

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2022**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY MAYOR 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 AUGUST, 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 COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN DUGAN: PRESENT COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

The Regular Meeting Agenda was reviewed by Municipal Clerk Capasso.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:32 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:32 p.m.

Council President Oglesby commended Councilman Davis for a well-planned car show and added the Historical Society made more money than they had in the past. Mr. Oglesby went on to say despite the heat and the crazy weather, the car show was a great success.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

To adjourn work session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: James Davis

To approve minutes of July 21, 2022 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the exception of Councilman DiMeo who abstained due to his absence at the July 21, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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 #22-133 re: Payment of Bills
2. Resolution #22-134 re: Approving renewal contract for Web Site Maintenance
3. Resolution #22-135 re: Approving the American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant and the Expenditure of Funds Pursuant to Terms of the Grant
4. Resolution #22-136 re: Renewal of Joint Insurance Fund Membership
5. Resolution #22-137 re: Requesting approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to Establish a Dedicated Trust Rider for Police Department Donations
6. Resolution #22-138 re: Authorizing Refund of 2022 Tax Overpayment
7. Resolution #22-139 re: Authorizing the Cancellation of 2022 Taxes
8. Resolution #22-140 re: Authorizing Refund of Community Center Rental Fees
9. Resolution #22-141 re: Appointing OEM Coordinator Iain James
10. Resolution #22-142 re: Approving Membership in Lakehurst Volunteer Fire Department for Alexis L. Clark

RESIGNATIONS:

1. Acceptance of letter of resignation from OEM Coordinator William Sloan

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

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

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman DiMeo reported the Youth and Recreation Committee held a Nerf War event last week adding the children had a great time. Mr. DiMeo also reported that Mr. Softee Ice Cream Truck handed out ice cream thanks to a generous donation. Mr. DiMeo went on to say that parents were excited to see an event for the children and had asked about other events.

Mayor Robbins stated maybe more parents will join the Youth and Recreation Committee.

Mr. DiMeo responded that parents from Manchester Township commended Lakehurst for having activities for the children.

Council President Oglesby reported the Cannabis Committee will be meeting next week to start the review process.

Councilwoman Dugan reported police vehicle, 2014 Chevy Tahoe, is in need of a fender assembly and bumper for the cost of \$1100. Ms. Dugan also reported Public Works is still seeking workers adding they will advertise once again.

Ms. Dugan went on to report that National Night Out was a big success and thanked Public Works for setting up. Ms. Dugan stated despite the heat, a great time was had by all.

Councilman McCarthy reported the Fire Department performed their annual testing of hoses, ladders, and pumps adding all was in good shape. Mr. McCarthy also reported the Police Department purchased all new duty weapons and rifles for the police vehicles with forfeiture money adding they received more money than they anticipated.

Mayor Robbins asked what type weapons were purchased.

Mr. McCarthy responded Police Chief Kline purchased 9mm adding the weapons that were used before was .40 calibers.

Mayor Robbins stated that the 9mm ammo is less expensive than the .40 calibers.

Mr. McCarthy went on to report that a new roof was installed on the front addition of the Lakehurst Elementary School and added the Board of Education will be addressing the flat roof. Mr. McCarthy also reported that the Superintendent stated there will be a full-time preschool this year and added there is a waiting list. Mr. McCarthy further reported the Board of Education approved the contract for the Shared Services for School Resource Officer.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:38 p.m.

Andrew Decker, 310 Church Street, stated he started a Sniffspot in his backyard adding Sniffspot allows him to rent out his backyard to dog owners for a charge of ten dollars. Mr. Decker explained Sniffspot is a place for a dog owner to walk their dog safely adding only one dog is allowed at a time. Mr. Decker also explained it is not a home occupation, he is renting space on his property and added it is not a dog kennel. Mr. Decker stated if there is a noise ordinance, he will be sure that the dog owners follow those rules. Mr. Decker also stated if a homeowner is allowed to rent their home, he should be allowed to rent his backyard adding there is no borough ordinance for short-term rentals.

Mayor Robbins asked Mr. Decker if he went to Borough Hall to inquire if Sniffspot was a permissible use.

Mr. Decker answered he did not.

Mayor Robbins stated that Sniffspot's website states that there may be local requirements and to check with your local jurisdiction. Mayor Robbins also stated that landlords in the borough do have to pay an annual landlord registration fee.

Councilwoman Hodges responded that Sniffspot is a business adding Mr. Decker is making money.

Mr. Decker stated landlords are making money.

Councilman McCarthy responded landlords are renting real estate and Sniffspot is a business venture adding there is no comparison.

Mr. Decker asked what the difference is between listing my home as an Airbnb or listing my yard as a Sniffspot.

Council President Oglesby asked Mr. Decker if he is living in the home at this time.

Mr. Decker answered not at the moment.

Borough Attorney Ian Goldman responded there is a sense of a business use being used in a residential zone adding he needs to familiarize himself with the borough ordinances. Mr. Goldman apologized to the Mayor and Council for not being prepared and will research the ordinances this week. Mr. Goldman asked Mr. Decker if he registered as an LLC or a corporation.

Mr. Decker answered he is not.

Mr. Goldman asked if he is registered on Sniffspot.com.

Mr. Decker responded he is a host on the website adding he removed himself from the website once a police officer came to his home. Mr. Decker stated that he was never given notice that Sniffspot was not permitted; otherwise, he would have stopped the service.

Mayor Robbins stated when Mr. Goldman returns with his findings, the borough will contact Mr. Decker.

Mr. Decker stated he has a court date and asked if he should postpone his court date.

Mr. Goldman responded the borough cannot give legal advice.

Mr. Decker asked if it is borough's policy to give out violations without written warning.

Mr. Goldman answered if there is a violation, the Code Enforcement Officer has the right to site the violation.

Karen McPartlin, 17 Lake Shore Drive, informed the mayor and council that Andrew Decker is her nephew. Ms. McPartlin stated that the Borough of Lakehurst promotes friendliness and kindness. Ms. McPartlin also stated that Mr. Decker was never notified adding she spoke with the Code Enforcement Officer in regard to no notification, yet the officer stated a notification did go out. Ms. McPartlin went on to say that if someone had a problem with the Sniffspot, they should have approached Mr. Decker and advised him on what needed to be done. Ms. McPartlin further stated that she hopes the borough is less negative towards new residents and shows encouragement.

Dave Burton, Vice President of the Lakehurst Board of Education, asked if the bases were order for the baseball fields at Fuccile Park.

Councilman McCarthy answered that he will reach out to Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, in regard to the bases.

Mr. Burton reported that the resident that is located behind the Board of Education's vacant lot sent a letter to the board stating that it is overgrown. Mr. Burton stated it is a wooded vacant lot that is has no garbage; however, the board did clear a four-foot path along the resident's fence.

Councilwoman Dugan stated that a wooden lot is not supposed to be cleared.

Mr. Burton stated he wanted the mayor and council aware that the Board of Education went beyond to appease.

Mayor Robbins thanked Mr. Burton for his and the board's efforts.

Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road, congratulated the Police Department for a successful National Night Out and the Historical Society for the Car Show. Mr. Margeson pointed

out that there needs to be more handicap parking spaces adding when the events were at the Fuccile Park, parking was more accessible for the handicap.

Mayor Robbins responded he will speak with Police Chief Kline to have temporary handicap parking during events.

Mr. Burton reported that the handicap spot in front of Lakehurst Elementary school was not painted when Union Avenue was repaved.

Mayor Robbins responded Mr. Winton has a “punch list” for the contractor and will have him add the markings for the handicap spot.

Time closed: 7:55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges

Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 7:55 p.m.

Maryanne Capasso, RMC
Municipal Clerk