

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2022
MINUTES**

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

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE. MAYOR ROBBINS ASKED ALL TO KEEP COUNCILMAN LOWE 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 TWENTIETH DAY OF JANUARY, 2022, 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 LOWE: ABSENT
COUNCILMAN DIMEO: PRESENT COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: 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: 7:33 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:33 p.m.

ORDINANCES APPROVED ON FIRST READING:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST AMENDING CHAPTER XVII, TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF CLEAN COMMUNITIES COORDINATOR OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ENTITLED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT (#2022-01)

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the exception of Council President Oglesby who abstained from Resolution #22-052 for he is a member of the First Aid Squad.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hodges reported the Ordinance Committee has met and is now working on the Land Use Ordinances. Mrs. Hodges stated the committee feels the Land Use Ordinances will not be as quiet as onerous as the General Ordinances and added the committee hopes to have the review “wrapped up” in a reasonable amount of time.

Mrs. Hodges also reported the Finance Committee will be meeting shortly to start working on the budget.

Councilman DiMeo reported the Youth and Recreation Committee has suspended all meetings and activities this January and February due to the uptick in Covid cases and hopefully will be back in March to schedule some fun activities.

Council President Oglesby reported the state has issued new regulations in regard to bonfires and added the Ordinance Committee will be sure to incorporate it into the borough’s ordinances.

Mr. Oglesby also reported the Personnel Committee will have a report during executive session.

Councilman Davis reported the bathrooms at Lake Horicon have been vandalized once again.

Mayor Robbins stated thanks to the surveillance cameras the police department is aware of the people who are responsible for the damage and are in the process of making an arrest.

Councilman McCarthy reported the students at Lakehurst Elementary School are back to in-person learning as of this Tuesday. Mr. McCarthy also reported at the Board of Education meeting, joint transportation agreements were signed with the Neptune School

District as well as the Manchester School District. Mr. McCarthy stated the board has started to prepare their budget for the 2022-2023 school year and added their bills list for December 2021 was \$465,600 and for January 2022 was \$371,800 showing a balance of one million dollars.

Mr. McCarthy reported he had a meeting with the Fire Department adding they provided a report of last years affairs. Mr. McCarthy further reported the Fire Department responded to 70 calls, 38% were related to incidents on Route 70, 20% were mutual aid responses, and less than 10% were actual fires in the borough. Mr. McCarthy went on to report other items from last year's report, stating they upgraded to 700 MHz, made some repairs, some new extrication equipment, servicing of the air compressors, apparatus maintenance, and SCBA testing. Mr. McCarthy reported the Fire Department's goals and priorities for 2022 are the Route 70 corridor, upgrading the compressing units in the extrication equipment, Lake Horicon operations, and recruitment. Mr. McCarthy stated recruitment is not only an issue with the borough but with the county as well adding it is taking up to six alarms in six different departments to attain sixteen to twenty-four responders necessary to work an actual structural fire. Mr. McCarthy also stated the First Aid Squad across the county are having difficulties as well adding he will be meeting with the borough's First Aid Squad next Wednesday to discuss their affairs.

Mayor Robbins asked how many members the Fire Department has.

Mr. McCarthy responded he will have that answer for him at the next council meeting.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:44 p.m.

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, asked about the county repaving the county roads in the borough.

Mayor Robbins stated he has sent an email to the county regarding county roads being repaved this spring and added he will keep on top of them.

Mr. Margenson asked about the 100th Anniversary celebrations.

Mayor Robbins answered the 100th Anniversary Committee has had two meetings adding the committee has nothing "solid" at this time. Mayor Robbins did state depending on funds received, the event maybe a two-day event. Mayor Robbins also stated the next meeting is February 16th here at the Community Center at 6:00 p.m. and added all ideas are welcomed.

Bob Voseller, Manchester Times, sends his best to Councilman Lowe.

Time closed: 7:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Clerk Capasso read 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:

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

To approve resolution to go into closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Short break.

Time into closed session: 7:58 p.m.

Time out of closed session: 8:29 p.m.

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

To end closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Brian DiMeo

Seconded by: James Davis

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:29 p.m.

Maryanne Capasso, RMC
Municipal Clerk