

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2021

The COUNCIL Meeting of the Borough of Lawnside was called to order by Mayor Mary Ann Wardlow on **December 1, 2021 at 7:00p.m.** Via ZOOM Conference Call.

Following a prayer and flag salute led by Councilwoman Wright-McLeod, and a moment of silence, The Acting Municipal Clerk called the roll.

### **Roll Call showed present:**

Mary Ann Wardlow	Mayor
Ronald DeAbreu	Councilperson
Robert Lee	Councilperson
Steven Pollard	Councilperson
Rhonda Wardlow-Hurley	Councilperson
Eric J. Wilcox, Sr.	Councilperson
Dawn Wright-McLeod	Councilperson

### **Also present were:**

Edward H. Hill	Borough Solicitor
Sean Smith, Sr.	Borough Engineer
Angelique Rankins	Business Administrator
Marsharee A. Wright	Acting Borough Clerk
Captain Plenty	Public Safety
Rafiq Golphin	Acting Public Works Supervisor
Michael L. Harper Jr.	Fire Chief

Mayor Wardlow declared the meeting officially open and the Acting Borough Clerk read that the meeting had been properly publicized as to the time, date, and place, in accordance with P.L. 1985, Chapter 231.

### **REMARKS BY CITIZENS:**

A motion was made by DeAbreu and seconded by Pollard to **Open Public Comments**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried.

- **Thelma Tutt – 110 Williams Avenue** – Ms. Tutt spoke on the proposed Cannabis ordinance stating employees or officials should not hold obtain a license due to favoritism and nepotism within the Borough and the lack of yard maintenance at Free Haven Farms located at 105 Williams Avenue which she feels is making her property value go down
- **Ann Bull – 325 Ashland Avenue** – Questioned what are the benefits of having a cannabis facility in Lawnside and stated that the town is historically black and gave her opinion of how it is not a good look for Lawnside to house a facility like this when most black people are in jail for marijuana.
- **Rev. Dr. Charles McNeil – Grace Temple Baptist Church** – Pastor stated he had several conversations with Mayor and understands that the proposed Ordinance is responding to the NJ State Law to protect Lawnside and he is happy there will be no selling if cannabis within the town. He questioned if there is any legislation or ruling on the limitation of how many plants can be in town.

A motion was made by Pollard and seconded by Wardlow-Hurley to **Close Public Comments**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Council Meeting Minutes – November 3, 2021

A motion was made by Wright-McLeod and seconded by DeAbreu to **Adopt Meeting Minutes**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

### **PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 11-2021:** An Ordinance Authorizing the Approval of Financial Agreement for the Historic Borough of Lawnside Station Business Park II Project

A motion was made by Lee and seconded by Wilcox to **Open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 11-2021**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

- **NONE**

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2021

PAGE TWO

A motion was made by Wardlow-Hurley and seconded by DeAbreu to **Close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 11-2021**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

A motion was made by Wright-McLeod and seconded by DeAbreu to **Adopt Ordinance No. 11-2021:**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

### **ORDINANCE NO. 12-2021:**

An Ordinance Permitting the Operation of Cannabis Businesses as Permitted used within the Oak Avenue Redevelopment Area, repealing Ordinance 04-2021 and Previously Adopted Chapter 51A of the Lawnside Code and Amending the Lawnside Code to Create a New Chapter 51A

A motion was made by Pollard and seconded by Wardlow-Hurley to **Open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 12-2021**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

- NONE

A motion was made by Wright-McLeod and seconded by Lee to **Close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 12-2021**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

A motion was made by Wardlow-Hurley and seconded by DeAbreu to **Adopt Ordinance No. 12-2021:**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

### **ORDINANCE NO. 13-2021:**

An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing the Salaries and Other Compensation of the Officials and Employees of the Borough of Lawnside

A motion was made by Wardlow-Hurley and seconded by DeAbreu to **Open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 13-2021**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

- NONE

A motion was made by Wright-McLeod and seconded by Wilcox to **Close Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 13-2021**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

A motion was made by DeAbreu and seconded by Pollard to **Adopt Ordinance No. 13-2021:**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

