

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 9, 2011

7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

Present: Michael Sirianni, Council President; Kathleen Billings, Council Vice-President; Joy Bastelli, Councilwoman; Dr. Mary Jane Celli, Councilwoman; John Pallone, Councilman

Others Present: Adam Schneider, Mayor; Howard Woolley, Business Administrator; James G. Aaron, City Attorney; Ronald Mehlhorn, Finance Director; Deborah L. Talerico, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Absent: Kathy L. Schmelz, City Clerk

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and certification was read into the record.

PRESENTATIONS:

None

READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

July 26, 2011 – Motion by Councilwoman Celli seconded by Councilwoman Billings to approve the minutes of July 26, 2011 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

#28-11 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH, ADOPTING THE FINANCIAL AGREEMENT, ACCEPTING THE APPLICATION FOR TAX EXEMPTION UNDER NJSA40A:21-1 ET SEQ AND AUTHORIZING TAX EXEMPTION AND PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES IN CONNECTION WITH THE WOODROW WILSON URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT (Introduced: July 26, 2011)

A motion by Councilwoman Celli to open the public hearing on said ordinance was seconded by Councilman Pallone.

Donna Peterson – Rockwell Avenue

Asked if this meant they were getting a tax break.

Council President Sirianni stated that it's a formality that has to be done to continue the project. They do not pay taxes.

Asked what is going to happen to the people when the area gets torn down?

The Mayor responded stating that they will get vouchers from HUD that will help them find housing and the Housing Authority will assist also.

Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway

Asked if an audit was done on R231-11. Went on to speak about comparisons with the Gregory School project and asked Council to hold this over until an audit is done.

After ample time was given and no one else responded, a motion by Councilman Pallone to close the public hearing was seconded by Councilwoman Celli.

A motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Bastelli to adopt on third and final reading was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

#29-11 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 69, ENTITLED "LAND USE PROCEDURES" SECTION OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH (FEES)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bastelli, to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for August 23, 2011 was seconded by Councilman Pallone and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

#30-11 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 325-3C SCHEDULE II (325-26) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH (STERNBERGER AVENUE)

This ordinance was removed from the agenda at this time.

#31-11 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 244-2b OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH ESTABLISHING ADDITIONAL MUNICIPAL PARKING LOTS

A motion was made by Councilman Pallone, to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for August 23, 2011 was seconded by Councilwoman Billings and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Bastelli to open the public portion of this meeting.

Donna Peterson - Rockwell Avenue

Spoke regarding shootings in Long Branch, sculptures on Broadway, fireworks on the weekends and Councilwoman Bastelli's comments at the last meeting.

Nicky Bars - 89 Woodrow Wilson

Asked about the ball park over in Woodrow Wilson. Is it the Housing Authorities or the City's?

Council President Sirianni - It's the Housing Authorities.

Mr. Woolley - It's their property.

Ms. Barrs - thank you.

Vincent Lapore - 80 North Broadway

Asked if there has been any dialogue between the City and the County regarding Shared Services.

Council President Sirianni stated that there has been and there is a meeting set up for next week also.

Mr. Lapore went on to speak about the city's rating.

Harold Cooper – 113 South 7th Avenue

Thanked Councilman Pallone for an answer on a question at the last meeting. Asked Mr. Mehlhorn if we have ever used taxpayer's money in feasibility studies or architectural planning's as far as the redevelopment of lower Broadway and/or the Pier / Ferry.

Mayor Schneider – Yes.

Mr. Cooper went on to speak about Councils priorities, made comments to Councilwoman Bastelli regarding the responsibility of answering the public.

Russell Freed – 762 Greens Avenue Apt. 10A

Spoke regarding the way the City conducts business at City Hall, Lake Takanassee man hole cover never fixed, storm drains on West End Court, 2nd Avenue, Greens Avenue, North Lake, Cedar Avenue all flood in heavy rain, Route 36 from 537 to Ocean Avenue pot holes, railroad tracks on Joline Avenue, the repaving of Bath Avenue and Cedar Avenue and Hoey or Van Court going towards the beach, there are bushes blocking sidewalks.

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Bastelli to close the public portion of this meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

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

APPLICATIONS:

None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilwoman Bastelli – No comment.

Councilwoman Celli – I have two things. I just want to remind everybody that this week is National Health Center Week. We do have a National Health Center here in the City of Long Branch, 270 Broadway. They are having open house tomorrow from 2 – 4 and I would invite anybody to go down there and see all the good work they do and just a reminder, on Thursday nights we have music concerts at Pier Village and on Sunday we have concerts at West End Park so please remember to come out and enjoy the music. That's it.

Councilman Pallone- You know I wasn't going to say anything but I'm going to say...I just wanted to address Mr. Cooper, the comments made about Councilwoman Bastelli and I have to tell you a lot of times I, you know, I'm speaking for myself, that I just say things that sometimes being up here you're surprised that you're sort of saying them and you just sometimes you don't even know what you're saying and right now is a good example. But what I do want to say is that I love serving with Councilwoman Bastelli. She is someone who really cares about the Community and cares about people and frankly I don't remember what she said two weeks ago but I think she is a special person and I think anybody who said that about her is probably a little mistaken but I can understand that somebody makes a comment, you

know, it sounds a certain way but I just think I know her as a different special person.

Councilwoman Billings – I just want to thank everyone for coming out tonight and we will see you in two weeks at 7:30.

Councilman Sirianni – Well she stole my thunder. That's what I was going to say, remember next week our meeting starts at 7:30, with that, I need a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bastelli, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to adjourn this meeting at 7:50 p.m.