

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2021 – 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 May 28, 2021. 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, Police Chief Culmone, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo stated the location of emergency exits and noted that there is no public comment during workshop meetings.

Engineer Dennis:

Engineer Dennis provided an update on construction at well #4. He noted that the contractor anticipated being off the site by the end of the week. He also said that there is an inspection of the water tower tank on Tuesday.

He also discussed the Borough's Amherst Avenue traffic initiative. He discussed meeting with residents and explained that the two ordinances had been introduced at the previous meeting to help address potential traffic issues. He further explained that the ordinances are scheduled for a second reading and public hearing at the regular meeting. He also noted that many of the traffic measures would be implemented in a way so if it the Borough needed to remove them, it could be done relatively easily. He noted that the Borough would have to observe any potential changes to see what kind of effect the measures would have. He added that the Borough would take incremental steps to see what works and what does not. He added that the two ordinances were something that the advisory committee suggested were worth trying. There was discussion about the one way ordinance and whether or not it would increase traffic on 36th Avenue. There was also discussion about changing the direction of several streets in the Borough. Solicitor Affanato explained that the Governing Body could decide to table this ordinance for reconsideration at a future meeting, it could withdraw the ordinance, or it could take a vote on the ordinance. There was further discussion on whether or not the ordinance would increase traffic onto 36th Avenue or if other measures, such as the implementation of speed tables would help with the traffic. Solicitor Affanato also noted that another goal of the one-way ordinance was to help reduce truck traffic from coming into the Borough and to reduce speed. Engineer Dennis also noted that if the one way was not adopted today, it could still be done at a future meeting. Mayor Russo noted that the Borough received several emails about the traffic ordinances. Solicitor Affanato noted that he would discuss these at the regular meeting per COVID regulations. He also noted that the Governing Body might want to revisit some of the COVID measures as things begin to re-open. Solicitor Affanato also

discussed permit parking in the Borough. He noted that there are some Constitutional issues to take into consideration when addressing this topic. Commissioner Leeds noted that other municipalities such as Somers Point, have residential permit parking. Solicitor Affanato explained that there are numerous things to take into consideration when developing an ordinance for permit parking such as: how many permits are issued per household, the area, what days, how many hours per day, the creation of a parking authority, and the justification for creating the permit parking. He asked if a four-hour parking permit would solve the Borough's parking issues. There was further discussion on this topic. He said if the Governing Body was interested in pursuing permit parking, he would need to be supplied with the parameters.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo had nothing further to discuss.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds discussed the design and construction of the well house. Engineer Dennis noted that the Borough is moving forward with the next step on this project.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler had nothing further to discuss.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Municipal Clerk Kyle noted a correction from a previous meeting to Resolution 2020-79 which is a two year contract for elevator maintenance with Allied Elevator. The dates on the resolution should read June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2022. She also noted that the Longport Planning and Zoning Board reviewed Ordinance 2021-08 regarding the prohibition of cannabis businesses in the Borough and voted in favor of the ordinance at its May 26, 2021 meeting.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Commissioner Leeds. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm.

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2021**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:30 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 May 28, 2021. 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, Police Chief Culmone, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

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

Proclamation – Andrea M. Brady, CMCA. Mayor Russo, Commissioner Leeds, and Commissioner Lawler presented Ms. Brady with a proclamation for her 35 years of dedicated service to the Borough as the Municipal Court Administrator.

The Longport Police Department PBA #363 also presented Ms. Brady with a NJ State PBA Honorary Life Membership Silver Card.

Mayor Russo made a motion to move Resolution 2021-96 to be heard before the ordinances, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – ALL AYES. None opposed

Mayor Russo made a motion to Adopt **Resolution 2021-96 – To Authorize the Convening of a Closed (Executive) Session to Discuss Hyman v. Borough of Longport**, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – ALL AYES. None Opposed. (4:37 pm).

Mayor Russo made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – ALL AYES. None Opposed. Regular meeting reconvened at 4:51 pm.

The following ordinances had a second reading/ public hearing:

Solicitor Affanato noted that several emails from the public had been received by the Borough. He explained that the emails did not specify if they were commenting on ordinances scheduled for a second reading/ public hearing or if they wanted the email read as public comment. He noted that he would read the emails before all the ordinances. He provided those who sent in the emails, if either present or on the telephone, the option to discuss their comments or he could read what was sent.

EMAILS:

Solicitor Affanato read an email sent by Alex and Maya Boguslavsky of 220 N. 36th Avenue expressing their concern about a lack of parking in the Borough and the one-way traffic pattern on Amherst Avenue from Margate into Longport. They noted that both the lack of parking and increased traffic particularly impacted the street they live on. They expressed their support of resident parking permits.

