



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

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2023
REGULAR MEETING**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:31pm

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 third day of January 2023 in which Resolution the time and place of Agenda and Regular Meetings commencing with January 3, 2023 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	Absent
Peter Ventrice	Absent
Heather Albala-Doyle	Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Scull made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2023 Meeting, seconded by Councilman Witte, Councilman D'Antuono abstained, all others are in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

None on the agenda

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Councilwoman Albala-Doyle reported that the Health and Fitness programs are back at Taylor Pavilion. Signups are happening now for the Skyhawks youth volleyball league as well as youth pickleball. More information can be found on Belmar Recreation's website. All other matters are in order.

- Councilman D'Antuono reported that the seasonal one-way streets and no parking revert back beginning September 15th and thanked DPW for all their hard work this summer. All other matters are in order.
- Councilwoman Scull reported that the Fallen Heroes 5k will be held on September 9th from 9am – 11am with road closures beginning at 8:30am. This information will also be posted on the Borough's website as well as the Borough's Facebook page. All other matters are in order.
- Councilman Witte reported that all matters are in order.
- Mayor Higgins gave his End of Summer report:
 - The Lake Front project is at the punch list stage with some odds and ends with landscaping and irrigation outstanding. We are also waiting for the arrival of the benches.
 - Behrman Park - We are currently working on the park's first phase utilizing the CDBG of \$177,692.00. That money is going to replace the playground that was removed last Spring. With anything left over from the CDBG, we will begin repairs on the Snack Shack. We also have another \$77,000.00 grant, which will be used to upgrade the baseball field. We have about \$35,000.00 left in the Mayor's Bash account that will also upgrade the snack shack and field areas.
 - The council will vote on an update to Chapter 7, Section 15 of the borough code tonight. As promised, we have developed a permit protocol for commercial trucks under a specific size, owned and insured in the borough of Lake Como. I thank the council for their support on this change.
 - We have removed the student banners from Main Street, I want to congratulate our graduates again and wish them luck in their next endeavor. Additionally, I would like to wish good luck to all our students returning to school tomorrow. I know their parents are very excited to see them return as well.
 - Thank you to the DPW for all their hard work this summer and year round.
 - As I have said, I want to thank our first responders for everything they do. Our Police, Fire, and First Aid had a busy summer, and I hope they can catch their breath as the summer ends. I would also like to thank our lifeguards. I know they are Belmar's lifeguards, but as a former Belmar lifeguard, I know what they do for everyone enjoying the beach in the summer. With that being said, I believe the guards are only on for one more weekend. That means the beaches will be unguarded for the remainder of September. I implore everyone enjoying the beaches to be safe and respect the ocean.
- All other matter are in order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW BUSINESS & CONSENT AGENDA

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 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 2023-114
Refund of Street Opening Escrow – 11 Ripley Lane

Resolution 2023-115
Refund of Tax Overpayment

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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2023-09
First Reading and Introduction
Amending Ordinance 2023-07
Offered by Councilman D'Antuono, seconded by Councilman Witte, roll call vote as follows:
Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono and Albala-Doyle
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

Ordinance 2023-10
First Reading and Introduction
Amending Chapter 17-10.6(j)(2) of the Borough Code
Offered by Councilman Witte, seconded by Councilwoman Scull roll call vote as follows:
Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono and Albala-Doyle
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

Resolution 2023-107
Shared Services Agreement and Appointment of Deputy Registrar
Offered by Councilwoman Scull, seconded by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle, roll call vote as follows:
Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, D'Antuono and Albala-Doyle

No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

Resolution 2023-112

Executive Session

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

Resolution 2023-113

Authorizing the Execution of a Commodity Resale Agreement with Monmouth County

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

Resolution 2023-116

Payment of Bills

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

Resolution 2023-117

Payment of NJNG Bill

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

Yes: Councilmembers Witte, Scull, and Albala-Doyle

No: None

Abstain: Councilman D'Antuono

Absent: Councilmembers DeMauro and Ventrice

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Stacy Auch came before the Council with an email she had sent to the Mayor asking the town to consider limiting short term rentals. Mayor Higgins thanks Ms. Auch for her letter and responded that he has had several conversations about this issue and will look into what surrounding towns have done.

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

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor and Council entered Executive Session from 7:54pm, reconvening at 9:12pm with nothing to report.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, immediately following the 7:30 PM Workshop 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 Witte, all are in favor.

Respectfully Submitted
Amy L. Boney
Acting 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.