

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 24, 2008

8:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

**PRESENT:**

Anthony Giordano, Councilman; David G. Brown, Councilman; Dr. Mary Jane Celli, Council Vice-President; Michael DeStefano, Council President

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Adam Schneider; Howard Woolley, Business Administrator; James G. Aaron, City Attorney; Irene A. Joline, City Clerk

Absent: Brian Unger, Councilman; Ronald Mehlhorn, Finance Director

The pledge of allegiance was recited. Certification was read.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

June 10, 2008

Motion by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Brown to approve the minutes of June 10<sup>th</sup> was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 - Unger

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES**  
**PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION**

None

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**#11-08** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 345, ZONING, ARTICLE X, 345-94 OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH COMBINED LAND USE ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR WAIVER OF DEVELOPER PAYMENT FOR CERTAIN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Celli to introduced on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for July 8, 2008 - Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Unger

**#12-08** AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE EMPLOYMENT OF JAMES G. AARON AS CITY EMPLOYEE AS OF JULY 1, 2008 AND RETAINING JAMES G. AARON AS A PROFESSIONAL WITH A RETAINER

**Ordinance removed and put on agenda as a resolution (R217-08)**

**#13-08** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING LONG BRANCH CITY ORDINANCE 116-5 (BEACHES)

A motion was made by Councilperson Celli seconded by Councilperson Giordano to introduced on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for July 8, 2008 - Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Unger

**#14-08** AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 325, SUBSECTION 3, PARAGRAPH F AND SCHEDULE IVA (SECTION 325-29) PROHIBITING OF VEHICLES ON PARK AVENUE

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Brown to introduced on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for July 8, 2008 - Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Unger

**#15-08** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 325-29 SCHEDULE IVA; PARKING PROHIBITED CERTAIN TIMES OF THE YEAR (OCEAN AVENUE NORTH)

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Brown to introduced on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for July 8, 2008 - Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Unger

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

A motion by Councilperson Celli to open the public portion of the meeting was seconded by Councilperson Giordano.

**Donna Peterson - 104 Rockwell Avenue**

Spoke regarding newspaper articles, taxes and engineers.

**Michelle Bobrow - 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Spoke regarding anniversary of the Kelo Decision, the City Attorney ordinance, developer fee ordinance and asked what is happening with Beachfront South.

The Mayor responded that there is a document that has been sent to the City from Hovnanian from their attorney and it has been forwarded on to Mark Aikens who is the City Attorney in that matter and he is reviewing that and the Mayor spoke with him on Friday and he is going to get the City his comments in writing this week and the City will go from there.

**Lori Vendetti - 33, 38 Ocean Terrace**

Spoke regarding Kelo Day, eminent domain laws, home sales and the appellate courts decision. Spoke regarding garbage, hedges and the painting of boarded homes in MTOTSA and ordinance 15-08.

**Irma Schwartz - 11 Vine Court**

Spoke regarding the handicapped ramp on Matilda Terrace and asked when it would be completed.

The Mayor responded that he believes they told him two weeks.

Ms. Schwartz went on to ask if there was going to be another ramp at West End Beach.

The Mayor stated that he wasn't sure yet, depending what goes on and how much money the City has.

### **Francis DeLuca – 272 Ocean Avenue North**

Spoke regarding opinions of the new parking ordinance on Ocean Avenue North. Read a portion of a letter from Mr. Allison to Mr. Callano regarding selling his property for parking. Thanked Council for the ordinance as written.

### **Lila Poch – 1175 Ocean Avenue**

Spoke regarding an article in the newspaper about Park Avenue Estates. Went on to speak regarding the detention basin, the abandoned project and unpaved streets at Park Avenue Estates.

The Mayor stated that the developer is handling the problems at the detention basin.

### **Bernard Gorcey – 36 Second Avenue**

Spoke regarding abandoned building on Chelsea Avenue, blighted areas on Broadway, the smell from the Sewer Authority, parking lot next to the Turning Point and asked if Applied paid taxes on all lots they own.

Mr. Woolley – Yes they do.

### **Harold Cooper – 113 South 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

Asked about R217-08.

Mr. Aaron stated that the change was made by the State of NJ for people like himself. The savings to the City would be at least \$20,000.00 per year. It will not affect the job but terminates the ability to be in the pension program of the State.

Mr. Cooper went on to speak about respect.

### **Kevin Brown – 162 Broadway**

Spoke regarding problems in the world and in Long Branch.

### **Vincent LaPore – Long Branch**

Spoke regarding eminent domain abuse and redevelopment, Second Baptist Church, a Dean Mon mortgage, titles, Barry and Applied and scattered site housing.

### **John Hunt – 310 Ocean Avenue North**

Spoke regarding the Strollo application and ordinance 345-28. Went over dates for the record regarding the application and spot zoning.

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Celli to close the public participation.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

On file in the Clerks Office and the City's Web Site.

**APPLICATIONS:**

1. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE JERSEY SHORE JAZZ & BLUES FOUNDATION

Motion by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Brown to approve the listed applications was approved upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Unger

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

**Councilman Brown** – Good evening everyone. Since we will not be present next week and the week after the 4th of July holiday is upon us. I personally wish everyone a very pleasant and happy 4th and remember the best place in the State of Jersey to celebrate the 4th will be right here in Long Branch, Oceanfest and all the good amenities that we have in and about the City. With that, happy 4th to you and your family and well wishes and good luck throughout the holiday. Thank you.

**Councilman Giordano** – Like Councilman Brown just said, the best, biggest and best 4th of July celebration in the State of New Jersey is right here so I'd like to see everybody out on the 4th for the festivities during the day and the fireworks at night. There have been a lot of people from the City, from the Chamber and other volunteers who have been working very hard for this day and it's always a great event for the last 20 years. Thanks.

**Councilman Unger** - Absent

**Dr. Celli** – I can't compete with these guys, they said it all but I would invite everybody to come down to Oceanfest, 10 to 10, see the fireworks, enjoy the good food, the good company and the good weather, I've asked for that so with that, Happy 4th of July.

**Mr. DeStefano** – No comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting of the Long Branch Council adjourned at 9:15 p.m.