

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 – 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 May 14, 2021. 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 via teleconference
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo stated the location of emergency exits and noted that there is no public comment during workshop meetings.

Municipal Administrator:

Administrator Porter discussed a resolution on the regular meeting agenda to authorize sidewalk use for outdoor dining.

He noted that there will be an upcoming pre-construction meeting for the Longport Volunteer Fire Department Boat Dock Lift project to be constructed behind Borough Hall.

Administrator Porter also discussed the approval of the Emergency Beach Maintenance Permit that the Borough submitted. He said that once approved that there would be a 60-day window to do the work. He added that the Borough's Beach Maintenance Permit had been submitted to the NJ DEP for approval.

He also said he is reviewing the bus stop locations on Ventnor Avenue and he is waiting to hear back from NJ Transit regarding a plan he and the engineer submitted to them.

Administrator Porter also asked the Governing Body if they were interested in revisiting an ordinance that eliminated sections of parking on Ventnor Avenue between 32nd and 31st Avenue that had been tabled at a previous meeting. It was decided that the ordinance would not be revisited.

Administrator Porter also discussed a street opening repair project. He said he received a call from the contractor asking to delay the project until the fall. After some discussion with the contractor, it was decided that the contractor will try and finish the project in June. Administrator Porter hoped to have the project finished by July 4th.

He also discussed a HUMVEE that the Longport Police Department converted to a HERO Campaign vehicle and that there will be an event to reveal the truck on May 27th.

He also discussed a resolution on the agenda for the Chief of Police. He noted that the review process had not been completed. He requested that the resolution be removed from the agenda and to be considered at a future meeting.

Solicitor Affanato:

Solicitor Affanato did not have anything further report unless the Governing Body had a questions. He noted that he had prepared several ordinances for the regular commission meeting.

Engineer Dennis:

Engineer Dennis discussed Well #4 project. He said that required testing and pumping was ongoing. He said if all went well it would be completed soon. He said he hoped all testing would be completed by Memorial Day. If not, he said that no testing would occur over Memorial Day Weekend.

He also discussed Amherst Avenue traffic flow. He noted that he met with many of the residents who attended previous meetings on this topic and said that a lot of progress has taken place. He discussed some of the measures that the City of Margate has taken: including adding a three-way stop on Amherst Avenue at Coolidge Avenue and the addition of way-finding signage to direct cars to Ventnor Avenue. He also discussed some updates on Margate's Promenade Project.

Engineer Dennis also discussed some measures that Longport is looking to implement including adding a Stop sign on Amherst Avenue at 33rd Avenue. He also discussed the area between Coolidge Avenue and 36th Avenue installing a 'cattle-chute' or a one-way, 11-foot wide traffic lane to help funnel traffic going into Longport. He said that this would help indicate that cars were now entering a residential district and would help reduce truck traffic and slow traffic down. He said that the measures, if adopted, would be implemented in a way that they could easily be removed if necessary. He noted that these measures could also be made to be permanent changes. He noted that the group of residents he met with felt that this is something the Borough should try. He also discussed adding speed tables on Amherst Avenue. He added that these could be easily undone if they did not work out. He noted that sometimes these can cause noise issues.

He also discussed a comprehensive traffic calming plan for all of Amherst Avenue that would also increase pedestrian safety. He said that there is grant funding for this type of work.

Mayor Russo said he saw a schematic of Margate's additional signage. He asked when it would be implemented.

Engineer Dennis also discussed grant funding through the NJ DOT. He noted that this type of funding was used for the repaving of Atlantic Avenue. He said that he is working on application.

Commissioner Leeds had several questions. He asked if the parking along the Promenade would be opened before it is finished. He also questioned if the measures on Amherst Avenue from 32nd to 36th and that it would remain two-way. It was noted that anyone heading towards Margate would have to turn down 36th Avenue and he questioned if the residents on 36th were OK with that change.

Solicitor Affanato briefly discussed the ordinance on the agenda for a first reading that would prohibit the sale of cannabis in the Borough and that the Planning and Zoning Board would need to review it before it could be adopted.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo discussed the upcoming Memorial Day parade and the route. He also discussed the entrance ways to the beach and that the Public Works Department is working on installing the blue mats. He noted that the Borough was waiting for permission from the NJ DEP so it could proceed with preparing the beach for the summer season.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds discussed that complaints have been coming in regarding the rabbit population. It was noted that animal control has a limited amount of traps available for this purpose. Mayor Russo discussed various types of rabbit repellents. There was further discussion on this topic.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler discussed the Stop sign on Amherst and 33rd Avenue. Engineer Dennis noted that a Stop bar would be placed there. He also discussed street lighting and noted that a resident was interested in getting a light shield on one of the street lights. Engineer Dennis noted that he would work on this.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Municipal Clerk Kyle noted that there was a typo on Resolution 2021-72 to Retain Clarke Caton Hintz Company as an Affordable Housing Consultant – an “e” had to be added to Clarke. She also noted that on May 11th volunteers helped plant and clean out the community garden. She also noted that there was a resolution on the regular meeting to add a new member to the Green Team who was interested in taking a leadership role.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:34 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 May 14, 2021. 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 via teleconference
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Emergency Exits, Public Speaking Announcement – announced by Mayor Russo.

