

BOROUGH OF LAVALLETTE(minutes)
CAUCUS/REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
LAVALLETTE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Monday, February 3, 2025-7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Robert P. Lamb, presiding
Mayor Walter G. LaCicero was absent.

ROLL CALL: Council Members Borowski, Lamb, Zalom, Stogdill, Finter and Filippone
Council Members Borowski and Zalom were 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, 2025. Notice was also posted on our municipal bulletin board and municipal website.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Councilman Lamb asked for a moment of silence for any loved ones who have passed.

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

MAYOR'S WELCOMING STATEMENT: Councilman Lamb welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Caucus/Regular Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2025

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

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

REPORTS:

- a) Construction Report for January 2025 -Councilwoman Filippone-read report
- b) Zoning/Code Report for January 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-read report
- c) Municipal Court Report for January 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-no report
- d) Police Overtime Report for January 2025-Councilwoman Filippone read report
- e) Public Works Report for January 2025-Councilman Lamb-read report
- f) Fire Department Report for January 2025-Councilwoman Filippone-no report
- g) Public Affairs-Council President Zalom
- h) Tax Account Report for January 2025-Tax Collector

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

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

ON CONSENT AGENDA/OFF CONSENT AGENDA, AND VOUCHERS:

RESOLUTIONS – ON CONSENT:

- 2025-59 approving a facilities use application to Sherri Paris to hold her annual Marine Science Camp on the bay front starting June 16th through August 29th 2025, M-F, 9am to 2pm
- 2025-60 requiring mandatory governing body certification of compliance with the US Equal Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”
- 2025-61 approving a facilities use application submitted by Muggeo Basketball, LLC to hold a four-week basketball camp at the new basketball courts, M-F, starting July 7, 2025 through August 1, 2025 from 9am to 12 noon
- 2025-62 to affirm the Borough’s Civil Rights Policy with respect to all officials, appointees, employees, prospective employees, volunteers, independent contractors and members of the public that come into contact with municipal employees, officials and volunteers
- 2025-63 authorizing the Mayor to sign and execute an interlocal service agreement between the Borough of Lavallette and the OC Prosecutor’s Office to participate in the OC Prosecutor’s Program for 2025

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

Councilman Lamb opened the floor to the public and asked if anyone wished to comment on the consent agenda.

No one wished to comment. Councilman Lamb closed the floor to the public and asked Council for a vote on the consent agenda.

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

RESOLUTIONS - OFF CONSENT:

There was no resolutions off consent.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

2025-64 Bills List in the amount of \$3,499,418.81

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

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

ORDINANCES ON FOR PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL ADOPTION:

Ordinance No. 2025-01 (1265) Ordinance of the Borough of Lavallette Amending, Revising and Supplementing Certain Sections of Chapter 20, Entitled, "Construction Codes" of the Borough Code

Mr. Burns stated that this is to remove some language regarding fees for roofing and siding permits.

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

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

Councilman Lamb asked if anyone wished to comment on this ordinance.

No one wished to comment.

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

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

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

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

Bond Ordinance No. 2025-02 (1266) Bond Ordinance Amending in part Bond Ordinance 2022-15 (1233) Adopted on August 1, 2022, Providing for the Replacement of a Potable Water Supply Well, Redevelopment of a Potable Water Supply Well, And Replacement of the Electrical System Associated with the Municipal Wells and Water Treatment Plant, In Order to Increase the Appropriation Therefor by \$2,200,000 for a Total Appropriation of \$5,900,000, and to Increase the Allocation of the Appropriation to Costs Permitted Under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20

Mr. Bennett stated that this was to amend the previous bond ordinance to increase the appropriation to include the grant amount of \$2,2 million we received from the County.

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

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

Councilman Lamb asked if anyone wished to comment on this ordinance.

No one wished to comment.

