

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

8:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Long Branch City Council was held on Tuesday, September 25, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

Absent: Irene A. Joline, City Clerk

The pledge of allegiance was recited. Certification was read.

READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

September 11, 2007

Motion was made by Councilperson Celli, seconded by Councilperson Unger to approve the minutes of September 11, 2007 with minor amendment - Ayes 5

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

#36-07 AN ORDINANCE DELETING SECTION 18 (G) "REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS" WITHIN CHAPTER 300 "SUBDIVISION OF LAND" ARTICLE V "MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH, AND ADOPTING A NEW ARTICLE XI, WITHIN SECTION 300-23 ENTITLED "STORMWATER MANAGEMENT"

A motion was made by Councilperson Unger to open the public hearing on this ordinance was seconded by Councilperson Giordano.

After ample time was given and no one responded, a motion was made by Councilperson Unger, seconded by Councilperson Giordano to close the public hearing.

A motion by Councilperson Celli, seconded by Councilperson Unger to adopt said ordinance on third and final reading was adopted upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: (Public Hearing set for 10/9/2007)

#37-07 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$2,610,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO PROPERTY ACQUIRED FOR THE CREATION OF A MUNICIPAL PARK IN AND BY THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,480,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Brown to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for October 9, 2007. Ayes 5

#38-07 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE CITY OF LNG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$2,900,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,841,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

A motion was made by Councilperson Giordano, seconded by Councilperson Brown to introduce on first reading, advertise and post according to law and set the public hearing for October 9, 2007. Ayes 5

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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

Margaret Rice – 176 Branton Avenue

Spoke regarding the Long Branch Public Library and the programs that are being offered.

Harold Cooper – 113 South 7th Avenue

Spoke regarding how happy he was with regards to the Manahasset Creek Park. Also spoke regarding a play advertised by the NJ Repertory.

Louis Fellman – Highlands, NJ

Owns Abraham's Natural Foods on Long Branch Avenue. He read a letter he wrote to the New York Times published August 5th with regards to redevelopment.

Harold Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard

Spoke regarding redevelopment being unfair. Spoke regarding the Boardwalk and developers.

James Keelen – Belmont Avenue

Spoke regarding having all City cars be marked. They should stay in the City.

Bill McLaughlin – 448 Ocean Avenue

Spoke regarding the pollution problem at Monmouth Park. Suggested a letter be written to the State for clean waterways.

Michelle Bobrow – 295 Ocean Boulevard

Asked what TDB was.

Mr. Aaron stated that TDB was in litigation and it is a property that exists in the Beachfront North Phase II zone. It's presently in trial preparation status and discussions were made concerning issues that arose in that trial

preparation. It's an eminent domain proceeding. Spoke also regarding the deteriorating boardwalk. Asked why we were renting a bulldozer.

Mr. Woolley stated that we don't own equipment large enough to move the amount of dirt that you need to move down at Manahasset Creek Park.

Kevin Brown – 162 Broadway

Stated that the park is a great thing. Spoke regarding R255-07 and 256-07, the Bruce McCloud trial and Richard Hall being contracted out by an appraiser under contract with the City.

Donna Peterson – 104 Rockwell Avenue

Spoke regarding taxes going up, Manahasset Creek Park and developers.

Bernard Gorcey – 36 2nd Avenue

Unhappy with how things are going with regards to redevelopment on Broadway. Being held hostage. Spoke regarding papers that were signed by the City and parks.

Howard Marlin – Castlewall Avenue

Commended Council on Manahasset Creek Park. This is a long awaited recreation area for the City. Spoke regarding baseball fields.

Vincent LaPore – Long Branch

Spoke regarding R254-07 concerning Dean Mon, taxes and all appeals are due October 15th.

Denise Hoagland – 68 Ocean Terrace

Spoke regarding the McCloud case. Read a song entitled "They Sold Me Out"

Marshall Colver – 449 Broadway

Spoke regarding the pool that was to be built and the area in which it were to be built and illegal immigration in Long Branch.

A motion by Councilperson Unger to close the public portion of the meeting was seconded by Councilperson Giordano.

RESOLUTIONS:

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

APPLICATIONS:

1. APPROVAL OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP FOR JUSTIN BLAKE IN THE INDEPENDENT ENGINE & TRUCK CO.
2. APPROVAL OF RAFFLE LICENSE FOR MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION
3. APPROVAL OF RAFFLE LICENSE FOR JERSEY SHORE MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION
4. APPROVAL OF THREE (3) RAFFLE LICENSES FOR HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

5. APPROVAL OF RAFFLE LICENSE FOR THE SHORE CONTEMPORARY ARTS INC.

A motion by Councilperson Brown to approve the listed applications was seconded by Councilperson Giordano and carried out upon the following roll call vote: Ayes 5

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Councilman Brown – Good evening everyone. It's been stated and its in our papers and we are all talking about affordable housing and the lack of affordable housing and we all know that NJ is not the most conducive for low taxes and the cost of living and the quality of life and I just want to say two things. One of the problems and I think that we all agree is that it's in Trenton and that one of the problems is our home rule and that the merger of the Communities of NJ so that one day we will have more municipalities then we have school districts. There's a solution. The other thing is the Columbus Day Parade, we have a wonderful time during this season, the City of Long Branch is cosponsoring, come out and have a good time.

Councilman Giordano – No comment

Councilman Unger - No comment

Dr. Celli – I have two comments I'd like to pick up on what Councilman Brown said. The Columbus Day Parade will be October 7th, Sunday at 1:00 as you all know it starts up town, come and enjoy it. We've been very fortunate to have Mr. Mercantante pick up the slack where it fell off and Senator Tom Gagliano will be your Grand Marshall. I also am going to peek back on what Mrs. Rice said, I'm going to taut the library tonight for the Long Branch Historical Association tomorrow night has the author Sharon Hazart. She will be right here in the Council Chambers. She will probably have her two books that she has written on the history of the City of Long Branch. I'm sure she will have her books with her and I would invite everybody to come out and attend and hear about our wonderful City. Thank you.

Mr. DeStefano – No comment

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.