BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)
CAUCUS/REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Tuesday, January 20, 2026-7:00 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: Chris Tretola, 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 9, 2026. Notice was also posted on our municipal bulletin board and municipal website.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: There were no residents who have passed away. Keep your loved ones in your thoughts.

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

MAYOR'S WELCOMING STATEMENT: The Mayor welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. He apologized for not attending the Re-org meeting as it was out of his control.

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

Judith Josephs, 114 New York Avenue stated that her and Brian Quinn can do a quick turn around with this recreation grant for the sidewalks adjoining the library to the playground. We worked very well together in doing the grant for Chandler Park playground.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Caucus/Regular Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2025

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

Vote: Council Members Zalom, Borowski, Finter, Shenewolf and Filippone voted yes. The Motion Passed.

REPORTS:

a) Construction Report for December 2025 -Councilwoman Filippone-read report
b) Zoning/Code Report for December 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-read report
c) Municipal Court Report for December 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-read report
d) Police Overtime Report for November & December 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-read report
e) Public Works Report for December 2025-Councilman Finter-read report
f) Fire Department Report for December 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-read report
g) Public Affairs-Council President Zalom
h) Tax Account Report for December 2025-Tax Collector
i) Revenue Transaction Report for November & December 2025-Chief Financial Officer
j) Tax Collector's Annual Statement of Receipts for 2025-Tax Collector

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

Vote: Council Members Zalom, Borowski, Finter, Shenewolf and Filippone voted yes. The Motion Passed.

ON CONSENT AGENDA/OFF CONSENT AGENDA, AND VOUCHERS:

RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:

2026-51 approving the employment of 4 seasonal sanitation laborers effective January 2, 2026

2026-52 authorizing the transfer of 2025 overpayments to 2026 taxes receivable in the amount of $14,312.63

2026-53 approving the annual certifications submitted by the Lavallette Fire Department of all volunteer members who have qualified for credit under LOSAP for 2025

2026-54 authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign and execute the interlocal service agreement with the OC Prosecutors Office to participate in the OC Prosecutor's Program for year 2026

2026-55 accepting the retirement of Elizabeth Boettger and authorizing payment of unused sick time

2026-56 accepting the resignation of Arthur Bott and authorizing payment of unused vacation time

2026-57 accepting the retirement of Theodore Golubowski and authorizing payment of unused sick and vacation time

2026-57A authorizing the appointment of Bruce Padula Esq. as Special Counsel for the Borough of Lavallette

2026-57B awarding a contract to Ben Shaffer Recreation for the purchase of an ADA play structure for the play area at Chandler Field under the (65MCESCCPS) Educational Services Commission of NJ Cooperative Pricing Agreement in the amount of $381,667.55- Councilman Shenewolf requested this be put off consent.

A Motion to approve the consent agenda minus Resolution 2026-57B was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

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 Zalom, Borowski, Finter, Shenewolf, Stogdill and Filippone voted yes. The Motion Passed.

RESOLUTIONS - OFF CONSENT:

2026-57B awarding a contract to Ben Shaffer Recreation for the purchase of an ADA play structure for the play area at Chandler Field under the (65MCESCCPS) Educational Services Commission of NJ Cooperative Pricing Agreement in the amount of $381,667.55-

Councilman Shenewolf stated that Brian Quinn our Engineer who has been handling this grant has a short video and some renderings of the playground. There were some requirements necessary and we have met all those marks.

Mayor LaCicero opened the floor to the public and asked if anyone wished to comment on this Resolution and the playground.

Judith Josephs, 114 New York Avenue stated that some nights she has left this room a little frustrated but not tonight. My forty-year career in parks and recreation has done some good with helping securing this grant. This playground is also great for kids with physical and sensory challenges. This project is a big deal for this town and I look forward to the ribbon cutting.

Councilman Shenewolf stated that the grant we received was about $489,000 with us taking a loan Out for $163,000.

Mr. Bennett stated that the loan will also be 0% interest.

The Mayor closed the floor to the public and asked Council for a vote on this resolution.

A Motion to approve this resolution was made by Councilman Shenewolf. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

Vote: Council Members Zalom, Borowski, Finter, Shenewolf and Filippone voted Yes. The

Motion Passed.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

2026-58 Bills List in the amount of $4,018,473.95

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

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

ORDINANCES ON FOR FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01 (1286) Ordinance Establishing Salaries and Wages of Officers and Employees of the Borough of Lavallette

A Motion to introduce this ordinance was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

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

Public Hearing and Final Adoption is scheduled for February 9, 2026

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Shenewolf stated that we will be trying to secure another grant to erect sidewalks to go from the playground to the library to around the entire field.

Brian Quinn, Engineer stated that we can complete sidewalk from playground to library with another recreation grant. The cap is $75,000 for this grant and we could probably put some of the sidewalk to go to the beach badge office and ball field down there as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Borowski stated that the coalition of towns will be going out to bid for Public Power for 2027 and unfortunately, it was more than we paid the last time.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Borowski stated we are having a cold spell soon so if anyone sees any water flowing please report it right away.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Tretola, Esq. stated that there is a need to go into executive session to discuss some items that are possible litigation and attorney/client privilege. There may be some action taken when we return.

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

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

The Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

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

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

The Council Meeting was reconvened at 8:37pm.

Mr. Tretola stated that while in executive session any action taken will be done now.

2026-57C Resolution rescinding Resolution 2026-44 adopted on January 5, 2026 appointing Peter Kane as the Acting Supt. of Public Works for a period of three months commencing January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026 increasing his current salary by $1,121.25

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Filippone to approve this resolution. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

The Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

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 **20th** day of **January 2026.**

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Donnelly Amico
Municipal Clerk