Solicitor Affanato read an email sent by Joel Elfman of 217 N. 36th Avenue. Mr. Elfman expressed concern that the proposed ordinances would not have an impact to increase safety and improve quality of life. He expressed his support of a landscaped barrier preventing traffic flow from Amherst Avenue into the Borough. Mr. Elfman also suggested making 36th Avenue one way towards the bay. He also expressed his concern with increased parking demands from the Margate Promenade project. He voiced his support of resident parking permits. He voiced his opposition to the Ordinance 2021-10 that would make a section of Amherst Avenue one way towards the John F. Kennedy Memorial Bridge.

Barbara Capozzi of 3509 Amherst Avenue sent an email on behalf of seven condo owners at Yacht Harbor Condo (3503, 3505, 3507, 3509, 3511, 3513, 3515 Amherst Avenue) that expressed their concern over the increased traffic and parking issues due to the Margate Promenade Project and traffic flow direction change on Amherst Avenue to one way towards Longport. It stated that there were several near miss vehicle accidents over the past weekend. They asked that the Borough take measures to protect residents.

Sandra Del Giorno of 212 N. 36th Avenue was on the telephone, but requested that Solicitor Affanato read her email. Ms. Del Giorno expressed her concern with a lack of parking in the Borough and expressed her concern that the Margate Promenade project has increased parking issues for residents living near the area. She also noted that the project has affected traffic and quality of life for her. She also felt that the traffic and increased demand on parking was also a safety hazard. She also expressed concern about traffic from Fall Funfest. She voiced her support of residential parking permits and signage, of changing the flow of traffic on 36th Avenue to go towards the bay, as well as changing Monmouth Avenue from two-way traffic to one-way towards Margate.

Linda Young of 204 N. 36th Avenue was present at the meeting and wished to speak and not have her email read.

A Second Reading/ Public Hearing was held on the following ordinances:

Ordinance O2021-08 – An Ordinance by the Borough of Longport in Atlantic County, New Jersey, Prohibiting the Operation of Any Class of Cannabis Businesses within its Geographical Boundaries and Amending Section 167 of the Borough of Longport Municipal Code

No one wished to speak on this ordinance.

Ordinance O2021-09 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 161 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Longport, Atlantic County, New Jersey, as it Pertains to Handicapped Parking.

No one wished to speak on this ordinance.

Ordinance O2021-10 – An Ordinance Amending One-Way Streets in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.

Connie Pappas of 200 N. 36th Avenue voiced her concern that this ordinance would have a negative impact on her street and was not in favor of the ordinance.

Fran Kenny of 225 N. 36th Avenue spoke in favor of this ordinance. She was in favor of trying it to see if it would help with traffic calming in the area.

Linda Young of 204 N. 36th Avenue spoke against the adoption of this ordinance and voiced her support of making 36th Avenue one way towards the bay.

Fred Lutz of 205 N. 36th Avenue was not in favor of the ordinance for just one block. He said he would consider supporting the ordinance if it included all four blocks.

Bob English of 130 N. 32nd Avenue explained that he was part of the ad hoc committee that helped develop the recommendations for the ordinances. He noted that the main reason for this ordinance was to help narrow the street to reduce truck traffic in the area. He suggested adopting the ordinance to see if it would help the traffic situation in Longport. He added that it could be changed back if was not a solution to the problem.

Brian Adams of 112 N. 36th Avenue spoke against the ordinance. He felt it would increase traffic and parking on 36th Avenue. He also noted that parking should be an area of focus for the Governing Body and he was in favor of permit parking. He noted that there are parking restrictions in the Borough, such as beach blocks. He also said he felt that the traffic study was flawed.

Lisa Jacobson of Evergreen Avenue said she supported those on 36th Avenue as they would best understand how the ordinance would affect them and was also in favor of placing a landscape barrier on Amherst Ave.

Susan Lutz of 205 N. 36th Avenue stated that no one on her street was aware of the ad hoc committee meetings and added that there was no public notice about the meetings. She was not in favor of the ordinance and recommending tabling it.

There was no further public comment on this ordinance.

Commissioner Lawler suggested tabling Ordinance 2021-10.

Ordinance O2021-11 – An Ordinance Amending Stop Intersections in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.

Bob English of 130 N. 32nd Avenue spoke in favor of this ordinance. He also suggested moving the slow down signal to another section in the Borough where it could be more effective.

Brian Adams of 112 N. 36th Avenue was in favor of this ordinance. He also wanted to clarify that he was in favor of a Stop sign in conjunction with some other measures on 36th Avenue.

ORDINANCES

Number	Title
2021-08	An Ordinance by the Borough of Longport in Atlantic Count, New Jersey, Prohibiting the Operation of Any Class of Cannabis Businesses within its Geographical Boundaries and Amending Section 167 of the Borough of Longport Municipal Code.

Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit the operation of any class of cannabis businesses in the geographical boundaries of the Borough of Longport and to amend Section 167 of the Borough of Longport’s Code Book.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler to Adopt Ordinance #O2021-08.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – Yes Commissioner Leeds – Yes Commissioner Lawler – Yes ALL AYES. None opposed.
2021-09	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 161 – Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Borough of Longport, Atlantic County, New Jersey, as it Pertains to Handicapped Parking.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to correct, add, and delete certain designated handicapped parking spaced for improved disabled person access at various locations within the Borough of Longport.
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Mayor Russo to Adopt Ordinance #O2021-09.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – Yes Commissioner Leeds – Yes Commissioner Lawler – Yes ALL AYES. None opposed.
2021-10	An Ordinance Amending One-Way Streets in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 161-15 Schedule 3 of the Borough of Longport one-way streets to add Amherst Avenue One-Way heading West from the Margate City Line to North 36 th Avenue.
Motion	Motion to <u>TABLE</u> – Mayor Russo, seconded by Commissioner Leeds to <u>TABLE</u> Ordinance #O2021-10.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – Yes Commissioner Leeds – Yes Commissioner Lawler – Yes ALL AYES. None opposed.
2021-11	An Ordinance Amending Stop Intersections in the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey.
Purpose	The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 161-17 Schedule 5 Stop Intersections in the Borough of Longport to add a Stop Intersection at Amherst Avenue and North 33 rd Avenue on Amherst Avenue. .
Motion	Motion – Commissioner Lawler, seconded by Commissioner Leeds to Adopt Ordinance #O2021-11.
Roll Call Vote	Mayor Russo – Yes Commissioner Leeds – Yes Commissioner Lawler – Yes

	ALL AYES. None opposed.
--	-------------------------

Public Comment or questions on listed resolutions:

There was no comment on the listed resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA (R2021-97 through R2021-101)

Number	Title
2021-97	A Resolution Authorizing Renewal of the Liquor License for Oriental Gourmet, T/A CATCH 2401 Restaurant and Bar MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-98	A Resolution Authorizing a Non Fair and Open Professional Services Contract with James M. Rutala Associates, LLC of Linwood, NJ for Planning and Grant Assistance MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-99	Establishment of an Emergency ‘No Parking’ Area, Closure, and Detouring During 2021 July 4 th American Mile MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-100	Chapter 159 – Budget Insertion for Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2021-101	A Resolution Recognizing the Dedication of the Members of the United States Coast Guard and in Appreciation of their Service to be Presented at the Change of Command Ceremony, Coast Guard Station Atlantic City – June 25, 2021 MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

Commissioner Leeds discussed Amherst Avenue to see if it would be further studied and Commissioner Lawler noted that it would be an on-going study to address the concerns brought to the Governing Body by residents.

BILL LIST

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

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER LEEDS

Commissioner Leeds stated that the Governing Body is still looking for public comment on the Amherst Avenue traffic concern. Commissioner Lawler asked Engineer Dennis if Lamberti's parking lot was open to the public yet. He replied that it was not.

COMMISSIONER LAWLER

Commissioner Lawler reminded the public that homeowners can apply for a permit to park in front of their driveway.

MAYOR RUSSO

Mayor Russo noted that the Memorial Day parade was a success, noting that many people participated this year and the route had been changed to its original route. He also discussed re-starting the Social Luncheon program. He also discussed the upcoming American Mile this year. He also discussed a sign that Ms. Kenny had questions about and that explained that it would be removed soon.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Hyman of 4 N. 31st Avenue discussed the parking restrictions on the beach blocks (previously mentioned by another resident) in the Borough and that the Governing Body might want to revisit this. Mayor Russo discussed Mr. Hyman's comment and noted that a street such as Beach Terrace was not designed for that type of traffic. Commissioner Leeds did not feel as strongly about traffic concerns on Beach Terrace. He added that the parking restrictions on the beach blocks are for safety reasons. Mr. Hyman also discussed parking permits for residents, he suggested two per household, as he felt that this would still provide enough parking for public to park.

Fran Kenny of 225 N. 36th Avenue asked for an updated on the sea wall at 36th Avenue. Engineer Dennis noted that he reached out to the owner, but has not received a response yet.

Linda Young of 204 N. 36th Avenue said she would like to leave the meeting with some sort of direction from the Governing Body on what is happening regarding the Amherst Avenue traffic and parking situation. She suggested a holding meeting for all those who are concerned could attend. She also said she was not aware of the ad hoc committee that was formed to address these issues. She said that the Governing Body needs to protect the taxpayers. She discussed a landscape barrier and making 36th Avenue one way. Commissioner Lawler addressed her concerns. Commissioner Leeds questioned if 36th Avenue could be changed to one way. Solicitor Affanato explained the process on how to change the traffic direction. Engineer Dennis also discussed the process and discussed the measures that the Borough as taken to address her concerns. There was further discussion on this topic.

Pat Armstrong of 302 N. 34th Avenue discussed the ad hoc committee that was formed. He recommended keeping the committee going and inviting others to attend to discuss other issues such as the bike lane stopping at Coolidge Avenue, a planter or road-softening idea, and that there was other unfinished business to discuss.

No one else wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Adjournment – 5:55 pm.