

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2012  
7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

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

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

There was a moment of silence given to all of the 911 victims.

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

**PRESENTATIONS:**

None

**HEARINGS:**

1) Denial of Taxi Cab Drivers License – This is a requested hearing by Scott Klenke due to the fact that he was denied a taxi cab drivers license by the Police Department for a prior arrest. Council asked Mr. Klenke to get all of the information and documentation from the courts and give it to the Clerk. The Council will reschedule this to the September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting if the documents are received.

2) Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program / Gerald Freda

Mr. Freda stated that the application was for Lake Takanassee and the presentation was mainly about goals. The goals of the application which meet the program needs would include improvements to the walking path around the lake and also possibly include a bike path either separate or in conjunction with the walking path, roadway improvements and bank stabilization. The shoreline of the lake has been eroding for some time. DEP approval is needed for the bank stabilization. The better the stabilization and the angle on the stabilization on the banks the more room there will be from the curb to the shoreline of the lake. May be able to maintain the curb around the lake on the inside for this program which would leave the full extent of the road for parking and possibly a bike path. The bike path would link up with another bike path that runs south through Ocean Avenue, through the City and through Deal. The program would address recreation and environmental concerns. Mr. Freda went on to state that the program allows you to submit for \$250,000 which was done. The entire length of the lake is about .8 miles or 4,000 feet. The estimated cost is about \$650,000.00. Have also applied to DOT for a separate grant for a similar project. Those monies could also go into the pot if the City was to get the grant from Monmouth County Open Space and we would actively be looking for other grant programs.

Councilman Pallone asked what the time line was for finding out about the grants.

Mr. Freda stated that he should know by February whether or not they were successful. The DOT grant which was already applied for will be known about the same time. We will progress as far as we can when the money is available.

Councilwoman Bastelli asked if it included removing any of the invasive plants along the border of the lake.

Mr. Freda stated that it could and it would in the area where the bank needs to be stabilized. It would be part of the program.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

None

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

None

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: (PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 28, 2012**

None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

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

**Elliot Denman – West Long Branch**

Spoke regarding being an officer of the Shore Athletic Club, Takanassee Lake races and wanted to remind everyone that next year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and perhaps they could get some official involvement from the City. This project will be a real asset for the City of Long Branch.

**Joseph Turpin – 15 Hobart Manor**

Asked Council to reconsider co-naming Seaview Avenue between Liberty and Long Branch Avenue after Sharmaine Patterson and Julia Wheeler.

**Reverend Bennett – Long Branch**

Spoke about Sharmaine Patterson and Julia Wheeler. They worked very hard in the City to get things done. She would like to see a portion of Seaview Avenue named after these ladies.

**Diana Multare- 21 North Bath Avenue**

Spoke regarding the drug raid @ McDonalds, R209-12, and the discharge of mortgage program shouldn't function the way it does.

**Vera Pizzo – 105 Jerolamon Avenue**

Spoke regarding obnoxious growth ordinance that she would like to see passed in the City. Mr. Aaron stated that he has a copy from Brick and the Mayor stated that City Hall is working on obtaining information to put something together.

**Gerry Scarano – Ocean Blvd.**

Spoke regarding how nice City hall looks outside, the great Labor Day weekend the City had, asked if there was a pooper scooper ordinance in the City, health benefits, Comcast Cablevision and televising Council meetings.

**Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway**

Spoke regarding the bill list, R209-12, article in the newspaper regarding Pier Village III, comments from the Mayor, the taxi cab driver hearing and Ordinance #15-12, #18-12 and #19-12.

**Ben Gorcey – 36 Second Avenue**

Happy Holiday to everyone. Spoke regarding paid parking spaces. The Mayor stated that it was going to start next summer.

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilman Sirianni, 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:**

1. APPROVAL OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP FOR ROBERT JOHN MORLEY III IN THE OCEANIC FIRE ENGINE CO. #1

A motion was made by Councilwoman Celli, seconded by Councilman Sirianni to approve the above listed application – Ayes 5

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

**Councilwoman Celli** – I have two items tonight I'd like to talk to you about. First of all, today is a very special day and we should never forget as it is part of our history. Today, this morning, several members of the City Administration attended a beautiful ceremony that they had at the Long Branch High School and they've had it every year since 911. It's nice to see the students, they go up and they sang, there were speakers and it's just a beautiful day and something in our history that we should never forget so I say God Bless American and to all our Jewish constituents we say happy holidays. Thank you.

**Councilman Pallone** – I'd just like to thank everyone for coming this evening and have a great week and happy holidays to you as well.

**Councilman Sirianni** – Thank you for coming out this evening. I'm going to echo what and agree to what Councilwoman Celli had said in remembering 911. We said it back then and we say it today, we will not forget what happened that day and happy holidays to those who are celebrating the holiday Rush Hashanah and Yum Kippur in the next two weeks.

**Councilwoman Bastelli** – Thank you all for coming and I couldn't say it more eloquently than Dr. Celli but I ditto all that she said about today. It's an important day, a day to remember, a day to honor and a day to be inspired by the courage of those that did act. Also, I'd like to say happy holidays also to all that are celebrating Rush Hashanah and Yum Kippur, thank you.

**Councilwoman Billings** – I'd like to thank everyone for coming out this evening and with that I need a motion to adjourn...

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilman Sirianni to adjourn this meeting at 8:35 p.m.