

**BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)
REORGANIZATION MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Monday, January 6, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, Presiding

MEETING NOTICE STATEMENT:

Notice of this meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was published in the Ocean Star on January 10, 2024. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and the Municipal Website.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Borough Administrator John Bennett led us in the Salute to the Flag.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE:

Joanne Filippone as Councilwoman will take her Oath of Office which will be administered by Borough Administrator John Bennett, Esq. Barbara Susinno will be holding the Bible. Three (3) year term of office from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

James G. Borowski as Councilman will take his Oath of Office which will be administered by his brother John Borowski, Esq. His wife Andrea and children, Kayleigh and James will be holding the Bible. Three (3) year term of office from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, Presiding

ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Anita F. Zalom
Councilman Robert P. Lamb
Councilwoman Joanne Filippone
Councilman James G. Borowski
Councilman Michael Stogdill
Councilman David Finter

Also Present: Donnelly Amico, Municipal Clerk
William Burns, Esq.
John Bennett, Borough Administrator

MAYOR'S ANNUAL MESSAGE:

Mayor LaCicero thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight. We had a pretty good year last year. We received two grants from the County for drainage improvements to alleviate our sump pump issues in the amount of \$2,600,000 and we will have two years to complete that project and another one to help offset our costs for the replacement of well #6 in the amount of \$2,200,000. He thanked all of

our committee members for their volunteerism and thanked all of Lavallette's hard working staff who help make everything work so well and accordingly. We up here, couldn't do it without them.

ELECTION OF BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2025: (requiring Council approval)

A Motion to elect Councilwoman Anita Zalom as Council President was made by Councilman Finter. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Lamb.

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

2025 BOROUGH APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR: (not requiring Council approval)
Planning Board / Board of Adjustment

<u>Term</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointee</u>
1 Year	Class I Member/Mayor's Designee	Jennifer Hartman-Sica
1 Year	Class II Member	John Bennett
4 Year	Class IV Member	Thomas Restaino
2 Year	Alternate Member #2	Jennifer DeRienzo

2025 BOROUGH APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR: (requiring Council approval)

1 Year	Class III Member	Joanne Filippone
--------	------------------	------------------

A Motion to appoint Joanne Filippone was made by Councilman Borowski. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Lamb.

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

2025 COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Committee Assignments of Borough Council

By Borough Council (Resolution 2025-01)

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

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.

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

2025 BOROUGH APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR: – (requiring advice and consent of Council)

Borough Attorney- Hartman/Duff-William Burns, Esq.
By Borough Council (Resolution 2025-02)

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

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.

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

Mr. Burns thanked Mayor and Council for the vote of confidence.

Borough Auditor- Oliwa & Company

By Borough Council (Resolution 2025-03)

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

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

Consulting Engineer- Morgan Municipal Engineering
Remington & Vernick
T & M Associates

By Borough Council (Resolution 2025-04)

Mayor LaCicero stated that this year we would appoint three firms for Consulting Engineer to give us more options with costs.

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

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

Various Professional Appointments -

Bond Counsel-Dilworth, Paxson, LLP Planning Board Attorney-Terry Brady, Esq.
Bonnie Peterson, Esq.-Borough Prosecutor Alternate Prosecutor-David Casadonte, Esq.
Special Prosecutor- Steven Zabarsky, Esq. Public Defender - Margarie Herlihy, Esq.
Conflict/Alternate Public Defender-John Nolan, Esq.
Special Counsel-Jean Cipriani, Esq.

By Borough Council (Resolution 2025-05)

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 the consent Agenda.

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

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

Various Advisory Committees-

Mayor Advisory Committee:

Al DeBenedictis, Chairman

CDBG / Tourism / Grants Committee:

Anita Zalom, Liaison
Elaine Schardien

Joseph Palinsky
Patricia Hoffman

Municipal Utility Advisory Committee:

Dave Finter, Liaison

James Borowski, Liaison

Al DeBenedictis
Glen Mazzarano

Joseph Palinsky

Ordinance Committee:

Joanne Filippone, Liaison
Sheila Sharkey
Martin Morales
Nicholas Zaccaria
Georgia Calderaro
Barbara Susinno

David Finter, Liaison
Patricia Marrone
Audrey Zylinski
Mark Speaker
Adele Ronchetti
Landon Hoberman

Recreation Advisory Committee:

Anita Zalom, Liaison
Patricia Hoffman
Georgia Calderaro
Chief Christian LaCicero
Theresa Coleman
Joyce Hornung
Patricia Marrone
Judith Josephs

Michael Stogdill, Liaison
Dr. Jim Enright
Bart Coleman
Sgt. Adam LaCicero
Harriet Sheridan
Bruno Hornung
Audrey Zylinski

