

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE  
LONGPORT, NJ 08403  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020 – 4:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order.

Municipal Clerk Kyle read the Opening Statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. A notice of this meeting was emailed to the Press of Atlantic City and the Current on December 10, 2020. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board and filed in the office of the municipal clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted.

ROLL CALL:	Nicholas Russo	present
	James P. Leeds, Sr.	present
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, Engineer Carter, CFO Kelly, Chief Culmone, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo stated the location of emergency exits.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo requested an update on Margate's project regarding one-way traffic on a section of Amherst Avenue. Solicitor Affanato discussed Margate's plan. He noted that the Borough has two options it can take regarding this plan. He explained that the first would be to take no action. The second option includes hiring a traffic engineer to study the potential impact of this project on Longport. Mayor Russo noted that he had concerns with possible increased traffic flow into the Borough. Engineer Carter discussed the addition of approximately 75 to 80 angled parking spaces on Amherst Avenue that could also impact Longport. Engineer Carter recommended hiring a traffic engineer to study the potential impact and provide a professional opinion for the Borough. Commissioner Lawler agreed with his recommendation. Administrator Porter said he would follow up on a proposal for a traffic engineer.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds had nothing further to discuss.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler had nothing further to discuss.

Municipal Administrator:

Administrator Porter discussed an emergency meeting that the Borough held on November 10<sup>th</sup> to apply for COVID-19 related funding in the amount of \$8,900. He noted that the Borough has heard back from the State and it has been approved for \$8,900.

Administrator Porter noted that he has started the municipal budget process with department heads for the upcoming year. He also discussed the Longport Public Library's yearly fee for service and that an amount has been negotiated at \$45,000. He wanted to know if the Governing Body approved of the amount and if he could move forward with a resolution at an upcoming meeting to authorize the fee. Commissioner Lawler asked for an update regarding the library and funding. CFO Kelly provided the Governing Body with an update.

Administrator Porter discussed dune work to reshape a section of dunes in the Borough that was nearly complete. He also discussed the original dune design template and how a section of dune grass planting did not occur within the designated time frame. He explained that the planting occurred nearly nine months later, which affected the size and shape of the dunes. Based upon this, the Borough requested that the dunes be reshaped to the 2017 template. He added that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection agreed to do so. It was noted that the dune grass planting and reshaping was completed at no additional cost to the Borough. He explained that the Borough would still be responsible for dune fencing costs. Commissioner Lawler discussed that it appeared as if there was larger amount of sand located in one area of Longport's beaches. Engineer Carter noted that it could be in preparation for an upcoming storm.

Commissioner Leeds asked which blocks were involved in the dune reshaping. Administrator Porter explained that it included 14<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> avenues. Commissioner Leeds wanted to know when the dunes located from 14<sup>th</sup> to 36<sup>th</sup> avenues would be reshaped. Administrator Porter explained that these dunes would not be reshaped by the NJ DEP. Engineer Carter noted that dunes located east of 16<sup>th</sup> avenue had dune grass planted in the scheduled time frame and did not suffer the damages as those from 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and west did. He explained that the NJ DEP would not entertain lowering the dunes until it was one foot higher than they should be. There was discussion on the Municipal Public Access Plan, Beach Maintenance Permit, and Fish and Wildlife component progress. Solicitor Affanato also discussed a emergency temporary permit he applied for last year and anticipated that the Borough would be granted a similar permit this year. Commissioner Lawler had concerns about the blue mats located on the dunes and wanted to move forward with addressing them.

Commissioner Leeds had a question about the remainder of the dunes that were not reshaped. Solicitor Affanato noted that the only dunes that were reshaped were those that the NJ DEP was not able to plant dune grass on due to it being too late in the season. He explained that the NJ DEP would only agree to reshaping those particular dunes because of the failure to plant the grasses in a timely manner and the subsequent misshaping of those dunes.

Administrator Porter thanked Engineer Carter for all his work and dedication as today was his last Commission Meeting due to his announcement to retire at the end of this year.

Solicitor Affanato:

Solicitor Affanato also wanted to thank Engineer Carter for his service and added that he has prepared a resolution for the January meeting to keep Engineer Carter on as a special projects engineer for the Borough.

He also discussed a resolution on the regular meeting agenda to retain Mr. Bob Bishop for title search research on Amherst Avenue pertaining to the gazebo lot on 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue that has been in discussion over the past several meetings.

Commissioner Leeds had a question regarding the lot near this gazebo and the bulkhead located there. It was noted that the property owner repaired a section of the bulkhead located in Margate, but not the section in Longport. There was discussion on this and having the building department look at the bulkhead and potentially providing notice to the owner regarding the condition of the bulkhead.

Solicitor Affanato discussed having several ordinances prepared for the January meeting to address the use of public facilities and vending ice cream on the Borough's beaches. He also discussed the need to hold a reorganization meeting on January 1, 2021. He noted that it needed to be held on January 1<sup>st</sup> this year because of the November municipal election and that the members of the Governing Body would need to be sworn-in as their term expired on December 31, 2020. He also discussed resolutions that he recommended that the Governing Body should take action on that day including the appointment of the borough solicitor and administrator.

