

Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting

July 9, 2026

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Kenneth Laney called the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Time: 7:00 p.m.

3. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Township Clerk Kelly Lettera read the Open Public Meeting Statement:

"This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law. Notice of this meeting of July 9, 2026 was duly advertised, posted in the Municipal Complex, and has remained posted as required under the aforesaid statute. I am directed to include a record of this statement in the minutes of the meeting."

4. ROLL CALL:

Present: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

5. PRESENTATIONS

➤ National Night Out (August 4, 2026)

➤ Purple Heart Recognition Day (August 7, 2026)

Committeewoman Carrara read the Purple Heart Recognition Day proclamation and the Mayor and Committee Members presented the proclamation to Robert S. Petrillo.

➤ 2026 Mayors Essay Contest, Frog Pond Elementary School Winners

The Township Committee provided certifications to the 2026 Mayors Essay Contest winners Brianna Atkinson, Teresa Fiorella, Robert Rapisardi, and Trey Wible.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

➤ June 11, 2026

Motion to Approve: Carrara

Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

7. ORDINANCE [SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

Ordinance 2026-12 Bond Ordinance Providing For the Construction of a Modular Building for the Department of Public Works, Appropriating \$1,200,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,140,000 Bonds and Notes to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof, Authorized In and By the Township of Little Egg Harbor, in the County of Ocean, New Jersey

Motion to Open to Public: Maxwell

Second: Kehm

All in Favor

Ms. Versheck of Country Club Blvd. asked where the building would be going.

Mayor Laney stated it would be replacing the current structure at the Recycling Center.

Ms. Prinzo of Center Street asked if the building would be large enough to last twenty years.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated that it would. He then stated that the current structure has lasted them about twenty years.

Motion to Close to Public: Kehm

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

Motion to Adopt: Scibetta

Second: Kehm

Roll Call: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

Ordinance 2026-13 An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Special Emergency Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 for the Preparation of Tax Maps

Motion to Open to Public: Carrara

Second: Kehm

All in Favor

Motion to Close to Public: Maxwell

Second: Carrara

All in Favor

Motion to Adopt: Kehm

Second: Carrara

Roll Call: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

8. ORDINANCE [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

Ordinance 2026-14	Bond Ordinance Providing for the Radio Road Sidewalk Project, Appropriating \$3,000,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$647,600 Bonds and Notes to Finance a Portion of the Costs Thereof, Authorized in and by the Township of Little Egg Harbor, in the County of Ocean, New Jersey
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Motion to Introduce: Scibetta

Second: Carrara

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

Ordinance 2026-15 An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 215-4.24.4 Entitled AHZ Affordable Housing Zone

Motion to Introduce: Kehm

Second: Carrara

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

9. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial and do not require individual discussion. The Consent Agenda is moved, seconded, and voted upon as one item by the Governing Body.

Township Clerk, Kelly Lettera, read by title the Resolutions on the consent agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

- 2026-182 Authorizing the Appointment of Christopher DePompa as Laborer 1, Clean Communities (Seasonal) for the Department of Public Works *[The appointment of Christopher DePompa as CC Laborer 1 for DPW at a rate of \$18/hr effective 6/24/26]*
- 2026-183 Authorizing the Appointment of Serena Rosso as Records Support Technician 1 for the Police Department *[The appointment of Serena Rosso as Records Support Tech 1 for LEHT PD, effective July 8, 2026, at a rate of \$16/hr]*
- 2026-184 Authorizing Refund of Overpayment of Employee Health Benefit Contributions *[A resolution authorizing a refund to Katherine Baker and Jacklyn DePasquale for overpayment of Employee Health Benefit Contributions]*
- 2026-185 Authorizing the Execution of a Financial and Accounting Consulting Agreement with Thomas Lombarski, CPA, RMA *[A resolution authorizing the execution of a consulting agreement with Tom Lombarski for Financial and Accounting services for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for a term beginning August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027]*
- 2026-186 Authorizing an Amendment to the 2026 Budget to Allow for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 *[A resolution authorizing an amendment to the 2026 budget providing a special item of revenue and appropriation for the Environmental Protection Agency Clean Communities Grant FY2026 in the amount of \$67,949.22]*
- 2026-187 Authorizing the Filing of an Application for the NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program FY2027 for Improvements to West Calabreeze Way Phase 2
- 2026-188 Authorizing Participation in the Bergen County Cooperative Contract System For Purchase of 2026 Police Interceptor From Paramus Ford, Inc. D/B/A All American Ford *[A resolution to participate in the Bergen County Cooperative Contract System to purchase one*

(1) police inceptor vehicle under Contract Number 24-43 from Paramus Ford d/b/a/ All American Ford, in an amount not to exceed \$46,086.74]

- 2026-189 Approving a Cash Management Plan For 2026 in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14
- 2026-190 Certifying the Governing Body has reviewed, as a Minimum, Sections of the Annual Audit
- 2026-191 Appointing Roberta Rapisardi as a Regular Member of the Natural Lands Trust Committee
- 2026-194 Authorizing the Release of Performance Guarantee Posted by Storage Masters LLC for Block 285, Lot 13.05
- 2026-195 Authorizing Special Emergency Appropriation for Preparation of an Approved Tax Map

CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to Open to Public: Carrara Second: Kehm All in Favor

No one from the public spoke.

