



**LAKE COMO BOROUGH
1740 MAIN STREET
LAKE COMO, NJ 07719
MINUTES**

**DATE: JULY 2, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Council President Doug Witte called the meeting to order at 7:34pm

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 second day of January 2024 in which Resolution the time and place of Agenda and Regular Meetings commencing with January 2, 2024 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	Present
Peter Ventrice	Present
Heather Albala-Doyle	Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 18, 2024 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilman DeMauro, Councilman DeMauro abstained, all other Council members are in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

None on the agenda

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Councilwoman Albala-Doyle reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman Ventrice reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman DeMauro reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman D'Antuono reported that all matters are in order.

- Councilwoman Scull reported that all matters are in order.
- Councilman Witte reported that the Public Hearing for the 2024 Budget will be held tonight. Along with Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, Councilman Witte attended the grand opening of the Circle of Friends café which had a great turn out and Councilman Witte recommended that everyone stop by the café for breakfast and lunch. All other matters are in order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW BUSINESS & CONSENT AGENDA

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

- No public comments

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman D'Antuono, 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 2024-103
Refund of Street Opening Escrow – 327 16th Avenue

Resolution 2024-104
Refund of Street Opening Escrow – 709 17th Avenue

Councilman DeMauro made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Scull, all are in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-105
Payment of Bills
Offered by Councilwoman Scull, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, roll call vote as follows:
Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono, DeMauro, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Resolution 2024-106
Payment of NJNG Bill
Offered by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, seconded by Councilman Ventrice, roll call vote as follows:
Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, DeMauro, Ventrice and Albala-Doyle

No: None
Abstain: Councilman D'Antuono
Absent: None

Resolution 2024-107

Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2024-108

Dedication by Rider – Unemployment Trust Fund

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2024-109

Approving Application & Execute Contract with NJDOT for Improvements to Walling Avenue, Belmont Avenue and Melrose Avenue.

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2024-110

Executive Session – Litigation

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Public Hearing of the Calendar Year 2024 Municipal Budget

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

- No public comments on the budget

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

Councilman Witte announced that the adoption of the budget will be done at the next meeting as we are waiting for a final approval from the State.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

- Barbara Frank of 22nd Avenue came before the Council to ask why the town is building a new Borough Hall. Council President Witte responded that the Borough owns the property on 18th Avenue and the old fire house and police department are vacant or will become vacant and redeveloping the Main Street property will provide more ratables for the town. Mrs. Frank asked why the Council voted to make Lake Como a sanctuary borough to which Attorney Peg Schaffer responded that Mrs. Frank has asked this multiple times in the past and advised the Council that they do not need to answer this question and that the motivation underlying a particular vote by a particular councilmember is not something she is entitled to know. Mrs. Frank also expressed concerns about litter in the park and asked that another trash can be placed down there. Borough Administrator Andrew Huisman responded that more trash receptacles are in the plans for the park.
- Zach Clifton of 16th Avenue came before the Council and stated he has a design for the Eagle Scout plaque he discussed at a prior meeting and asked the Council for their input. Councilman DeMauro congratulated Zach and said his design looks great. Councilman Ventrice and Councilwoman Albala-Doyle agree. Council President Witte responded that Zach has the approval of the Council. Borough Administrator Andrew Huisman said the design looks great and asked Zach to touch base this week and we will get the plaque ordered.
- Genevieve Clifton of 16th Avenue thanked the Council for lowering the tax rate.

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

At 7:50pm the Council entered into Executive Session reconvening at 8:10pm with nothing to report to the public.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 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 DeMauro, 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.