



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

**DATE: MARCH 15, 2022
REGULAR MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORKSHOP**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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 fourth day of January 2022 in which Resolution the time and place of Agenda and Regular Meetings commencing with January 4, 2022 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
Hawley Scull
Christopher D'Antuono
Nick DeMauro
Peter Ventrice
Heather Albala-Doyle

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the March 1, 2022 meeting

COMMUNICATIONS

Proclamation Honoring Louise Mekosh

Proclamation Honoring Brendan Maas

Proclamation Honoring Patricia Holmes

National Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW BUSINESS & CONSENT AGENDA

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 2022-80

Executive Session – Personnel and Contractual Matters

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-76

Payment of Bills

Offered by Councilman Witte

Resolution 2022-78

Appointing Acting Municipal Clerk

Offered by Councilman DeMauro

Resolution 2022-79

Appointing Municipal Registrars

Offered by Councilwoman Albala-Doyle

Resolution 2022-81

Appointing Deputy Treasurer

Offered by Councilwoman Scull

Resolution 2022-82

Supporting the Leave Only Your Footprints Program

Offered by Councilman Ventrice

Resolution 2022-83

Participation in South Monmouth Regional EMS Shared Services

Offered by Councilman DeMauro

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, immediately following the 7:30 PM Workshop meeting. All meetings are open to the public.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

*The Borough of Lake Como
County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey*

Proclamation

*On the Occasion of her Retirement
Louise A. Mekosh*

WHEREAS, Louise A. Mekosh has provided distinguished and excellent service to the Borough of Lake Como for over 31 years as Municipal Clerk, Administrator, Registrar and Finance Officer; and

WHEREAS, Louise, a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, came to work part-time in what was then known as South Belmar in 1987 and continued to work faithfully with several different Mayors, Councilmembers, Police Chiefs, Superintendents, Municipal Judges, Tax Collectors, other Professionals and Employees in what is now called Lake Como; and

WHEREAS, during the course of her career, Louise served as President of The Monmouth County Municipal Clerks' Association and served in every other position in the Association; was responsible for privatizing some municipal services and entering into many Interlocal agreements that benefitted our residents and saved taxpayer dollars; worked with Mayors and Councils to secure new equipment which proved to be more cost effective; personally applied for \$9,628,178.87 in grants for enhanced services, tax relief, equipment for front office and public works, water line improvements, recreational improvements to public grounds including the current Lakefront project, not to mention witnessing and being part of the process to construct a new Public Works Building and Borough Yard and the current Borough Hall, just to name a few of her accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Louise has formed a special bond with so many of the residents especially through Superstorm Sandy when the Borough Hall became both a command station and a home to many and now with the COVID-19 pandemic, Louise's priority is and always has been protecting and caring for Lake Como residents and staff which has earned her well-deserved admiration and respect; and

WHEREAS, Louise has graciously attributed her success in this wonderful community that she loves, not only to her own hard work, but also to her Mom and mentor, Marie Kleinknecht, who was also a Municipal Clerk, husband, Peter, and two daughters, Marie and Julie, members of Governing Body, fellow employees, appointed professionals, residents, local newspaper reporters, businesses, vendors and so many others she had the pleasure of meeting while working for The Borough of Lake Como; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of Lake Como wishes to express our sincere appreciation to Louise for her exemplary performance during her tenure; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation is presented to Louise to serve as a reminder that although she is retiring, she will always be remembered as a valued employee dedicated to her place of work, who gave willingly and tirelessly to her community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor of The Borough of Lake Como, NJ, and on behalf of our governing body, fellow employees, and the citizens of Lake Como, do hereby present this Proclamation to Louise Mekosh as a testimonial to the faithful and dedicated service she has performed for the past 31 plus years, with our best wishes for continued good health, prosperity, and happiness in the future.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor

*The Borough of Lake Como
County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey*

Proclamation

On the Occasion of his Retirement

Brendan Maas

WHEREAS, Brendan Maas, who has been a valuable asset to the Borough of Lake Como, is retiring after 32 years of service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Brendan has been a key employee in the Department of Public Works, lending his expertise to help shape the Borough's infrastructure and maintain and update its equipment for the benefit of our residents; and

