

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG  
Council Meeting

6:30 PM Executive Session/7:30 pm Regular Session

April 6, 2022

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The Regular Meeting of the Lopatcong Township Council was called to order by Mayor Mengucci. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building located at 232 S. Third St., Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

A Prayer was offered followed by the Oath of Allegiance.

Mayor Mengucci stated “adequate notice of this meeting has been provided indicating the time and place of the meeting in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 by advertising a Notice in The Star Ledger and The Express-Times and by posting a copy on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.”

Present – Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci. Also, present were Attorney Campbell and Engineer Sterbenz.

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Wright. All in favor.

Swear In – Robert Stefano as Sergeant in the Police Dept.

Proclamation – Holden Garcia - Wrestling Career

**Public Comment:** Agenda items only.

July Liptak – 47 Kyle Drive – Various questions/comments on Truck parking, liter, bridge concerns Rt. 22/57.

**Old Business:**

**Minutes** – February 16 and March 2, 2022 Executive and Regular Sessions. Motion to approve by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman McQuade. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Councilman Belcaro – February 16, 2022

**Ordinance No. 22-02** - Ordinance No. 22-02 – Second reading and public hearing to Amend, Revise and Supplement Chapter 227 “Vehicles and Traffic”, including Section 11 “Stopping and Standing Prohibited During Certain Hours on Certain Streets” Relative to Strykers Road.

Motion to hold a public hearing by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Wright. All in favor. Donna Schneider – 26 Meadowview Drive asked about where this applies – Strykers Road both sides between Rt. 57 and Greenwich. Brian Weeks asked about parking DPW trucks. Motion to close public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. All in favor.

## ORDINANCE NO. 22-02

### SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 227 "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC", INCLUDING SECTION 11 "STOPPING AND STANDING PROHIBITED DURING CERTAIN HOURS ON CERTAIN STREETS" RELATIVE TO STYRKERS ROAD.

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Ordinance No. 22-03** – Second reading and public hearing to Amend and Revise Chapter 243 entitled “Zoning and Land Use” to Amend Sections 243-5, 243-65.3 and 243-77 to Prohibit Truck Stops within the Township of Lopatcong. Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. All in favor. Donna Schneider – 26 Meadowview Drive asked how the ordinance was drafted possibly using another town as an example. John Betz – challenge of an ordinance, Doug Liptak – asked about removal of trucks and violations/penalties, John Betz – Management of land. Motion to close public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-03

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG,  
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
TO AMEND AND REVISE CHAPTER 243 ENTITLED "ZONING AND LAND USE" TO AMEND SECTIONS 243-5, 243-65.3 AND 243-77 TO PROHIBIT TRUCK STOPS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG.**

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Ordinance No. 22-04** – Second reading and public hearing to Amend Chapter 227 entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" to Add Regulations Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:5A-1 for the Private Roadway Systems within the Autumn Ridge Development. Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. All in favor. No comments from the public. Motion to close the public hearing by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-04

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 227 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
LOPATCONG ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" TO ADD REGULATIONS  
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 39:5A-1 FOR THE PRIVATE ROADWAY SYSTEMS WITHIN  
THE AUTUMN RIDGE DEVELOPMENT

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-04 by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Mayor Mengucci.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**2022 Budget Resolution 22-60** – Adopt Resolution for Self-Examination of the Budget before Introduction.

R 22-60

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING, SELF-EXAMINATION OF  
BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 thru 7.5, the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local

Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Township meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2022 budget year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification. The Governing Body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
  - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges.
  - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
  - c. Cash deficit of preceding year.
  - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes.
  - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items.
  - f. Any inclusion of amounts required for school purposes.
  
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A:4-45.3 et seq. are fully met. (Complies with the "CAP" law).
  
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
  
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
  - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate, and correctly stated.
  - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth.
  - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
  
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
  
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of Local Government Services.

Approved: April 6, 2022

Vote recorded as follows: All in favor

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

## CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

CFO Browne explained this is the introduction of the 2022 Budget - \$9,805,264.95 – anticipated Revenues are \$4,098,979.59 of which \$5,706,285.36 to be raised by taxes. That means that a home valued at \$231,000.00 would play \$38.00 per year in the local share. The Sewer Budget remains the same at \$1,850.00. This year the debt to be paid off is 1.3 million dollars.

