

BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)
CAUCUS/REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Tuesday, July 6, 2021-7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, presiding

ROLL CALL: Council Members Borowski, Lamb, Zalom, Stogdill, Finter and Filippone
Councilman Stogdill was absent.

Also present: Phil George, Borough Attorney
Donnelly Amico, Municipal Clerk
Robert Brice, Borough Administrator

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: Notice of this meeting was published in the Ocean Star on January 8, 2021 Notice was also posted on our municipal bulletin board and municipal website.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for long-time resident George Kelly, Bond Avenue who passed away and for a very long time resident Dick Hoffman who was also our Beach Lifeguard Captain many years ago.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilman Finter led us in the Salute to the Flag.

MAYOR'S WELCOMING STATEMENT: The Mayor welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. He stated it was a very interesting 4th of July weekend and there were a ton of people here. The patriotic bike parade that took place this weekend had the largest number of participants since the event started a few years back.

Council President Zalom stated that the first concert of the season was last weekend and there was an extremely large attendance as well as this weekend's concert.

The Mayor stated that the amount of participants this weekend using our pickleball courts was unbelievable as well.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (Items not listed on agenda / not staying for remainder of meeting)

The Mayor stated that if anyone wished to comment on any items that were not on the agenda or if they could not stay for the remainder of the meeting they could do so now.

Gary Hunsinger, 8 Philadelphia Avenue stated that he thinks that the bicycles up on the boardwalk from 5pm to 8pm is a good idea but he thinks that they should also be allowed up there in the mornings from 5am to 8am as well to prevent the amount of bicycles on the streets.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that the reason why we moved the times for the bikes to be up on the boardwalk from the morning to the evening is because of the large crowds up there before 9am. Mr. Hunsinger stated that there aren't as many crowds up there before 9am as you may think. He just would like Council to just think about it.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Caucus/Regular Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2021

A Motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Lamb. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter. Vote: Council Members Borowski, Filippone, Zalom, Finter and Lamb voted Yes. The Motion Passed.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (Items not listed on agenda / not staying for remainder of meeting)

REPORTS:

- a) Construction Report for June 2021-Councilwoman Filippone-read report
- b) Zoning Report for June 2021-Councilwoman Filippone-no report
- c) Municipal Court Report for June 2021-Councilwoman Filippone-no report
- d) Police Overtime Report for May & June 2021-Councilwoman Filippone –no report
- e) Public Works Report for June 2021-Councilman Lamb-read report
- f) Beach Badge Report through July 5th 2021-Robert Brice-read report
- g) Tax Account Report for June 2021-Tax Collector
- g) Revenue Account Status for May 2021-Chief Financial Officer

A Motion to approve the reports was made by Councilman Lamb. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter. Vote: Council Members Borowski, Filippone, Zalom, Finter and Lamb voted yes. The Motion passed.:

ON CONSENT AGENDA/OFF CONSENT AGENDA, AND VOUCHERS:

RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:

- 2021-178 authorizing the refund of a gazebo rental permit due to a scheduling issue which caused the gazebo to already be in use during this time

- 2021-179 appointing Timothy Perruso as a full-time Dispatcher for the Lavallette Police Department effective July 7, 2021

- 2021-180 authorizing the purchase of two surplus vehicles from OC Vehicle Services for \$1.00 each for the Lavallette Police Department

- 2021-181 approving a facilities use application to South Jersey Softball Tournaments to hold girls' youth softball tournaments on Chandler Field Friday, August 27th from 5pm to

10pm and August 28th & 29th from 9am to 6pm-Mr. Brice requested this be put off consent.

- 2021-182 authorizing the modification of the 2019 CDBG Grant Agreement to increase the award amount with additional funds in the amount of \$6,165.46 to use towards the purchase of the mobi-mat beach access system for the President Avenue beach walkover
- 2021-183 accepting the retirement of Michael Visco and authorizing payment of unused sick and vacation time
- 2021-184 hiring 4 seasonal laborers and one seasonal sanitation laborer for the Department of Public Works
- 2021-185 hiring additional badge checkers, lifeguards and court attendants for the 2021 summer season
- 2021-186 accepting the resignation of Robert Baker and authorizing payment of unused vacation time
- 2021-187 authorizing the Chief of Police to accept the grant award in the amount of \$40,760 from the NJ Office of Attorney General towards the purchase of 20 Body-Worn Cameras-Mr. Brice stated that this grant will cover the 1st payment for the purchase of these cameras. The total purchase was approximately \$126.000 and we are not sure yet if this program will continue next year.
- 2021-188 reappointing Christine Sierfeld to the position of Chief Financial Officer with tenure
- 2021-189 appointing Susan Kilcheski our Zoning Official as a fill-in Building Sub-Code Official and Doug Erb, Electric Sub-Code Official as fill-in Construction Official effective June 30, 2021 through July 9, 2021
- 2021-189A awarding a contract to CT Shirey Roofing & Siding for roof repairs to one of the PW buildings in the amount not to exceed \$43,450.00-Mr. Brice stated that this is the main garage down at Public Works which is the largest of the buildings.
- 2021-189B awarding a contract to RC Air, LLC for the installation of an air conditioning unit for Well #4 filter room in the amount of \$8,600.00

A Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilwoman Filipponi. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Lamb.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public and asked if anyone wished to comment on the consent agenda.

