

BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)
CAUCUS/REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Monday, April 15, 2024-7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, presiding

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

Also present: Bill Burns, Borough Attorney
Donnelly Amico, Municipal Clerk
John Bennett, Borough Administrator

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: Notice of this meeting was published in the Ocean Star on January 10, 2024. 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 and local artist who passed away recently. Mr. Bernhardt donated three of his paintings that are on the walls of this Municipal Building.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilwoman Filippone led us in the Salute to the Flag.

MAYOR'S WELCOMING STATEMENT: The Mayor welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2024
Council Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2024

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.

ON CONSENT AGENDA/OFF CONSENT AGENDA, AND VOUCHERS:

RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:

2024-102 approving a facilities use application from the National MS Society for their annual charity bike ride through town and use of the Washington Avenue parking lot/gazebo grassy area as a rest stop for their bicyclists on Saturday, May 11, 2024 at various times between the hours of 7:30am to 1pm

- 2024-103 authorizing the water/sewer collector to credit a water/sewer account for a documented water leak and refund the credit in the amount of \$8,155.05

- 2024-104 approving a facilities use application to K Rock Fitness, LLC to hold exercise fitness classes at the old basketball courts on Saturdays, starting May 25th through August 31st 2024 and Tuesdays and Thursdays starting June 18th through August 31st 2024 from 8am to 9am

- 2024-105 authorizing the refund of a construction permit fee in the amount of \$462.00 due to the fee being paid in duplicate

- 2024-106 approving a facilities use application to Vibe Sessions with Kate to hold meditation classes on the Virginia Avenue ocean beach on M-W-F starting June 24th through September 30th from 8am to 9am and Thursdays starting June 20th through September 30th from 6pm to 7pm

- 2024-107 approving a raffle license to St. Pio of Pietrelcina to hold an off premise raffle on Saturday, September 21, 2024 at 8pm

- 2024-108 approving the proposal from Van Cleef Engineering for Engineering and Surveying Services for the Newark Avenue Road Improvement Project in the amount of \$90,000

- 2024-109 approving a shared services agreement with the Toms River Fire Commissioners providing fuel to the Ocean Beach Fire Company No. 3 vehicles retroactively to March 3, 2024 through April 25, 2025

- 2024-109A rejecting the bid for the “Procurement Specifications for Park Benches” that was received at the Bid Opening on April 11, 2024-Councilwoman Filippone requested this put off consent.

A Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilwoman Filippone. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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:

2024-109A rejecting the bid for the “Procurement Specifications for Park Benches” that was received at the Bid Opening on April 11, 2024

Councilwoman Filippone stated that she is disappointed that this is the second time these bids came in way to expensive. There were three bids received with one being 50% higher than our budget and the other two’s specifications aren’t even clear. John and I have discussed it and have decided that what we will do is order half of the benches for this year and another half of them next year so we don’t need to go out to bid. We know how many benches we need. If anyone is still interested in purchasing a bench with the memorial plaque get your name on the list.

A Motion to approve this resolution was made by Councilwoman Filippone. 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.

Vincent Marino, 1501 Bay Blvd. stated that there seems to be way too many benches down at the gazebo anyway, in his opinion. Will there be the same amount or less this time around?

Councilwoman Filippone stated that with all the events that go on down there and weddings being In the gazebo we want to keep the same amount of benches that are there now.

No one else 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, Finter and Lamb voted Yes. The Motion Passed.

2024-110 approving a facilities use application to the Lavallette Pickle Ball Club to utilize the pickle ball courts on Saturdays and Sunday, including Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day starting May 24th through September 17th 2024 with the exception of Saturday, September 7th 2024 which is the Borough’s Founders Day and all courts will be closed for the day

Councilman Finter questioned them reserving it Memorial Day and Labor Day since those are two big holiday weekends for us. This group doesn’t seem to play nice with outsiders.

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

Kathy Grandstrand, 1 Camden Avenue stated that there seems to be a lot of misconceptions at the picke ball courts. The problem is people come down to play but we don’t have enough courts for everyone to play so reservations are not applicable. It’s like a round robin with pickle ball and

you play for 15 minutes and then get on line to get back in the game.

Edward Stark, 8 Sterling Avenue stated that this is getting blown out of proportion. The intent key principle of the sport is that everyone is inclusive and the strongest piece of the sport is socialization. On the weekends, everyone plays together, rotating in and get the same chance as everyone else.

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

A Motion to approve this resolution was made by Council President Zalom. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

2024-111 Bills List in the amount of \$464,228.65

A Motion to approve the bills list was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded By Councilman Borowski.

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

ORDINANCES ON FOR FINAL ADOPTION/PUBLIC HEARING:

Ordinance No. 2024-09(1260) Ordinance To Exceed The Municipal Budget Appropriations Limits and To Establish a Cap Bank

Mayor LaCicero stated that this is done with the budget every year just in case we ever need it even though we have never needed to use it.

A Motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilman Lamb. The Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

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

The Mayor opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to comment on this ordinance.

No one wished to comment.

The Mayor closed the public hearing and asked Council for a vote on this ordinance.

A Motion to adopt this ordinance was made by Councilwoman Filippone. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Lamb.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Borowski stated that he would like Public Works to assist the Engineer with checking the check valves as well in regards to the Newark Avenue road improvement project.

Council President Zalom stated that we should be receiving the funds soon from CDBG for the mobi mat walkover on New York Avenue. Also, Beaches Days For All, has offered to give us a donation of \$5,000 towards the purchase of another Matrix.

Mr. Bennett stated that the badge office's painting is almost complete. We are in need of some more applications for lifeguards and badge checkers as well. We will also be switching over to a new health care plan for our employees which will be saving the Borough as well as our employees some money.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Borowski stated that there is no longer a bulletin board down by the First Aid but he would like approval from Council to install a little library book house out in front of the First Aid for people to put books in it for people to read. The First Aid will take on all expenses of installation and maintenance.

A Motion to approve this book house was made by Councilman Borowski. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

Vote: All of Council was in favor. The Motion Passed.

Councilman Finter stated that he just wants to state publicly that golf carts are prohibited in the Borough of Lavallette.

Mayor LaCicero stated that our Ordinance Committee and attorney will be discussing amendments to this ordinance adding any motorized bicycles, scooters and skateboards as well.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilwoman Filippone stated that it is imperative that people follow the rules regarding no digging holes on the beach. We have seen firsthand on a number of occasions what happens with digging holes on the beach.

Councilman Finter stated that summer garbage collection starts May 6, 2024.

Mayor LaCicero stated that this is the 3rd round of bids this week for the beach replenishment so let's hope we get a good one this time. The first two times they were all rejected.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Meg Geer, 104 Brown Avenue stated that she wanted to thank Ted from Public Works for giving us the grabbers to pick up the debris on the beach with my group.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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 15th day of April 2024.

Donnelly Amico
Municipal Clerk