



**LAKE COMO BOROUGH
1740 MAIN STREET
LAKE COMO, NJ 07719
(732) 681-3232
MINUTES**

**DATE: DECEMBER 7, 2021
REGULAR MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORKSHOP**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

SALUTE TO FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SUNSHINE LAW

Introduction as required under the Sunshine Law: Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the adoption of a Resolution by the Mayor and Council on the fifth day of January 2021 in which Resolution the time and place of Agenda and Regular Meetings commencing with January 5, 2021 were set forth. Notice of same was delivered to the Asbury Park Press the Coast Star and TAPinto and a copy of the notice was posted on the borough website at www.lakecomonj.org and on the bulletin board in Borough Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

ROLL CALL

Douglas Witte	Present
Hawley Scull	Present
Christopher D'Antuono	Present
Nick DeMauro	Excused
Peter Ventrice	Present
Heather Albala-Doyle	Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Albala-Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2021 meeting, seconded by Councilman D'Antuono, all are in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

None on the agenda

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Councilwoman Albala-Doyle reported that after further review, Bradley and Greenwood Terraces are going to be pulled from Ordinance 2021-966 and it will be re-introduced tonight. A proper assessment will be done on those two roads and will be addressed in the future. All other matters are in order.

- Councilman Ventrice reported that the Environmental Commission had a remote awards ceremony to residents who have environmentally friendly gardens in Lake Como. All other matters are in order.
- Councilman D'Antuono reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilwoman Scull thanked all of those who came out for the tree lighting, DPW, Police and the Fire Department along with Joe Walsh, who is a friend of Santa and Maria Rondinaro for providing the songs for the evening. Councilwoman Scull also reported that Santa on the firetruck will come around on Thursday, December 16, 2021 beginning at 4pm. The same night is the Holiday Decorating Contest beginning at 6pm. Lastly, Councilwoman Scull asked that the giving tree gifts be returned, unwrapped, by Monday, December 13th to Borough Hall. All other matters are in order.
- Councilman Witte reported that all matters are in order.
- Mayor Higgins began his reported by expressing his thanks to the Council for all they do for the town, on their different committees, events like Lake Como Day, the tree lighting and thanked them for doing an amazing job. Mayor Higgins reported that the property assessment increases in not just a Lake Como issue, there has been a tremendous increase in home prices in Lake Como and New Jersey and an increased assessment doesn't mean an increase in taxes. The tax bills don't come out until July and home values have increased in Lake Como since 2016. Any specific questions can be referred to the tax assessor, Mark Fitzpatrick. All other matters are in order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW BUSINESS & CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Albala-Doyle made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, all are in favor.

Rod McKenzie of Wildwood Place thanked the Mayor and Council for listening to the residents and taking their concerns seriously.

Councilman Witte made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, all are in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under this section are considered to be routine by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-139

Appropriation Transfer

Offered by Councilman Witte, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2021-140

Payment of Bills

Offered by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, seconded by Councilman Witte, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, D'Antuono, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: Councilwoman Scull

Absent: Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2021-141

Payment of NJNG Bills

Offered by Councilwoman Scull, seconded by Councilman Witte, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: Councilman D'Antuono

Absent: Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2021-142

Amending Adopted Budget

Offered by Councilman D'Antuono, seconded by Councilwoman Scull, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman DeMauro

Ordinance 2021-966

First Reading as Amended

Traffic Flow & Parking

Offered by Councilwoman Scull, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman DeMauro

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilman Witte made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilwoman Scull, all are in favor.

Bob Rumsby of 18th Avenue came before the Council and asked if the speed bumps and humps can be done as a test program to see how effective they'd be and asked if the truck sizes on Parkway can be limited.

Jon Gibbons of 18th Avenue complemented Councilman Ventrice on the tremendous job he's doing as the Environmental Commission liaison and thanked Commission Member Debbie Hilliard for acquiring 10 new trees on Parkway.

Janet Shaw of Woolley Lane came before the Council and expressed her concerns, leaving her house will be easy, but getting home will be very difficult with the new ordinance in place. Ms. Shaw believes the main issue that needs to be addressed in the commercial vehicles on Newman Street.

Wendy Sciara of 17th Avenue agrees that the safety of the people is a concern but feels that making the roads one-way isn't going to make it better. It will be an inconvenience getting home and will allow cars to travel faster.

Barbara Frank of 22nd Avenue came before the Council and expressed her concerns about the redevelopment and the increase it could cause in taxes. Mayor Higgins responded that he would not support a project that would cost the residents more.

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman D'Antuono, all are in favor.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 immediately following the 7:30 PM Workshop meeting. All meetings are open to the public.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman D'Antuono, all are in favor.

Respectfully Submitted
Amy L. Boney
Deputy Borough Clerk

The minutes of this meeting are not verbatim. Please call Borough Hall at (732)681-3232 to schedule an appointment to hear the tape(s) of this meeting in its entirety. All tapes are subject to being destroyed 80 days after the approval of the Minutes.