

**BOROUGH OF MEDFORD LAKES, NEW JERSEY**

**REGULAR MEETING (7:00pm)**

**March 10, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey, beginning at 7:00pm was held in-person and via Zoom Electronic Meeting following the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence (Council and the public observed a moment of silence to honor service men and women defending our country, those lost/suffering and serving during this COVID-19 Pandemic along with all Public Safety Professionals and Volunteers). Clerk McIntosh read the Open Public Meetings Act: pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this regular meeting has been published in the Burlington County Times and posted on the official bulletin board of the Borough of Medford Lakes. Those wishing to be notified for changes to scheduled meetings were notified via email or regular mail.

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**NOTICE** – Each public body shall keep reasonably comprehensible minutes of all its meetings showing the time and place, the members present, the subjects considered, the actions taken, the vote of each member, and any other information required to be shown in the minutes by law. “Reasonably comprehensible” does not mean “comprehensive.” Minutes are not transcripts. The minutes are not intended to be a verbatim recitation of a public meeting.

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**ROLL CALL**

Clerk Mark J. McIntosh (in-person) called roll; Mayor Thomas J. Cranston (in-person), Deputy Mayor Dr. Gary A. Miller (in-person), Councilman William R. Fields (in-person), Councilwoman Gail A. Caputo (in-person) and Councilman Dennis P. O’Neill answered in attendance. Also present was Borough Manager Dr. Robert J. Burton (in-person) and Solicitor Douglas L. Heinold (in-person).

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**PUBLIC COMMENT #1**

*Mayor Cranston called the meeting to order and opened public comment on agenda items only. Hearing none he closed public comment.*

*Clerk McIntosh stated that the Borough received no written advance public comments.*

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**MINUTES**

*Deputy Mayor Miller introduced adoption of the February 24, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilman O’Neill.*

*Mayor Cranston called for the vote.*

**VOTE**

	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain
Mayor Thomas J. Cranston			X			
Deputy Mayor Dr. Gary A. Miller	X		X			
Councilwoman Dr. Gail A. Caputo			X			
Councilman William R. Fields			X			
Councilman Dennis P. O’Neill		X	X			

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**RESOLUTION(S)**

*Deputy Mayor Miller introduced Resolution Number 53-21, seconded by Councilman O’Neill.*

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 53-21**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NUMBER 9-21, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF LICENSING FEES**

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 478, as amended, at Section 9, provides that rules and regulations may be imposed by Resolution, implementing licensing fees;

**WHEREAS**, Resolution Number 9-21 set a late charge due and payable 30-days after January 31, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the licensing official has asked that the last date to license without a late fee be extended to April 2, 2021 due to the overwhelming response to a recent Borough wide mailing regarding licensing.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey that the following fees shall be in effect until further notice:

**DOGS:**

- \$10.20 Spayed and Neutered
- \$13.20, if not spayed and neutered.
- \$10.00 Late Charge (to be assessed April 5, 2021)

**CATS:**

- \$10.20 Spayed and Neutered
- \$13.20, if not spayed and neutered.
- \$10.00 Late Charge (to be assessed April 5, 2021)

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*Mayor Cranston called for the vote.*

**VOTE**

	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain
Mayor Thomas J. Cranston			<b>X</b>			
Deputy Mayor Dr. Gary A. Miller	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>			
Councilwoman Dr. Gail A. Caputo			<b>X</b>			
Councilman William R. Fields			<b>X</b>			
Councilman Dennis P. O’Neill		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>			

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**REPORT(S)**

*Manager Burton submitted a written report and commented on the Borough’s notification of Federal Stimulus funds, that all departments would be submitting monthly reports to the governing body, training to begin on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Press and firehouse upgrades to comply with a NJ State Mandate on egress from the second floor.*

Clerk McIntosh submitted a written report and commented on receiving candidate packets for the upcoming Special Municipal Election, the voluminous amount of new CY21 Animal License applications being processed and OPRA requests mostly related to the sale of properties.

Solicitor Heinold commented on the DRAFT lighting Ordinance noting that he had a consensus from Council to move ahead with Commercial Site Plan revisions, but that further discussion was needed regarding revisions to the residential lighting. His recommendation was to revise the Ordinance to deal with nuisance issues with better guidance for enforcement by the Code Official.

Council agreed to the Solicitor's recommendations.

Deputy Mayor Miller noted that curbside pickup started again this month and he is pleased to see the Re-Lining Project moving along.

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### COMMUNICATION(S)

Clerk McIntosh stated that the Borough received a Special Event Application for a Cayuse Trail Block Party. The application was reviewed favorably by the Police Dept. and a permit would be issued.

Clerk McIntosh stated that the Borough received the CY21 Safety Program from the Insurance Company and that all departments would be advised of expectations regarding training and policies.

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### BILL LIST(S)

**1. Dated March 9, 2021 with 105 Line Items, Total List Amount = \$1,192,124.67**

Deputy Mayor Miller motioned approval of the Bill List, seconded by Councilman O'Neill.

Mayor Cranston called for the vote.

### VOTE

	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain
Mayor Thomas J. Cranston			X			
Deputy Mayor Dr. Gary A. Miller	X		X			
Councilwoman Dr. Gail A. Caputo			X			
Councilman William R. Fields			X			
Councilman Dennis P. O'Neill		X	X			

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### PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Mayor Cranston opened the meeting to public comment.

1. Steve Baugh of Medford Lakes asked if there was a timeframe for implementation of the proposed Ordinance and stated that the Engineer had been out to check his neighbor's lights and they were found to be compliant. He stated that he supports Council's approach but would like to see language that supports timers and/or sensors.

*Solicitor Heinold stated that the draft Ordinance will not include testing at this time but would be designed around a nuisance approach first without testing nor time restrictions due to retrofitting costs. The word nuisance will be better defined.*

*Mayor Cranston noted that the Ordinance would have a first reading that would be followed at another meeting by a public hearing giving plenty of time for comment/revisions.*

2. Joe Aromando of Medford Lakes asked how the Block Party Applicant's will be meeting the current COVID19 requirements, he stated curbside large trash pickup should be all year and not just from March through October, he asked why departments have not been submitting monthly reports all-along and he expressed concern with the recently approved contract with the Police Department Superior Officers.

*Clerk McIntosh explained that the Special Event Permit states clearly that the applicants must meet the current NJ State Covid19 requirements on the date of the event.*

*Manager Burton explained the basics of the Salary Negotiations to include comparison from similar size towns.*

*Councilman Fields stated that the approved salaries are well within regional amounts.*

*Mayor Cranston stated that the Police Department Costs have been very sustainable when according to certain people the Borough was supposed to be over the cliff twelve years ago.*

*Mayor Cranston closed public comment.*

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*Deputy Mayor Miller motioned to adjourn.*

Vote to adjourn:

Yeas –Cranston, Miller, Caputo, Fields, O'Neill

Nays – None

Meeting Adjourned