BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2022
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 THIRD DAY OF FEBRUARY, 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 McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT  COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: 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.

Councilman DiMeo complimented Public Works for a job well done on clearing the roads after the blizzard this past weekend.

Council President Oglesby echoed Mr. DiMeo and added that he has been to other municipalities and very few have clear roads like ours.
Councilman McCarthy also complimented the Public Works Department on the snow removal. Mr. McCarthy went on to compliment all the Borough’s Emergency Services, especially the police department, for the fine send off that they gave to Councilman Lowe adding they did an excellent job.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby Seconded by: Brian DiMeo
To adjourn work session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges Seconded by: Brian DiMeo
To approve minutes of January 20, 2022 Work Session/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 #22-054 re: Payment of Bills
2. Resolution #22-055 re: Transfer (Utility Fund)
3. Resolution #22-056 re: Approving professional services contract appointing Phoenix Advisors, LLC to provide financial advisory services

Motion by: Brian DiMeo Seconded by: Steven Oglesby
To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

ORDINANCES NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges Seconded by: Steven Oglesby
Motion by: James Davis  
Seconded by: Brian DiMeo  
To adopt Ordinance #2022-01. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hodges reported the Ordinance Committee will resume meeting next Wednesday.

Mrs. Hodges also reported the borough received an order from the county for a reassessment of all borough properties. Mrs. Hodges stated the Finance Committee is exploring different options on how to go about the reassessment and added the committee will have a report for next meeting.

Councilman DiMeo reported the Youth and Recreation Committee have canceled meetings for the months of January and February and added the meetings will pick up in March when the weather breaks. Mr. Dimeo stated the committee will start planning activities now that Covid cases are decreasing.

Councilman Davis reported the overtime for Public Works, in regard to the snow, was $4,801.46 and added $900 was spent on salt giving a grand total of $5,701.46. Mr. Davis stated the snowstorm was well managed adding kudos to Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, and the employees of Public Works.

Councilman McCarthy reported he has two minor items for executive session.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, asked why Lakehurst Elementary School was closed this past Monday when all the roads were cleared.

Mayor Robbins responded that the council has nothing to do with the school adding that is an issue that needs to be brought to the Board of Education meeting.
Councilman McCarthy stated the schools typically close due to hazardous conditions based on the timing of the bus routes. Mr. McCarthy also stated the school with the earliest opening has to be taken into account adding high school transportation starts at 5:30 a.m. Mr. McCarthy further stated that Lakehurst High School students are bused by Manchester therefore if Manchester Schools close, Lakehurst School closes.

Time closed: 7:40 p.m.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Robbins reported that the governing body will go into closed session at this time and added that there will be action taken once the governing body comes out of closed session.

CLOSED SESSION:

Municipal 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
LITIGATIONS

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.
Time into closed session: 7:42 p.m.

Time out of closed session: 8:08 p.m.

Motion by: Steven Oglesby  Seconded by: Brian DiMeo
To end closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT COUNCILMAN LOWE

Motion by: Patricia Hodges  Seconded by: Steven Oglesby
To approve Resolution #22-057 approving the replacement of Councilman Lowe. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: James Davis  Seconded by: Brian DiMeo
To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:09 p.m.

Maryanne Capasso, RMC
Municipal Clerk