

BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)
CAUCUS/REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Monday, July 16, 2018-7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, presiding

ROLL CALL: Council Members Borowski, Lamb, Zalom, Stogdill, Finter and Filippone

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

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: Notice of this meeting was published in the Ocean Star on January 12, 2018. Notice was also posted on our municipal website and bulletin board.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for some residents who recently passed away. Irene Jankowski of Trenton Avenue, longtime resident Josephine Kosenski, of Bay Blvd. and the mother of Walter Kosenski, Sal Scarlatto, who just moved back to town and also the father of Karen Sandy who lives on WPI, and finally Jean Lane a very long time resident of Elizabeth Avenue, who was a crossing guard for many years. Mrs. Lane always dressed up as a witch for Halloween and gave out her famous candy apples. She was very active in Borough events and always helping out any way she could. She will be deeply missed and remembered.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council President Zalom led us in the Salute to the Flag.

MAYOR'S WELCOMING STATEMENT: The Mayor welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. He stated that there have been some mixed reviews out there about a black substance that was washing up on our beaches last week. Some news outlets were reporting that it was leftover sludge from the Ciba Geigy pipeline. The Health Department was notified by Weeks Marine who is doing the replenishment project right now in Ortley Beach and they did come out and assess the issue. They determined that it was a layer of peat moss that was coming from the bottom of the ocean due to the project in Ortley Beach bringing it up from the ocean.

The Mayor stated that if anyone in the audience 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.

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

No one wished to comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of Caucus/Regular Meeting of July 2, 2018

Minutes of Executive Session Meeting of July 2, 2018

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

ON CONSENT AGENDA/OFF CONSENT AGENDA, AND VOUCHERS:

RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:

- 2018-218 certifying to the NJ Local Finance Board that all members of the Governing Body have reviewed, at a minimum, the sections of the annual audit for 2017 entitled, “comments and recommendations”-Mayor LaCicero stated that the audit was great and there were no recommendations or comments so all our finances and record keeping was great Councilwoman Filippone stated that we had a clean year and all was in order and anything from last year was all taken care of as well.
- 2018-219 appointing Bonnie Peterson, Esq. as the Municipal Prosecutor for the Borough of Lavallette effective July 16, 2018 through December 31, 2018-Mayor LaCicero stated that our longtime Judge retired so there has been some changes to our professionals for the court. Bonnie Peterson was our Alternate Prosecutor so she will now be our Prosecutor for this year.
- 2018-220 appointing David Casadante, Esq. as the Alternate Prosecutor for the Borough of Lavallette effective July 16, 2018 through December 31, 2018-Mayor LaCicero stated that David Casadante is the Prosecutor for Seaside Heights and he is a nice guy. He will now be our Alternate Prosecutor for this year.
- 2018-221 appointing Arnaldo V. Maestrey, Esq. as the new Municipal Court Judge for the Borough of Lavallette with an annual salary of \$24,600-Mayor stated that Mr. Maestrey was our Prosecutor this year but will now be our new Judge. He will have to complete some training before he sits on the bench but we already have James Gluck as our temporary Judge that we appointed in June so Mr. Gluck will preside until the training is completed.
- 2018-222 authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign and execute the annual agreement between the Borough of Lavallette and the Lavallette First Aid Squad-Councilman Borowski requested this be put off consent
- 2018-223 authorizing Sophia Culmone be hired as a badge checker for the 2018 summer season at an hourly rate of \$8.60 effective July 4, 2018
- 2018-224 authorizing Dylan Citta be hired as a bay lifeguard for the 2018 summer season at an hourly rate of \$9.00 effective July 9, 2018

- 2018-225 authorizing the hiring of a summer seasonal employee for the Department of Public Works at an hourly rate of \$8.60 effective July 2, 2018
- 2018-226 permanently appointing Thomas Brihn to the full time position of Construction Official as per NJ Civil Service Commission –Mr. Brihn was appointed as our Construction Official and it was a provisional appointment through Civil Service. The list of eligibles was received and he was #1 on that list so as a formality per Civil Service he needs to be appointed again as permanent.
- 2018-227 authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign an execute the agreement between the Borough of Lavallette and Gary Royer-Mayor stated that Mr. Royer has retired. Councilwoman Filippone stated that Mr. Royer submitted his letter as a resignation not a retirement.
- 2018-228 accepting the retirement of Diana Lahullier and authorizing payment of unused sick and vacation time-Mayor LaCicero stated that Diana was the secretary down at Public Works and she really was an asset to the town. She also performed other jobs for us. She was here for 36 years which is a very long and she will be missed.
- 2018-229 authorizing the request of James Anderson, Zoning Official to go out on an unpaid leave for a period up to 6 months under the Family Medical Leave Act effective July 20, 2018-Councilwoman Filippone stated that Mr. Anderson has some medical issues and needs to take some time off for that purpose. He does the zoning in Seaside Park so we have made some changes to accommodate this issue.
- 2018-230 appointing Susan Kilcheski, Building Inspector as the interim Zoning Code Enforcement Officer allocating up to 10 hours per week as needed within her current hours as Building Inspector effective immediately-Mayor LaCicero stated that while Mr. Anderson is on a medical leave, Susan will fill in for him as the Zoning Official.
- 2018-231 approving a facilities use application to Mary Buontempo to hold a bocce ball tournament on our bocce courts on September 15, 2018 at 9am with a rain date of September 22, 2018-Mayor LaCicero stated that this will be a fundraiser tournament and they requested to change the rain date to September 16, 2018 which is fine.

A Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilwoman Filippone. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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

Joe Alicino, 13 Dover Avenue questioned if the Construction Official's licenses make him a Class I or II?

The Mayor stated that he was unsure of that but he would find out for him.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that all of our inspectors and Construction Official have the highest rated licenses that we required so we should be ranked the highest class.

The Mayor closed the floor to public comment and asked Council for a vote on the consent agenda minus Resolution 2018-222.

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

RESOLUTIONS - OFF CONSENT:

2018-222 authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign and execute the annual agreement between the Borough of Lavallette and the Lavallette First Aid Squad

A Motion to approve this resolution was made by Councilman Stogdill. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Lamb.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public and asked if anyone wished to comment on this resolution.

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

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

Mayor LaCicero stated that Councilman Borowski and Finter are volunteers for the First Aid so they cannot vote on this resolution.

2018-231A appointing Sharon Morgan to the position of part-time Certified Tax Assessor at an annual salary of \$15,000 effective July 16, 2018

The Mayor stated that our current Tax Assessor has resigned so we advertised for a new one. The Personnel Committee interviewed around 9 applicants and Sharon Morgan was there recommendation. Ms. Morgan is in the audience so we welcome her to Lavallette and know she will do a great job.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public and asked if anyone wished to comment on this resolution.

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

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

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

2018-232 Bills List in the amount of \$447,399.88

A Motion to approve the bills list was made by Councilman Stogdill. The Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

The Mayor opened the floor to the public and asked if anyone wished to comment on the bills list.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Brice stated that he had a discussion with the Supt. of Public Works about the bocce courts and he stated that there is going to be some additional costs due to wood and base needing to be built up and concrete will also need to be poured. This all needs to be done according to the specifications for the sand to go there and also some type of wall in between.

Councilman Lamb stated that the Supt. had advised me that some kind of trap that's there already would have to be smaller for the drainage to be okay. Right now the material is all worn down and would definitely need to be replaced to comply with the specifications. He said it would have to be widened as well for specs to 10 feet and right now it is at 6 feet.

The Mayor asked if Tony Gallo, who will be in charge of the bocce tournament, could come up and discuss the issue, since he knows the courts.

Tony Gallo, 215 Newark Avenue stated that he believes the courts are 8 feet wide and it would be no problem for anyone who plays if there was a wall.

Councilman Borowski stated that the additional costs would be roughly \$6,500 but we could knock down to maybe \$5,500.

Councilwoman Filippone questioned where the additional monies would come from. We already figured out where the initial \$6,000 would come from and now we have to find where this additional money has to come from.

Mayor LaCicero stated that we would have to discuss with the CFO to see where it could come out of.

Councilman Borowski questioned if we could just make a motion to approve the additional monies contingent upon the CFO certifying the funds.

A Motion was made by Councilman Borowski to approve the additional monies for the repair of the bocce ball courts contingent upon the CFO certifying the funds. The Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Filippone. Vote: Council Members Borowski, Filippone, Zalom, Stogdill, Finter and Lamb voted Yes. The Motion Passed.

Councilman Lamb stated that Council President Zalom brought to my attention that the trees along the Water Treatment Plant are extremely dead and need to be removed. Public Works will remove them but the question is, are we going to plant new trees there. The trees on Brooklyn Avenue by the water department are also dead so we should think about those as well.

Mr. Brice stated that the water treatment plant yard has pretty much been cleaned up except for the pile of soil that still needs to be removed. His suggestion is to planting the new trees to block some of the yard in September or October when it gets cooler.

Councilman Borowski stated that he agrees with Mr. Brice on the cleanup. It has drastically improved the aesthetics.

Mr. Brice stated that he spoke to Teddy from PW and discussed using a private company for the new sweeper materials. We will be looking into this also in the fall.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion on Added Assessments

Mayor LaCicero stated that the process of getting the added assessments on the computer and ready to mail them out by October 1st is a tremendous job and takes more than a few months to prepare and do the work. We received some proposals for an outside company to take on the task for us to even if it's just to help the new Tax Assessor get the ball rolling since she was just hired tonight.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that when we first discussed it with the previous Tax Assessor he stated that it shouldn't cost more than roughly \$1,000. Looking at the proposals it seems to be a bigger cost than expected.

