

The May 19, 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
Mark Taylor, 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.

APPROVE AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the 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

APPROVE MINUTES – May 5, 2025

On a motion by Mr. Capristo, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the May 5, 2025 minutes were 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

PRESENTATIONS – None

DISCUSSION ITEMS – None

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilwoman Degnan-Spang – No report

Councilman Willms – Mr. Willms provided a reminder that the Borough will be street sweeping May 19th to May 23rd and to please have cars off the streets to facilitate sweeping.

Councilwoman King – No report

Councilman Casagrande – Mr. Casagrande mentioned that the 2025 Municipal Budget was introduced at the May 5th meeting. He continued to state 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. He invited all residents to attend both meetings. He also mentioned the Greater Spring Lake Camber is hosting a summer kick-off event at the Shore Club on Sunday May 25th.

Councilman Capristo – No report

PUBLIC COMMENT (Any Item)

On a motion by Mrs. King, 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

Linda Brennan, 912 Wall Road, inquired about the status of the tot lot play structure at Joseph E. Robertson Park. Mr. Barrett explained the plans and upgrades to the park, including moving the play structures and adding pickleball courts. He also stated that the new tot lot play structure has been ordered. Mr. Capristo expanded on the discussion to explain the project is anticipated to begin in late summer/early fall.

Ms. Brennan also inquired about dogs in the parks and confusions in a news article she saw. Mr. Casagrande clarified the direction the council is looking to make changes and set regulations about dogs in Borough Parks and the ordinance on the agenda.

On a motion by Mrs. King, 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 2025-09**, 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 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

Mr. Casagrande requested a reading of the nature of the ordinance. Mr. Graetz provided more information on the ordinance.

On a motion by Mr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, **Ordinance 2025-09** 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

- **Ordinance 2025-10**, Amending Chapter 9 titled recreational facilities

On a motion by Mrs. King, 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

Borough Clerk, Mrs. Gillis provided more details regarding the ordinance and clarification the amendments are looking to make. Mr. Capristo asked for more information on Veterans Tribute Park and the intention of no dogs in that park. He voiced his concern about this action might create confusion and enforcement issues. Mr. Casagrande supported Mr. Capristo's comment regarding Veterans Tribute Park and stated that the Community Center should be the only restricted area. Mrs. King stated she thinks the ordinance should move forward as proposed with Veterans Tribute Park & Community Center park being more restricted, she added that the ordinance could be changed again if it became too much of an issue. Further discussion was held between Mr. Capristo and Mrs. King.

Eileen Eilenberger, 1213 Pond Road, questioned the hours of the parks and expressed concerns about Ocean Road Park being open longer. Mrs. Gillis explained that the park is open till 9:00 pm but the lights shut off at 9:30pm to allow people to leave the park safely.

Gaylan Nolan, 1022 Allaire Road, expressed her concern regarding residents from the Ocean Aire apartments walking dogs in Veterans Tribute Park or through it to get to Joseph E. Robertson Park.

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 Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, **Ordinance 2025-10** 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

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

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 Mrs. Degnan-Spang, 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 Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Willms, **Ordinance 2025-11** 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 – April 2025
- Spring Lake First Aid Squad Monthly Report – April 2025
- Independent Fire Co. No. 1 Monthly Report – April 2025

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS - None

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R2025-106 to R2025-108

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.

- **R2025-106**, Authorizing refund/cancellation of payment and prior billing of Water-Sewer Charges Acct#18630
- **R2025-107**, Authorizing the refund of property tax payment made in error – Block 42.07 Lot 8

Mr. Casagrande requested to remove R2025-108 from the consent agenda.

On a motion by Mrs. Degnan-Spang, seconded by Mr. Willms, 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

- **R2025-108**, Approving use of the Cornelius V. Kelly Community Center Rental Fee – rental fee waived
Mr. Casagrande requested the resolution's approval be conditional on the applicant providing proof of insurance for the event.

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2025-108 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

- **R2025-109**, Authorizing a contract with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. for professional services pending grant award

Mr. Barrett explained the situation of the property and the opportunity for the Borough to apply for a grant for the property. The resolution is needed to hire the company prior to the grant application. The grant money is anticipated to fully cover the expense of the company's fees as well as the cleanup of the site.

On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mr. Willms, Resolution No. R2025-109 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

- **R2025-110**, Approving the payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the May 16, 2025 bills list

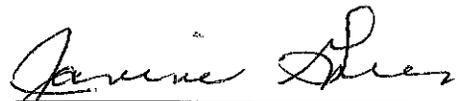
On a motion by Mr. Casagrande, seconded by Mrs. King, Resolution No. R2025-110 was approved by the following vote:

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

Councilman Graetz announced the Memorial Day Ceremony schedule. The Ceremony is scheduled for 9:00am at Borough Hall. He also reminded that Youth Government Day is Thursday May 29th at 10:30am at Borough Hall as well.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Casagrande, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:40 p.m.


Janine Gillis, Borough Clerk

Approved: , 2025