

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

JULY 14, 2009

7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

**PRESENT:**

David G. Brown, Councilman;; Dr. Mary Jane Celli, Council Vice-President; Brian Unger, Councilman; Michael DeStefano, Council President

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Howard Woolley, Administrator; James G. Aaron, City Attorney; Ronald Mehlhorn, Finance Director; Kathy L. Schmelz, RMC, Deputy Municipal Clerk

**ABSENT:**

Mayor Adam Schneider; Anthony Giordano, Councilman; Irene A. Joline, RMC, City Clerk

The pledge of allegiance was recited and certification was read into the record.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**JUNE 23, 2009** - Motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2009 was offered by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson Celli - Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

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

**#11-09** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING HANDICAPPED PARKING ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT PARKING AT 404 WILLOW AVENUE (INTRODUCED: JUNE 9, 2009)

A motion by Councilperson Brown to open the public hearing on said ordinance was seconded by Councilperson Celli.

After ample time was given and no one responded, a motion by Councilperson Brown to close the hearing was seconded by Councilperson Celli.

A motion was made by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson Unger to adopt on third and final reading was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

**#12-09** AN ORDINANCE CHAPTER 177 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE (INTRODUCED: JUNE 23, 2009)

A motion by Councilperson Brown to open the public hearing on said ordinance was seconded by Councilperson Celli.

**Harold Bobrow - 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Asked about the developers permit. Kevin Hayes stated from the audience that it was a model ordinance and nothing has been established

yet. Went over various points of the ordinance and discussion was had regarding insurance.

After ample time was given and no one responded, a motion by Councilperson Brown to close the hearing was seconded by Councilperson Celli.

A motion was made by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson Celli to adopt on third and final reading was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

**#13-09** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR A PROGRAM TO UPDATE AND MAKE CURRENT PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS FOR THE USE OF THE LOCAL ASSESSOR OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NJ (INTRODUCED: JUNE 23, 2009)

A motion by Councilperson Brown to open the public hearing on said ordinance was seconded by Councilperson Celli.

**Harold Bobrow - 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Asked if there were specific things that could be obtained with an emergency appropriation. Mr. Mehlhorn responded, yes.

Asked about guidelines for doing the reassessment and abatements.

After ample time was given and no one responded, a motion by Councilperson Brown to close the hearing was seconded by Councilperson Celli.

A motion was made by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson Celli to adopt on third and final reading was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**#14-09** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 345 "ZONING" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH RELATIVE TO ACCESSORY USES OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH

A motion was made by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson Celli to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for July 28, 2009 was carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

A motion by Councilperson Celli to open the public portion of the meeting was seconded by Councilperson Brown.

**Donald McPherson**

Spoke regarding cleaning the stream off West Columbus Place on August 1, 2009. Would like a truck there.

Mr. Migliaccio stated that his department will be handing this.

**Michelle Bobrow - 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Reminded everyone that today is Bastille Day. Went on to speak about Public Strategies and the city park change order. Stated that she went to a meeting of the foundation for open government about open government. Commended first on having the minutes available and complete agenda's available online and the speedy approval of minutes and putting them up online. A very big help and helps the public. Would like to see redacted minutes of the closed sessions online in a timely matter. Also stated she would like to have the meeting televised for the public.

**Harold Bobrow - 295 Ocean Boulevard**

Thanks Mr. Woolley for his work on the meeting with the individuals from Beachfront South. Would like to see the City broadcast their council meetings. Spoke about borrowing fees regarding TAN's. Reiterated Mrs. Bobrow's sentiments regarding Public Strategies.

**Lori Ann Vendetti - 33, 38 Ocean Terrace**

Would like to see the Council meetings televised. Went on to speak about eminent domain abuse and read portions of the American dream ordinance.

**Diana Multare - 21 North Bath Avenue**

Spoke regarding the bond ordinance for the Pier and the Ferry, read the definition of pipe dream, transparency in government and televising council meetings.

**Vincent Lapore - Long Branch**

Spoke regarding the Amboy Bank, Diamond Beach, PRC and Solomon Dwek.

After ample time was given and no one came forward a motion was made by Councilperson Celli seconded by Councilperson Brown to close the public portion of this meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

On file in the Clerks Office and the City's Web Site.

**APPLICATIONS:**

1. APPROVAL OF NICHOLAS SAFFIOTI AS ACTIVE STATE MEMBER OF THE ATLANTIC ENGINE AND TRUCK CO.
2. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE SEA BRIGHT PARTNERSHIP
3. APPROVAL OF THREE (3) RAFFLE LICENSES FOR THE HOPE FOR CHILDREN FOUNDATION OF NJ
4. APPROVAL OF A RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

## 5. APPROVAL OF RYAN TILLIS AS ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE ELBERON ENGINE COMPANY

A motion by Councilperson Brown, seconded by Councilperson Celli to approve the above application was passed upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 4 / Absent 1 Giordano

### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

**Councilman Brown** - Good evenings ladies and gentlemen, this past 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the nations holiday was exceptional in the City of Long Branch. I just want to give kudos and a hearty thanks to the employees and the workers of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, particularly Oceanfest. I think the fireworks this year was the best that has been had. (tape turned) financial year to fund Oceanfest but the spirit of the people of Long Branch Fun City was alive and well and I think we did the best that we've ever done and the best is still to come, quality of life is what it's all about in the City of Long Branch. I want each and every one of you to have and continue to have a good summer. I think the water situation has subsided and I want to go out on the limb and say that I don't think it's going to rain all of August, I'm not a weather man but I'm going to make that prediction that we will have some dry weather in August. Have a nice week and we'll see you at the next Council meeting.

**Councilman Giordano** - Absent

**Councilman Unger** - I think I'd like to speak briefly on two items, one as you know from newspaper reports a number of civic groups in the City are interested in offering a home for the Port Huron house the historic structure currently located at the Takanassee Beach Club site. Unfortunately in this economic climate it does appear as Dr. Celli pointed out that economics is going to be a key factor. It's a shame if we lose this house. The developers are talking about shipping it as far away as Delaware. There are enormous costs associated with moving these structures up and down Ocean Avenue or putting them on barges and on the sea, literally just to get to North Long Branch they may use a barge however its my hope that by diligently working on this issue we might be able to secure some federal funding, some foundation funding and perhaps other local private non profit funding that could enable this structure to remain in Long Branch. It is a very historic structure. Its part of a very historic part of Long Branch so I hope the Council agrees. I hope we can convince the Administration to take a strong leadership roll. I've asked Councilman DeStefano if we could have this in the workshop next time and maybe to a review of all the City property and maybe there are properties we're not aware of owned by the City that are vacant that might be appropriate for the Port Huron House so anyway, that's something I think we should consider and there is one museum group that has expressed interest and if they can demonstrate some financial ability I think we should keep the door open on this. I'll just leave it at that and thank you for coming tonight.

**Dr. Celli** - I would like to personally thank all city departments, all the city employees, it was a great Oceanfest and those of you that missed it we had great fireworks and if you remember at the last Council meeting I said we were going to have good weather and we did have good weather and we thank you for all the hard work you do because you made the City proud. Thank you.

**Mr. DeStefano -** In the early 60's President Kennedy challenged the nation to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade and it was with great expense and a lot of effort that the United States succeeded in putting a man on the moon in July of 1969 which was 40 years ago. Quite a pipe dream. With that I'd like to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting of the Long Branch City Council adjourned at 7:55 p.m.