No one wished to comment. The Mayor closed the floor to the public and asked Council for a vote on the consent agenda.

Vote: Council Members Borowski, Filippone, Zalom, Finter and Lamb voted Yes. The Motion Passed.

RESOLUTIONS - OFF CONSENT:

2021-181 approving a facilities use application to South Jersey Softball Tournaments to hold girls' youth softball tournaments on Chandler Field Friday, August 27th from 5pm to 10pm and August 28th & 29th from 9am to 6pm

The Municipal Clerk stated that the beach badges are being sold on the weekends during this time and we have requested other applicants to change the hours for because of this.

Councilman Lamb requested that it be pulled for tonight and ask the applicant if they can change the times for those two days to after 4pm.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

2021-190 Bills List in the amount of \$1,305,592.10

A Motion to approve the bills list was made by Councilman Borowski. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter. Vote: Council Members Borowski, Filippone, Zalom, Finter and Lamb voted Yes. The Motion Passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

General with No Action:

- a) Insurance Services Office, Inc./ISO/Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule Results/Received June 9, 2021
- b) George & Susan Carlin/118 Vance Avenue/commending the Lavallette Police Department and the Lavallette DPW Electricians for their prompt service in taking care of a power outage issue/June 21, 2021

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Substantial Damage Assessments

Mr. Brice stated that there is still a number of current homes in Lavallette on the list from the State for substantial damage. The State sent all municipalities guidelines on June 30th of how to proceed with determination on whether these homes were put on the list for erroneous reasons or if they truly sustained this damage and should remain. The first step is for the homeowner to appeal to the Planning Board if they want to be removed from this list.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor LaCicero stated that he received a lot of calls regarding these electric bikes. They seem to be able to go at a high rate of speed to be on the boardwalk and on our streets. There seems to be a lot of them in town this summer and they are not taking any precautions while using them.

Mr. Brice stated that these bikes are really silent but deadly and are limited to 25 mph but the ones in town don't seem to be following those rules.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that these should already be included under our slow speed vehicle ordinance.

Mayor LaCicero stated that he would like our Attorney to look into it and either add it to our current ordinance or create a new section for them. Maybe not ban them but definitely restrict them to the streets to only 25 mph and not allowed on the boardwalk or sidewalks at all.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Matt Schlosser, 241 Newark Avenue, stated that he is here as a member of the WPICA and stated that they are concerned about kids chucking the rocks into the water that are located on the south side of the WPI Bridge and was wondering if those rocks belong to the County or the Borough because they really need to be netted down to prevent the kids having access to them.

The Mayor stated that the bridge itself is County but the waterway is the State. We already have issues with the dredging in that area so we definitely don't need this issue on top of it. Maybe the County can put some type of mesh covering over the rocks to prevent access to them.

Mr. Brice stated that maybe some type of chain link fence.

Mr. Schlosser stated that the WPICA is also willing to help out with this as well.

Councilman Borowski questioned if security cameras should be put in that area as well.

Mayor LaCicero stated that we can look into that as well.

Mr. Brice stated that we are going to be putting some mobile cameras in the gazebo and bay front areas due to the continued vandalism in that area so we can probably put them in that area as well.

Council President Zalom left the meeting at 7:55pm.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Borowski stated that July 29th Waves of Impact will be on the Trenton Avenue Beach with the disabled children surf camp. He also wanted to congratulate Mike Visco on his retirement but is sad for the Borough because he was a remarkable employee and always **going above and beyond** with his job as gardener and doing a great job with the plantings in front of our building and

along the bay front. He will be truly missed. He also wanted to mention Bob Baker. He was a great employee and always did a great job. He thanked the Emergency Cert. Team for helping with traffic control during the concerts and any events they are needed.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that she thinks it is time again to send a letter to the DOT regarding these pedestrian crosswalks. The lack of cooperation with drivers and pedestrians is so horrible.

Mayor LaCicero stated that we can have the Attorney draft a letter.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that she also would like some type of pa system for the up at the beach to play the National Anthem every morning. She knows of a few towns that do it.

Mr. Brice stated that we had a discussion with the DOT regarding the issues with the crosswalk traffic on President Avenue and Rt. 35 North and the amount of issues we have there with drivers and pedestrians. They offered to do a cost share program with us 25/75 for a flashing beacon. Also, there has been a lot of issues with controlling parking on the west side of Bay Blvd. and we will be requesting the County to paint yellow on the curb in that area to prevent any kind of parking. We are also having a big problem with the garbage cans being way over the weight limits. They are just too heavy for our guys to pick up. The weight limit is in our code so if it is too heavy they will now be issuing warnings and tickets.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Councilwoman Filippone. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter. Vote: All of Council was in favor. The Motion Passed.

The Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

CERTIFICATION

I, Donnelly Amico, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Lavallette, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, does hereby attest these to be a true copy of the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 6th day of **July 2021**.

Donnelly Amico
Municipal Clerk