

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 22, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 7:45 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

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

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

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

PRESENTATIONS:

None

HEARINGS:

None

READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

December 27, 2012 – Motion was made by Councilwoman Billings, seconded by Councilman Sirianni to approve the minutes of December 27, 2012 and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 3 / Nays 0 / Abstain 1 Bastelli / Absent 1 Celli

January 8, 2013 – Motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to approve the minutes of January 8, 2013 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Celli

At this point Councilwoman Celli joined the meeting via telephone communication.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

#1-13 AN ORDINANCE REPLACING CHAPTER 177 “FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION” OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH (INTRODUCED: JANUARY 8, 2013)

A motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to open the public hearing on this ordinance.

Ernest Freer – 315 Florence Avenue

Asked what the ordinance meant and how it affects him.

Mr. Aaron directed him to speak with Kevin Hayes who could address his particular issue.

Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway

Spoke regarding a conversation he had with the Department of Flood Management and the DEP. Went on to speak about the terminology that was used in the ordinance, easements and deed restrictions due to this ordinance, variances, free boards in elevated buildings and subsidized flood insurance.

Mr. Aaron then went on to discuss in further detail the variance section of the ordinance.

Lea Freer – 315 Florence Avenue

Asked about variances and if she needs one to raise her house. Mr. Aaron replied, no and further explained the variance portion of the ordinance.

Debra Simpson-King – 150 Airsdale Avenue

Spoke regarding the elevation of her home and variances. Went on to speak about flood insurance and the fact of the higher you go the less flood insurance you'll have to pay. Went on to ask about grading and acreage. The Mayor explained the grading and set back issues and how the City is trying to minimize how much a resident has to deal with the City.

Kenneth Simpson-King – 150 Airsdale Avenue

Went on to speak regarding his concerns being as he is on a corner property. The Mayor suggested he speaks with Stan Midose of the Building Department or Carl Turner of the Planning Department. Being on a corner can pose other issues.

Peter Marin – 490 Atlantic Avenue

Spoke regarding variances and the height of his home. The Mayor explained lot size and variances. Went on to speak regarding free boards and FEMA standards.

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

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

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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

Wendy Lou Parker-Smentkowski – 259 6th Avenue

Spoke regarding the drainage problem on 6th Avenue. Asked the City for help to stop the flooding on that street.

Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway

Spoke regarding AFP Corp / United Capital / Ocean Place

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilman Sirianni, seconded by Councilman Pallone 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 GAVIN PEJAKOVICH AS ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE ATLANTIC FIRE COMPANY

Motion by Councilman Pallone to approve the above applications was seconded by Councilwoman Billings and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilwoman Billings – Again I would like to express, I feel the same as all of you are feeling. I'm going through the exact same thing that you are doing with your house and my house is in demolished and mold remediation so again please use the City's professionals that are here. Don't be afraid to pick up a phone and call them or stop in and see them. They are very very helpful and if there is anything I or any of the Council and the Mayor can do for you, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. Thank you.

Councilwoman Celli – Just greetings from Florida to all.

Councilman Sirianni – Thanks for coming out. Thanks for bringing your concerns to us. You've given us a list of things to work on and again, call the City's professionals and let them help you out with the plans. They might come up with different ideas and especially in regards to the grading or elevation etc... so good luck and thank you for coming out.

Council Vice President Pallone - I'd also just like to thank everybody for coming this evening and for sharing your experiences and concerns with us. It really does help us understand what's going on in this City and decisions that we have to make, thank you.

Council President Bastelli – I'd just like to thank everyone also for coming and we hope to give a compassionate response to you. We know that you are suffering in your situation and I know that the Directors and the people in the different departments are really looking to help you. Please take advantage of that and I thank you again and if there is anything else we can help you with, we will look into that. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

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