



**DATE: JANUARY 21, 2025 7:30 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm and pulled the workshop for a future meeting.

**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 seventh day of January 2025 in which Resolution the time and place of Agenda and Regular Meetings commencing with January 7, 2025 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**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

None on the agenda

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None on the agenda

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

- Councilwoman Albala-Doyle congratulated Bob Fahey on his appointment as the Chairman of the Tourism Commission. All other matters are in order.
- Councilman Ventrice reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman Witte reported that all matters are in order.
- Mayor Higgins reported that the Mayor's Bash will be held July 10<sup>th</sup> at Bar Anticipations. This past Saturday was Coffee with the Mayor which was very well attended and there were a few topics brought up. First, potholes, Mayor

Higgins talked with DPW and once the weather is warm enough those potholes will be addressed. The second topic brought up was an issue with litter. Mayor Higgins is going to address this with the businesses that the litter stems from and DPW to increase their litter patrol. Another topic brought up was EMS. Mayor Higgins stated that at this time our agreement with Belmar is still in place for shared services and Mayor Higgins is very happy with the service Lake Como gets. Mayor Higgins reported that there has been an ongoing issue with streetlights and currently Lake Como has 36 lights out throughout town. Borough Administrator Andrew Huisman stated that this Thursday, JCP&L will be going through town with the police to fix those lights. Lastly, Mayor Higgins reported that the hotel tax revenue through November 2024 is \$51,980.75. All other matters are in order.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No Unfinished Business

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

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

No Public Comments

Councilman Witte 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.

Resolution 2025-35  
Amending 2025 Meeting Dates

Councilman Witte made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, all are in favor.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Special Events Application

HDSA – 5k

- Jim Giordino was present and stated this is the same event and route as years past.

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2025-36

Executive Session – Litigation

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Ordinance 2025-1

First Reading and Introduction

Salary & Wage Guide

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2025-37

Temporary Budget

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2025-38

Payment of Bills

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2025-39

Payment of NJNG Bill

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2025-41

Authorizing Grant Application for Behrman Park Improvements

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

Executive Session

The Mayor and Council entered into Executive Session at 7:51pm returning at 8:01pm

Resolution 2025-40

Adopting the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' Calculation of Lake Como's Fourth Round Present and Prospective Need Affordable Housing Obligations Offered by Councilman Ventrice, seconded by Councilman Witte, roll call as follows:

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilwoman Scull, Councilman D'Antuono and Councilman DeMauro

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

Wendy Buchanan of North Blvd. asked the Council what the Special Tax Counsel Resolution from the Reorganization meeting was? Borough Attorney Peg Schaffer responded that it is an appointed attorney who handles tax appeals.

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

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 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 Witte, 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.