

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

JULY 9, 2013

7:30 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, July 9, 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; Michael Sirianni, Councilman

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

Absent: Mayor Adam Schneider; Dr. Mary Jane Celli

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

PRESENTATIONS:

None

HEARINGS:

None

READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

June 25, 2013 - Motion was made by Councilwoman Billings, seconded by Councilman Sirianni to approve the minutes of June 25, 2013 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Celli

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

#9-13 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PHASE I IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OCEANFRONT BOARDWALK BETWEEN BRIGHTON AVENUE AND MORRIS AVENUE IN AND BY THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$800,000 THEREFOR, INCLUDING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$440,000 AND A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$160,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PURSUANT TO THE GREEN ACRES PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$800,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF (Introduced: June 25, 2013)

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

Dennis Sherman – 510 Ocean Avenue

Spoke in favor of the Ordinance. Gave the Council a handout regarding what the Ocean Avenue Committee thinks are immediate priorities for the Long Branch Oceanfront.

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

A motion by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to adopt said ordinance on third and final reading was adopted upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Celli

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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A motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to open the public portion of this meeting. Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Celli

Dennis Sherman – 510 Ocean Avenue

Continued his conversation regarding improvements to the oceanfront such as shaded areas that they feel are needed, more places to sit, pedestrian crossing signs, handicapped access ramp, funding for future boardwalk improvements and charging fees for out of town groups that use the oceanfront.

Vincent Lapore – 80 North Broadway

Spoke regarding no one answering the phone at the main switchboard, parking meters, TDB Application before the Zoning Board, bill payout regarding legal services for the hotel and answers to previous OPRA requests that were filed.

Gerry Scarano – Ocean Boulevard

Spoke regarding the train station to beach walk, jay walking, Oceanfest spending, torn down boardwalk and the houses being raised in North Long Branch.

Bill McLaughlin – 448 Ocean Avenue

Spoke regarding the price of Oceanfest.

Leslie Schneider – 152 Ocean Avenue North

Spoke regarding TDB Project and the negative impact it will have on the neighborhood. Mr. Aaron advised her not to continue until such time as it comes before the Council.

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilman Pallone, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to close the public portion of this meeting. Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Celli

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 – I would just like to commend everyone in everything that went on here this past 4th of July weekend including the beach staff, DPW, Police...it was a wonderful, wonderful weekend here in the City. Thank you.

Councilwoman Celli – Absent

Councilman Sirianni – I'd like to also back Councilwoman Billings up with everyone involved from Chamber, City people, the staffing. We had a lot of visitors here in Long Branch and they all had a good time. Everyone got home safe, that's the most important thing so thank you very much. I hope

everyone enjoyed the fireworks show if you were around in town to see it and it was a great 4th of July. Hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Council Vice President Pallone – I'd like to echo everything my fellow Council members said and I'd like to thank everyone for being here this evening and thank you for your comments and it was good seeing you all.

Council President Bastelli – It really was a great day on the 4th of July. You could see everyone working together, the Chamber of Commerce, I thank them, City Administration, the Public Works, Police, Fire, First Aid, Office of Community Development, so many people were involved in making it such a success. I thank the Lord for giving us good weather. It was honestly one of the best 4th of July's that I remember and one of the best Oceanfests that I remember, the weather was amazing the music was amazing, all of the things that were offered and I really appreciate the work that the Chamber does for the City to promote the City, to help the businesses in our City to succeed. It's very valuable and I commend them. We don't have a PR person but we do have the Chamber of Commerce. Also, we have 6 firefighters retiring from the Uniformed Fire Division. Three have already retired, Lt. Doug Rowell and Firefighters Ed Rogers and Ed Barham and three more will retire this December, Capt. Joey Johnson, Lt. Tom McGlennon and Firefighter Jim Parnell and I just wanted to take a moment to just thank them all for their heroic deeds and bring that to everyone's attention, their dedication to our safety and to the well being of the citizens of this town. With all of that said, I just want to thank all of you for coming and for your comments. We will take them under consideration and have a good evening.

ADJOURNMENT

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