

March 21, 2018

6:37 PM

A caucus meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of West Long Branch was held on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 965 Broadway, West Long Branch, N.J.

Mayor Janet W. Tucci presided.

Mayor Tucci reported that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 adequate notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Council has been provided.

PRESENT: BRAY, JULIANO, MIGLIACCIO, NEYHART, PENTA

ABSENT: MANGO

**COUNCILMAN BRAY:**

1. The Federal Highway Administration has released a new approval for the "Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon" recommended by the Emergency Management Coordinator. Therefore, the first step in the process would be to obtain County approval for the three potential locations (Locust Avenue at Lakeview Avenue, Maryland Avenue, and Community Drive). The Borough Engineer's office confirmed that the flashing crosswalk beacons were a construction item and that the beacon to be located at Maryland Avenue could be included in the Maryland Avenue reconstruction project being funded with a Municipal Aid grant.

**COUNCILMAN PENTA:**

1. The discussion regarding Apple TV was pushed off until the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**BOROUGH CLERK COLE:**

1. The West Long Branch Environmental Commission submitted a recommendation for individuals to be appointed to the Green Team Advisory Committee, which is a requirement for Sustainable Jersey Certification. They also requested that the Borough Council consider the adoption of the model Sustainable Land Use Pledge Resolution, which was posted in Dropbox.

Mayor Tucci opened the meeting up to the public.

Jeff Oakes, Oceanport, appeared this evening concerning the proposed marijuana ban. He stated that he is a member of Monmouth County Cares and represents the cannabis and cancer communities. He reported that he has found that many municipalities are lumping medical marijuana in with their attempt to address recreational marijuana. He asked the Mayor and Council to table this issue. Mayor Tucci advised him that a decision on this issue would not be made this evening. She explained that the matter has been referred to the West Long Branch Planning Board for their review first since it would require an amendment to the zoning ordinance.

Jeff King, 24 Elizabeth Parkway, Eatontown, stated that he was in attendance as an advocate for those individuals who use medical marijuana and have to travel a distance to obtain it. He expressed the need for dispensaries in Monmouth County. He asked the Mayor and Council not to rush into a decision on this issue. The Borough Attorney pointed out that it is presently against the law; however, its legalization has been promoted by Governor Murphy. He also agreed that some municipalities may have rushed to adopt ordinances, but assured those in the audience that the West Long Branch Mayor and Council were taking a different approach by referring the matter to the Planning Board since it would require a change to the zoning ordinance. He advised that the Borough Council would have to decide how to proceed upon receipt of the Planning Board's report.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Neyhart moved Council adjourn Caucus Session at 6:59 PM with the intent to go into executive session following the regular meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Juliano and carried unanimously.

  
BOROUGH CLERK