Commissioner Leeds questioned if the engineer's appointment also needed to occur on January 1st. Solicitor Affanato noted that it was something that the Governing Body did not have to take action that day.

Solicitor Affanato commended Administrator Porter on his work on the Lifeguard contract.

Engineer Carter:

Engineer Carter discussed the Atlantic Avenue project and said that paving had been completed and he hoped that the striping would be completed by Christmas. He explained that the project would need to continue into the following year because the State payment could not be finalized until the following year. He also discussed the sidewalk project and anticipated completion by the end of the year. He also discussed his response to the Fish and Wildlife component of the Beach Maintenance Permit and explained that they wanted to take over the maintenance area behind the dunes and designate 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> avenues as a precautionary zone. He noted that this is being addressed with the NJ DEP to work towards getting a Beach Maintenance Permit and a Municipal Public Access Plan.

Engineer Carter also discussed Well #4. He noted that drilling has begun and that the public works building may be moved approximately 20 feet from its original location due to some issues when drilling.

Commissioner Leeds questioned Engineer Carter about a proposal to place the precautionary zone near the 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue groin and Atlantic Avenue jetty. Engineer Carter noted that this had been rejected by the State. He explained that the State would like to restrict some areas on the beach to let it go back to its natural state. He also discussed a precautionary zone between 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> avenues. Commissioner Leeds also discussed 32<sup>nd</sup> to 36<sup>th</sup> avenues and Engineer Carter noted that this area is up for discussion with the NJ DEP regarding a precautionary area behind these dunes. Engineer Carter noted that when the shore protection project first began there were concerns with butterflies in the dune area around 32<sup>nd</sup> to 36<sup>th</sup> avenues.

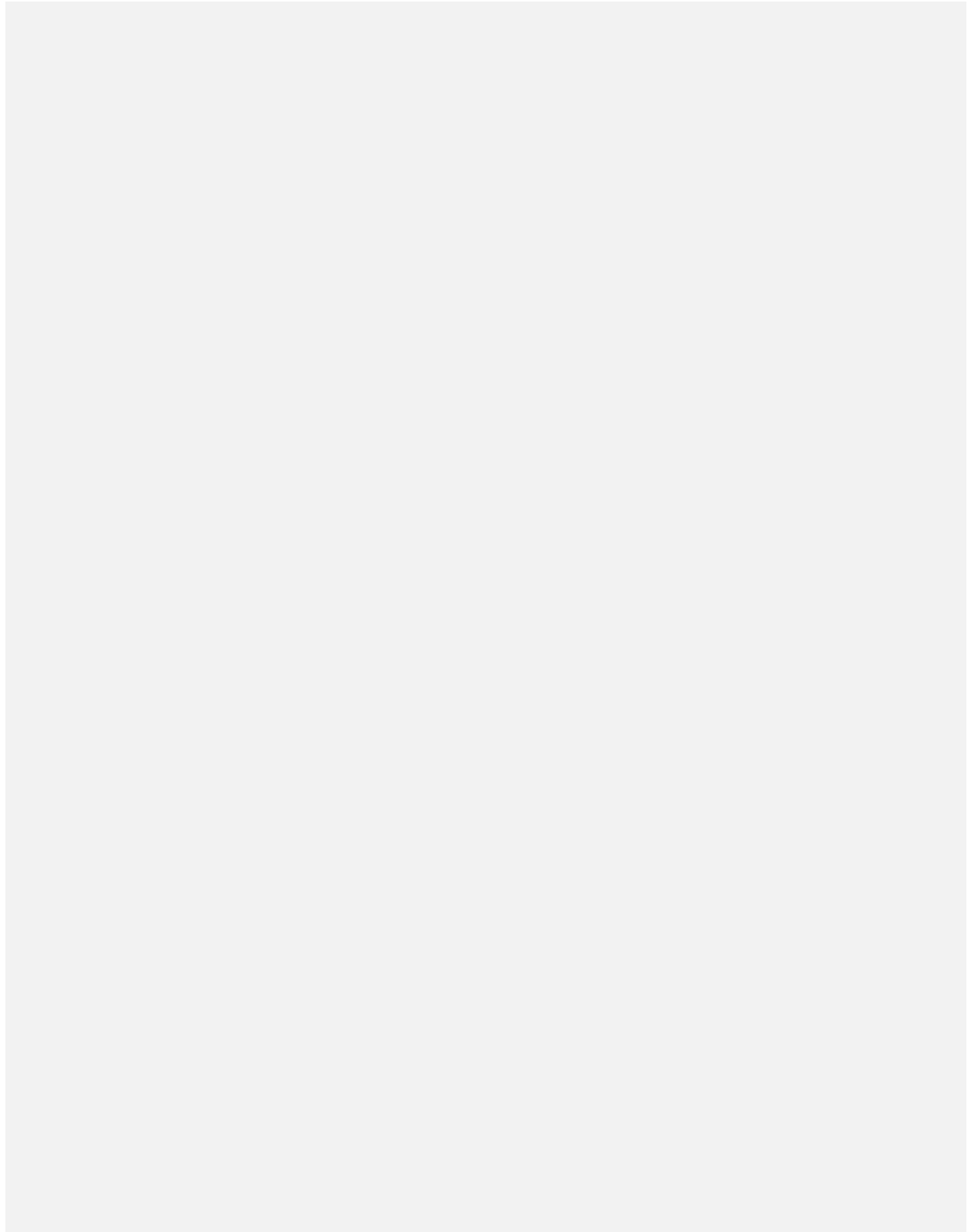
Municipal Clerk:

Municipal Clerk Kyle had nothing further to report.

