

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, August 5, 2020 – 4:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order.

Municipal Clerk Kyle read the Opening Statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. A notice of this meeting was emailed to the Press of Atlantic City and the Current on July 31, 2020. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board and filed in the office of the municipal clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted.

ROLL CALL:	Nicholas Russo	present
	James P. Leeds, Sr.	present
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, Engineer Carter, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

The Mayor stated the location of emergency exits.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo provided an update on behalf of Emergency Manager Funk, regarding a recent storm in the Borough and noted that over all the Borough had fared well. He noted that all department heads had met before the storm to prepare.

He added that he would like to hear an update from the Borough Engineer regarding a proposed sidewalk project to address areas that are not paved and an upcoming Absecon Island Beach Fill Project.

Engineer Carter discussed a report that he had provided to the Governing Body and noted that there were several ways to approach the sidewalk project. He suggested eliminating beach and bay blocks as well as alleyways. If this was done, the estimated total for the project is an estimated \$187,000. He explained that this cost was for the overall project. He added that if the project were broken up into smaller projects that the cost could go up. He discussed the possibility of making Overbrook Avenue a priority. He also discussed marrying the sidewalk project with other ongoing projects in the Borough to help save money. He requested that the Governing Body review the overall project and advise him if certain areas are a priority, or if the project should be approached as a whole. He discussed various ways funding could be obtained including: obtaining funds from a roadway or sewer/water bond, using funds previously allocated for the Point, or if a street project grant was awarded, money could be freed up that was originally allocated for the project, but the grant would now offset. Mayor Russo said that the Governing Body would provide input at the next workshop meeting regarding what is the best way to proceed with this project. There was also discussion that Colgate Avenue may be paved as part of an application being brought before the Planning and Zoning Board.

Engineer Carter also explained that the Army Corps of Engineers recently awarded a beach fill project and that Longport should receive a preliminary schedule for the fill by the next meeting on August 19th.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler discussed a recent resolution that was passed to designate the time and day that trash could be placed at the curb for collection. He said he thought the established 6 PM time was too late for most residents and he recommended making the time earlier. Solicitor Affanato explained that a previously adopted resolution had established the time to put recycling out as 6 pm and that the recent resolution married trash into it as there was no time set for trash. There was discussion on earlier times and the types of containers used for trash and recycling. The Governing Body agreed to amend the time to 12 noon the day before collection. Solicitor Affanato said he would prepare a resolution.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds nothing further to report.

Municipal Administrator:

Administrator Porter said he recently received an application from Mr. Baumgardner to hold a barbecue lunch on the beach as part of a fundraiser event to support Special Olympics. He noted that the Governing Body would have to adopt a resolution to permit the use of charcoal grills on the beach for this event. Mr. Baumgardner noted that under normal circumstance the lunch is held at a restaurant, but due to COVID-19 that could not be done and that was why he was requesting permission from the Governing Body to hold a barbecue on the beach. Commissioner Leeds asked where the barbecue would take place. It was explained that the event would be held on the 32nd Avenue beach. The Mayor also discussed outdoor dining and how municipalities are trying to accommodate these types of activities. The Governing Body agreed to place a resolution on the regular meeting agenda to give Mr. Baumgardner permission to use the beach for a charcoal grill barbecue. The resolution number would be R2020-98.

Administrator Porter discussed a list of street openings being prepared by the public works department and that work would occur in the fall. Engineer Carter explained that the funds from the street opening permit fees would be used towards fixing trenches that needed time to settle. It was noted that borough money would not be used to fix the contractor-created trenches. The money used would be money from an escrow account funded by permit fees. Engineer Carter noted that there were times when Borough funds were required, however this was for street openings by the Borough. He said that a good portion of money was used due to unforeseen emergencies, including two water leaks in the Borough that occurred last year.

Administrator Porter explained that a local restaurant, Catch, would like to further expand its outdoor dining into the street and up to the barricade that has been placed for a pedestrian walkway area. He added that if the Governing Body was OK with the expansion for a one-day event, it would have to be approved by resolution at the regular meeting. He further explained that if the owner wished to serve alcohol in this expanded area, they would need to get approval from the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control. There was further discussion on where the tables would be placed and if this would affect pedestrians and that they would have to remain safe with the expansion. The Governing Body agreed to place a resolution, R2020-99, to allow for the expansion into the street, on the regular meeting's agenda.

