

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2024
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT 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 THIRD DAY OF OCTOBER, 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	COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: ABSENT
COUNCILWOMAN DUGAN: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: ABSENT	

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

WORK SESSION:

Council President Oglesby reported that there is a lot of work being done on the bulkhead at the lake. Mr. Oglesby also noted that the flowers look good as well.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:31 p.m.

No Public Comment

Time closed: 7:31 p.m.

Councilwoman Dugan	X			
Councilwoman Hodges	X			
Councilman McCarthy				X

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Dugan reported that the Finance Committee met; it was a preliminary meeting for the upcoming budget.

Councilman Davis wanted to recognize Sandra Pakula for donating a new flag for the memorial at the lake in memory of her grandfather William C. Greenwood Sr and her father William C. Greenwood Jr.

Council President Oglesby reported that the Cannabis Committee met and when we have more formal action, they will present it to the table. Mr. Oglesby also reported for the Mayor that there is a little over a month till the election, so get out and vote.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:35 p.m.

Bruce Margeson stated that a little over a month ago he brought before the board the mess at Frankie’s Autobody that closed up. Mr. Margeson reported that nothing has been done over there and the town is looking grubbier and grubbier. Mr. Margeson went on to question if there was anything the town could do to bring in business as we have a lot of vacant store fronts.

Council President Oglesby explained that there is a process for code enforcement, and it takes awhile to get things rectified.

Mr. Margeson went on to question the vacant stores and what the town could do to draw people in.

Council President Oglesby responded that there are a lot of vacant stores in Monmouth and Ocean County, and this is not a problem that is unique to Lakehurst.

Councilman Davis went on to say that there is nothing this table can do to draw people into town; we can help them once they get here.

Mr. Margeson then nominated Ian James for citizen of the year for all his work with the Police Department, Fire Department and the First Aid.

Dan Castle, Ortley Beach, stated his interest in turning the vacant 7-11 building into a cannabis manufacturing facility but right now it is zoned residential. Mr. Castle went on

to give details about the facility, number of employees and how he would be an asset to town.

Council President Oglesby stated that only retail is approved for that corridor.

Councilman DiMeo stated that the only spot approved for manufacturing is the light industrial.

Borough Attorney Casandra DeStefano noted that the ordinance needs to be looked at as well as zoning would need to be amended.

Councilman DiMeo went on to say his first step would be to come before the cannabis committee.

Council President Oglesby noted that he would be hesitant to spot zone for one business.

Bruce Margeson asked if the third cannabis store was going to open where the car lot is.

Council President Oglesby stated that no formal decision has been made.

Sue Clark, Lakehurst Fire Department wanted to remind everyone that the Fire Department Open House is Tuesday for 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm which will include Lakehurst Police, Lakehurst First Aid and the Forest Fire Service. Mrs. Clark noted that there will be free hotdogs, cotton candy and slide for the kids. Mrs. Clark stated that she knows Ian James and he is an excellent suggestion.

Time closed: 8:01 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan
To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held.

Seconded by: James Davis

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: 7:47 p.m.

Amy Lowe, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk