

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 4, 2023  
MINUTES**

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

ALL STOOD FOR 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 MEETING 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 FOURTH 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:

VFW POPPY PRINCESS PRESENT TO KICK-OFF ANNUAL “BUDDY POPPY” SALES:

Poppy Princess Madison Jones kicked-off the annual “Buddy Poppy” sales after which VFW Post 10061 Commander Harry Young presented a proclamation.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

Council President Oglesby reported that Sunday’s storm left an exorbitant amount of sand loss at Lake Horicon. Mr. Oglesby stated that the borough has explored this problem in the past and found that heavier sand is costly but maybe benches with lattice underneath could be placed along the beach. Mr. Oglesby went on to say that the cost of a heavy sand can be no more than what the borough is spending to replenish the sand and manpower, asking the borough to reexamine the costs.

Mayor Robbins confirmed the handicap ramp is unrecognizable after he viewed photos that Mr. Oglesby had presented.

Mr. Oglesby further stated that the storm drain is covered as well, adding he does not have a “concrete” solution; however, something needs to be done.

Councilman McCarthy suggested an elevated boardwalk along the beach.

Mayor Robbins stated that he will reach out to Public Works Department Head Dave Winton to discuss a possible boardwalk.

Mr. Oglesby commended all responders, both paid and volunteers, for those that came from out of town and in town, for their outstanding job extinguishing the wildfire.

Mayor Robbins echoed Mr. Oglesby.

Councilwoman Dugan announced today is International Firefighter Day and thanked all firefighters for saving the borough.

Councilman McCarthy reported the signs for Lake Horicon have arrived and will be installed next week.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:43 p.m.

Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road, asked if the two hired police officers will be armed.

Mayor Robbins answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Margeson stated that \$18 dollars an hour is an inadequate amount for the environment today, risking their lives.

Councilman McCarthy responded the amount is a common number for a Class II Officer in this area adding a Class II Officer typically works the boardwalk at the shore and are “inspiring” to be a full-time police officer.

Mr. Margeson stated \$18 dollars is just a small amount over minimum wage. Mr. Margeson went on to say \$20 an hour is just a few dollars more and more reasonable, adding Seaside Heights and Seaside Park is more than likely paying a higher wage.

Mayor Robbins responded unfortunately both Seaside Heights and Seaside Park have a higher revenue than Lakehurst.

Time closed: 7:46 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

To approve minutes of April 6, 2023 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 #23-089 re: Payment of 4/20/23 Bills
2. Resolution #23-090 re: Payment of 5/4/23 Bills
3. Resolution #23-091 re: Amending Introduced Budget
4. Resolution #23-092 re: Hiring John Dolan as a Temporary Police Officer
5. Resolution #23-093 re: Hiring Joseph Ciaurro as Part-time Police Officer
6. Resolution #23-094 re: Authorizing Armored Courier Service

B. ORDINANCES APPROVED ON FIRST READING:

1. "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST AMENDING CHAPTER XXV OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ENTITLED LAND DEVELOPMENT" (#2023-12)
2. "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" (#2023-13)

C. RESIGNATIONS:

1. Acceptance of resignation of Clerk Typist Kim Milana

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

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

**ORDINANCES NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion by: Steven Oglesby  
To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2023-08  
entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF  
OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK". Roll call vote  
held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

Time opened: 7:47 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:47 p.m.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan  
To adopt Ordinance #2023-08. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Seven Oglesby

Motion by: Patricia Hodges  
To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2023-09  
entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF  
OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL  
ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH, CHAPTER IV, SECTION 4-1 ENTITLED  
"MERCANTILE LICENSING"; AND CHAPTER XIII, SECTION 13-2.1 ENTITLED  
"LANDLORD REGISTRATION AND LICENSE REQUIRED". Roll call vote held. All  
votes affirmative with the exception of Council President Oglesby who abstained due to  
the fact he is a landlord.

Seconded by: Bernadette Dugan

Time opened: 7:48 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Time closed: 7:48 p.m.

Motion by: Patricia Hodges  
To adopt Ordinance #2023-09. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the  
exception of Council President Oglesby.

Seconded by: James Davis

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan  
To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2023-10  
entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF  
OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER XXV TO CREATE THE  
POSITION OF MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
ADMINISTERING THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE FAIR HOUSING ACT". Roll call vote held. All  
votes affirmative.

Seconded by: James Davis



UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan  
To open public hearing on 2023 Municipal Budget. Roll call vote held. All votes  
affirmative.

Time opened: 7:54 p.m.

Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road, thanked the Mayor and Council for all the hard work  
that was put into creating the budget, adding it is not a simple thing to accomplish.

Mayor Robbins thanked the borough's Chief Financial Officer, Wayne Sabilia, for  
making the budget work for the borough.

Time closed: 7:55 p.m.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan  
To close public hearing on 2023 Municipal Budget. Roll call vote held. All votes  
affirmative.

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

ADOPTION OF 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan  
To approve resolution #23-096 adopting 2023 Municipal Budget. Roll call vote held. All  
votes affirmative.

Seconded by: James Davis

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hodges reported the Public Works Committee met with Public Works  
Department Head Dave Winton. Mrs. Hodges stated the first item of discussion was the  
interest of two Public Works employees receiving their CDL license. Mrs. Hodges also  
stated that the state now requires training before receiving a CDL license and added Mr.  
Winton is able to become a trainer so that training can be completed "in-house".

Mayor Robbins replied that he did not realize that training was required, adding he  
will reach out to Mr. Winton in regard to the training.

Mrs. Hodges stated that the leak detection study resolved 50% of the water loss issue and  
added that the system is old which could account for the other 50%. Mrs. Hodges also  
stated that the dump body has been installed on the 2006 Ford F-550 and the new ice  
machine has been installed at the community center. Mrs. Hodges further stated that Mr.  
Winton received the "No Smoking" signs and is waiting for directions from Police Chief

Kline as to where they are to be placed. Mrs. Hodges went on to say that Mr. Winton is obtaining quotes for generator maintenance.

Mayor Robbins stated that he knows of a few companies that perform generator maintenance and will reach out to Mr. Winton.

Mrs. Hodges also reported that Mr. Winton suggested replacing the holiday tree at the community center, adding it will not be until this fall. Mrs. Hodges stated Mr. Winton is having trouble hiring employees but is still looking. Mrs. Hodges went on to say that the borough needs to start making plans for a new garbage truck. Mrs. Hodges stated that although the trucks do not go far, they are constantly running and that there is formula that is used to calculate the actual miles adding one truck has 496,000 miles, one has 329,000 miles and the last one has 170,000 miles.

Mrs. Hodges complimented the trees in the downtown area adding they look nice along Union Avenue.

Councilman Davis reported that he attended the Board of Education meeting, adding they covered routine items. Mr. Davis stated that one “interesting” action was that the floor was open for public comments after action had already been taken. Mr. Davis also stated that more residents should attend, adding the next meeting is May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Davis also reported at the Board of Education meeting it was reported that a proposal was put forward from the Manchester Board of Education adding it was called The Board of Education Information Committee Report; however, they went into close session, came out of closed session, and stated the report requires no action.

Mr. Davis went on to report that the Board of Education will be replacing the pre-school playground at the cost of about \$140,000, adding most of the cost will be covered by a grant. Mr. Davis stated that the Board of Education pointed out the landscaping of the playground was going to be completed through a shared service with the borough but have decided it would be more efficient to have the contractor perform the job and save the taxpayers money.

Mayor Robbins elaborated on the shared service saying it is his understanding that the assistant superintendent approached Mr. Winton and asked if the Borough’s Public Work Department would assist with the landscaping. Mayor Robbins went on to say that when Mr. Winton approached him, he directed Mr. Winton to have the Board of Education make a formal request to the governing body to discuss, adding no request was made.

Mayor Robbins also elaborated on the Manchester Board of Education proposal saying that Manchester wanted to do a feasibility study for Lakehurst Elementary School to become an all pre-school building for both Manchester and Lakehurst and added the Lakehurst students would go to the Manchester Schools, this would be great for the Lakehurst students to socialize with the Manchester students. Mayor Robbins stated Council President Oglesby and himself met with the Lakehurst Board of Education

President and Vice-President to ask why they turned down a feasibility study, it is a study that is not turned in to the state and a study that Manchester Board of Education has budgeted for and will pay the fee of \$19,000. Mayor Robbins also stated that Lakehurst Board of Education stated that the study will be turned in to the state and then there is a good possibility that Lakehurst will lose their state funding. Mayor Robbins further stated that they assured them that the study is an in-house study that is not reportable.

Councilman McCarthy stated that refusing to conduct the study does not show due diligence given the nature of “things” going on within the state and the push towards school districts to merge, Lakehurst Board of Education will lose control when that time arrives.

Council President Oglesby stated school districts in Ocean County have had massive budget cuts adding two-thirds of Lakehurst Board of Education’s budget comes from outside sources, it is only a matter of time. Mr. Oglesby added that the Lakehurst Board of Education needs a plan in place for if, and when, they lose the funding they are receiving.

Mr. McCarthy reported that Police Chief Kline expects the new police car to be delivered this month. Mr. McCarthy also reported that all the steps the governing body requested for this Sunday’s Tanker Task Force Drill have been covered. Mr. McCarthy stated that there was a joint meeting with all that are participating to cover procedures that will take place.

Mr. Oglesby asked if there was an after-action meeting post forest fire.

Mr. McCarthy responded he is not aware of any meeting adding he did speak with Fire Chief Dries immediately after, who informed him that the fire was 100% contained. Mr. McCarthy stated that an after-action meeting would probably be at the state level.

Mr. McCarthy further reported that the police department is almost “whole” again and Police Chief Kline does have a lifeguard for this summer.

#### MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Robbins wished a Happy Mother’s Day to all moms.

Mayor Robbins advised everyone the Town Wide Yard Sale is May 20<sup>th</sup> and added everyone can register at Borough Hill to be placed on the map.

#### COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 8:16 p.m.



Bruce Margeson, 5 Geneva Road, gave kudos to the Fire Fighters and First Responders for risking their lives and added they did a fine job.

Mr. Margeson stated that now the weather is nice, many people are visiting Lake Horicon asking the borough to have the bathrooms open May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Robbins responded that he would reach out to Public Works Department Head Dave Winton to see if it is a possibility to have bathrooms ready before Memorial Day.

Mr Margeson thanked the governing body for all the work they do.

Mayor Robbins thanked Mr. Margeson as well.

Time closed: 8:19 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges

Seconded by: James Davis

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:19 p.m.

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Maryanne Capasso. RMC  
Municipal Clerk