Beautification Committee:

Anita Zalom, Liaison
Patricia Marrone
Theresa Coleman
Joyce Hornung
Adele Ronchetti
Kaitlyn Hajisafari

Joanne Filippone, Liaison
Arlene Maglionico
Bruno Hornung
Anne Schneider
Rich Traverso

Environmental Protection Advisory Committee:

Anita Zalom, Liaison
Mark Speaker, Chairman
Patricia Hoffman

Dave Finter, Liaison
Donna Franzoso
Barbara Susinno

Goose Patrol Committee:

Joanne LaCicero, President
Susan Kotch
Gary Norman

Glenn Mazzarano
Sandra Mazzarano

Memorabilia Advisory Committee:

Joanne Filippone, Chairperson

Council President Anita Zalom

Harry Dews
Patricia Marrone

Mary Jo Austin

Business & Tourism Committee

Mark Speaker, Chairman

By Borough Council (Resolution 2025-06)

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

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.

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

Council President Zalom welcomed Judy Josephs to the Recreation Committee.

RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 2025-07 | Authorizing execution of Schedule “C” Agreement with the County of Ocean for year 2025 |
| 2025-08 | Increasing minimum wage hourly rates to \$15.49 effective January 1, 2025 |
| 2025-09 | appointing Theodore Golubowski as the Clean Communities Coordinator |
| 2025-10 | Authorizing the appointment of Phoenix Advisors for the continuing disclosure agent services and independent registered municipal advisor for the year 2025 |
| 2025-11 | Designating Official Newspapers |
| 2025-12 | Authorizing officials to sign checks, disbursement funds, checks and drafts |
| 2025-13 | Establishing 2025 Petty Cash Funds |
| 2025-14 | Designating Official Depositories |
| 2025-15 | Establishing calendar of 2025 Council Meetings |
| 2025-16 | Adoption of Rules for the Mayor and Council |
| 2025-17 | Fixing rate of interest to be charged on delinquent taxes or assessments |

2025-18	Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to make certain timely payments for specific monetary obligations
2025-19	Establishing the allocation of salaries of certain employees within the Borough
2025-20	Reaffirming Cash Management Plan
2025-21	Temporary Budget
2025-22	Adopting federal guidelines for mileage reimbursement for Public Officials
2025-23	Authorizing participation in the State of NJ Cooperative Purchasing Program
2025-24	Approving appointment of John Bennett as Ocean County JIF/MEL Fund-Fund Commissioner and Donnelly Amico as Alternate Fund Commissioner
2025-25	Establishing the allocation of the funds received from the State drunk driving enforcement fund and authorizing Mayor Walter LaCicero to sign the quarterly DWI reports
2025-26	Establishing Change Funds
2025-27	Endorsing submission of year 2025 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application
2025-28	Authorizing Software Contract – Edmunds & Associates \$13,217.26
2025-29	authorization to approve seasonal appointments prior to meeting confirmation
2025-30	Designating Public Agency Compliance Officer in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5 – Borough Administrator
2025-31	Authorizing the Tax Assessor to act as agent for Lavallette and File Appeals for tax year 2025
2025-32	Approving contract for C-2 License-Theodore J. Golubowski
2025-33	Approving contract for T-2 and W-2 Licenses-Charles Farrah
2025-34	Approving appointment of Public Power Association of New Jersey Representatives: Councilman James G. Borowski – Representative / Dave Finter - Alternate
2025-35	Approving appointment of Emergency Management Team for 2025
2025-36	Approving appointment of members to the Lavallette Emergency Planning Committee

- 2025-37 Approving appointments within the Lavallette Police Department for 2025: Special Police, Class I & II, Crossing Guards, Part-time Dispatchers, and Matrons
- 2025-38 Approving appointments of ADA Coordinator – Councilmember Anita F. Zalom, Deputy ADA Coordinator – Elaine Schardien, and members to the Lavallette Community Partners for People with Disabilities for 2025
- 2025-39 Approving appointment of Theodore J. Golubowski as Lavallette Safety Coordinator
- 2025-40 Appointing Meridian Occupational Health, P.C. as Municipal Physician Practice for the Borough of Lavallette
- 2025-41 Authorizing Mayor Walter G. LaCicero to execute an agreement with Commerce Risk Control Services and Dynamic Testing Services to provide services relating to an Alcohol and substance program for CDL drivers
- 2025-42 Approving the Ocean County Animal Facilities Fee Schedule for 2025
- 2025-43 Appointing Sergeant Michael Monica as Internal Affairs Officer for the Lavallette Police Department
- 2025-44 approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Lavallette and the Dispatchers & Records Clerk Union beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028-Mr. Bennett requested this by pulled off consent until further notice.
- 2024-44A approving 5 year longevity steps for non-union department heads effective January 1, 2025

A Motion to approve the consent agenda minus Resolution 2025-44 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 minus Resolution 2025-44.