Motion to Close to Public: Maxwell Second: Carrara All in Favor

Motion to Approve: Kehm Second: Carrara

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

10. BILL RESOLUTION 2026-192

A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$6,154,083.46

Motion to Approve: Maxwell Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: Ayes: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta;
Mayor Laney: Abstained from 26-1117, 26-1118, 26-1159, 26-1160, 26-1206 and yes to the balance.

11. MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

- Raffle Application No. 2026-26 for Italian American Social Club; On-Premise Pull Tab Raffle at 105 Falcon Drive for various dates from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027
- Raffle Application No. 2026-27 for Mystic Island Cooperative Association; On-Premise Pull Tab Raffle for various dates from August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027

Motion to Approve: Maxwell Second: Carrara

Roll Call: Ayes: Mrs. Carrara; Mr. Kehm; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Laney

12. TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS

*Township Engineer Jason Worth reported that Ocean County has begun roadway improvements on Center Street, from Mathistown Road to Lake Crystalbrook Drive. He then reported that storm drainage improvements on Radio Road, from Radio Road to Osborn Island, are scheduled to begin this week, with roadway paving anticipated in Fall 2026. He then reported that the Interim Business Administrator, the Mayor, and he recently met with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) to officially launch the Fiscal Year 2024 Safe Routes to School Grant Program. Through NJDOT's Design Assistance Program, the project has been assigned to STV to complete the engineering design. He noted that, in addition to securing grant funding for new sidewalks along Frog Pond Road to Parkertown Drive and Railroad Avenue, the State will also cover the full cost of the project's design, resulting in no design expense to the Township. Mr. Worth stated that the project officially began yesterday. While the planning and design process is expected to take considerable time, construction is not anticipated to begin for at least two years. He added that this is an outstanding grant opportunity that the Township was fortunate to secure. He further reported that the Township also received a Fiscal Year 2022 Safe Routes to School Grant, which will fund pedestrian and roadway safety improvements near Pinelands Regional Middle School and Pinelands Regional High School. The project area includes Nugentown Road to Giffordtown Lane and Stage Road to Route 9. Mr. Worth announced that a Public Information Center will be held on **July 22, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss the proposed improvements with residents who live within the project area. He finalized his update by saying that Ocean County has completed Schedule C roadway paving on Tony's Drive and Firehouse Drive.*

13. PUBLIC COMMENT – Any Topic

All comments shall be addressed to the Mayor and all individuals making comment must state their name and address for the record. The Mayor will respond once your comment is complete.

Motion to Open to the Public: Kehm

Second: Carrara

All in Favor

Ms. Versheck of Country Club asked about the storm drainage improvements and if they are going to go up to where the Lennar project is proposed.

Mr. Worth stated the County Project is between Mathistown and Lake Crystalbrook so it is taking place In the other direction.

Ms. Versheck then stated ratable do not include infrastructure or educational course for home development. She then discussed the New Jersey Relators vs. Township of Berkley in the New Jersey Superior Court appellate division case. She then stated her concerns with the Lennar project.

Township Attorney Melanie Appleby corrected Ms. Vershecks statement regarding the New Jersey Relators vs. Township of Berkley case.

Ms. Napolitano of Hannah Place talked about the Robert C. Wood Early Childhood Center, the free preschool available to residents.

Mr. Versheck of Country Club thanked the committee for the 250th birthday celebration. Thanked all the volunteers for a great event. He then stated that he opposes the Lennar Project. He stated some of the beaches around the township due to contamination. He asked if the Township beach gets water testing at the beach.

Mr. Worth stated the County Health Department tests the waterways.

Mayor Laney stated the County tested water weekly on Monday they do salt water and Tuesday they do fresh water

Mr. Ericco of Center Street asked about the speed bumps on Center Street.

Mr. Worth stated they looked into them at this time they have not been authorized to place speed bumps and Ocean County stated they would not be placing them.

Ms. Varamo of Newport Way asked about the sidewalks on Frog Pond Road. She then asked about the repair on the Pickle ball courts. She stated that they were put on notice at Four Seasons of Harbor Bay that the settlement work has been done and she is still concerned with the work. She asked the Township to not release the Bond.

Assistant Chief Hannen of West Tuckerton spoke on behalf of the Fire Company. He stated they have an open door policy and they are willing to discuss concerns with anyone. He stated if anyone has any concerns they can set up a meeting. He stated the proposed development would be in Fire District 1, which is West Tuckerton.

Ms. Prinzo of Center Street stated they have concerns with the Lennar project and that no variances should be allowed.

Ms. Appleby stated that there were no variances granted.