Miscellaneous:

None.

**Motion to Adjourn** – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.



**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE  
LONGPORT, NJ 08403  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:36 pm.

Municipal Clerk Kyle read the Opening Statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. A notice of this meeting was emailed to the Press of Atlantic City and the Current on December 10, 2020. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the municipal clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Official action may be taken at this meeting.

ROLL CALL:	Nicholas Russo	present
	James P. Leeds, Sr.	present
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, Engineer Carter, CFO Kelly, Chief Culmone, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Emergency Exits, Public Speaking Announcement – announced by Mayor Russo.

Proclamation and Presentation of a Key to the City to Municipal Engineer, Richard L. Carter, P.E., P.P., CME upon his retirement.

Oath of Office – Dolores Wilson, Board of Trustees, Free Public Library of the Borough of Longport.

Approval of minutes-

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the December 2, 2020, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Leeds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lawler, to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2020, meeting. ALL AYES- none opposed.

Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions:

There were no comments or questions on the listed resolutions.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Number	Title
2020-153	A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Contract Between the Borough of Longport and the Longport Lifeguard Association 2020-2022 MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-154	A Resolution Authorizing a Statement of Authority that the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey is Participating in the Atlantic County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Second Update MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

2020-155	A Resolution Fixing the Rate of Interest and Year-End Penalty MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-156	A Resolution to Retain Robert Bishop for Title Search Services, Block 119, Lot 3.02 MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-157	A Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Appropriations MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- RUSSO, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-158	A Resolution Authorizing the Cancelation of Grant Appropriated Reserves MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-159	A Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Property MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2020-160	Approval of Change Order Number 1 for Improvements to HVAC at the Police Department MOTION – LAWLER, SECOND- LEEDS, All AYES- none opposed.

**BILL LIST**

Commissioner of Finance and Revenue, Jim Leeds, Sr., asked if there were any questions on the Bill List of December 15, 2020. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – LAWLER. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT**

Commissioner of Finance and Revenue, Jim Leeds, Sr., asked if there were any questions on the Financial Summary Report. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – RUSSO. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:**

**MAYOR RUSSO**

Mayor Russo noted that the Borough received a resolution of recognition for its participation in the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program.

**COMMISSIONER LEEDS**

Commissioner Leeds nothing further to report.

**COMMISSIONER LAWLER**

Commissioner Lawler nothing further to report.

**MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

Nothing further to report.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

Nothing further to report.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Nothing further to report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Fran Kenny of 226 N. 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue discussed concerns she had with additional traffic coming into Longport from Margate's Amherst Avenue project onto 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue. She wanted to be sure that this street would be included in any potential traffic study. Mayor Russo noted that many of Longport's streets were not designed for this type of traffic. It was noted that this street would be included in the study.

Bob English of 130 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue said he believed that there were two independent traffic studies completed some time ago when there was a proposed traffic change at Sunset Avenue. Mr. English discussed a hole located near the bulkhead by the gazebo area near 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He noted that the hole presented a dangerous situation and recommended filling it in with dirt. It was noted that area discussed was located on private property. Solicitor Affanato discussed addressing this situation through the building department.

Mr. English discussed a home being remodeled on Amherst Avenue where a bulkhead at the end of the street collapsed, causing the Borough to pay \$7500 in repairs to the bulkhead. He questioned if the Borough went back to the property owner for reimbursement of these repairs. Engineer Carter discussed that that is normally the case, but that this situation was different.

Mr. English noted a small hole located in the street near Winchester and Woodcrest avenues that had been filled in, but he explained that it is starting to settle. He said that it might be something public works needs to look at again.

Benjamin Brotsker of 2608 Oberon Avenue discussed his concerns regarding a Stop sign located at corner of 27<sup>th</sup> and Oberon avenues. He noted that the area has recently gotten quite dangerous. He explained that he has seen a lot of people running the Stop sign in this area. He suggested installing a flashing Stop sign or possibly a three-way stop. He was also concerned about bicyclists who are not stopping at the sign when they come off the bridge. He is concerned about an accident occurring there with a bicyclist. Mayor Russo had questions about solar-powered flashing lights on Stop signs and asked if the engineer was familiar with them. Engineer Carter briefly discussed these types of signs and deferred to the Chief of Police. Mr. Brotsker noted that there are compound issues occurring at this particular intersection. There was further discussion on this topic. Mayor Russo noted that Administrator Porter would get Mr. Brotsker's contact information and they would work with the Police Chief and Engineer to look into the issue.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LAWLER, SECOND – COMMISSIONER LEEDS. All AYES- none opposed.

Adjournment – 5:08 pm.