

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE  
LONGPORT, NJ 08403  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 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 December 1, 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	absent

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, Chief Culmone, Library Director Gerhardt, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

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

Mayor Nick Russo and Police Chief Frank Culmone administered the Oath of Office for Police Chaplain Louis Strugala.

Administrator Porter:

Administrator Porter noted that he has received several department's budget requests and has started the review process. He said he is also working on the capital budget for 2024. He added that the Borough Employee Holiday Party went well.

Borough Solicitor Affanato:

Borough Solicitor Affanato had nothing further to report.

Borough Engineer Dennis:

Borough Engineer Dennis said that the street opening repair project was complete. He also said that the new playground equipment has been installed at 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and the beach. He added that the remaining item for installation is the playground surfacing, which is dependent upon a certain temperature. He added that the Borough might need to wait until spring to complete the surfacing. Mayor Russo discussed green bike lanes in Margate and if that would be permitted in the Borough. There was further discussion on this topic.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo had nothing further for discussion.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds noted that the newly installed playground equipment looks nice.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler – absent.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Municipal Clerk Kyle announced that the Longport Free Public Library was holding a Menorah and Tree lighting event this Friday beginning around 5:45 pm with a holiday concert to follow.

Miscellaneous:

None.

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

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE  
LONGPORT, NJ 08403  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:12 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 December 1, 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	absent

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, Chief Culmone, Library Director Gerhardt, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo provided emergency exit and public comment information.

Approval of Minutes:

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2023, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Leeds made a motion, seconded by Mayor Russo, to approve the minutes. All in Favor - ALL AYES. None opposed. Commissioner Lawler – absent.

**Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions: R2023-144 through R2023-166:**

There were no comments or questions from the public regarding the consent agenda resolutions 2023-144 through 2023-166.

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

**RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (R2023-144 through R2023-166):**

Number	Title
2023-144	Appointment of Michael S. Affanato, Esq., as Borough Solicitor for 2024 and Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Professional Service Contract MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-145	A Resolution Appointing the Municipal Judge for the Borough of Longport MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-146	A Resolution Appointing the Prosecutor for the Borough of Longport MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.

2023-147	Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contract – Public Defender MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-148	Appointment of Pacifico S. Agnellini, Esq., as Tax Appeal Attorney/ Alternate Borough Solicitor for 2024 and Authorizing the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Professional Service Contract MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-149	A Resolution Appointing a Conflict Prosecutor and Conflict Public Defender for the Borough of Longport MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-150	Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-151	Resolution Awarding a Professional Service Contract for Municipal Auditor MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-152	Resolution Awarding a Professional Service Contract – Borough Continuing Disclosure Agent MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-153	Shared Services Agreement Between the Offices of Emergency Management for the City of Ventnor City, the City of Margate, and the Borough of Longport for the Operation of a Mobile Command Trailer obtained through a State of New Jersey LEAP Grant MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-154	Authorization of Contract to Mullin Coughlin, LLC MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-155	Risk Management Consultant – Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-156	A Resolution Fixing the Rate of Interest and Year-End Penalty MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-157	A Resolution Authorizing Award of Contract for the South Jersey Power Cooperative MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-158	A Resolution Designating Official Borough of Longport Newspapers for the Year 2024 MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-159	Resolution of Support from Local Governing Body Authorizing an Application for the FY 2023 Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency

2023-160	MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.  A Resolution to Appoint Pastor Louis Strugala as Chaplain for the Borough of Longport Police Department MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-161	Resolution Awarding Professional Service Contract – Borough Special Labor Counsel MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-162	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- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-163	A Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved Cooperative Pricing Agreements for Contracting Units Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c) MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-164	Authorizing Transfer of Appropriations MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-165	A Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Setting the 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.
2023-166	Chapter 159 – Budget Insertion for Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over – Holiday Crackdown MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed. LAWLER – absent.

**BILL LIST**

Commissioner Leeds asked if there were any questions on the Bill List. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – RUSSO. 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 – nothing further to report.

### **COMMISSIONER LEEDS**

Commissioner Leeds – nothing further to report.

### **COMMISSIONER LAWLER**

Commissioner Lawler – absent.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob English of Longport discussed an article he read online regarding the lead service line replacement project in Ventnor and its estimated cost of \$65 million. He estimated that Longport's could cost \$10 million. He also noted that when he built his home these pipes had been replaced up to the curb line. At the time, he was told that anything from the curbline out was municipal property. He questioned if the Borough could require that these service lines be replaced up to the main by the homeowner. Engineer Dennis stated that the Borough is contemplating an ordinance that would require that as part of new home construction. Mr. English asked if a current homeowner could do that. It was noted that they could, but would need a street-opening permit. Mr. English noted that municipalities are given 10 years to complete the work, but he noted that the cost would be less to complete the project now, rather than wait five years from now. He noted that under the law, the municipality must complete at least 10-percent each year and provide a report to the State. Engineer Dennis explained that the Borough is looking to start the process this upcoming fall. He also added that the Borough is looking for an I-Bank grant for 50% of the costs and that the Borough would like to complete the project as soon as possible. Mr. English questioned how the remainder of the project would be funded. He added that the municipality can ask a homeowner to pay for what is located on their property. He also noted that at previous Commission meetings there had been discussion to increase water and sewer fees to help pay for the project. Mr. English also questioned if year-round residents would be adversely affected by an increase in water and sewer fees. It was noted that there is a fee charged twice a year for approximately 37,000 gallons of water (for a total of 75,000.)

Ricky Gerhardt, Director, Longport Free Public Library, thanked Borough staff for a quick response to a medical situation at the library.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LEEDS, SECOND – MAYOR RUSSO. All AYES- none opposed. Adjournment – 4:20 pm. Commissioner Lawler – absent.