

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 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 August 13, 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.	absent
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, CFO Kelly, Chief Culmone, Engineer Dennis, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo stated the location of emergency exits and explained that public comment is not permitted during workshop meetings. He added that there are several opportunities for public comment at the regular commission meeting, which immediately follows the workshop meeting.

Administrator Porter:

In Administrator Porter's absence Mayor Russo reviewed the Administrator's Report. The report included the following updates:

1. The Fire Department Boat Dock and Lift project is nearly complete with the exception of tabling and railings.
2. Administrator Porter met with the Atlantic County Utilities Authority and was informed that the ACUA was on budget for the calendar year and that Egg Harbor City was selling its sewer system to New Jersey American Water and that this would affect Longport's agreement with the ACUA.
3. Beach tag sales were up by approximately 7.9%.
4. Longport's budget is on target as of July 31, 2021.
5. The mailing of 3rd quarter tax bills was delayed due to a delay in receiving the tax rate from the County Board of Taxation. It was also noted that there is a slight decrease in the overall tax rate. The due date is September 24th.

Borough Solicitor Affanato:

Solicitor Affanato said that after the August 4, 2021, Board of Commissioners Meeting, the municipal clerk was notified that some individuals who had called in to the meeting could not hear the audio of the meeting. He explained that it was too difficult to ascertain what the technological issue was. He added that the Governing Body could decide to end remote public access or if it wished to continue there would be a need to have someone monitor the meetings to be sure there are no technological issues occurring. He added that he did not have any concerns with this meeting as no action had been taken. There was further discussion on this topic. It was noted that this topic would be added to the workshop agenda for discussion at the September 22, 2021, Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Solicitor Affanato discussed two potential ordinances for consideration at the next commission meeting. He talked about amending the charter bus ordinance's pick up/ drop off times in the Borough. He discussed changing the times to 'not before 7 am or after 10 pm.' He also discussed an ordinance that would address truck deliveries in the Borough. He said that it would help address trucks that are delivering pilings at the borough's bayside street ends that are then transferred over the bulkhead to barges in the bay. He explained that the Chief of Police can provide for exceptions to either ordinance. He said that he would like to prepare these ordinances for a first reading at the next commission meeting scheduled for September 22, 2021.

He also discussed a resolution on the regular meeting agenda that allows the Borough to accept a donation from resident Mr. George Baumgardner. He noted that the donation is required by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection as part of its CAFRA Permit process. The donation must be used for advancing public beach access. There was further discussion on this topic.

Engineer Dennis:

Engineer Dennis discussed Well #4 and said that the transfer of the well house project from Special Projects Engineer Carter has been completed. He also discussed a capital project list that he has been drafting with the assistance of the Mayor and Commissioners as well as borough staff.

Engineer Dennis also discussed upcoming FEMA grant opportunities and added that he could work with Mr. Jim Rutala to identify potential projects for the Borough.

Solicitor Affanato clarified that Engineer Dennis met with each commissioner individually to discuss the capital projects list.

Engineer Dennis said he would soon provide an updated capital projects list to the Governing Body for review.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo discussed moving the next Board of Commissioners Meeting from 4 pm to 9 am so it would not interfere with the Wounded Warrior Parade at 5:30 pm. Mayor Russo noted that the Longport Volunteer Fire Department's fireworks display would be held this upcoming Saturday beginning around 9 pm.

He also noted that the library had a successful program with guest author Pam Jenoff. He also discussed presenting a proclamation to the Longport Beach Patrol for its fifth win in the South Jersey Lifeguard Championships at the next commission meeting.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds - absent.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler had nothing further to report.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Municipal Clerk Kyle discussed Early Voting and General Election Day voting and explained that if there are voters who are registered to vote by mail, but want to vote in person that they will need to fill out an application to opt out and submit it to the County Clerk no later than August 31st.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Commissioner Leeds – absent. Meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm.

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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 August 13, 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.	absent
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, CFO Kelly, Chief Culmone, Engineer Dennis, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Emergency Exits, Public Speaking Announcement information provided by Mayor Russo.

Approval of minutes-

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the July 21, 2021, and August 4, 2021, Workshop and Regular Commission Meetings. Mayor Russo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lawler, to approve the minutes. ALL AYES- none opposed. Commissioner Leeds – Absent.

The following ordinances had a second reading and public hearing:

Second Reading/ Public Hearing on Ordinance O2021-16 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 167 – Zoning of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.

Mary Nugent of 2604 Oberon Avenue had questions about this ordinance and believed that the ordinance was already part of the Borough’s Code. Solicitor Affanato addressed her questions and explained that this ordinance was recently proposed by the Longport Planning and Zoning Board.

Second Reading/ Public Hearing on O2021-17 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 116 – Noise, Fumes, Odors and Glare of the Code of the Borough of Longport.