WHEREAS, Brendan will be remembered by so many Lake Como residents as someone who could be trusted, was dependable and always willing to lend a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of Lake Como wishes to express our sincere appreciation to Brendan for constantly working to better The Lake Como Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation is presented to Brendan to serve as a reminder that although he is retiring, he will always be remembered as a valued employee who helped advance the operations of his department and who was dedicated to his place of work always willing to go the extra mile for his community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor of The Borough of Lake Como, NJ, and on behalf of our governing body, fellow employees, and the citizens of Lake Como, do hereby present this Proclamation to Brendan Maas as a testimonial to the faithful and dedicated service he has performed for the past 32 years, with our best wishes for continued good health, prosperity and happiness in the future.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor

*The Borough of Lake Como
County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey*

Proclamation

On the Occasion of her Retirement

Patricia Holmes

WHEREAS, Patricia Holmes deserves special recognition and honor for her dedicated service of 26 years to the Borough as Deputy Treasurer in the Finance Department and Assistant to the Code Enforcement Department; and

WHEREAS, Patty started her career as a part-time employee and went on to prove what a valuable worker she was as she took on more responsibilities and found her niche working with finance and bookkeeping; and

WHEREAS, Patty's warm, friendly personality has won the admiration of all those who have had the pleasure of working with her, being helped by her or knowing her as a fellow resident; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of Lake Como wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Patty for her outstanding performance during her tenure; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation is presented to Patty to serve as a reminder that although she is retiring, she will always be remembered as a valued employee dedicated to her place of work who gave selflessly to her community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor of The Borough of Lake Como, NJ, and on behalf of our governing body, fellow employees, and the citizens of Lake Como, do hereby present this Proclamation to Patricia Holmes as a testimonial to the faithful and dedicated services she has performed for the past 26 years, with our best wishes for continued good health, prosperity, and happiness in the future.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2019, 4.4 million reports were made to child protective services; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of the Borough of Lake Como; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor of the Borough of Lake Como, along with the Council, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

in the Borough of Lake Como and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKE COMO,

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-80

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AUTHORIZING
CLOSED PORTION OF PUBLIC MEETING**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(6) permits the Borough Council to exclude the public from a meeting, or any portion thereof, at which the Council wishes to discuss personnel and contractual matters; and

WHEREAS, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council shall exclude the public from that portion of its March 15, 2022 meeting which pertains to the aforementioned matter, and that such matters that are not covered by the attorney-client privilege will be disclosed to the public if and when confidentiality is no longer required.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Lake Como, that the public portion of this meeting is hereby closed.

Dated: 3/15/2022

**Kevin G. Higgins,
Mayor**

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Lake Como Borough Council at its meeting held on March 15, 2022.

**Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk**

Resolution 2022-76

Be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lake Como that the proper officers be directed and authorized to make payment from the following accounts:

CURRENT ACCOUNT:

Per Attached Bill List \$379,649.16

WATER/SEWER ACCOUNT:

Per Attached Bill List \$150,825.89

PAYROLL ACCOUNT:

5261	Employee Payroll Dated 3/2/22	\$40,811.58
2439	Employee Payroll Dated 3/2/22	\$7,647.12
1494	Employee Payroll Dated 3/2/22	<u>\$136.71</u>
		\$48,595.41

DOG LICENSE ACCOUNT:

1129 NJ Dept. of Health \$10.80

TOURISM ACCOUNT:

1494	LC Payroll Account	\$136.71
	JCP&L	<u>\$393.12</u>
		\$529.83

Dated: March 15, 2022

Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor

Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk

Re 522.16

CURRENT ACCOUNT:

