



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

**DATE: JANUARY 20, 2026 7:30 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:32pm

**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 sixth day of January 2026 in which Resolution the time and place of Agenda and Regular Meetings commencing with January 6, 2026 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](http://www.lakecomonj.org) and on the bulletin board in Borough Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

**ROLL CALL**

Hawley Scull	Present
Christopher D'Antuono	Present
Peter Ventrice	Present
Heather Albala-Doyle	Present
Andrew Reiners	Present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Ventrice made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2026 Meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Scull, all are in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

Borough Clerk Amy Boney read a letter from the Lake Como Democrats in which letter, Shannon McIntyre was nominated to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Councilman DeMauro.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

- Councilman Reiners reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilwoman Albala-Doyle reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman Ventrice reported that the next meeting of the Environmental Commission will be January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm. All other matters are in order.
- Councilman D'Antuono reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilwoman Scull reported that all matters are in order.

- Mayor Higgins reported his Goals and Objectives for 2026 which include maintaining improvements that were made to Behrman Park and the lakefront. Maintaining or lowering the tax rate, improving Main Street with holiday lighting, sidewalks and an arboretum in conjunction with the Environmental Commission and Shade Tree Commission. Mayor Higgins also reported that he wants to focus on evaluating the current borough properties where the former first aid building and the former police and fire departments were. Lastly, Mayor Higgins reported that he wants to continue focusing on the sale of the water and sewer system. There is a snowstorm coming and Mayor Higgins advised residents to stay home, help their neighbors and clear the sidewalks within 24 hours. All other matters are in order.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No Unfinished Business

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW BUSINESS**

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

No Public Comments

Councilman Reiners made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, 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**

Special Events Permit Application

Huntington's Disease Society of America 5k

- James Giordino from the HDSA was representing the application. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year running this event and every year has gone smoothly.

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, all are in favor.

Special Events Permit Application

Belmar – Lake Como St. Patrick's Day Parade

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, all are in favor.

Special Events Permit Application

Kilt Run

Councilman Reiners made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, all are in favor.

Special Events Permit Application

Lake Como 5k

Councilman Ventrice made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Reiners, all are in favor.

Special Events Permit Application

Belmar 5

Councilman Ventrice made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, all are in favor.

Resolution 2026-36

Executive Session

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2026-37

Temporary Budget

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2026-38

Payment of Bills

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2026-39

Payment of NJNG Bill

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

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

No: None

Abstain: Councilman D'Antuono

Absent: None

Resolution 2026-40

Authorizing the Borough to Join

NJ Solutions Joint Health Insurance Fund

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2026-41

Approving Execution of the Project Agreement

With Monmouth County

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2026-42

CDBG Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Sign

Certification Prohibiting Excess Force and Use of Federal

Funds for Lobbying

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

No Public Comments

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

### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD**

Resolution 2026-43

Person-To-Person Transfer

Karan Two Inc. to Aria Spirits Inc.

- Karan Patel was present as the applicant representing Aria Spirits Inc. He has submitted all the proper paperwork and bulk sale permit.
- Mayor Higgins asked if Mr. Patel has any plans on updating the façade. He plans to fix up the store and the upstairs unit once the business is up and running.
- Borough Administrator Andrew Huisman stated that he and Code Enforcement met with the new owner about maintaining the garbage.
- The Police have no issues with the transfer application.

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve this application and offered the resolution, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, roll call vote as follows:

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 7:30 PM in the Lake Como Meeting Room. All meetings are open to the public.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

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

Respectfully Submitted

Amy L. Boney. RMC

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 recording(s) of this meeting in its entirety. All recordings are subject to being destroyed 80 days after the approval of the Minutes.