Motion to introduce by Council President Wright, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

### **New Business:**

1. Robyn George – Shade Tree Report. The Core training has been completed. The proposed planting location has been included in the agenda packet. That is, the Township received a sapling of the oldest living tree; between 500 and 600 years old, Salem Oak Tree, in New Jersey. This was a historic tree to both New Jersey and the entire country. The tree fell in 2019. The State collected the Acorns and grew saplings and one was donated to each municipality. She identified a spot in the Lopatcong Park to plant this sapling; at the top of the hill at the Trail Head. This will be planted on Arbor Day which is April 29<sup>th</sup>. The Cub Scouts and Brownies will participate in the planting ceremony.

A calendar of meetings have been established for monthly meetings.

### **Consent Agenda:**

R 22-59

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING CONSENT AGENDA FOR COUNCIL'S  
CONSIDERATION

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby approve and authorize a Consent Agenda to move routine items of business requiring no discussion; and

WHEREAS, there are listed Items one through eight on the Consent Agenda.

1. Resolution - Appoint Ben George, Megan Price and Tammi Pita as members to Shade Tree Commission.
2. Resolution to appoint Andrew Melendez Zoning Officer per Civil Service Certification of Eligibles No. PL220365.
3. Resolution approving increase in Temporary Budget for year 2022.
4. Resolution to approve payrates for municipal employees.
5. Resolution authorizing refund of sewer overpayment for tax year 2022 on Block 99, Lot 343 C1129 in the amount of \$396.28.
6. Resolution authorizing refund of tax overpayment for Block 86.08, Lot 2 in the amount of \$4,560.36.
7. Resolution authorizing refund for tax overpayment for Block 99, lot 399 C0313 in the amount of \$72.03.
8. Resolution to correct Tax Account for Block 15, Lot 11.
9. Resolution approving Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for grant cycle October 2020-June 2025 fiscal year 2023.
10. Approve gas installation at 10 Briarstone Avenue.
11. Approve Vanguard Operations and Maintenance Service proposal in the amount of \$2,923.84.
12. Approve agreement with A&W Septic Service for portable toilet rentals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey approve and authorize this Consent Agenda to move routine items of business that require no discussion.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion by Council President Wright, seconded by Mayor Mengucci to adopt. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Shade Tree Commission** – Mayor Mengucci appointed Ben George, Megan Price and Tammi Pita as members to Shade Tree Commission. Terms shall be established by the Ordinance.

**Resolution No. 22-61** - Appoint Andrew Melendez Zoning Officer per Civil Service Certification of Eligibles No. PL220365.

R 22-61

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PERMENANT TITLE TO ANDREW  
MELENDEZ AS ZONING OFFICIAL PART-TIME PER CIVIL SERVICE CERTIFICATION  
OF ELIGIBLES No. PL220365

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey approve the hire of a Andrew Melendez as Zoning Office part-time; and

WHEREAS, the position is now permanent per Civil Service Certification of Eligibles No. PL220365; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Melendez is a qualified, licensed official in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Melendez will work 8 hours a week at an hourly rate established in the current Salary Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey does hereby recognize the permanent status of Andrew Melendez as Zoning Official part-time working up to eight hours per week at an hourly rate established in the current Salary Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 22-62** - Approve increase in Temporary Budget for year 2022.

R 22-62

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING TEMPORARY MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE  
YEAR 2022



WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2022 Municipal and Sewer Budgets, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided; and

WHEREAS, the Township has adopted a resolution on January 5, 2022 for the first quarter appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Budget will not be adopted until May, another temporary budget is needed for April Current Fund appropriations in certain budget line items; and

WHEREAS, total temporary appropriations shall not exceed 26.25% of the total of the appropriations in the 2021 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement fund and public assistance in said 2021 budget or in the sum of \$2,167,058.82 for the Current Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED that the following appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for the record:

Current Fund: \$63,300.00

As temporary appropriations for the year for the purpose identified by the title herein below listed and in the sum set aside such titles:

CURRENT FUND

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Acct. No.

20101200 Administrative and Executive:

	Other Expenses	\$1,000.00
20102200	Postage	\$1,000.00
20140200	Computer Services	\$2,000.00
20103200	Code Book Update	\$ 500.00
	<u>Municipal Land Use Law (NJSA 40:55D-1)</u>	
	Zoning Board of Adjustment:	
21186100	Salaries & Wages	\$ 500.00
21186200	Other Expenses	\$ 300.00
	Rent Board	
21190100	Salaries & Wages	\$2,000.00
21190200	Other Expenses	\$2,000.00

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Fire:

Miscellaneous-Other Expenses

25255200	Fire Company No. 1 & 2	\$3,000.00
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STREETS AND ROADS:

Public Buildings and Grounds:

26310200	Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
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Municipal Court:

43490100	Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,000.00
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HEALTH AND WELFARE:

Animal Control Fund:

27340100	Salaries & Wages	\$1,000.00
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RECREATION AND EDUCATION:

Parks and Playgrounds:

28375100	Salaries & Wages	\$1,500.00
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28375200	Other Expenses	\$3,000.00
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UTILITIES:

31430200	Electricity	\$3,000.00
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31446200	Gas(Natural or Propane)	\$2,000.00
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31445200	Water	\$1,000.00
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31447200	Gasoline	\$5,000.00
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UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE:

Building Sub-code Official

22195100	Salaries & Wages	\$5,000.00
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22195200	Other Expenses	\$1,000.00
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Fire Safety Inspector:

25265100	Salaries & Wages	\$2,000.00
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25265200	Other Expenses	\$1,500.00
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Zoning Officer

21185200	Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
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TOTAL OPERATIONS WITHIN "CAP"		\$63,300.00
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TOTAL CURRENT FUND		\$63,300.00
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CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 22-63 - Approve payrates for municipal employees.

R 22-63

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH PAY RATES FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES FOR THE  
YEAR 2022

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey shall set a two percent 2% raise (effective January 1, 2022) for the job titles as listed below. Titles marked with an \* did not receive a two percent raise.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following pay rates will be used during 2022 to compensate municipal employees:

	SALARY	HOURLY
*MAYOR	\$5,230.00	
*COUNCILPERSON	\$2,960.00	
TOWNSHIP CLERK – Margaret Dilts	\$140,781.56	
KEYBOARDING CLERK – Kayla Marconi	\$40,000.00	
*TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR – Margaret Dilts	\$15,600.00	
ELECTION BOARD CLERK – Margaret Dilts	\$1,576.62	
*PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY – Margaret Dilts	\$12,070.66	
*BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT SECRETARY – Patricia Segeda	Up to \$6,000.00	
*RENT LEVELING BOARD –	\$3,000.00	
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER – Kimberley Browne	\$124,479.70	
SENIOR PAYROLL CLERK – Jennifer Patricia	\$56,100.00	

TAX ASSESSOR – Robert Sweeney	\$42,794.17	
TAX/SEWER COLLECTOR - Daniele Lattig	\$67,110.80	
*SEWER APPEALS SECRETARY – Kayla Marconi	\$2,000.00	
*DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS – Daniel Lattig	\$1,200.00	
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – Brian Weeks	\$91,606.01	
*MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE – William Mennen	\$31,497.60	
*MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR – Christopher Troxell	\$20,155.20	
MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR – Kristin Glinko	\$70,358.09	
*COMPUTER/WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR	\$8,000.00	
*EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL – Jason Garcia	\$2,065.19	
*DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL – Patrick Rivoli	\$1,326.00	
*HERBICIDE LICENSE OPERATOR	\$2,000.00	
*CLEAN COMMUNITIES COORDINATOR	\$2,000.00	
ANIMAL CONTROL REGISTRAR – Kayla Marconi	\$3,200.00	
CUSTODIAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING –	\$18.93	
CUSTODIAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING – Heidi Shackelford	\$18.93	
MUNICIPAL COURT SECURITY – Michael Clancy	\$128.84/Session	
RECORDS TECHNICIAN – Kathryn DeStefano	\$43,365.50	
*POLICE MATRON – Kathryn DeStefano	\$25.00/hour	
SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS	\$16.95/hour	
CLASS III POLICE OFFICER-Donald Obley	\$30.00/hour	

