

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

David G. Brown, Councilman; Anthony Giordano, Councilman; Brian Unger, 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; Ronald Mehlhorn, Finance Director; Irene A. Joline, City Clerk

The pledge of allegiance was recited. Certification was read.

READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

November 7, 2007

Motion was made by Councilperson Celli seconded by Councilperson Giordano to approve the minutes of November 7, 2007 - Ayes 4 - Abstain 1 Unger

Moment of silence for Sgt. Patrick King on the 10 year Anniversary of his death.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES
PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

#43-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 325-30 SCHEDULE V: (325-30) WESTWOOD AVENUE (Introduced: Nov. 7, 2007)

A motion was made by Councilperson Celli to open the public hearing on this ordinance was seconded by Councilperson Giordano.

After ample time was given and no one responded, a motion was made by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Celli to close the public hearing.

A motion by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Celli to adopt said ordinance on third and final reading was adopted upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: (Public Hearing set for 12/11/2007)

#44-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 325-30 TO PROVIDE FOR PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON THE WEST SIDE OF OCEAN AVENUE BETWEEN NEW COURT AND WEST END COURT

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 11, 2007 - Ayes 5

#45-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TITLES AND SETTING SALARIES FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH FOR THE YEAR 2007

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 11, 2007 - Ayes 5

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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

Lori Ann Vendetti – 33, 38 Ocean Terrace

Asked about the resolution of the donation of a bulletproof vest and the cost. Mr. Mehlhorn answered, as did Mr. Aaron. Went on to speak about the loss of Anna DeFaria, her life and the asset she was to MTOTSA. Spoke about the loss of Jennie Cicalese also.

Michele Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard

Spoke regarding the moment of silence for Pat King and asked that everyone stand for one minute for Anna DeFaria.

Kevin Brown – 162 Broadway

Spoke regarding the appellate court decision regarding the C1 zone. Part of the decision from 05 was reversed. Spoke regarding the loss of Pat King and Anna DeFaria. Asked that the City end the MTOTSA siege. End the mass block of development.

Harold Cooper – 113 South Seventh Avenue

Asked about R301-07, R306-07. Are they the same?

Mr. Mehlhorn stated that additional cars were added and another resolution was prepared.

Mr. Cooper reflected on his memories of Anna DeFaria.

Donna Peterson – Rockwell Avenue

Asked when Pier Village received their first tax break?

Mr. Woolley responded either 2005 or 2006.

Went on to speak about how Pier Village was taxed, Belmont Avenue redevelopment, President statues and letters to purchase her house.

Lila Poch – Ocean Avenue

Asked if the City has ever applied for historic preservation funds from the State.

The Mayor stated, not that he is aware.

Ms. Poch went on to speak about the Historical Preservation Trust Fund in NJ.

Asked if the City had an Economic Development Commission.

The Mayor stated that the City has an Office on Economic Development and an Urban Enterprise Zone.

Ms. Poch asked who was in charge and the Mayor responded, Jacob Jones.

Harold Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard

Happy Hanukah to all those people that it's appropriate. Asked Mr. Giordano about the status of Hovnanian with Beachfront South.

Mr. Giordano stated that a meeting will be in December. A few dates have been proposed by Hovnanian. Went on to speak about Anna DeFaria.

Denise Hoagland – 68 Ocean Terrace

Spoke about Senior Citizens health in reference to the threat of them loosing their homes and the information that was handed out to Council regarding this. Spoke regarding your home being an outer extension of yourself.

Vincent LaPore – Long Branch

Spoke regarding Anna DeFaria. Went on to speak about the lawyers and the Monmouth County Judge that were involved with Lloyd Manor / West End Ventures in 70's and 80's.

Austin Gelzer – 385 Ocean Boulevard

Asked Council if there was anyplace in the building that could accommodate a Menorah. Mr. Woolley will check. Mr. Gelzer said he has one that he made and would be happy to loan it.

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 MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION
2. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE LONG BRANCH FIRE DEPARTMENT
3. APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER OF A TAXI OWNERS LICENSE FROM ARTHUR RUSSOMANO TO GHULAM KHAN
4. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR AMERIGO VESPUCCI CHARITABLE FUND

Motion by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Brown to approve the listed applications was approved upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Councilman Brown - Good evening everyone. I hope you all and your families had a pleasant and happy Thanksgiving and as it was stated earlier by one of our residents, this is the season, the holiday season between now and the end of the year, we wish you all in case you're not here a very joyous holiday season and good will to all. I would just like to comment, we know where we were ten years ago when Pat King died and we take it not lightly and we knew Mrs. DeFaria personally, not only through her struggles of differences between us but also as church members and senior citizens advocate. We will be missing Mrs. DeFaria. Thank you.

Councilman Giordano - Two items, one is everyone should root for the Long Branch Football, Long Branch High School Football team this Sunday, they play in the State finals at Rutgers at 5:00. It's a team that the Seniors have never had a home game in all four years that they've been playing football as a result of the construction that's going on with the new high school so no matter what happens on Sunday, we should really congratulate these kids for a great job that they did all season and I won't be at the next meeting so I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday coming up.

Councilman Unger - I just want to memorialize Norman Mailor who was born in Long Branch and who died on November 9th. I just read a brief excerpt from the New York Times obit and as you may know he wrote some really famous books and was a very famous journalist. I met him very briefly once in New York, he of course wrote the Naked and the Dead and the Armies of the Night which was a very famous, not really a novel but a semi-fictional account about the Vietnam war and his activities against it but there's some funny excerpts from his bio and I just want to read them real briefly ... At different points in his life, Mr. Mailor was a prodigious drinker, a womanizer, a devoted family man, a would-be politician who ran for Mayor of New York, a hipster existentialist, an antiwar protester, an opponent of women's liberation, an all-purpose feuder and a short-fused brawler who with the slightest provocation would happily engage in head-butting, arm-wrestling, random-punch-throwing, boxing obsessed him and inspired some of his best writing. He was born Norman Kinsley actually or in Hebrew Nachem Malek and he was born here in Long Branch on January 31, 1923, his father Isaac Barnett was known as Barney and he sometimes wore spats and carry a walking stick but the dominant figure in the family was Mr. Mailor's mother, Fannie Schneider who came from, what the New York Times refers to as a vibrant Long Branch clan and even though he had a sister Barbara, Norman remained his mother's favorite, she declared him perfect, a judgment from which he never deviated and thus a great Jewish mother so anyway, here here to Norman Mailor.

Dr. Celli - I would just like to acknowledge the fact that within the last two weeks, Long Branch lost two very fine women, Jennie Cicalese and Anna DeFaria. I knew Mrs. Cicalese, I use to go down to have some hot dogs on the boardwalk but I'd like to just take a minute to tell you about Anna DeFaria, yes, she came to the Council meetings and she would shake her finger at us and she would get annoyed but in the end, I want to tell you, she came to the Senior Center many times and we would talk, maybe not about MTOTSA but we'd talked about other things and at the very end I'm very happy to tell you before she passed away she gave me a hug so yes, you all are right for saying she was a fine woman and I would say that too and I really truly believe that she is looking down from above. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.