

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15, 2014

7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

**Present:** John Pallone, Council President; Mary Jane Celli, Council Vice-President; Joy Bastelli, Councilwoman; Kathleen Billings, Councilwoman; 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

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

**PRESENTATIONS:**

None

**HEARINGS:**

None

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

April 22, 2014 - A motion was made by Councilman Sirianni, seconded by Councilwoman Celli to approve the minutes of April 22, 2014 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION**

**#9-10 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN REGULATIONS GOVERNING ON-STREET METERED PARKING WITHIN THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH AND AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 244, ENTITLED "PARKING LOTS AND METERS", AND CHAPTER 325, ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC", OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH (INTRODUCED: APRIL 22, 2014)**

A motion by Councilwoman Billings to open the public hearing on said ordinance and was seconded by Councilwoman Celli. Ayes 5

**Greg Uberto – 55 Chelsea Avenue**

Spoke regarding the meters being different between Pier Village and the rest of the areas that are metered. Went on to speak with regards to the time of year the meters are going to be enforced. Would like Pier Village residents to have permit parking.

After ample time was given and no one else responded, a motion by Councilwoman Celli to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Billings. Ayes 5

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

**#10-14 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$925,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$880,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF (INTRODUCED: APRIL 22, 2014)**

A motion by Councilwoman Celli to open the public hearing on said ordinance and was seconded by Councilwoman Billings. Ayes 5

**Bill McLaughlin – 448 Ocean Avenue**

Asked if this was the ordinance that was being reimbursed 90%. Councilwoman Billings responded, yes.

After ample time was given and no one else responded, a motion by Councilwoman Celli to close the public hearing was seconded by Councilwoman Billings. Ayes 5

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

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**#11-14 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH VACATING A PORTION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY KNOWN AS PLAZA COURT**

HOLD FOR DISCUSSION AT THE MAY 27, 2014 WORKSHOP MEETING

**#12-14 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 247 PARKS (SPECIAL EVENT FEES)**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for May 27, 2014 was seconded by Councilwoman Billings and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**#13-14 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 345-14 SITE PLAN REVIEW TO INCORPORATE GREEN DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bastelli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for May 27, 2014 was seconded by Councilman Sirianni and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**#14-14 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 320-1: SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH**

A motion was made by Councilman Sirianni to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for May 27, 2014 was seconded by Councilwoman Bastelli and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**#15-14 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 320-2: SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEM OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH**

A motion was made by Councilman Sirianni to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for May 27, 2014 was seconded by Councilwoman Bastelli and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Billings, seconded by Councilwoman Celli to open the public portion of this meeting and was carried out upon the following vote: Ayes 5

**Jeannie Fallone – 34 Morris Avenue**

Spoke regarding the corner of Ocean Blvd and Morris Avenue and a truck sign. Problems with trucks making a left onto Morris Avenue thinking it's the entrance into Pier Village. Administration stated that they are County signs and they will look into it.

**Dennis Sherman – Ocean Avenue**

Stated that he was pleased with what the Administration has done lately with the Save Ocean Avenue Committee regarding the oceanfront. Many things have been done but there still needs to be more work done. Asked for an Advisory Committee to have regular input as to what is happening.

**Bill McLaughlin – 448 Ocean Avenue**

Hopes the next four years will be different then the last four. Spoke regarding payment of bills, bonding, borrowing and the way Council votes collectively. Save Ocean Avenue Committee that met with the Council was very productive.

**Greg Uberto – Chelsea Avenue**

Spoke regarding the parking meters and businesses in Pier Village. Stated that an assessment should be made at the end of the year to see how the system worked. Went on to speak about handicapped spaces.

The Mayor stated that it’s a work in progress and that it will be assessed at the end of the first season.

**Vincent Lapore – 45 Marine Terrace**

Spoke regarding the remarks of Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Sherman. Went on to speak about the way Council votes, the turnout of the Municipal election, condition of Elberon, bonding indebtedness, no family activities in the City compared to that of Pt. Pleasant or Ocean City, City Attorney bills, free beaches for Long Branch residents and fair assessments for all properties. Further spoke about the repairs to the boardwalk and ratables.

After ample time was given and no one else came forward, a motion was made by Councilman Sirianni, seconded by Councilwoman Billings to close the public portion of this meeting. Ayes 5

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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

**MOTION:**

1. MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2014 FREE CITY WIDE YARD SALE WEEKEND 5/17 AND 5/18 – NO RAIN DATES

Motion to approve by Councilwoman Bastelli, seconded by Councilwoman Celli and was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

**APPLICATIONS:**

None

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

**Councilwoman Bastelli** – I’d like to congratulate Mayor Schneider and the Council on their election win. I look forward to serving with you all for the next four years. I am very grateful that the citizens of Long Branch have elected you and all of us and I thank them for it.

**Councilwoman Billings** – I would just like to thank everyone for coming out and I hope everyone has a nice weekend, thank you.

**Councilman Sirianni** – Again, thank you very much for coming out. Thank you for your suggestions, your concerns with Morris Avenue, the beachfront, payment of the bills and have a great evening. Thank you very much.

**Council Vice President Celli** – Good evening everyone. I'd like to start by thanking all the voters and those voters that didn't vote. They are the losers. I'd personally like to thank all the candidates that ran. They showed the spirit of the City. I'm sorry the turnout was so low so now we have a new Council and the Mayor, not new but it was a very interesting race. I'm happy to be proud and say that I was on the winning team, but again I would caution all of you, we all have problems. We know the problems of the City and it's not as though we are not trying to get something done. I'm asking, please bear with us, listen to what we say. You're always welcome at the workshop and that's where the majority of the work is done and I really think Long Branch is a great City and it's the people that make up the City and I just ask you to stay with us. Just remember, before we have our next Council meeting we also have Memorial Day which is celebrated on the 26<sup>th</sup> and that's the holiday this year even though to me it's a little bit early but I want to thank you all for coming and certainly thank all of those who voted. Thank you.

**Council President Pallone** – I'd also like to thank everybody for coming this evening as usual and for your comments. I'd also like to congratulate the Mayor and the Council and I'd like to say thank you to all the candidates who participated in the process. It's important and I know there is a lot of time and energy spent and everybody has the city's best interest in mind, even though we have our differences so hopefully we can all come together and with that I'd like to ask for a motion to adjourn...

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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