SENIOR PUBLIC WORKS REPAIRER – Joseph Bichler	\$71,325.54	
SENIOR PUBLIC WORKS REPAIRER – Joseph DiMassi	\$65,457.99	
PUBLIC WORKS REPAIRER – Brian Race	\$64,821.51	
LABORER – Scott Tetteimer	\$49,725.00	
LABORER – Christopher Gara	\$49,725.00	
PARKS AND PLAYGROUND CLERK – Kayla Marconi	\$8,800.00	
ACTING SUPERVISOR OF PUBLIC WORKS	\$1.00/Hr.	
*PARK SEASONAL MAINTENANCE	\$20.00/Hr.	
CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL/BUILDING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL – John Fritts	\$46.82/hour	
TECHNICAL ASSISTANT TO CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL – Eileen Apple	\$48,960.00	
FIRE SUB-CODE OFFICIAL/FIRE PREVENTION – Kevin Maguire	\$40.80/Hr.	
FIRE SUB-CODE OFFICIAL – Thomas Reynolds	\$40.80/Hr.	
PLUMBING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL – Henry Bell	\$40.80/Hr.	
ELECTRICIAL SUB-CODE OFFICIAL – Scott Schofield and Peter Lytwyn	\$40.80/Hr.	
ZONING OFFICIAL – Andrew Melendez	\$36.41/Hr.	

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, approve a two percent increase for employees as listed above.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 22-64** - Authorize refund of sewer overpayment for tax year 2022 on Block 99, Lot 343 C1129 in the amount of \$396.28.

R 22-64

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT ON SEWER PAYMENT FOR THE TAX YEAR 2022

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that warrants be drawn to the prior property owners listed below in the designated amounts representing overpayment on sewer payments as follows for the tax year 2022.

<u>Name and Lot</u>	<u>Name of Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Block 99, Lot 343 C1129	Dennis Brisson 1305 Hyde Boulevard Phillipsburg, NJ 08865	\$396.28

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey have approved the refunds made rather than applying these payments to the 2022 sewer taxes due.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 22-65** – Authorize refund of tax overpayment for Block 86.08, Lot 2 in the amount of \$4,560.36.

R 22-65

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ISSUE A REFUND FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT FOR  
BLOCK 86.08, Lot 2

WHEREAS, Block 86.078, Lot 2 qualified as tax exempt (disabled veteran) on March 9, 2022;  
and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has adjusted the tax account to cancel taxes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
quarter of 2022; and

WHEREAS, the homeowner for the property made the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2022 payment of \$3,687.24 on  
February 3, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the homeowner for the property made a payment towards the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter in the  
amount of \$3,700.00 on February 4, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of  
Lopatcong hereby authorizes a refund in the amount of \$4,560.36 to: Steven & Megan Ferrero,  
23 Highlands Way, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State  
of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted  
at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 22-66** - Correct Tax Account for Block 99, Lot 399 C0313

R 22-66

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ISSUE A REFUND FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT FOR  
BLOCK 99, LOT 399 C0313

WHEREAS, Block 99, Lot 399 C0313 qualified as tax exempt (disabled veteran) on March 25,  
2022; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has adjusted the tax account to cancel taxes for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
quarter of 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes a refund the prorated amount of \$72.03 to: Robert R. Agans, Sr., 313 Clover Court, Stewartsville, NJ 08886.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 22 -69 - Approving Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for grant cycle October 2020-June 2025 fiscal year 2023.**

R 22-69

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE OCTOBER 2020-JUNE 2025

Form 1B

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the South Warren Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of  
DEDR \$2450.00  
Cash Match \$612.50



In-Kind \$1,837.50

2. The Township Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance Grant including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

James E. Mengucci, Mayor

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Gas Installation – 10 Briarstone Avenue** – Lift moratorium to approve the installation with conditions.

