

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 8:00 pm in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ 07740

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT: Anthony Giordano, Councilman
Irene A. Joline, City Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mayor Adam Schneider; Howard Woolley, Business Administrator; Jeff Nadel, Aide to the Mayor; James G. Aaron, City Attorney; Ronald J Mehlhorn, Sr., Director of Finance; Deborah L. Talerico, RMC, Deputy Municipal Clerk

The pledge of allegiance was recited. Certification was read.

READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

November 27, 2007

Motion was made by Councilman Brown seconded by Council Vice President Celli to approve the minutes of November 27, 2007 - Ayes 3 - Nays 1 - Unger - Absent - 1 Giordano

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES
PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

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

A motion was made by Councilman Brown to open the public hearing on this ordinance was seconded by Council Vice-President Celli. Ayes 4 - Absent - 1 Giordano

After ample time was given and no one responded, a motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to close the public hearing. Ayes 4 - Absent 1 - Giordano

A motion by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to adopt said ordinance on third and final reading was adopted upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 - Absent - 1 Giordano

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

A motion was made by Councilman Brown to open the public hearing on this ordinance was seconded by Council Vice-President Celli. Ayes 4 – Absent 1 - Giordano

Donna Peterson – Rockwell Avenue

Questioned Ordinance # 45-07

After ample time was given and no one else responded, a motion by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to close the public hearing. Ayes 4 – Absent 1 - Giordano

A motion by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to adopt said ordinance on third and final reading was adopted upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 3 – Nays – 1 Unger – Absent – 1 Giordano

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: (PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR DECEMBER 26, 2007)

#46-07 ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH TO LEASE SPACE FOR FIRE TRUCKS FROM PRIVATELY OWNED VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES IN THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH

A motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 26, 2007. – Ayes 4 Absent 1 - Giordano

#47-07 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 256 “PEDDLING AND SOLICITING” ARTICLE I “GENERAL PROVISIONS”, 256.5 FEES” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH

A motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 26, 2007. – Ayes 4 Absent 1 - Giordano

#48-07 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES FOR GARFIELD COURT URBAN HOUSING ASSOCIATES, LLC. FOR THE GARFIELD COURT PROJECT

A motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 26, 2007. – Ayes 4 Absent 1 – Giordano

#49-07 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 116 "BEACHES", "RULES AND REGULATIONS" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH, REGARDING THE USE OF SURFBOARDS, RAFTS OR OTHER SWIMMING APPARATUS

A motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 26, 2007. - Ayes 4 Absent 1 - Giordano

#50-07 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 181 "FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS, RETAIL", 181.4 "LICENSE FEE" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH

A motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 26, 2007. - Ayes 4 Absent 1 - Giordano

#51-07 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 109 "ANIMALS", 109-2 "LICENSING PROVISIONS", SUBSECTION E "FEES" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH

A motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for December 26, 2007. - Ayes 4 Absent 1 - Giordano

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A motion by Councilman Brown to open the public portion of the meeting was seconded by Vice-President Celli. Ayes 4 - Absent 1 - Giordano

Donna Peterson – Rockwell Avenue

Does Mr. Gohar have anything to do with the redevelopment?

Council President DeStefano - No.

Spoke regarding article in the Atlanticville relative to a park (Third & Union Avenue). Also spoke regarding gangs and programs in the City for children.

Carl Jennings - Director of Recreation & Human Services

Invited Ms. Peterson to come to his office regarding the various programs the City offers.

Lori Ann Vendetti – 33, 38 Ocean Terrace

Spoke regarding dog park.

Mayor Schneider – If you find another town with that kind of an ordinance, please bring it to me and we will take a look at it.

Spoke regarding eminent domain.

Kevin Brown – 162 Broadway

Spoke regarding Lighthouse Mission. He is against eminent domain.

Harold Cooper – 115 S. 7th Avenue

Questioned whether any of the developers have approached the City relative to slowing down or cutting back.

Council President DeStefano – No.

Agnes Cardaci

Spoke regarding problems with rules and regulations at the Senior Center. Also spoke regarding the bus that the center has been without. Spoke regarding eminent domain.

Council Vice-President Celli – No. That is not true relative to the problems at the Senior Center. The driver for the Senior Center is starting tomorrow.

Council President DeStefano – Mr. Woolley is the business administrator and he will look into it.

Denise Hoagland – 68 Ocean Terrace

Spoke regarding eminent domain. Also read a poem.

Vincent Lepore – Long Branch

Spoke regarding Lighthouse Mission amendment, Anna DeFaria & Eminent Domain

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilman Brown seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to close the public participation. Ayes 4 – Absent 1 - Giordano

RESOLUTIONS:

On file in the Clerk's Office and the City's web site.

APPLICATIONS:

1. APPROVAL OF VARIOUS TAXI-CAB OWNER LICENSE RENEWALS FOR 2008

Motion by Councilman Brown, seconded by Council Vice-President Celli to approve the listed applications was approved upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 – Absent 1 – Giordano

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Councilman Brown - Good evening everyone, there will be one more meeting this year of the Council but before then the reason for the season will come and go and I would like to wish everyone here and their family a merry Christmas, I would like to wish everyone here and their family a happy Hanukkah and for those of you who don't celebrate either one, Happy Holiday Season.

Councilman Unger - I appreciate you letting me speak and I appreciate all the members of council who generally work as colleagues and are actually very reasonable and very kind to me. So thanks again Mike. I want to say two things, one, on the eminent domain ordinance, Lori, I have been working on something, I think I've shared it with a few people in your coalition. I'm sorry it's taken so long. I actually wanted to get an outside attorney review, it's been difficult for me to find an attorney in Monmouth County who is able to work on it because you know, most of them are involved for this work in the City already. I'm not sure if Mr. Aaron would be willing to review it or if he would be allowed to but I'll certainly ask him tonight or next time I can talk to him. I would like to do something credible and have some substance, even if no one up here voted for it at least it might be something that sends a message out. Tonight I just want to say that despite the fact that we're all, for the most part at least, the Council members are pretty friendly and have worked together tonight, Sharon Wise was not elected to serve on the Cable Commission. I was a little bit disappointed that at least one or two other members couldn't have put Sharon on the Cable Commission, but it's a reminder that we are involved in a political system. We do play hard ball politics in Long Branch and I'm sure in the next 24 months we'll see much more. Thank you Michael for letting me.

Dr. Celli - For the lady who spoke about the Senior Center, the director is Mrs. Pat Krosnicki and she runs the Senior Center on a day to day basis. I just want you to know rules, procedures and policies are put in place because of late we have seemed to have outgrown the Senior Center. Some of these are not new, some of these have been around for a long time, so, if you feel bad about because you didn't get to go to a party because you couldn't sign up, don't feel bad, I didn't get to go either and I'm still on the waiting list, so I just want you to know there are rules and regulations, maybe you don't agree with them but she has an advisory board and they go through all of these things. That's it and I wish everybody a Merry Christmas.

ADJOURNMENT:

This meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm