

**REGULAR MEETING**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**MARCH 24, 2009**

**8:00 P.M.**

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Michael DeStefano, Council President

The pledge of allegiance was recited. Certification was read.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Director Richards gave two commendation awards to two civilians, Charles Spellman and Marc Yeagle for their extraordinary actions related to a dire medical emergency which took place at Golds Gym on January 23, 2009.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**MARCH 10, 2009** – A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Brown to approve the minutes of March 10, 2009 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 3 / Abstain 1 Unger / Absent 1 DeStefano

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

None

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**#1-09** ORDINANCE HISTORIC PRESERVATION – HOLD TO APRIL 14, 2009

**#4-09** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY CHAPTER 116 BEACH FEES 2009

Motion by Councilperson Unger, seconded by Councilperson Brown to introduce ordinance on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for April 14, 2009 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 DeStefano

**#5-09** AN ORDINANCE REAPPROPRIATING \$50,000 PROCEEDS OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESTROOM PROJECT AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN IN AND BY THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

Motion by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Brown to introduce ordinance on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for April 14, 2009 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 DeStefano

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

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

**Michelle Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Spoke regarding a tragic incident that happened with a friend of hers and commended Officer Kevin King for his compassion and professionalism and made a horrific day become bearable because of his actions and commends him and all of the City for having a wonderful addition to the police force. Went on to speak about where the toilets are going with regards to the reappropriation ordinance. Councilwoman stated that it was going to be a trailer. Mr. Woolley stated it will be in West End by the Concession Stand. Spoke regarding the cable hearing taking place during Sunshine week. Would like to see Council meetings and other city meetings broadcast.

**Harold Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard**

The City is very fortunate to have this police department serve the residents of this City. Went on to state that he also believes the meetings of the Council should be brought live to people over cable, thanked Mr. Woolley, the Mayor, Carl Turner, Mr. Pratap and the other professionals for bringing great in moving the Beachfront South vision forward. Conversation ensued between Mr. Bobrow and Mayor Schneider as to why eminent domain is not being taken off the table legally for Beachfront South.

**Lilly (inaudible) – 799 Boyer Avenue**

Concerned about the health of her family and the Canadian geese problem. The Mayor suggests she speak to David Roach, the Health Officer.

**Lori Ann Vendetti – 33, 38 Ocean Terrace**

Spoke regarding the adoption of an ordinance to remove eminent domain, cable hearing that took place, the article in the paper regarding the reasons the City does not video the meetings and went over a plan on how the meetings could be taped and who would run the equipment. It's an avenue that should be ventured into.

**Diana Multare – 21 North Bath Avenue**

Stated Earth Hour is going to be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 9:30. Everyone concerned about the climate change crises is going to turn off the lights for one hour. Would like the City to go along with this idea. Went on to speak about the Pier Project and the Ferry service, NEPA and asked when the presentation is going to be ready.

Mr. Giordano stated that it was done. Mr. Woolley stated it was going to Congressman Pallone, Senator Lautenberg and Senator Menendez, County Engineer and the Dept of Transportation.

**Vincent Lapore – Long Branch**

Spoke regarding R81-09 and the City using Public Strategies, congratulated the people in Beachfront South for moving ahead with their actions, GEM Holding Company agreement and areas of redevelopment.

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

Spoke regarding the Pier project, time lines, revenue and employment opportunities. Does not think it's a good economic time for the pier.

**Frank Esposito – Professor of History at Kane University – Ocean Twp.**

Spoke regarding his involvement in saving the buildings at Lake Takanassee and would like to discuss further and share some models of other ordinances around and to share his reactions to what is being planned.

After ample time was given and no one came forward a motion was made by Councilperson Giordano seconded by Councilperson Unger to close the public portion of this meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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

**APPLICATIONS:**

1. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR NEW JERSEY STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION, INC.
2. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE ITALIAN AMERICAN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION, INC
3. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
4. APPROVAL OF TWO RAFFLE LICENSES FOR THE LONG BRANCH ELKS 742

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

**MOTIONS:**

1. MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FREE CITY WIDE YARD SALE FOR MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> AND 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2009

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

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

**Councilman Brown** – Good evening everyone. This evening very briefly in general I am saying thanks to the citizens of Long Branch, I'm saying thanks because of who you are and I'm saying particularly thanks to our code enforcement, our DPW, our fireman and our policeman but also to our Housing Authority. The Housing Authorities proposals of continuing uplifting and quality of life issues in the City of Long Branch is to be commended. The story last week on the rebuilding of the Bucky James Community Center and if you go down Liberty Street and Rockwell in our fair City you will see the fruit development of the rebuilding of part of our housing structure. We do have an official from the Housing Authority with us tonight and I hope he will take these accolades back to the Housing Authority, its Board of Commissioners and its Director and I personally say thank you for myself, Mayor Schneider and the entire Administration and least we never forget the quality of life in the best City in New Jersey, Long Branch, New Jersey, thank you.

**Councilman Giordano** – Thank you. I'll be away for the next meeting but Easter is coming up and Passover is coming up so I just wanted to wish everybody a happy and healthy holiday season. Thank you.

**Councilman Unger** – Just for folks that didn't go to the Workshop, we made a little bit of progress on the Historic Preservation Ordinance. We inched forward a little bit more and we got good comments from Councilman Dave Brown and Councilwoman Celli submitted some comments to the Attorney that we are going

to deal with, I think in a positive manner so we moved forward another yard and if in football you get a first down you're still heading toward the goal so I feel very pleased about that and I'm happy that Dr. Frank Esposito came, he is a distinguished Professor of History at Kane University and he is a specialist in New Jersey history and its always great to see him and look forward to his opinions. Thank you. It was a good meeting tonight, everyone was really positive, it was civil. A democracy at work, it was a great meeting, Mary Jane did a great job. Thank you Mary Jane.

**Dr. Celli** – Thank you, I have a couple of things. I had two residents stop me and one of them you might know, occasionally she walks up and down Broadway, starts at Morris Avenue and goes uptown to Coast Hardware, walks one side of the street and then walks the other side and what she does is pick up papers that people have thrown out. You know there is an ordinance about throwing papers and cups and I don't have to tell you because I get a lot on the corner of Chelsea and Morris and she suggested that maybe we should have a Spring April Clean Up so I'd like to suggest for the whole month of April, the residents make a concerted effort to clean up their property. I know that code does a great job but I'm talking about the pieces of paper, the cups, anything that's on your property, just to make it nice and on that I will give the credit to Mrs. Hoffman because it was her idea. Second of all I would like to reiterate what Councilman Giordano said, we have two holidays coming up and I'd like to wish everybody Happy Passover and certainly a blessed Easter. Thank you.

**Mr. DeStefano** – Absent

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting of the Long Branch City Council adjourned at 9:00 p.m.