

The May 5, 2025 Regular Session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Spring Lake Heights, Monmouth County, New Jersey was called to order by Council President Graetz at 7:00 p.m. in the Frank E. Adams Municipal Building with a moment of silence and a salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilman Leonard Capristo
Councilman John Casagrande
Councilwoman Michele Degnan-Spang
Councilman William Graetz
Councilwoman Sara King
Councilman Christopher Willms

Absent:

Mayor Christopher Campion

Also attending:

John Barrett, Borough Administrator
Michael Collins, Borough Attorney
Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk
Joseph E. May, Borough Engineer

Council President Graetz announced: Pursuant to the requirements of New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was included in the Annual Meeting Notice filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk; posted on the Borough website and in the Municipal Building; published as a legal notice in the Coast Star newspaper; and mailed to those requesting notice and providing payment.

AMEND AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the agenda was amended to add ordinance 2025-08, resolution R2025-104 and resolution R2025-105 to the agenda by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the agenda as amended was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

APPROVE MINUTES – April 7, 2025

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Capristo, April 7, 2025 minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mrs. King
Nays: None Abstain: Mr. Willms Absent: None

PRESENTATIONS – Proclamations: Emergency Medical Services Week - National Public Works Week

National Public Works Week – Mr. Graetz read the proclamation thanking the Spring Lake Heights public works and utility departments and proclaimed the week of May 18 to May 24, 2025 as National Public Works Week. The Public Works team attended the meeting and photographs were taken. Public Works Director, Joseph May, thanked the council for their recognition.

Emergency Medical Services Week – Mr. Graetz read the proclamation in recognition of all emergency medical service teams and proclaimed the week of May 18 to May 24, 2025, as Emergency Medical Services Week. Pictures were taken of the EMS team.

Mayor Campion arrived at 7:15pm. Mayor Campion expressed his apologies for missing the beginning of the meeting due to traffic.

DISCUSSION ITEMS – None

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Capristo – No report

Councilman Casagrande – Mr. Casagrande stated that the 2025 municipal budget would be introduced this evening and the 2025 budget is very similar to the 2024 budget. Mr. Casagrande reviewed a few of the changes: healthcare, pension, and LOSAP costs as well as debt service payments and open space park improvements. The budget hearing will be held at the June 16, 2025 Council meeting with the budget workshop meeting being June 4, 2025 at 3:00pm at the municipal building.

Councilwoman King – No report

Councilman Graetz – No report

Councilman Willms – No report

Councilwoman Degnan-Spang – Mrs. Degnan-Spang recognized the Public Works Department and thanked them for keeping the town beautiful. She also thanked the emergency responders for everything they do. She reminded all that street sweeping will be the week of May 19th and garbage collection for the entire town will be on Tuesday after Memorial Day, all garbage must be brought to the curb.

Mayor Campion – Mr. Campion echoed the thanks to the public works department for everything they do and the talent of the staff that allow the borough to use in house labor for many projects. He also encouraged anyone interested in joining the First Aid Squad to please reach out. He expressed his pleasure in seeing young people joining the squad.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any Item)

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public comment section was opened by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

None presented

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public comment section was closed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Ordinance **2025-08**, Approving Lease Agreement to T-Mobile Northeast LLC for Telecommunications Tower and Facilities

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Graetz, the public comment section was opened by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

None presented

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the public comment section was closed by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, **Ordinance 2025-08** was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

REPORTS, NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE

- Spring Lake Heights Municipal Court Monthly Report – March 2025
- Spring Lake First Aid Squad Report – March 2025
- Spring Lake Heights Police Monthly Report – March 2025
- Independent Fire Co. No. 1 Monthly Report – March 2025

- Code Official Report – April 2025
- 2024 Annual Tax Collector’s Report
- JCP&L Public Notice Meeting May 15, 2025 Re: filing for a rate rider
- Cablevision of Monmouth Public Notice May 8, 2025 Re: renewal of franchise
- Township of Manalapan Resolution Supporting Senate Bill S-4048 for preservation of historic areas

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

- **Ordinance 2025-09**, Approving lease agreement with New Cingular Wireless for telecommunications tower & facilities Block 24 Lot 8

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, the ordinance was introduced by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

The public hearing will be on Monday, May 19, 2025.

- **Ordinance 2025-10**, Amending chapter 9 title recreational facilities

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Graetz, the ordinance was introduced by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

The public hearing will be on Monday, May 19, 2025.

- **Ordinance 2025-11**, Accepting deed of drainage easement to portion of block 87 lot 33 (19 Jason Dr)

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, the ordinance was introduced by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

The public hearing will be on Monday, May 19, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2025-95 to R2025-99

Consent Agenda items are considered routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in full in the minutes.

- **R2025-95**, Approving temporary closure of a portion of Lake Ave
- **R2025-95**, Approving fire work display at the Spring Lake Golf Club – July 5, 2025
- **R2025-96**, Approving outdoor music at The Shore Club May 8 to October 31, 2025
- **R2025-97**, Authorizing the credit of water-sewer utility charges on various accounts
- **R2025-98**, Authorizing the release of the designated performance, maintenance and escrow monies Block 25 Lots 11,13,27
- **R2025-99**, Appointing summer recreation program employees and designating salaries

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mrs. Degnan-Spang, the consent agenda was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Casagrande requested resolution R2025-94 be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Mr. Casagrande identified a risk management agreement that was needed with the petitioner to be approved by the Borough Attorney prior to approval. Attorney Collins clarified that the agreement that is needed regards insurance that is standard practice by municipalities.

- **R2025-94**, Approving temporary closure of a portion of Lake Ave

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Graetz, Resolution No. R2025-94 was approved with the condition of the agreement by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2025-100**, Certifying compliance with US Equal Employment opportunity Commission “Enforcement Guidance”

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2025-100 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2025-101**, Adopting the 2025 Local Budget

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2025-101 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Mayor Campion thanked everyone involved with the budget for their hard work in keeping spending down and looking out for what is best for the residents. He explained tax rate increases and ratables and thanked Mr. Barrett for focusing on total spending and what is needed to operate the town.

- **R2025-102**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the April 16, 2025 bills list

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. R2025-102 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2025-103**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the May 2, 2025 bills list

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2025-103 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: Mr. Casagrande Absent: None

- **R2025-104**, Approving outdoor music permit at The Shore Club, 700 Highway 71

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2025-104 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

- **R2025-105**, Approving issuance of an Alcoholic Beverage Control One (1) Day Extension of Premise for 700 Highway 71

On a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, Resolution No. R2025-105 was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Capristo, Mr. Casagrande, Mrs. Degnan-Spang, Mr. Graetz, Mrs. King, Mr. Willms
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Graetz, seconded by Mr. Willms, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:35 p.m.


Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved:  19, 2025