Solicitor:

Solicitor Affanato discussed an ordinance that was on the regular meeting's agenda for a first reading to amend parking on a section of Ventnor Avenue. He explained that the police chief had recommended

the ordinance and that it would help clear up some ambiguity in the current ordinance. It was noted that the ordinance primarily addressed a narrow section of the street, eliminating two or three parking spots on the north side, near Evergreen Avenue, past 32nd Avenue. Commissioner Leeds noted that Ventnor Avenue is a County road. He also asked if the homeowners that would be affected had been notified. It was noted that they had not, but that the ordinance is up for a first reading. Administrator Porter noted that the County would be notified if the ordinance is adopted. Commissioner Lawler asked if the ordinance could be postponed as he would like to go out and see the area discussed in the ordinance.

Solicitor Affanato noted that he does not have an update on the Municipal Public Access Plan (MPAP) due to NJ Department of Environmental Protection furloughs. He noted that the Borough is making good progress on its Beach Maintenance Plan. He noted that if the MPAP is not approved yet, he would check with the NJ DEP to see if it could be submitted without the approved MPAP.

He also discussed the recent appointment of two planning and zoning board members and explained that the Mayor can make these appointments and that a resolution is not necessary.

He also noted that Borough ordinances permit the Governing Body to allow the use of charcoal grills on the beach via resolution and that was the reason for the resolution regarding Mr. Baumgardner's request.

Solicitor Affanato also discussed a planning and zoning board ordinance that requires real estate signs to be removed 10 days after closing on the property. He explained that the Code Enforcement Officer has no way of knowing when closing occurs and that he needs to find out from either the tax assessor or tax collector if they receive some type of notification or there would be a need to look into amending the language in the ordinance. Mayor Russo recommended finding where the HUD sheets are filed. Engineer Carter recommended the language be changed "upon notice."

Engineer Carter:

Engineer Carter said he hopes to have some comments soon from the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife regarding this portion of the Beach Maintenance Plan.

Engineer Carter also noted that regarding Well #4 that the Borough has been informed by the consultant that because of the design criteria that the budget might be exceeded. He is going to look at ways to downsize it or other options to stay within budget. He discussed some different options including possibly building a well house similar to Well House #8 in Ventnor. He also discussed the building of a public works office building that could be done in a different location.

Mayor Russo asked if there was an update regarding the boat lift project. Administrator Porter noted that there was no update.

Municipal Clerk:

Municipal Clerk Kyle discussed a Green Team resolution on the regular meeting agenda for the Governing Body's consideration.

Miscellaneous:

Commissioner Leeds asked where the sand would be going for the beach fill. Engineer Carter said from 16th Avenue to the Point. It was noted that with the recent storm, there has been a lot of sand accumulation, particularly at the Point area.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, August 5, 2020**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:42 pm.

Municipal Clerk Kyle read the Opening Statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. A notice of this meeting was emailed to the Press of Atlantic City and the Current on July 31, 2020. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the municipal clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Official action may be taken at this meeting.

ROLL CALL:	Nicholas Russo	present
	James P. Leeds, Sr.	present
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, Engineer Carter, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Emergency Exits, Public speaking announcement – announced by Mayor Russo.

Approval of minutes-

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the July 15, 2020, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting. Mayor Russo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Leeds, to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2020, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting. ALL AYES- none opposed.

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion to add several resolutions, discussed at the previous workshop meeting, to the regular meeting agenda:

A motion was made by Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler to add the following resolution - R2020-98 to the agenda. All in Favor – Yes. None opposed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo to add the following resolution - R2020-99 to the agenda. All in Favor – Yes. None opposed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Commissioner Leeds to add the following resolution - R2020-100 to the agenda. All in Favor – Yes. None opposed.

First Reading/ Introduction of Ordinance O2020-06 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 161-13 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Longport, Atlantic County, New Jersey, as it Pertains to No

Parking on Ventnor Avenue from JFK Bridge to 32nd Avenue. A Second Reading/ Public Hearing is scheduled to be held on August 19, 2020, at the Regular Commission Meeting, following the 4 pm Workshop Meeting.

