwoman Hodges stated that when the Ordinance Committee reviewed the ordinances, they looked at fees that have not been raised in quite some time and then looked at neighboring towns and the fees that they are collecting.

Mayor Robbins stated that Manchester Township is collecting \$350 for a Road Opening Permit.

Municipal Clerk Capasso stated that the Borough Ordinance for Road Opening Permit states a fee of \$100 is to be paid upon making an application for permit and a fee of \$250 for inspections.

Mr. Burton stated that the borough does not conduct an inspection of the gas line being installed nor are they qualified to inspect.

Mayor Robbins responded that the Ordinance Committee will revisit the Road Opening Permit Ordinance and reason why the increase.

Time closed: 7:46 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Resolution to go into closed session read by Municipal Clerk Capasso:

RESOLUTION #23-100

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:

PUBLIC SAFETY

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

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan
To approve resolution to go into closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: James Davis

Short break.

Time into closed session: 7:51 p.m.

Time out of closed session: 8:04 p.m.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan
To end closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges
To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:04 p.m.

Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

Maryanne Capasso, RMC
Municipal Clerk