Motion to Close to the Public: Carrara

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

14. TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Committeewoman Carrara reported that she had the privilege of attending the Frog Pond Elementary School 6th Grade Graduation Ceremony with Mayor Laney and participating in the reading of the essays submitted for the Mayor's Essay Contest. She stated that what impressed her most during the graduation ceremony was the way the students cheered one another on, describing it as both heartwarming and inspiring. She noted that she and the Mayor thoroughly enjoyed the evening and congratulated the graduates on their accomplishments. She then stated that the Township's America 250th Birthday Celebration was a tremendous success despite the high temperatures. She expressed her appreciation to the West Tuckerton Volunteer Fire Company, the Little Egg Harbor Township Police Department, the Township Public Works Department, the Parkertown Volunteer Fire Company, the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, and the Ocean County Sheriff's Office for their assistance, including providing a cooling mister on short notice.

She also thanked the Township Recreation Director and the many volunteers whose efforts contributed to the success of the event. In addition, she recognized the band, 40 North, for providing the evening's entertainment and thanked the residents who attended and supported the celebration despite the heat. Committeewoman Carrara concluded by stating that the event was an incredible evening and a wonderful kickoff to many future community events.

Committeeman Kehm congratulated the winners of the Mayor's Essay Contest and the Purple Heart recipient on their well-deserved recognitions. He also congratulated the Township Recreation Director and all those involved in organizing the America 250th Birthday Celebration. Although he was unable to attend the event, he commended his colleagues for doing an outstanding job. He then addressed concerns previously raised by a resident regarding Squad 85 Emergency Medical Services (EMS). He explained that there has been ongoing discussion over the years regarding the possibility of transitioning to a paid EMS service. Drawing from his own experience serving with EMS for ten years, he stated that the organization historically had an adequate number of volunteers and did not wish to become a paid service due to the additional costs that would ultimately be borne by taxpayers. He noted that, following Hurricane Sandy, the squad experienced a significant decline in volunteer membership. He stated that Squad 85 is able to respond to emergency calls when sufficient personnel are available. To help address staffing needs, he explained that the Chief is sponsoring individuals to attend EMT training and obtain their certifications. He also noted that volunteer ambulance drivers are not required to be certified Emergency Medical Technicians. He concluded by stating that volunteer participation has declined significantly across all of the Township's organizations. He emphasized that the Township has mutual aid EMS resources available when needed and stated that the Township's EMS, Fire Department, and Police Department continue to provide excellent emergency response services.

Committeeman Scibetta echoed the appreciation expressed by Committeewoman Carrara for everyone who contributed to the success of the Township's America 250th Birthday Celebration. He stated that the event was a tremendous success and that it was encouraging to see such a large community turnout despite temperatures exceeding 100 degrees. He also remarked that the event demonstrated the strong sense of community within Little Egg Harbor and noted that The SandPaper recognized the significance of the celebration. He then stated that it was especially rewarding to see the Township's State representatives, Assemblyman Brian Rumpf and Senator Carmen Amato Jr., volunteering their time by cooking and serving hamburgers to attendees. He also thanked the Mayor and Township Committee for allowing him to participate in both the Township's Fourth of July Parade and his girls' soccer team's activities that day. He shared that one of his players and her family later told him what an amazing experience it was to walk alongside the Township Committee during the parade. He concluded his report by reminding everyone to be mindful of turtles crossing local roadways during the season and to exercise caution while driving.

Deputy Mayor Maxwell congratulated the Mayor's Essay Contest winners. He stated that the Township had a fantastic weekend celebrating the nation's birthday and thanked everyone who attended the festivities. He also encouraged residents to attend National Night Out and reminded seniors that the Senior Advisory Meeting will be held at Sea Oaks on July 27 at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Laney stated that he hoped everyone had a wonderful Fourth of July. He commented that the Township's America 250th Birthday celebration and concert were amazing and extended his sincere thanks to the Recreation Director, Senator Amato, Assemblyman Rumpf, their families for their assistance, the many volunteers, and the Little Egg Harbor Police Department for helping make the event a success. He also congratulated the graduates of Pinelands Regional High School and Frog Pond Elementary School on their accomplishments and wished them continued success in the future. He concluded by wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable remainder of the summer.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION 2026-193

A Resolution Authorizing the Convening of an Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act

Township Attorney Melanie Appleby stated the Committee needs to go into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters, personnel and attorney/client privilege, formal action may be taken.

Motion to Approve: Scibetta

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting: Scibetta

Second: Carrara

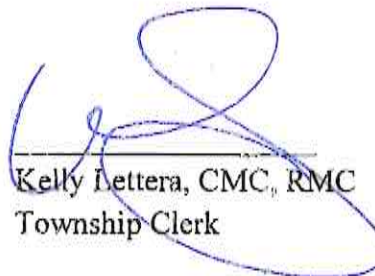
All in Favor

16. Motion to Adjourn: Carrara

Second: Kehm

All in Favor

I hereby certify the foregoing Minutes were formally approved by the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee.



Kelly Lettera, CMC, RMC
Township Clerk