Number	Title
2020-06	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 161-13 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Longport, Atlantic County, New Jersey, as it Pertains to No Parking on Ventnor Avenue from JFK Bridge to 32 nd Avenue.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to add a section of No Parking on Ventnor Avenue from the JFK Bridge to 32 nd Avenue.
Motion	Motion –Mayor Russo, seconded by Commissioner Lawler to introduce Ordinance #O2020-06.
All in Favor	ALL AYES. None opposed.

Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions:

Mark Hyman of 4 N. 31st Avenue said that he did not think it was fair of the Governing Body to introduce Ordinance 2020-06 without notifying the homeowners in the area that would be affected by the eliminated parking spaces. He discussed parking in the area and how it would affect homeowners that do use the parking spaces. He requested that it be tabled until they are notified. It was explained to Mr. Hyman that the ordinance was being introduced and required a second reading and public hearing before it could be adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

Number	Title
2020-93	A Resolution Appointing a Member to the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Longport to Fill an Unexpired Term Pursuant to NJ Statutes Annotated Title 40 Section 54 Subsections 9 and 10 MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-94	A Resolution for the Governing Body – Certification of the Annual Audit MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER. ROLL CALL VOTE: RUSSO – YES. LEEDS – YES. LAWLER – YES. All AYES- none opposed.
2020-95	A Resolution Appointing Members of the Longport Green Team Advisory Committee MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-96	A Resolution Establishing an Emergency “No Parking” Area During the 2020 Wounded Warrior Parade MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

2020-97	A Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Property MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-98	A Resolution to Support the Special Olympics Fundraiser – BBQ on the Beach MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. <i>*It was noted that this would occur at the 32nd Avenue beach.</i>
2020-99	A Resolution Establishing when Trash and Recycling can be placed Curbside for Collection in the Borough of Longport MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-100	A Resolution Granting Extended Use of Borough Sidewalk and a Piece of the Parking Area in Front and Next to the Restaurants on Atlantic Avenue MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

BILL LIST

Commissioner of Finance and Revenue, Jim Leeds, Sr., asked if there were any questions on the Bill List of August 5, 2020. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – RUSSO. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

MAYOR RUSSO

Mayor Russo discussed a recent storm in Longport and noted that the Borough received numerous phone calls regarding the storm. He commended OEM Manager Bruce Funk and the OEM team as well as the Fire and Police departments. He noted that the emergency services all had extra personnel available to handle any potential emergencies. He said that the Borough had approximately 10 fire-related calls and two EMS calls. He explained that there isn't much the Borough can do regarding these outages. He noted that there was a power outage for approximately eight hours, but that there were still some areas without power. He explained that the Office of Emergency Management report was not yet completed, but that the borough did have some downed trees and loss of roof shingles, but no major damage.

Mayor Russo discussed the Would Warrior Week and the upcoming events and that he did not foresee any issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

COMMISSIONER LEEDS

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONER LAWLER

Commissioner Lawler asked if there was a protocol with the electric company when power goes out as the Governing Body often gets a lot of phone calls. Mayor Russo discussed priority areas when power goes out such as hospitals, urgent care facilities and senior high rises. Engineer Carter explained that the electric company has a power outage map and a number to call to report outages. Mayor Russo noted

that even dispatch had difficulty getting through to report arcing wires. He said that Atlantic Electric was overwhelmed with calls during the storm. Commissioner Leeds explained that electric utility companies in Florida will text updates every 30 minutes. He said that that local utility companies had not made any notification to residents.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing further to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Nothing further to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Hyman of 4 N. 31st Avenue discussed his concerns regarding the United States Postal Service in Longport. He said that mail is being delivered every other day, workers are working until 8 pm, mail is not being delivered to the correct address and that he often finds himself delivering mail for other residents that he received in his mailbox. He said that there were numerous issues occurring and that this is concerning to him. Mayor Russo agreed with Mr. Hyman that there was an issue with service, and said that he would send a letter to our Congressman and U.S. Senators. Mayor Russo noted that in the past he worked hard to keep the post office open in Longport. There was further discussion on this topic.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LAWLER, SECOND – COMMISSIONER LEEDS. All AYES- none opposed.

Adjournment - 5:06 pm.