

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 26, 2013

7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at 7:30 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; Michael Sirianni, Councilman

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

Absent: Howard Woolley, Business Administrator

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

**PRESENTATIONS:**

None

**HEARINGS:**

None

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

February 12, 2013 - Motion was made by Councilman Sirianni, seconded by Councilman Pallone to approve the minutes of February 12, 2013 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION**

**#2-13 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 (Introduced: February 12, 2013)**

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

**Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway**

Spoke regarding fees for children ages 17 and under be free. Requests a no vote on Ordinance 2-13.

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

**#3-13 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 345-10 AND ORDINANCE NO. 345-17 IN THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH**

Due to publication error, a motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilman Sirianni to carry the adoption and public hearing to the March 12, 2013 meeting. Ayes 5

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 26, 2013**

None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

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

**Camille Deronin – 565 Ocean Boulevard**

Spoke regarding beach access for this summer. The Mayor stated that the City will do what they can in the West End section to keep as many open as possible. The access points in West End, the bluffs have been seriously compromised. There isnt even a place to put steps. There is nothing to anchor them to. Those beaches will probably have no direct access. Seaview will be open, Cottage and several others will be open. Should be 9 in total. Will try to keep as many open as possible. Ms. Deronin went on to ask about Ocean Plaza Beach badges and if they will be honored at other beaches if West End beach isnt open. The Mayor stated the City will take a look into the matter.

**Dennis Sherman – 510 Ocean Avenue (Save Ocean Avenue Committee)**

Handed Council a brochure regarding recommendations for the new boardwalk and traffic. See attached.

**Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway**

Spoke regarding free beach access and S2548, NJ Transit agreement, liquor licenses that were on for renewal (2 BAC and 1 Bricktown Realty License), Ocean Place Development negotiations and the bill payout.

**Gerry Scarano – Long Branch**

Spoke regarding the one way on Ocean Avenue that is being proposed and asked if there was going to be a bike path – pets on the new walkway – asked for a moment of silence before the Pledge of Allegiance at each Council meeting – pocket parks and GPS's to be installed on all City vehicles. Went on to speak about house numbers and videoing Council meetings.

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:**

None

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

**Councilwoman Billings** – Again I would like to thank all the City professionals that were at Union Avenue on February 16<sup>th</sup> and provided the information for post Sandy. It was very helpful. We serviced probably 120 residents that morning and I got all positive feedback

that they felt that they had some direction now which a lot of them didn't have before so again I thank everyone for attending that and I hope everyone has a great week.

**Councilwoman Celli** – This weekend most of you know we had the Polar Plunge in the City and it was quite something to see. There were people wall to wall and cars wall to wall and we had a lot of people here in the City. 4,300 people went in that cold ocean. It was really a great time in this City and it was nice to see people stay here and enjoy some of the restaurants that we have. My thanks to the local Police Department who I understand there were 15 young men and women who went into the ocean, God bless them and they raised money for a good cause. It was just a great day in the City and my thanks to everybody who helped and there was...I'm not going to name them besides the Police Department, the First Responders and the Fire Department and just everybody, it was a great day in the City and I was proud to sit there and watch. I didn't stay out in the rain and I didn't go in the water. Nobody took my offer up for \$1,000 so I guess I'll have to wait until next year but it was a great day in the City and my thanks to everybody, thanks again.

**Councilman Sirianni** – You keep saying \$1,000 someone might cough it up and you're going to be wet. Thank you again to everyone again for the Polar Plunge. It was a great turnout and it was a group of people that came to the City early and stayed in the City late, even (inaudible) through West End later on in the evening there were a lot of festivities in regards to the Polar Plunge and the comments from the people that we met that have been participating in this really appreciated our facilities, the City, the way they were treated and couldn't believe the beach that we had and how easily accessible everything was. Again, all those who did the information session on Sandy to backup what Councilwoman Billings said, it was a very interesting turn out. A lot of people came with a lot of questions and we were there. The different departments were all there to help them and a lot of minds were put at ease and I think just answering the unknown and I worked the flood zone map and some of them were very happy that they weren't in a flood zone area or we learned several new terms too, the shaded area, (inaudible) God bless those people so that's it. Thank you, have a good week.

**Council Vice President Pallone** – I just want to thank you all for your comments this evening. Thank you for being here and enjoy the rest of the week.

**Council President Bastelli** – I like to say thank you all for coming out. I hope you all had your questions answered, if not we will still be available after the meeting for a little while but thank you again and we hope you have a good weekend and we look forward to the next meeting. Hope to see you there. Thank you.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Sirianni, seconded by Councilwoman Celli to adjourn this meeting at 8:10 p.m.

OCEAN AVENUE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE NEW BOARDWALK AT LONG BRANCH

IMMEDIATE;

- MAKE THE VEHICLE TRAFFIC NEXT TO THE BOARDWALK ONE WAY SO THE ROAD ALONG THE BOARDWALK BECOMES SAFER FOR PEDESTRIANS
- REPAIR THE HANDICAP RAMP AT COTTAGE AVENUE SO THERE IS BEACH ACCESS FOR THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED FIRST
- CLEAR THE SAND AND ROADWAY FROM PIER VILLIAGE TO BRIGHTON AVENUE FOR WALKER SAFETY
- PUT UP MORE SHORTER FENCING ALONG THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE BOARDWALK TO IMPROVE WALKING SAFETY
- FIX THE STREET SIGNS AND DOGGIE PICK UP CONTAINERS ALONG THE BOARDWALK SO DOG WASTE CAN BE DISPOSED OF PROPERLY
- PUT BACK SOME OF THE GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS ALONG THE SIDEWALK ON OCEAN AVENUE FOR WASTE AND GARBAGE
- PUT BACK AS MANY BOARDWALK BENCHES ON THE WEST SIDE OF OCEAN AVE

ON GOING UNTIL NEW BOARDWALK INSTALLED;

- WIDEN BOARDWALK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE
- PUT IN ON OR NEXT TO BOARDWALK GAZEBOS FOR SHADE AREAS FOR THE HOT SUMMER SUN
- PUT UP MORE BENCHES AND LANDSCAPED AREAS ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE BOARDWALK ESPECIALLY IN THE TWO GREEN ACRES LINEAR PARKS WITH SIGNAGE NO CARS
- PAINT CROSSWALKS ON ALL STREETS ALONG BOARDWALK LEADING TO THE BEACH
- PUT UP PEDESTRIAN CROSS WALK SIGNS AT EVERY STREET AND REINSTALL ALL TRAFFIC BARRIERS AND SIGNAGE TO PREVENT CARS FROM ENTERING THE NORTH AND SOUTH LINEAR GREEN ACRES PARKS
- PUT UP MORE PEDESTRIAN SANDWICH BOARD STATE LAW SIGNS IN ROAD AT EVERY STREET ALONG BOARDWALK
- INSTALL FIVE NEW HISTORICAL 4.8 FT HISTORY PAINTINGS ON BOARDWALK LIKE THE SEVEN THAT SURVIVED THE HURRICANE AND ARE REMOVABLE
- REPAINT THE BYCICLE PATH AND CLEARLY CONNECT IT TO THE ENTIRE BOARDWALK