Mary Nugent of 2604 Oberon Avenue stated that the ordinance did not address construction on Saturdays. Solicitor Affanato noted that Saturday construction hours are addressed in another section of the Code. He explained that this part of the ordinance only addresses July 4th holiday changes. She also discussed the potential charter bus ordinance and times permitted for pick up/ drop off.

ORDINANCES:

Number	Title
2021-16	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 167 – Zoning of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is require that a temporary electric pole be used for all construction sites where utility supplied electric has been terminated for any reason and to set regulations pertaining to temporary electric poles.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo to Adopt Ordinance #O2021-16.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – Yes Commissioner Leeds – Absent Commissioner Lawler – Yes ALL AYES. None opposed.
2021-17	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 116 – Noise, Fumes, Odors and Glare of the Code of the Borough of Longport
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Chapter 116 Section 116-4 A. 7 (a) Year Round Rule to include that there is no construction permitted “July 4 (If July 4 falls on a Monday or Friday, then Saturday is also a prohibited day. If July 4 falls on a weekend then no construction shall be permitted on the day of observance whether the Friday before or Monday after the weekend)”.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo to Adopt Ordinance #O2021-17.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – Yes Commissioner Leeds – Absent Commissioner Lawler – Yes ALL AYES. None opposed.

Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions:

There was no public comment or questions on the listed resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (R2021-120 through R2021-123):

Number	Title
2021-120	A Resolution Supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2021 Statewide Labor Day Crackdown MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed. Leeds – Absent.
2021-121	Chapter 159 – Budget Insertion for Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over – Holiday Crackdown MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed. Leeds – Absent.
2021-122	A Resolution to Accept a Donation from George Baumgardner as Requested by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection

2021-123	<p>MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed. Leeds – Absent.</p> <p>A Resolution to Extend 3rd Quarter 2021 Tax Due Date</p> <p>MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed. Leeds – Absent.</p>
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FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT/ BILL LIST

In Commissioner Leeds’ absence, Commissioner Lawler asked if there were any questions on the Financial Summary Report or Bill List. There were none. MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND – RUSSO. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED. LEEDS – ABSENT.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Absent.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

MAYOR RUSSO

Mayor Russo noted that twice a year Clean Ocean Action sponsors a beach cleanup in the Borough. He noted that the Borough would also be participating in and International Coastal Cleanup Day beach event hosted by the New Jersey Clean Communities Council on September 18, 2021.

COMMISSIONER LEEDS

Commissioner Leeds - absent.

COMMISSIONER LAWLER

Commissioner Lawler had nothing further to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob English of 130 N. 32nd Avenue said that he heard that Lamberti’s restaurant had been sold and that condominiums would be built there. Commissioner Lawler said that he did not believe that condos could be built there.

Mr. English also discussed the potential consolidation of Longport’s municipal court with the County. He noted that there would be a savings of approximately \$90,000 for court services in comparison to its current shared service agreement with the City of Margate. Commissioner Lawler addressed Mr. English’s questions regarding partnering with the County. He explained that the Borough is looking into the option and would need more information from the County before it could make a decision. Solicitor Affanato noted that the County is not ready to move forward with a County Court System so that the Borough has time to consider its options. He also said that the Borough needs more details from the County on its proposal for a county court system. There was further discussion on this topic.

Mr. English also discussed solar powered, signs to help slow down traffic and asked where they would be placed in the Borough. He said that he would like to see one placed on Monmouth Avenue. There was further discussion on the placement of the signs. There was also discussion on a blinking Stop sign to be placed on Oberon Avenue as you come off the JFK Bridge into Longport. Mr. English also discussed relocating a Stop sign that is currently on Amherst Avenue.

Mary Nugent of 2604 Oberon Avenue discussed the installation of a blinking Stop sign on Oberon and had concerns about the flashing lights for residents who live on Oberon Avenue. Chief Culmone discussed how the flashing sign works and he noted that it flashes in a very specific way. He suggested that Ms. Nugent check out a similar sign currently located in Margate.

Ms. Nugent recommended continuing the live broadcast of commission meetings. She also discussed the delivering of pilings over the bulkhead and voiced concern over potential damage to the bulkhead during this process.

Ms. Nugent also discussed Mr. Baumgardner's donation to the Borough for public beach access. Solicitor Affanato discussed what the donation could be used for. She questioned if it could be used for recreational projects in the Borough. She also asked if the Borough had an ordinance regarding rentals such as VRBO. She discussed having a 30-day minimum rental period. There was further discussion on this topic. Solicitor Affanato noted that he would look into this.

Ms. Nugent also discussed house demolitions in the Borough and the need to have a dedicated water truck on site to make sure the materials are properly wetted down prior to demolition. She said flying debris was a public health issue that needed to be addressed.

She also discussed the Longport Volunteer Fire Department Boat. Mayor Russo noted that there had been a mechanical issue with the boat, but it was now docked at the Borough.

No one else wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LAWLER, SECOND – MAYOR RUSSO. All AYES- none opposed. LEEDS – ABSENT. Adjournment – 4:49 pm.