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

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

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

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

Ordinance No. 2025-03 (1267) Ordinance of the Borough of Lavallette Amending, Revising and Supplementing Certain Sections of Chapter 24, Article II, Entitled, “Electric Rates and Regulations” of the Borough Code

Mr. Burns stated that due to the wholesale price substantially increasing we had no choice But to add this capacity charge to the electric billing rates. We also added into this ordinance the ability for Council to amend the rates via resolution to reflect the percentage increase from the PJM analysis whenever needed. He stated that in doing this, prevents the need to frequently open the ordinance every year.

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.

Councilman Lamb asked if anyone wished to comment on this ordinance.

Mr. Bennett stated that there are still uncertainties regarding the electric rates, which ties into the PGM grid. There will be no rate increase for 2025 as the rate is set by ordinance. He clarified that a capacity adjustment charge might be done by resolution pending JPM status which must be resolved by March 15th to take effect for the May billing cycle. He stated that the historical rate data shows a slight increase from .02555 to .027 per kilowatt

hour for 2025. He stated that the Borough is not aiming for profit but needs to cover the costs.

No one else wished to comment.

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

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

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

General With No Action:

a) Lavallette Yacht Club/Pamela Phillips, Secretary/Temporary Closure of Swan Point Road starting Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 9am through Monday, February 10, 2025 at 9am/Received January 24, 2025

b) Altice/Maria Bruzzese, Senior VP/2024 Annual Franchise Fee Payment in the amount of \$31,982

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Bennett stated that he has been having meetings regarding the budget with all department heads and the CFO.

Councilman Lamb stated that there has been a significant increase in chlorine costs for water, doubling since last year so that is going to become an issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Bennett stated that Chuck Applegate from our Engineer's Office will be taking care of the CDBG grant application. He stated he would like to get approval tonight to appoint Van Cleef Engineering for handling the CDBG application.

A Motion to approve Van Cleef Engineering to take care of applying for the Community Development Block grant (CDBG) for 2025 was made by Councilwoman Filippone. The Motion was Seconded by Councilman Stogdill.

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2025 CDBG GRANT-COUNCILMAN FINTER:

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

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

Councilman Finter stated that the Borough is applying for the CDBG grant for this year. We are going to be asking for \$35,000 or more for the purchase of another mobi mat for the New York Avenue handicap accessible walkover. That will only leave us only one more of the handicap accessible walkovers to put another mobi mat on. Depending on how much the mat will cost us, any additional funds left over will go towards the ADA handicap playground, if we receive that grant as well.

Councilman Lamb asked if anyone wished to comment on this application.

Judith Josephs, 114 New York Avenue state that she is a new member of the ADA Committee and the Recreation Committee. She is also a volunteer consultant that has helped with the process of some of the grants we have applied for. There are 4 dedicated ADA entrances to our beach and with this grant, it will be the 3rd ADA walkover that will have the mobi mat on the walkover. This is so important for our residents as well as tourists with disabilities in helping them secure a much easier access to our beach.

No one else wished to comment on this application.

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

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

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Bennett stated that the calendars are almost complete for this year. We are in discussions on the cost and effectiveness of mailing the calendars this year. Last year's mailing strategy led to undelivered calendars and additional costs. We are considering removing unnecessary page to reduce costs and improve distribution efficiency. In 2023, extra calendars were available until January and February of the next year but last year we ran out extremely quick. The goal is to finalize the calendar content and send it to the printer by early march to ensure mailing by April 1st to potentially saving costs.

Mr. Bennett stated that the ad form for the history book has been printed and solicitation of funds from businesses has begun. The cutoff for ad submissions is later today with the aim to complete pictures and ads by then. The book is planned to be a coffee table size with approximately 200 pages, including color and black and white pictures. Our target is to produce 2,500 books with the costs offset by ad revenue. We expect it to be ready by September 2025 with some ad revenue subsidizing the following year's celebration.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

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 Stogdill.

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

The Council Meeting was adjourned by 7:50pm.

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 3rd day of February 2025.

Donnelly Amico
Municipal Clerk