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

RESOLUTIONS OFF-CONSENT:

- 2025-45 Establishing non-contractual employee annual salaries for 2025

A Motion to approve this resolution 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.

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

2025-46 Appointing Lori Stogdill as the 2025 Right to Know Coordinator

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

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

2025-47 approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Lavallette and Teamsters 97 beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027

A Motion to approve this resolution 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.

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

2024 BILLS LIST:

2025-48 Bills List in the amount of \$1,502,679.24

A Motion to approve the 2024 bills list was made by Councilman Lamb. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Stogdill.

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

2025 BILLS LIST:

2025-49 Bills List in the amount of \$217,481.12

A Motion to approve the 2025 bills list was made by Councilman Stogdill. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Finter.

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

1st PUBLIC HEARING ON CDBG 2025 GRANT APPLICATION-Councilwoman Zalom

A Motion was made to open the public hearing on the CDBG 2025 grant application by Council President Zalom. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Stogdill.

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

Council President Zalom stated that municipalities can apply for CDBG grants every two years so we are up again to apply this year. Past grants we received for this have roughly run between \$35,000 to \$45,000. These grants are ADA restricted, so any item that we decide to request in the application has must be ADA handicap accessible. Any suggestions that anyone has are welcomed. The application is due to the County the second week of February.

The Mayor asked if anyone in the audience or any of Council wished to comment or ask any questions about this grant application.

No one wished to comment or ask questions.

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

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

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

There were no comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Borowski thanked his family for their support all these years and his brother for his support and swearing him in. When he was first elected in 1998, his mom held the bible. He is honored to be elected for all these years and honored that the residents still have confidence in me to be their voice. He also thanked the staff from all departments that all form a wonderful team with Mr. Bennett as the leader.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that she is honored to be sworn in by a former Senator and also former Governor of New Jersey and now Borough Administrator and most importantly my friend. This year she is hoping to get the bench project finalized. She became a resident of Lavallette full time in the early 2,000's and a few years into living here she was approached by Wally and Bobby about running for Council. Both of them were already on Council but Wally was going to run for Mayor that next year and he wanted me to take his Council seat if he won. Well we know how that turned out, he won and became Mayor and I took his Council seat and have been here ever since. Thank you to the residents for their faith in me and thank you to all the staff for keeping everything flowing so nice and easy in the town.

Council Members Zalom, Stogdill, Finter and Lamb all Congratulated Council Members Filippone and Borowski for another 3 year term.

Mr. Bennett congratulated Council Members Filippone and Borowski for another term. He stated that he has never loved a job as much as he loves working for Lavallette. He also stated that he has never seen a Mayor and Council work so much in their position for their town.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that Councilman Borowski, myself and the Republic Club invite everyone tonight in the audience and up at the dais to the Crab's Claw tonight for drinks on them.

Mr. Burns stated that as President of the Republican Club, he wants to congratulate both Councilman Borowski and Councilwoman Filippone for another term. Also, Council Members Lamb and Stogdill's Council seats are up this year and it is an honor to say that both of them will be seeking re-election this year.

Mayor LaCicero stated that Paterson City Police Department seemed to run into the same issue we had a few years back with the Prosecutor's Office taking over the Police Department. We finally lost our patience with them after two years since they couldn't give us any reasons why they were still here since everything was being done correctly so we decided to have our Borough Attorney file a complaint against them and sued the Prosecutors Office. Once we did that they packed up and left. Well Paterson Police Department had heard about our issue and reached out to our Chief of Police and asked if they could be sent the copy of the complaint we filed so they could give it to their City Attorney. They filed the same complaint, word for word from Mr. Burns and they also won.

Mayor LaCicero stated that a few weeks ago we talked about NJ American Water putting in new water mains on some sections of the three streets in Westmont Shores and how part of that project they will be repaving those areas of the streets and curbs. We had Morgan Engineering take a look at the western side of those streets that have no curbing to see how much it would run for us to add curbs and they gave us a price of \$500,000. Hopefully we will get a grant for this and we couldn't do this before any paving anyway. There will be a few meetings next week with the Beach replenishment but it looks like that Seaside Heights will be done first and then we are going to be done right after them.

Mayor LaCicero congratulated Council Members Filippone and Borowski and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Councilman Lamb to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting. The Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

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

The Reorganization Meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

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 Reorganization meeting held on the 6th day of **January 2025**.

Donnelly Amico
Municipal Clerk