

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

I. Opening of Meeting/Open Public Meeting Statement

- a. In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, The Lake Hopatcong Commission has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof delivered or mailed or electronically mailed to the following:

DAILY RECORD the NEW JERSEY HERALD and posted on the Lake Hopatcong Commission website (lakehopatcongcommission.org)

II. Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence

III. Roll Call

Present: Mark Crowley, Daniel McCarthy, Neil Senatore, Ronald Smith, Fred Steinbaum, Robert Tessier

Absent: Bradley Hoferkamp Anne Seibert-Pravs, Todd Stevens, Joshua Osowski, Eric Wilsusen, Bill Hirschfeld, Thomas Sellaro

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Ryan Gilfillan, Steven Levinson, Karen Porfido, Shawn Potillo,

With nine members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

Chair Smith states that there is no need for an executive session.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the September minutes. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

| | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|-----|
| Crowley | Yes | Steinbaum | Yes |
| Franek | Yes | Tessier | Yes |
| McCarthy | Yes | Gilfillan | Yes |
| Porfido | Abstain | Smith | Yes |
| Senatore | Yes | | |

The motion passes 8-1-0 (one abstention).

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the November minutes. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 8, 2023
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

Roll Call:

| | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|-----|
| Crowley | Yes | Steinbaum | Yes |
| Franek | Yes | Tessier | Yes |
| McCarthy | Abstain | Gilfillan | Yes |
| Porfido | Yes | Smith | Yes |
| Senatore | Yes | | |

The motion passes 8-1-0 (one abstention).

VI. Treasurer’s Report

Colleen Lyons provides an overview of the monthly cash report. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion, Commissioner Steinbaum seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

| | | | |
|----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| Crowley | Yes | Steinbaum | Yes |
| Franek | Yes | Tessier | Yes |
| McCarthy | Yes | Gilfillan | Yes |
| Porfido | Yes | Smith | Yes |
| Senatore | Yes | | |

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

Mrs. Lyons states that the Commission received 2024 proposals from Princeton Hydro, Russell Stern and USDA Goose Management. She states that she is coordinating 2024 weed harvesting insurance with Middleton and Company and also trying to move the Commission’s liability policies under Middleton as well.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chair Smith introduces the mayor elect for Hopatcong, Marie Galate, who is in attendance. He states that they expect delivery on the truck very soon and he has been hearing very good things about the clean-up.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

There are no Commissioner comments.

X. Administrator’s Update

Mrs. Lyons provides an update on her activities and reviews grant project progress. She states that the aeration system that was installed at Lake Forest Yacht Club was

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 8, 2023
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

removed and transferred to the Franklin Building. She states that due to increased construction costs, the scope of work under the NFWF grant will be revised. She is working with Princeton Hydro and NFWF to revise the scope. The final Lake Restoration Grant Agreement was received and the first advance payment for \$200,000 is in the Commission bank account. The stormwater outfall maintenance sediment removal project is underway. The municipalities and counties have identified locations and are working on sediment removal.

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio states that the new truck should be delivered in the new year. He states that he placed an order with Aquarius for harvester parts. One of the dump trucks needs repairs, but the shop is booked until after the holiday. Chair Smith asks whether the damaged harvester will be ready this season. Mr. Calderio states that it is in good shape.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Kyle Richter provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that the LHF/LHC and Mayors met with NJDEP for their end of season meeting on Wednesday. They expect 1,700 students for the 2024 field trip season. Mr. Kane states that Jefferson met with Congresswoman Sherrill's office about the sewer project. Jefferson has also had meetings with the sewer authority about availability. Engineering work for the project will begin next year. He states that Lakes Restoration Funding for 2024 is not looking good. He says that they are looking at other funding methods for Lake Hopatcong such as increased funding from boat licensing. He states that he attended the Morris County Parks Commission meeting earlier this evening and they are supportive of staging alum at Lee's County park.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Pat Rose of Princeton Hydro provides an update on projects associated with the HAB, 319, NFWF and Lakes Restoration Grant. He states that the final 2023 water quality report will be submitted to the LHC in January 2024. He states that Princeton Hydro met with the US Army Corps of Engineers about HAB research and management. There may be potential funding in early 2024 and they will keep the Commission update. Commissioner Tessier asks what is the extent of the oxygenation system. Mr. Rose states that it will likely be three to four in-lake structures in the deepest part of the lake.

XIII. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the water level is at 5.71 feet. She states that the Park lowered flow to minimum flow on December 15th and this will be

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 8, 2023
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

held until we reach the 22” drawdown level. Commissioner Steinbaum comments on his proposed changes to the water level management plan. Alternate Commissioner Gilfillan asks what determines when they stop refill for a freeze. Commissioner Steinbaum states that it must be a “hard freeze”.

CAC Meeting

No updates.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Chair Tessier states that the new planner started and will be giving monthly reports. He provides a review of the November monthly report.

Budget

Chair Steinbaum provides an overview of the Commission budget. He states that spending in many categories is approximately 40%, which is appropriate for November.

Finance

No update.

Bylaws

Commissioner Crowley asks Colleen Lyons to confirm that allowing virtual attendance would not require a bylaw change. He requests that she ask the Commission’s attorney for an opinion.

Planning

No updates.

Public Outreach

No updates.

Ice Retardant

Chair McCarthy states that he would like to hold a meeting in January.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

No updates.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

No updates.

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 8, 2023
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Chair Porfido provides an overview of the 2023 public outreach and addling program. She states that for 2024 the committee plans to break the lake into 23 different zones and would like to recruit captains to lead outreach and addling in each zone. She also presents the 2024 USDA proposals and costs.

XIV. New Items

No new items.

XV. Public Comments

There are no public comments.

XVI. Action Items

RES 23-13 Purchase of GMC 2500 Crew Cab (Revised)

Chair Smith introduces the resolution and states that there was a small increase in cost for purchase of the vehicle. The total purchase cost is \$\$67,308.30. He entertains a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion, Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

| | | | |
|----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| Crowley | Yes | Steinbaum | Yes |
| Franek | Yes | Tessier | Yes |
| McCarthy | Yes | Gilfillan | Yes |
| Porfido | Yes | Smith | Yes |
| Senatore | Yes | | |

The motion passes unanimously.

XVII. Close of Meeting

Chair Smith entertains a motion to adjourn. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alternate Commissioner Franek seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 8, 2023
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850