Mayor Russo made a motion to move Resolution 2021-83 to the beginning of the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – ALL AYES. None opposed

Mayor Russo made a motion to Adopt **Resolution 2021-83 – To Authorize the Convening of a Closed (Executive) Session to Discuss Hyman v. Borough of Longport.** All in Favor – ALL AYES. None Opposed. (4:35 pm).

Mayor Russo made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – ALL AYES. None Opposed. Regular meeting reconvened at 4:47 pm.

Approval of minutes-

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the April 21, 2021, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting and the April 29, 2021 Special Commission Meeting. Mayor Russo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lawler, to approve the minutes. ALL AYES- none opposed.

Commissioner Lawler made a motion to withdraw Resolution 2021-90 from the agenda, seconded by Mayor Russo. All in Favor – ALL AYES. None opposed.

The following ordinances were introduced for a first reading/ introduction:

First Reading/ Introduction of Ordinance O2021-08 – An Ordinance by the Borough of Longport in Atlantic County, New Jersey, Prohibiting the Operation of Any Class of Cannabis Businesses within its Geographical Boundaries and Amending Section 167 of the Borough of Longport Municipal Code. A

second reading and public hearing will be held at the June 2, 2021, Regular Commission Meeting that will follow the 4 pm workshop meeting.

First Reading/ Introduction of Ordinance O2021-09 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 161 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Longport, Atlantic County, New Jersey, as it Pertains to Handicapped Parking. *A second reading and public hearing will be held at the June 2, 2021, Regular Commission Meeting that will follow the 4 pm workshop meeting.*

First Reading/ Introduction of Ordinance O2021-10 – An Ordinance Amending One-Way Streets in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey. *A second reading and public hearing will be held at the June 2, 2021, Regular Commission Meeting that will follow the 4 pm workshop meeting.*

First Reading/ Introduction of Ordinance O2021-11 – An Ordinance Amending Stop Intersections in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey. *A second reading and public hearing will be held at the June 2, 2021, Regular Commission Meeting that will follow the 4 pm workshop meeting.*

ORDINANCES

Number	Title
2021-08	An Ordinance by the Borough of Longport in Atlantic Count, New Jersey, Prohibiting the Operation of Any Class of Cannabis Businesses within its Geographical Boundaries and Amending Section 167 of the Borough of Longport Municipal Code.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit the operation of any class of cannabis businesses in the geographical boundaries of the Borough of Longport and to amend Section 167 of the Borough of Longport’s Code Book.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler to Introduce Ordinance #O2021-08.
All in Favor	ALL AYES. None opposed.
2021-09	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 161 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Longport, Atlantic County, New Jersey, as it Pertains to Handicapped Parking.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to correct, add, and delete certain designated handicapped parking spaced for improved disabled person access at various locations within the Borough of Longport.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo to Introduce Ordinance #O2021-09.
All in Favor	ALL AYES. None opposed.

2021-10	An Ordinance Amending One-Way Streets in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 161-15 Schedule 3 of the Borough of Longport one-way streets to add Amherst Avenue One-Way heading West from the Margate City Line to North 36 th Avenue.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo to Introduce Ordinance #O2021-10.
All in Favor	ALL AYES. None opposed.
2021-11	An Ordinance Amending Stop Intersections in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 161-17 Schedule 5 Stop Intersections in the Borough of Longport to add a Stop Intersection at Amherst Avenue and North 33 rd Avenue on Amherst Avenue. .
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Commissioner Leeds to Introduce Ordinance #O2021-11.
All in Favor	ALL AYES. None opposed.

Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions:

Mary Nugent of 2604 Oberon Avenue discussed Resolution 2021-85 and expressed her concern about businesses storing equipment on the sidewalk during the winter season. Ms. Nugent also discussed a hiring a traffic engineer. Solicitor Affanato explained that the Borough did hire a traffic engineer.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (R2021-84 through R2021-95) *Resolution 2021-90 Withdrawn.

Number	Title
2021-84	Resolution Designating the Bathing Season Start and End for Required Beach Badges for Use of Beach MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-85	A Resolution Granting Extended Use of Borough Sidewalks for Outdoor Dining MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-86	A Resolution Granting a Non-Exclusive Revocable License for an Encroachment on Borough Property or Right of Way MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-87	Award of Contract to Mumford-Bjorkman Associates of New Castle, DE for the Inspection of Water Tower Located at 10 S. 31 st Avenue MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.

