

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022 – 4:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 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 Ocean City Sentinel on December 2, 2022. 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 Dennis, CFO Kelly, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo stated the location of the emergency exits and discussed opportunities for public comment.

Administrator Porter:

Administrator Porter discussed several annual appointments on the regular meeting agenda for the Governing Body's consideration. He added that there will be several additional appointments on the following meeting's agenda. He also noted that the annual municipal budget process has begun. He added that he is continuing negotiations with employee unions, but is nearing resolution. The Governing Body thanked him for his work with the unions.

Borough Solicitor Affanato:

Solicitor Affanato said he is working with the Building Department to develop a self-certification process regarding rentals and a change in the rental Code. He also said he would provide a draft ordinance regarding the Borough's rental Code to the Governing Body as well as local real estate representatives.

Solicitor Affanato reviewed a resolution on the regular meeting agenda to appoint new members to the Longport Planning and Zoning Board. There was further discussion on this topic.

Borough Engineer Dennis:

Engineer Dennis discussed several construction projects that are underway. He noted that work on Atlantic Avenue is scheduled to begin in two weeks. He explained that there was a weather delay with work on Monmouth Avenue, but that work was scheduled to begin tomorrow. Mayor Russo requested an update on the water tower renovation work. Engineer Dennis explained that the water tank had been drained and that scaffolding work for the containment system would start next week. He noted that some of the work would be temperature/weather related, but that the contractor did not foresee any issues with a completion date at the end of April. Solicitor Affanato added that there was an issue when transitioning from the tank to the well. He explained that some homeowners' pipes had broken and that the Borough would submit an insurance claim to pay for damages.

Engineer Dennis noted that the water tower would be back online prior to the summer season. He also said that work is nearing completion on Well #4. He explained that the Borough is waiting for the generator to be delivered for the well and the electrical service to be completed. He added that there is a certain process the Borough must go through with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection before the well is commissioned/operational.

Engineer Dennis said that the street opening repair project had been completed. He also noted that work will begin soon on the Winchester Avenue drainage project. He also discussed an informal notification from the NJ Department of Transportation regarding grant funding for a section of Atlantic Avenue near the Margate border.

Commissioner Lawler asked if there were many complaints regarding low water pressure or discoloration. It was noted that the transition for the most part was pretty smooth with the exception of a limited number of homes that had broken pipes.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo provided an update on the 125th Anniversary Committee and two events that are in the planning phase to celebrate the Borough's 125th Anniversary.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds – no further report.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler – no further report.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Noted a correction to the 2023 annual meeting schedule that the Downbeach Current was changed to the Ocean City Sentinel as the Downbeach Current newspaper is no longer published.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:13 pm.

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING
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LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:14 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 Ocean City Sentinel on December 2, 2022. 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 Dennis, CFO Kelly, Chief Culmone, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Emergency exits and public comment information previously provided by Mayor Russo.

Best Practices Inventory Discussion – CFO Kelly discussed the Best Practices Inventory report and asked the Governing Body if they had any questions. There were none. She noted that the Borough had scored enough points to retain its level of State aid. CFO Kelly was commended for her work on the report.

Approval of Minutes:

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2022, Workshop and Regular Commission Meetings. Commissioner Leeds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lawler, to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2022, meeting. ALL AYES- none opposed.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/ PUBLIC HEARING on Ordinance O2022-17 – An Ordinance Amending Article I Chapter 42-1.

There were no comments or questions from the public on Ordinance O2022-17.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/ PUBLIC HEARING on Ordinance O2022-18 - An Ordinance to Establish Water-Sewer Rates.

Marlene Servis of 45 N. Overbrook Avenue voiced her concern over the increase in the water-sewer rates. She felt that the fees should have been raised incrementally over the past 10 years. She also suggested that maybe the excess water usage fees should be revised, as well as looking at other aspects, including raising the fees for water/sewer connections to help offset the increase in rates.

ORDINANCES:

Number	Title
2022-17	An Ordinance Amending Article I, Chapter 42-1
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend and add an additional Custodian of Records for the Police Department.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Commissioner Leeds to Adopt Ordinance #O2022-17.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – YES. Commissioner Leeds – YES. Commissioner Lawler – YES. ALL AYES. None opposed.
2022-18	An Ordinance to Establish Water-Sewer Rates
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to establish and adopt water and sewer service rates changed to each unit effective in the next billing cycle for the year 2023.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Mayor Russo to Adopt Ordinance #O2022-18.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – YES. Commissioner Leeds – YES. Commissioner Lawler – YES. ALL AYES. None opposed.

Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions:

There were no comments or questions on the listed resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (R2022-133 through R2022-149):

Number	Title
2022-133	Appointment of Michael S. Affanato, Esq., as Borough Solicitor for 2023 and Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Professional Service Contract MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-134	Appointment of Pacifico S. Agnellini, Esq., as Tax Appeal Attorney/ Alternate Borough Solicitor for 2023 and Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Professional Service Contract MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-135	A Resolution Appointing the Prosecutor for the Borough of Longport MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-136	Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

2022-137	Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contract - Public Defender MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-138	Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contract – General Litigation Counsel MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-139	Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contract – Borough Special Labor Counsel MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-140	A Resolution Authorizing the Awarding of a Professional Services Contract for Animal Control Services MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-141	Resolution Awarding Professional Services Contract for Municipal Auditor MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-142	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Tax Assessor as Agent in Filing Petition of Appeals and Roll-Back Complaint Forms MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-143	A Resolution Fixing the Rate of Interest and Year-End Penalty MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-144	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Veteran’s Disability Tax Exemption Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 on Block 74, Lot 3 (1 North 31 st Avenue) MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-145	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Refund of Taxes Paid on Property Where an Exemption Claim has been Allowed Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32, to Alberts, Marks, in the Amount of \$2,017.45 for 2022 Taxes MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-146	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 New Jersey Statutes Annotated Title 40 Section 54 Subsections 9 and 10 MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-147	Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contract - Borough Continuing Agent MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-148	Authorizing Transfer of Appropriations MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2022-149	A Resolution Appointing Members to the 2023 Longport Planning and Zoning

	Board MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
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BILL LIST

Commissioner Leeds asked if there were any questions on the Bill List. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – LAWLER. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

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 noted that today is National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. He also announced that the Longport Public Library is hosting a tree and menorah lighting this Friday, December 9th at 6 pm. Mayor Russo also discussed the 125th Anniversary Committee and that he would like to share the minutes from the first meeting in 1898 with members. Library Director Gerhardt noted that the minutes from 1898 are available on the library’s website.

COMMISSIONER LEEDS

Commissioner Leeds - nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONER LAWLER

Commissioner Lawler – nothing further to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob English of 130 N. 32nd Avenue noted that at the August Commission meeting there was discussion about moving the speed sign on Amherst Avenue that is located near a Stop sign. He suggested moving it to another location, including either the rock wall near the bike lanes or on Winchester Avenue near the Margate border. There was further discussion on this topic.

Marlene Servis of 45 N. Overbrook Avenue requested assurance from the Governing Body that the water was safe to drink with the renovation of the water tower. Mayor Russo explained that the water is tested on a regular basis. Engineer Dennis explained that the water pressure is being impacted, not the source of where the water is coming from. Although, he added that Public Works has been actively working to maintain consistent water pressure. It was noted that any discoloration would dissipate after letting the water run. There was further discussion on this topic.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LAWLER, SECOND – COMMISSIONER LEEDS. All AYES- none opposed.
Adjournment – 4:31 pm.