Mr. Brice stated that he would like to sit with the new Tax Assessor first to see what her thoughts are before we jump into hiring a company.

Council President Zalom stated that the speaker system she uses for her events will be used for the lifeguard tournament. The new fence is now up at the volleyball court and she has been in contact with the DOT regarding the sign guy on 35 South. They will be looking into this and possibly issuing a fine.

Councilman Borowski stated that the Borough will be paying its lowest for power at 28.54 kwh which is currently 48 kwh so we are in good shape.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Bob Astorino, 2 Elizabeth Avenue questioned if we were considering doing another buy a board program?

Mayor LaCicero stated that it was a lot of work and the Borough was not involved. It was all done by Donations of Love, Inc. which is my wife's non-profit organization. It took a lot of volunteers, a lot of time and they had to choose a vendor. If he would like to volunteer to start it back up again, he can discuss it with my wife and she will be happy to walk you through it.

Council President Zalom stated that she was having a discussion with Vicki Guy regarding dedications and memorials because a lot of people are interested in this. We were discussing when the replenishment project is completed maybe putting some benches on the walkovers where the loft platform will be so people can sit and enjoy. We could again offer to put the plaques on the benches to memorialize loved ones. It will be a decent amount of benches if we put at least two on every opening walkover.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that when Beautification did it, it was extremely popular

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council President Zalom stated that the concerts and movies are the bay are very busy and going very smoothly. We have collected a good amount of donations.

The Moose in Ortley Beach each year donate monies to the first responders in the area so keep that in mind if you would like to donate for this. The Breast Cancer Walk will be on August 5th starting at the Music Man.

Councilman Stogdill stated that we are a little up from last year total at this time with \$769,380. It's still a great amount. He thinks it has to do with a lot of people thinking the replenishment project was going to interrupt our summer so planned their vacations elsewhere. Lavallette took first place in the lifeguard tournament. It was a great tournament and there must have been 200 to 300 spectators. Our guys did a great job! The week of 4th of July was a rough week for our guards. They rescued over a dozen swimmers from the rough seas. They did a remarkable job! A lot of people were complaining about the yellow flags all week but we do it for their safety. Nobody is ever happy no matter what you do.

Councilman Borowski stated that he had the pleasure of sitting in on a court session last week. Mr. Gluck is extremely professional and ran a smooth court.

Mayor LaCicero stated that Mr. Gluck sits in multiple towns as most of them do. He preferred to find someone who can just take the time for Lavallette. He is confident that Mr. Maestrey will do a great job.

Councilman Borowski stated that the e-bill system that has been put in place for the electric, tax and water sewer bills is really a great system. There is a cost savings for us which is always a plus.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that the court session last week was really crowded and she was told that a lot of the tickets were issued on the day of that unplanned party in Seaside Heights. She stated that she was present on the beach when all of the rescues took place and our guards who are not that old had to rescue over 30 swimmers on one beach. They handled themselves professionally while taking a lot of flak from beach goers who were adults screaming at kids who were saving lives. The defiance of these people was just ridiculous and so uncalled for. There were one or two jet ski accidents over the weekend. One was fatal and the other they are saying might have been a hoax but these jet skis are very powerful and people tend to not realize this. Everyone needs to be more aware of the danger they can cause if they do not handle them safely.

Mr. Brice stated that there was some incorrect information being filtered through face book from the Lavallette Boardwalk site referencing our police officers driving ATV's on our dunes. He just wants to inform everyone that he did some investigation and the ATV's were crews from the Army Corps. doing surveying work and they were not riding on the dunes.

Mayor LaCicero stated that this must be what they call fake news on face book.

Council President Zalom stated that the Patriotic Bike Parade that was on the 4th of July was the biggest one yet. There were so many people there and this was the first time they did it on the 4th.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that she has been noticing surrounding towns copying the Borough's events which is just too funny. It just shows that Anita is doing a great job!

Council President Zalom stated that we finally will be having 4 Senior lunch and a movie and will be scheduling them very soon. Also, the nutrition project for the elderly will be coming back to Lavallette in 2019.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

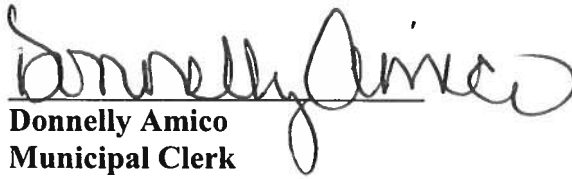
ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Stogdill. Vote: All of Council agreed. The Motion Passed.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm.

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 meeting held on the 16th day of **July 2018**


Donnelly Amico
Municipal Clerk