

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 23, 2008

8:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

**PRESENT:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:** Anthony Giordano, Councilman; Ronald Mehlhorn, Finance Director

The pledge of allegiance was recited. Certification was read.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**AUGUST 26, 2008** – Motion by Councilperson Celli, seconded by Councilperson Brown to approve the minutes of August 26, 2008 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2008** – Hold to October 14, 2008 meeting

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

**#20-08** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY VACATING A 10' INGRESS AND EGRESS EASEMENT (INTRODUCED: SEPTEMBER 9, 2008)

A motion was made by Councilperson Celli, seconded by Councilperson Brown to move this ordinance to the meeting of October 14, 2008. Ayes 4

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

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

**Austin Gelzer – 385 Ocean Boulevard**

Read a statement regarding the access ramp at Cottage Place and the five-minute rule. Also asked for a Citizen's Advisory Council.

**Arlene McGrora – 928 Elberon Avenue**

Commended the Department of Traffic regarding Child Safety seats. Spoke regarding Bernard Drive and read a statement from Mr. Joseph Nathanson who resides at 1044 Elberon Avenue regarding the two-way traffic situation on Bernard Drive, which is a legal one way.

**Joe Turpin – 15 Hobart Manor**

Asked why the water gets shut off at the five corner sites.

Mr. Woolley stated that tests must be run on the water.

Asked about what’s been happening with the smell at the Sewer Authority.

Mr. Woolley stated that the Director of Health has been in touch with the County and has ongoing communications with them.

Dave Roach stated that any complaints could be directed to the Monmouth County Health Department for further investigation.

**Harold Cooper – 113 S. Seventh Avenue**

Spoke regarding R302-08 and stated that the police officer was well respected and R304-08 regarding the curfews. Wished those a happy and healthy Rosh Hashanah.

**Jerry Scarano – 336 Ocean Boulevard**

Spoke regarding the grass being cut on Ocean Avenue, Long Branch Avenue, Second Avenue and Ocean Boulevard.

The Mayor suggested that he speak to Kevin Hayes.

Mr. Scarano went on to ask about traffic re routing on Ocean Boulevard and Cedar Avenue.

The Mayor stated it was Brighton and Ocean and it’s a county road and the City has complained to them before about this.

Mr. Scarano asked who you talk to about four way stop signs and who do you talk to about house numbers and garage sale signs and the hot dog vendor on Joline Avenue. Vendors should move, not set up camp. Spoke regarding damaging homes and taxes.

**Michelle Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Spoke regarding R298-08 regarding transfer of properties between the Bd of Ed and the City.

Mr. Aaron explained the property swap.

Spoke regarding the bill for Mr. Aikins for Beachfront South, asked for an explanation and also asked where the City was at with Beachfront South.

The Mayor stated he would have to look at the specific bill and he has a meeting with K Hov this week.

**Harold Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Spoke regarding R307-08 and asked if it was going to cost the City any money to cover the legal fees.

Mr. Aaron stated yes and explained the procedure through the courts.

Mr. Bobrow then went on to speak about K Hov and asked that the designation as a redevelopment zone for beachfront south be removed.

**Bill McLaughlin – 448 Ocean Avenue**

Spoke regarding the money Hovnanian put down in good faith. Went on to discuss the relationship between the Council and the public.

**Robert Allison – 268 Ocean Avenue North**

Spoke regarding the City ordinance amendments, zoning and the parking ordinance restrictions on Ocean Avenue.

**Evelyn Allison – 268 Ocean Avenue**

Spoke regarding the pending Strollo application and the parking situation on Ocean Avenue. Concurs with everything Mr. McLaughlin stated.

**Diana Multare – 21 North Bath Avenue**

Spoke regarding dysfunctional dialogue, transparency, televising the Council meetings, and the events that happened at the UN today.

**Bernard Gorcey – 36 Second Avenue**

Spoke regarding a new boardwalk that was put down. Asked who paid for it.

The Mayor stated that the taxpayers paid for it.

Went on to speak about the developers and beach replenishment.

Mr. Woolley stated he believes it will start in October.

**Lila Poch – 1175 Ocean Avenue**

Spoke regarding the Park Avenue Bridge project and meetings that were held by the DOT and the Elberon Voters & Property Owners Association regarding the design of the bridge so it was suitable to the area which it will be housed. Went on to speak regarding lighting for the bridge.

**Vincent LaPore – Long Branch**

Spoke regarding the recent appellate division decision, monies from developers, eminent domain, and Councilman Brown's statements at the last meeting.

**Marco Diaz – 51 Hampton Apts.**

Read a poem Denise Hoagland wrote and published in the Press on September 17, 2008.

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilperson Celli seconded by Councilperson Brown 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 ST. JEROME PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION
2. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE SPECIALTY HOSPITALS OF NJ FOUNDATION
3. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION

Motion by Councilperson Celli seconded by Councilperson Brown 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** – Yes as it was stated earlier, we will not be meeting before the holidays are over. I wish everyone a happy holiday and that's all I have for this evening,

**Councilman Giordano** – Absent

**Councilman Unger** – No comment

**Dr. Celli** – Miss Poch, would you please bring your concerns about the Park Avenue Bridge up to Mr. Woolley so we can take a look at it? I was not aware of a meeting but we certainly want to help the residents in that area, I just wanted you to know and also Happy Rosh Hashanah to all our friends.

**Mr. DeStefano** – No comment

**ADJOURNMENT**

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