**BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)**
**CAUCUS/REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**
**LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
**Monday, April 20, 2026-7:00 pm**

**CALL TO ORDER**: Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, presiding

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

Also present: Bill Burns, Borough Attorney
Donnelly Amico, Municipal Clerk
John Bennett, Borough Administrator
Chrissa Sierfeld, CFO
Bob Oliwa, Auditor

**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:** The Mayor stated that there were no residents who passed recently. Keep your loved ones in your thoughts.

**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. We have our budget adoption tonight and because of that we have our CFO and our Auditor with us tonight. The WPI milling of the streets are done so they are ready for the repaving.

Mayor LaCicero stated that we have a presentation from the Fred Hill Foundation and Project Backboard in regards to resurfacing our old basketball courts. We are hoping to use the County to mill the area before any resurfacing while they are here doing WPI roads.

**PRESENTATION ON RENOVATING THE OLDER BASKETBALL COURTS BY COACH FRED HILL OF THE FRED HILL FOUNDATION/PROJECT BACKBOARD**

Fred Hill, stated that he has been a Coach at some colleges and universities all his life and he has ran some camps at the new basketball courts here for several years. His foundation has helped so many children in this State with whatever they need. We would like to help Lavallette with being able to utilize the old basketball courts just as efficiently as the new courts by resurfacing them with funding from Team Hill and JDS Sports.

Mr. Burns, Borough Attorney questioned who would the contract be with, Mr. Hill or Project Backboard?

Mr. Hill stated that Project Backboard would be who the Borough would have the contract with and JDS Sports is who we use to do the work.

Mr. Burns stated that he would have to discuss the contract aspect further so he will need a few weeks before it can be put on the agenda.

Mayor LaCicero stated that we will strive for getting it on for the next agenda which is May 4th.

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

Judith Josephs, 114 New York Avenue stated that she is so excited about this and knows that many other people in town are excited as well. Those basketball courts would be used so much more once they are resurfaced.

**ON CONSENT AGENDA/OFF CONSENT AGENDA, AND VOUCHERS:**

**RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:**

2026-109 approving a facilities use application to EQ Strong to hold beach workouts on the President Avenue beach, Sat & Sun, beginning June 20, 2026 through August 30, 2026 from 8am to 9am

2026-110 authorizing the disposal of surplus property through GovDeals

2026-111 approving a facilities use application to Hammer Surf School to hold their annual surf camp on the Brown Avenue beach starting June 25, 2026 through August 26, 2026, Mon through Sat from 9am to 4pm

2026-112 approving the budget be read by title only

2026-113 approving a facilities use application to the Lavallette Pickle Ball Club to utilize the pickle ball courts on Sat & Sun, from May 23, 2026 through September 20, 2026 from 8am to 12 noon

2026-114 approving the use of the pickle ball and tennis courts by OC Parks and Recreation starting July 13th through July 16th 2026 to hold their annual summer youth traveling pickle ball clinics, 9:30 am to 10:30 am and tennis clinics, 11am to 12 noon

2026-115 approving the facilities use application to Sanctuary Yoga to hold yoga and meditation classes on the President Avenue beach starting June 20th through August 30th 2026, Mon-Tue-Thu from 6pm to 7pm and Wed-Fri-Sat-Sun from 8am to 9pm

2026-116 authorizing self-examination of the 2026 budget

2026-117 approving a facilities use application to John Fata to hold a skim board youth camp starting June 22nd through August 10th 2026, Mon through Thu, 8am to 9am

2026-118 awarding a contract to Garden State Fireworks for our fireworks display to be held on Sunday, July 5, 2026 with a rain date of Sunday, July 12, 2026 in the amount of $15, 000

2026-119 approving a facilities use application to Waves of Impact to hold their annual free surf camp for special needs children on the Brown Avenue beach on Thursday, August 6, 2026

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Filippone to approve the consent agenda. 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 Zalom, Borowski, Finter, Stogdill and Filippone voted Yes. The Motion Passed.

**RESOLUTIONS - OFF CONSENT:**

There were no resolution off consent.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**:

2026-120 Bills List in the amount of $652,342.64

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

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

**ORDINANCES ON FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION:**

**Ordinance No. 2026-07 (1292)** Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Ordinance 2024-08 (1259) and Chapter 55 of the Code of the Borough of Lavallette Entitled, "Solid Waste," To Provide for the Year-Round Prohibition on Municipal Collection of Garbage and Solid Waste From Commercial Retail Food Establishments and to Require Year-Round Private Collection by Such Establishments

A Motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilman Borowski. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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

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

No one wished to comment.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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

A Motion to adopt this ordinance was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Stogdill.

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

**Ordinance No. 2026-08 (1293)** Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21 of the Borough Code Entitled, "Court, Municipal," To Provide for the Issuance of Administrative Search Warrants

A Motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilman Stogdill. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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

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

No one wished to comment.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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

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

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

**Ordinance No. 2026-09 (1294)** Ordinance Amending Chapter 56 Entitled, "Streets and Sidewalks," and Article I, Entitled "Excavations In Streets," of the Borough Code to Transfer Street Opening Permit Authority to the Clerk of the Department of Public Works and to Establish Road Restoration Standards

A Motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilman Stogdill. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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

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

No one wished to comment.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Borowski.  The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Stogdill.

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

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION OF THE 2026 BUDGET**: (Budget Resolution) -

The Mayor stated that our tax rate went up 1 cent which equals 246,000.  Our portion of the health benefits increased to $450,000 for this year.

He introduced Bob Oliwa our Auditor

Mr. Oliwa stated that our Bonds are outstanding and very favorable. The loans total 377,000 and the interest rates are between 0% and 5%.  The tax rate for this year is 1 cent over the prior year.  The surplus will be utilized in 2026 roughly by 2 million.  Overall this is a really good budget for Lavallette.

Mayor LaCicero stated that the construction is booming and we have great rateables and low tax rate.

A Motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilman Stogdill.  The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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

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

No one wished to comment.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Finter.  The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Borowski.

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

Resolution 2026-121-Adoption of 2026 Budget

A Motion to adopt the budget was made by Councilwoman Filippone. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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

The Mayor thanked Chrissa and Bob for being here and said they didn't have to stay for the entire meeting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Finter stated that the shuffleboard courts being cleaned and the fence will be removed. The WPI streets will be paved this week.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that the there is a meeting in Trenton this week with our Legislature regarding the REAL rules this week on Wednesday or Thursday and she is going to try and attend.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Meg Geer, 104 Brown Avenue stated that there should be a new line item in budget for calendars. She thanked Lor and Vinnie for all their help with her bay cleanup. Our trash receptacles in our business districts need stickers on them. Also, we should put in the rules and regulations that there can only be bird seed thrown at the gazebo no flowers or plastic.

**COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Councilman Borowski stated that the dedication of the scoreboard was great. The Mayor threw the first pitch to his grandson.

**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 8:26 pm.

## 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 **April 2026.**

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**Donnelly Amico**
**Municipal Clerk**