	Amco Pest Control	PB&G OE	110.00
	Atlantic Security	PB&G OE	596.00
5298	COSTCO	Public Health & Serv	95.81
	Delta Dental	Insurance Other	1,066.18
	Eastern Generator	PB&G OE	1,332.54
	Garden State Hwy	Streets&Roads	238.87
	Jaeger Lumber	PB&G OE	20.40
	JS Florist	PB&G OE	400.00
		Celebraton Public Ev	150.00
	Jungle Lasers	Nat Geo	330.00
	LCBofE	School Tax	313,888.80
5261	LC Payroll	S&W	37,443.61
		SS	2,729.63
		Medicare	638.34
	Marco Tech.	Finance OE	201.68
		Assesment of Taxes	201.67
	MC Public Works	Streets&Roads	87.00
	NJPB	Emp Group Ins	16,388.37
		Due from Payroll	2,127.96
5299	NJ State Treasurer	Municipal Clerk OE	50.00
	Quadrient	Finance OE	139.73
	Quill	Mayor & Council	50.98
		Tax Collector	199.68
		PB&G OE	18.31
		A & E Misc.	8.99
		Planning Board	9.29
	Taylor Hardware	PB&G OE	223.87
	U-Line	PB&G OE	779.69
	Van Wickle Auto	Streets&Roads	44.27
	Verizon	Public Health & Serv	77.49
			379,649.16

WATER/SEWER ACCOUNT:

2439 LC Payroll	S & W	7,647.12
NJ Amer Water	Purchase of Water	9,113.20
One Call Concepts	OE	13.22
Quadrient	OE	139.73
SMRSA	SMRSA	131,988.81
SMRSA	SMRSA	1,923.81
		150,825.89

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-78

WHEREAS, Mayor Kevin G. Higgins has appointed

Amy L. Boney

To the position of Acting Municipal Clerk

for the Borough of Lake Como

Commencing April 1, 2022, terminating March 31, 2025.

Dated: 3/15/2022

Kevin G. Higgins
Mayor

Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-79

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE MUNICIPAL REGISTRAR

WHEREAS, Mayor Kevin G. Higgins has appointed

Amy L. Boney, CMR to the position of Municipal Registrar

and

Toni Mullen, CMR to the position of Deputy Registrar

for the Borough of Lake Como, commencing April 1, 2022, terminating March 31, 2025

A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the New Jersey State Registrar.

Dated: 03/15/2022

Kevin G. Higgins
Mayor

Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-81

WHEREAS, Mayor Kevin G. Higgins has appointed

Dawn Dayton

To the position of Deputy Treasurer

for the Borough of Lake Como

Commencing March 3, 2022, terminating December 31, 2022.

Dated: 3/15/2022

Kevin G. Higgins
Mayor

Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION 2022-82

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKE COMO
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKE COMO MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE
ADOPTION OF THE "LEAVE ONLY YOUR FOOTPRINTS" PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have reviewed the Leave Only Your Footprints (LOYF) Program at the Workshop Meeting held on March 1, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council along with the assistance of the Environmental Commission have reviewed the mapping provided by LOYF and have approved the placement of signs as offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lake Como shall adopt this program for installation of signage elements before the start of the 2022 Summer season; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LOYF shall coordinate with the Lake Como DPW on the elements to be installed along the Lake Como Lakefront, where the Borough is upgrading walkways and installing improvements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the LOYF shall indemnify and hold harmless the Borough from any claims related to the installation of the signage.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Kevin G. Higgins
Mayor

Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF LAKE COMO
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-83

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Borough of Lake Como began to participate in continuing discussions with several coastal southern Monmouth County municipalities (including Belmar, Manasquan, Spring Lake, Spring Lake Heights and Sea Girt), those discussions having centered on the prospect of establishing a regional, paid shared-service staffed by full-time professional emergency medical staff; and,

WHEREAS, it is universally recognized that a guaranteed and timely response to a call for basic life support is a vital public service which the public justifiably relies upon as fundamental; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that the shared service model described by the Borough administrative team will meet the stated objective of ensuring timely response to calls for service; and

WHEREAS, the Council is committed to the integration, participation, and long-term success of the South Monmouth Regional EMS.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lake Como supports the continued participation of its administrative team in discussions with the noted municipalities with the objective of finalizing the details of the proposed shared service.

Dated: 3/15/2022

Kevin G. Higgins, Mayor

Louise A. Mekosh, RMC, CMC, CMFO
Borough Clerk