### **THE NEW BUSINESS STATEMENT WAS READ BY THE ACTING BOROUGH CLERK CONSENT AGENDA CONSENT AGENDA:**

#### **A. Resolutions:**

1. Resolution No. 112 - 2021 – Specifying Dates and Time for 2022 Council & Caucus Meetings and Workshops
2. Resolution No. 113 - 2021 – Designating Newspapers for Advertisements of 2022 Meetings and Notices
3. Resolution No. 114 - 2021 – Establishing Implementing Fair and Open Selection of Professional Services 2022
4. Resolution No. 115 - 2021 – Reducing Performance Guarantee Reduction for Vineland Construction Company – Historic Borough of Lawnside Station Business Park
5. Resolution No. 116 - 2021 – Support of the Location for the Operation of Cannabis-Related Activities at the Historic Lawnside Station Business Park II
6. Resolution No. 117 – 2021 - Authorizing Transferring CY2021 Appropriations

#### **B. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Wilcox and seconded by Wright-McLeod to **Adopt Resolutions and Payment of Bills**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried

### **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**OCTOBER 2021**

BOROUGH CLERK - \$ 10,856.41	CONSTRUCTION - \$ 116,733.97	DOG ACCOUNT - \$ 2,803.29
TAX COLLECTOR - \$ 553,816.36	SEWER RENTALS - \$39,002.19	MUNICIPAL COURT - \$ 9,969.16
PRO CHAMPS - \$ 1,900.00	\$ 23,800.00- 2021 YTD TOTAL	

A motion was made by Wright-McLeod and seconded by DeAbreu to **Accept Monthly Financial Reports**

Roll Call Vote: DeAbreu y; Lee y; Pollard y; Wardlow-Hurley y; Wilcox y; Wright-McLeod y; 6Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion declared carried



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2021

PAGE THREE

REMARKS:

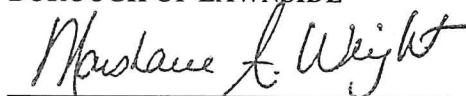
- **Mayor Wardlow** – Thanked Administrator, Borough Office staff, DPW, LPD, and the LFD for a great year for continuing to work during these trying COVID times. Mayor stated that LPD are enforcing rules and issuing citations to keep the town clean and encouraged residents to tell their neighbors about the trash rules and continue to look out for one another. If there is something that doesn't look right, she suggested for them to call 911 to report things. Mayor expressed her appreciation to all the staff and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season and asked everyone to continue to follow CDC guidelines by getting vaccinated, get booster, wear mask and use hand sanitizer.
- **Councilwoman Wardlow-Hurley** – Announced that the Tree Lighting Ceremony will be on 12/3 at 6pm and the Holiday parade on 12/18 at 2pm. Thanked DPW, LPD and the LFD for all their help with the community events and Ms. Rankins for updating the marquee with the event information.
- **Councilman Lee** – Stated the Leaf pick up date signs are posted throughout the town and DPW will continue to pick up leaves and debris and asked residents to be careful and not park near leaves to prevent fires.
- **Councilman Wilcox** – Wished Councilwoman Wardlow-Hurley a Happy Birthday tomorrow and everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.
- **Councilwoman Wright-McLeod** – Wished everyone a Happy Holiday season and asked everyone to be safe, prayerful and mindful of others. Stated Lawnside is a beautiful community and great place to live historically and encouraged residents to help others in need.
- **Councilman Pollard** – Asked Residents to be Grateful and Thankful. Councilman reiterated that the LPD and LFD are answering calls and enforcing laws and DPW are out there servicing the community and suggested residents just continue to thank them when they see them out and about. Councilman also asked residents to drive safe and obey the speed limit and be vigilant of the deer in town.
- **Captain Plenty** – Asked Residents to obey the Traffic Laws and as you ride through town, do the speed limit as others behind you will slow down and follow the speed limit as well.
- **Fire Chief Harper** – Wished Everyone A Happy Holiday Season. \*\*Mayor Wardlow thanked FD again for their hard work and offered residents to drop the donation envelopes off in the red lock box outside the municipal building\*\*
- **Councilman DeAbreu** – Wished everyone a safe and Prayerful Holiday Season, "Hug Your Love Ones" and asked everyone to support the Love Lunch to be held on 12/18 at the Lawnside School and reminded everyone of the no left turn on Charleston Avenue rule from Walter A. Gaines Way during the school arrival and dismissal times.

At 7:41pm there was a Motion Made by Pollard and seconded by Lee to Adjourn the Meeting.

The Voice Vote was unanimous in the affirmative action. Motion declared carried

Meeting Adjourned 7:41 P.M.

BOROUGH OF LAWSIDE



MARSHAREE A. WRIGHT  
ACTING BOROUGH CLERK

  
MARY ANN WARDLOW  
MAYOR