2021-88	A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Retainer Agreement with Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP, to Pursue “Streaming Services Litigation” for Potential Violations of the New Jersey Cable Television Act MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-89	A Resolution Authorizing Payment of School Tax Levy to Longport Board of Education MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-90*	A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Contract Between the Borough of Longport and the Borough Chief of Police – <i>WITHDRAWN</i> MOTION to WITHDRAW – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-91	Authorizing a Professional Services Contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers for the 2021 Maintenance of Municipal Taxing Maps and 2020 Annual Report and Certification of Municipal Stormwater Permit MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-92	A Resolution Appointing SLEO II – Al Mariano MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-93	A Resolution Appointing SLEO II – Matthew Long MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-94	Supporting the Click It or Ticket Mobilization of May 24 – June 6, 2021 MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-95	A Resolution Amending Resolution 2020-95 Appointing Members of the Green Team Advisory Committee MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT & BILL LIST

Commissioner Lawler, asked if there were any questions. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – LAWLER. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

MAYOR RUSSO

Mayor Russo had nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONER LEEDS

Commissioner Leeds had nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONER LAWLER

Commissioner Lawler had nothing further to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Hyman of 4 N. 31st Avenue thanked the Governing Body for the cannabis ordinance, but he pointed out that deliveries were still permitted under the ordinance. Solicitor Affanato explained that you could not prohibit delivery under State Law.

Mr. Hyman had several questions about the delivery of cannabis, including if it was delivered to someone on the beach, if they could smoke it on the beach or in a restaurant. Solicitor Affanato noted that smoking is not permitted on public properties, including the beach.

Trish English of 130 N. 32nd Avenue also asked if Engineer Dennis could get a light reflecting shield on her street light. Engineer Dennis said he would add her street light to the list.

Bob English of 130 N. 32nd Avenue discussed the beach at 32nd Avenue and questioned if more bike racks could be installed there. CFO Kelly noted that some racks would soon be donated in the area. There was discussion on extending the bike rack pole there. Mr. English also discussed the off shore windfarm project and asked if the Borough had gotten comment from other residents. Mayor Russo noted that the Borough has received comment from others. It was noted that the feedback is about 50% pro and 50% against. There was further discussion on this topic.

Mr. English also noted that he was part of the committee who helped develop the ordinances to help address additional traffic from Amherst Avenue in Margate. He noted that was a lesson to be learned and that the Borough needed to be more proactive in the future. He also suggested forming a more permanent committee to advise the Governing Body on long-term traffic and parking issues going forward. He also felt that parking needs to be addressed in that area.

Fran Kenny of 225 N. 36th Avenue asked for an update on the bulkhead at 36th Avenue. Engineer Dennis noted that he would follow up with the owner.

Connie Pappas of 200 N. 36th Avenue voiced her opposition to the proposed ordinance that would change a section of Amherst Avenue to one way. She expressed that the ordinance would force more traffic down 36th Avenue. There was further discussion on this topic. Engineer Dennis explained the ordinance and noted that if adopted, the traffic markings were designed to be temporary and could be easily reversed if necessary. He also explained that the ordinance was one of the suggestions from the advisory committee formed to address traffic concerns. He explained that it would help reduce truck traffic and slow down traffic coming into Longport.

Mary Nugent of 2604 Oberon Avenue discussed a suggestion she had brought before the Governing Body at a previous meeting to have flags available for sale that support Longport's Police Department. There was further discussion on this topic.

She also discussed the parking and traffic issues as a result of the new Margate Promenade Project. She suggested creating a park area going into the street near the border to help alleviate these issues. There was further discussion on this topic. Ms. Nugent also discussed the sidewalk near Sunset and Evergreen avenues and noted that it had not been completed and that the area needed a walkable sidewalk. She also thanked the Longport Public Works Department for the excellent job it does to keep the Borough clean.

Commissioner Leeds asked if truck traffic would be eliminated on 36th Avenue with the ordinance or would it be funneled down 36th Avenue. Mayor Russo noted that trucks must have a through street and that it would be Coolidge Avenue.

CFO Kelly noted that there was a typo in Trident Marine Construction Resolution #2021-80 and that it should read 'Trident Piling Company.'

Connie Pappas of 200 N. 36th Avenue asked if permit parking had been discussed. Engineer Dennis explained that it was and that there are limitations on what could be done. There was further discussion on this topic. Solicitor Affanato encouraged residents to get permits that would allow them to park/block their driveway and also to see once the Promenade's parking opens up, if that helps. If not, then the Borough could look into parking permits. Commissioner Leeds felt that it was important to move on this quickly.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LAWLER, SECOND – MAYOR RUSSO. All AYES- none opposed. Adjournment – 5:25 pm.