



DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2026
7:30 PM WORKSHOP

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Discussion regarding Fernwood Road traffic pattern
 - o Mayor Higgins began this discussion stating that a resident approached the Council at a meeting in January asking about making Fernwood Road a one-way street. He reiterated that there are no plans to make any changes at this time and if there are any changes made, the Police and Borough Engineer would be involved. Chief Scott ran a report going back to 2021 which showed there was only 1 accident which involved a parked car. Mayor Higgins stated that when the Council receives complaints or suggestions like this, it gets workshopped allowing for the input of residents. Mayor Higgins stated that nothing will change unless it's the right thing to do.
 - o Councilwoman Scull stated that she lives on a seasonal one-way road and it is inconvenient at times, but safety is always the main concern. She stated that what is best for one street doesn't make it best for all streets and the Council will take the best course of action.
 - o Mayor Higgins stated that another way to combat traffic flow issues is to remove parking on one side of the street but reiterated again that the engineers haven't given any input into this.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON WORKSHOP ITEMS

- Susan Luterzo of Fernwood Road came before the Council and stated that this was brought up years ago, under Chief Cash and never amounted to anything. Mrs. Luterzo asked if the resident gave a reason why he suggested making it one-way and stated that despite the issues on the road, she would like to see it stay the way it is.
- Patti Johnston of Fernwood Road came before the Council and thanked the Mayor and Council for all they do. Mrs. Johnston stated that she and her husband try to avoid parking on the street since parking is an issue on the street which can make it difficult getting out of the driveway. Mrs. Johnston also brought up that Fernwood Road is often closed for races and if it is made one-way, the residents are stuck. Mrs. Johnston stated she is very much against this.
- Carol Ann Meyer of Fernwood Road came before the Council and said her car was the one hit and it was during a 5k event. She stated she is neutral on the one-way aspect of this discussion but does not want to see no parking on one side.
- Chip Cavanagh of Fernwood Road came before the Council stating he has lived on Fernwood Road since the 1970's and is a volunteer firefighter. He has never had an issue getting a fire truck down Fernwood and feels this is not a good decision.

- BJ Dahrouge of Fernwood Road came before the Council stating he is opposed to the one-way road. He stated that he is a lineman for JCP&L and the trucks need to drive north to access the poles. He understands parking can be an issue and sometimes you can't go the direction you want but would still like Fernwood Road to be two-way traffic.
- Jackie Dahrouge of Fernwood Road state that the good thing about two-way traffic on a busy road like Fernwood is that it keeps everyone alert.
- Bill Baylis of Fernwood Road stated he is opposed to restructuring Fernwood and likes having the freedom of two-way traffic. He's lived there 30 years and has no problems pulling over and waiting for other cars to go by. Most people are polite and respectful and wave.
- Carol Ann Meyer of Fernwood Road stated that most residents are friendly when there is a jam up but the visitors get very angry.
- Patty Cavanagh of Fernwood Road stated this has never really been an issue and she has seen emergency vehicles up and down the road with no problems.

Mayor Higgins thanked everyone for their input and comments and responded that no action will be taken at this time.

Respectfully Submitted
Amy L. Boney, RMC
Borough Clerk

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DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2026
7:30 PM REGULAR MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:56pm

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 and on the bulletin board in Borough Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2026 Meeting, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, all are in favor.

Councilman Ventrice made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2026 Meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Scull, all are in favor.

Councilman Ventrice made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2026 Special Meeting, seconded by Councilman Reiners, all are in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

None on the agenda

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Councilwoman McIntyre reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman Reiners reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman Ventrice reported that all matters are in order.

- Councilwoman Scull reported that summer camp sign ups begin March 11th. The cost is \$800.00 for Belmar and Lake Como residents and \$1,000.00 for non-residents. All other matters are in order.
- Mayor Higgins started his report by thanking the Monmouth County Commissioners. With the parade coming up, the Borough was looking at costs upwards of \$50,000.00 for removing the snow on Main Street. The County offered their DPW crew at no cost to help the Lake Como DPW who has been working all day and night to remove the snow. Mayor Higgins thanked the Borough's DPW for all their hard work and efforts since the storm. Mayor Higgins reported that the Mayor's of Monmouth County received a letter earlier this month from Commissioner Director Arnone regarding the Assessment Demonstration Program. In this letter, it is written that the ADP is not the purview of the Commissioner, but rather, the purview of the Tax Board. Included was a sample resolution that municipalities could choose to adopt to urge the change of protocols allowing towns to opt in or out of ADP. There is a meeting tomorrow that he will attend to get more information. The resolution is on tonight's agenda for consideration but does not say Lake Como would move out or stay in ADP but it gives the option. 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 Councilman Reiners, 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

Resolution 2026-49

Dedication by Rider

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

Yes: Councilmembers Scull, Ventrice, Reiners and McIntyre

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman D'Antuono, Councilwoman Albala-Doyle

Resolution 2026-50

Payment of Bills

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

Yes: Councilmembers Scull, Ventrice, Reiners and McIntyre

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman D'Antuono, Councilwoman Albala-Doyle

Resolution 2026-51

Requesting the Monmouth County Board of Taxation and/or New Jersey State Legislature amend the Regulations and Statutes Authorizing the Monmouth County ADP to Permit Each Municipality with the Option to Participate or Withdraw Therefrom
Offered by Councilman Ventrice, seconded by Councilwoman Scull, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Scull, Ventrice, Reiners and McIntyre

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman D'Antuono, Councilwoman Albala-Doyle

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Reiners, 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

MacTav Inc.

Parade Day Extension of Premises

- William Epp, of McCann's Tavern was present at the meeting as the applicant. Mr. Epp stated that everything is the same as in years past and he is aware that he needs to obtain an Open Flame Application if he decides to put a hot dog cart in the licensed area.

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Reiners, roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Scull, Ventrice, Reiners and McIntyre

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilman D'Antuono, Councilwoman Albala-Doyle

NEXT MEETING

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

Respectfully Submitted
Amy L. Boney. RMC
Borough Clerk

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