**Vanguard Operations and Maintenance Service** – Renew Service Agreement proposal in the amount of \$2,923.84.

**A&W Septic Service** - Approve agreement with A&W Septic Service for portable toilet rentals for the summer season.

#### **Council Reports:**

Councilman McQuade – No Report.

Councilman Belcaro- Noted the roads to be paved this year as part of the Road Improvement Program which includes Belview Road.

Councilman Palitto – Easter Egg Hunt is this Saturday at 10 am in the park. Music in the Park for the summer has every week booked beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>. Community Day is scheduled for the 10<sup>th</sup> of September with the tribute for the Veterans. Resident Michael Sazanov has reached out wanting to plan a cleanup of the liter and would work with him to organize it.

Council President Wright – Thanked Kim for a great job on the budget. Gave thanks to Beth for her hard work having all the departments work together as a team and you can see it when you are in the building. Kayla is now working in the office which has been a big help. This is an asset and everyone is doing a great job.

Mayor Mengucci – Noted that Mr. Wright, Mr. Sterbenz and himself met at the pool today – our 55-year-old pool and the parking lot. The pool was put in in 67 and wants to put it out for referendum as to an explanation as to what can be done with the pool. The park will be analyzed as well. He also stated that he has heard consistently over the years that the residents love the park and the pool.

**Report of the Engineer** – Belview Road and Belvidere Road construction projects – work has begun and work is also being done on Charles and a portion of Stonehenge Drive and Anna Place. Work will be completed by end of next week. Paving will be done from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Survey works is being done on Baltimore Street and the goal is to have that completed later this year.

**Report of Chief of Police** – No report.

Mayor Mengucci noted that a DPW worker will be leaving April 15, the Tax Assessor leaving July, and a maintenance employee for the municipal building need to be replaced. Mayor Mengucci made a motion to advertise these positions, seconded by Council President Wright. All in favor.

Mayor Mengucci noted Kayla Marconi shall be appointed secretary for the Shade Tree Commission and a salary adjustment will be made. Motion by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Approve Dept. Reports** – Motion to approve by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Councilman Wright. All in favor.

**Approve Payment of Bills** – Motion by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Audience Participation** –

Michael Sazanov – Presented a proposal to clean up Lopatcong roads from liter. He coordinated with the Shade Tree Commission Chairwoman Robyn George and Councilman Palitto. Local merchants have been contacted to donate supplies. There are four areas – and asked to be able to post a sign “Green Lopatcong – this street lovingly cleaned by Lopatcong residents”. This would include Strykers Road from Rt. 519 to Baltimore Street, Baltimore Street from Red School Lane to Strykers Road, 57 from Red School Lane to Strykers Road. This would be scheduled for the Saturday just following Earth Day. Shade Tree asked to be a sponsor of the event.

Bob Bruce – Harwich Rd. – Read allowed a statement of what his concerns have been over the years he and his family have lived through since they moved to Lopatcong back when his son was 4 years of age.

John Ketcherson – Discussed his concern over the truck traffic and his opposition to a truck stop. He also mentioned his opinion to the pool issues and park liter. Discussed the porta potty issues at the warehouse on Strykers Road. He asked about the ordinance enforcement for dogs in the park.

Margaret Taylor – Talked about her concerns over the conflict engineer appointed to hear the NFI application before the Planning Board.

Judy Liptak – Overpass on Rt. 57/22 – condition and Engineer Sterbenz noted that he did do an inspection of the bridge and had not yet sent off a letter to the DOT. Ms. Liptak talked about a lengthy letter she received in response to her letter to the DOT. Asked if anyone knew if the mall sold. Discussion over liter, posted signs and other concerns were discussed.

Donna Schneider – Meadowview Drive – Asked about the number of lawsuits – noted what she was able to see on-line. Asked for an update. Asked about redevelopment plan – customized plan. Asked to confirm who owns the sidewalks and ownership of trees. Wanted an explanation of preliminary approval for Bridge.

Business Owner North First and Belvidere Rd. – Inquired as to the broken curb along N. First Street and asked about repairing it.

**Adjournment** – Motion by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC  
Clerk/Administrator

James E. Mengucci  
Mayor