

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE  
LONGPORT, NJ 08403  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023 – 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, The Ocean City Sentinel, the Star Ledger, and Courier Post on July 14, 2023. 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, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, Chief Culmone, Fire Chief Clayton, 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 three resolutions (2023-96, 2023-97, and 2023-98) on the regular meeting agenda that pertained to the upcoming Town Party on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Most of the resolutions addressed parking for the event. Some restricting parking and others opened up parking areas. He noted that approximately 500 tickets had been sold and the Borough had seven sponsors totaling \$3750 in donations. He said he met with several departments to handle logistics for the event.

Mayor Russo asked CFO Kelly where the Borough was with funding based on Town Party ticket sales and donations to see if the Borough could pay for the fireworks display. CFO Kelly said that the funding is in place.

Borough Solicitor Affanato:

Borough Solicitor Affanato explained that he was requesting that the Governing Body re-vote on the Commission Meeting Minutes from the June 21, 2023, Board of Commissioners Meeting. He said that there were only two Commissioners at the July 5th meeting and that Commissioner Lawler had been absent from the June 21, 2023, meeting so he wanted to be sure the Borough was in compliance with the adoption of the minutes.

Borough Solicitor Affanato discussed an ordinance on for first reading that would change landscaping hours to be the same as construction hours.

He also said that there was a resolution for the Governing Body's consideration that would approve a licensing agreement with the County of Atlantic for radar signs on Ventnor Avenue. The agreement would be for 25 years and contains an automatic 10-year extension.

Borough Engineer Dennis:

Engineer Dennis said that the new floor in the Firehouse had been completed. He noted that there was one minor issue to close out with the contract. He also said that the police holding cells are being worked on and that his office will reach out to the State for feedback before moving forward with this project. He noted that he will soon meet with the Administrator to go over the capital project list to see what the priorities are for next year.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo said that the Borough is going to have to look at beach tag fees, again. He noted that the Borough recently started selling a daily tag. He added that more people were now buying the daily tag instead of the weekly tag. He said that beach tag fees will have to be looked at prior to next year.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds – nothing further to report.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler provided an update regarding the number of incidents responded to by the Longport Volunteer Fire Department from January 1st to June 30th.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Municipal Clerk Kyle announced that this upcoming Saturday is the Longport Town Party.

Miscellaneous:

None.

**Motion to Adjourn** – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE  
LONGPORT, NJ 08403  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:11 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, The Ocean City Sentinel, the Star Ledger and Courier Post on July 14, 2023. 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, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, Chief Culmone, Fire Chief Clayton, Library Director Gerhardt, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

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

Approval of Minutes:

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2023, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting. Mayor Russo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lawler, to approve the minutes. All in Favor - ALL AYES. None opposed.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/ PUBLIC HEARING on **Ordinance O2023-18** – An Ordinance Amending Part II Article IX Section 161-14.

There were no comments or questions from the public on Ordinance O2023-18.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING/ PUBLIC HEARING on **Ordinance O2023-19** – An Ordinance Amending Part II Article IX Section 162-20.

There were no comments or questions from the public on Ordinance O2023-19.

**ORDINANCES:**

Number	Title
2023-18	An Ordinance Amending Part II Article IX Section 161-14
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is amend the ordinance from angled parking on a section of Atlantic Avenue to parallel parking near the business district.
Motion	Motion – Mayor Russo, seconded by Commissioner Lawler to adopt Ordinance

Roll Call Vote	#O2023-18. Mayor Russo – YES. Commissioner Leeds – YES. Commissioner Lawler – YES. ALL AYES. None opposed.
2023-19	An Ordinance Amending Part II Article IX Section 162-20
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the location of the loading zone on 24 <sup>th</sup> Avenue due to the expansion of the sidewalk located in front of the business district.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Commissioner Leeds to adopt Ordinance #O2023-19.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – YES. Commissioner Leeds – YES. Commissioner Lawler – YES. ALL AYES. None opposed.

**ORDINANCE:**

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

**First Reading/ Introduction of the following Ordinances: O2023-20 – An Ordinance Amending Part II Chapters 111-20.1 and 111-28.** *A second reading and public hearing will be held at the August 16, 2023, Regular Commission Meeting that will follow the 4 pm workshop meeting.*

**ORDINANCE:**

Number	Title
2023-20	An Ordinance Amending Part II Chapters 111-20.1 and 111-28
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is amend the ordinance regulating landscaping operations to the same hours and days as those of construction in the Borough of Longport.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler to Introduce Ordinance #O2023-20.
All in Favor	ALL AYES. None opposed.

**Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions: R2023-95 through R2023-101:**

There were no comments or questions from the public regarding the consent agenda resolutions 2023-95 through 2023-101.

A motion was made by Mayor Russo, seconded by Commissioner Leeds, to adopt the Consent Agenda. All in Favor - All Ayes. None Opposed.

**RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (R2023-95 through R2023-101):**

Number	Title
2023-95	A Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Adoption of the Borough of Longport Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.
2023-96	A Resolution Establishing a Temporary Parking Area During the 2023 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Town Party Celebration MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.
2023-97	Establishment of an Emergency Restricted Parking Area for Municipal and Library Employees and LPFD Personnel Before and During the 2023 Town Party Celebration MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.
2023-98	Establishment of an Emergency ‘No Parking’ Area, Closure, and Detouring During the 2023 Town Party MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.
2023-99	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Cancellation of Grant Appropriate Reserves MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.
2023-100	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a License and Hold Harmless Agreement with the County of Atlantic MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.
2023-101	Resolution to Extend 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023 Tax Due Date MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.

**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.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT**

Commissioner Leeds asked if there were any questions on the Financial Summary Report. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – RUSSO. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

Administrator Porter said that the tickets for the Town Party were no longer being sold. The amount was capped at 500.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:**

Nothing further to report.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Nothing further to report.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:****MAYOR RUSSO**

Mayor Russo thanked everyone including the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for their hard work on the Town Party and the March 7<sup>th</sup> event commemorating Longport's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**COMMISSIONER LEEDS**

Commissioner Leeds asked about Longport's application to be designated as a Coast Guard City. Mayor Russo discussed the application process and noted some of the reasons why he believed Longport was deserving of the designation. He also added that if Longport is selected, the Borough would need to form a foundation to continue with the recertification process. He explained that this would take place every five years. Commissioner Leeds also discussed the numerous steps the Borough has taken to persevere its history with the Coast Guard.

**COMMISSIONER LAWLER**

Commissioner Lawler - nothing further to report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Fran Kenny of Longport discussed a comment she read in the May 17, 2023, commission meeting minutes where someone suggested opening beach block parking for low-speed vehicles. She said if the Governing Body is going to consider doing this that parking should be opened up to all vehicles, not just low-speed vehicles.

Doug Farrell of Longport discussed past meeting minutes where creating a park-like area near the Seaview was discussed. He wanted to know the status of that project. It was noted that the Borough was waiting to hear back from the group who had initiated the project. He also discussed the Point area and how it was dangerous and an eyesore for Longport. He added that he had discussed this with the engineer at the time, Mr. Carter, approximately four years ago. He noted that Mr. Carter explained the difficulty he was having with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and how it would not allow him to beautify the area because of a 'dune.' The history of the 'dune' was discussed and it was noted that it was actually a pile of building debris that had accumulated sand and vegetation. He noted that he also discussed this same topic with the Administrator approximately 18 months ago. He noted that something needed to be done as the area is very dangerous and he feared that someone will get hurt. He said there is a lot of debris in the area, in addition to areas with rusted rebar. He discussed additional signage for the area regarding how dangerous it was. There was further discussion on this topic.

Commissioner Lawler noted that addressing the Point area was something he has wanted to do for quite some time, but that the DEP has prevented the Borough from moving forward. He explained that a schematic was designed a few years ago by the engineer to address the Point area. There was further discussion on how the Borough might be able to prove to the State that the 'dune' in question is not really a 'dune.'

Mayor Russo discussed using satellite photos to show a timeline for the 'dune.' There was also discussion regarding getting a boring of the dune. Engineer Dennis discussed reaching out to the NJ DEP for a pre-application meeting to get feedback to see how the Borough might be able to address the area

with a concept plan. He explained that some rules might have changed since the initial application by Mr. Carter. Engineer Dennis said the project could be revisited to see what can be done.

Solicitor Affanato noted that the Borough had replaced its portion of the bulkhead at 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the bay. He also explained that he had discussions with the previous engineer and the NJ DEP about the Point area project and the project was at a standstill. He agreed with Engineer Dennis to revisit the project and to start the process again to see what can be done. Solicitor Affanato also noted that the Borough could appeal a decision by the NJ DEP.

Bob English of Longport noted the pedestrian sign along the rock wall (while heading towards the Point) is nearly halfway down the wall area. He suggested moving the sign to the beginning of the rock wall before you enter, so pedestrians know to move to the sidewalk on the opposite side of the street.

He also asked if the Borough was part of a study for fire dispatch. Administrator Porter said that the Borough had adopted a resolution to participate in the study.

Mr. English also noted that he believed that the intersection as you come off the bridge should be looked at to see if there was a way to make it safer, especially during the summer season. Commissioner Leeds agreed with him and recommended that Engineer Dennis take a look at the intersection.

Mr. English also discussed the recently introduced ordinance amending the hours and days that landscaping is permitted. He suggested allowing landscapers to work later during week days to help open up parking on the weekends.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LEEDS, SECOND – COMMISSIONER LAWLER. All AYES- none opposed.  
Adjournment – 4:42 pm.