

October 2, 2019
6:34 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, CIOFFI, MANGO, MIGLIACCIO, NEYHART, PENTA
ABSENT: NONE

COUNCILMAN BRAY:

1. Councilman Bray referenced the following e-mail from Sergeant Lynch to Lieutenant Gomez:

Lt.

As I am sure you have noticed, the borough hall/police department parking lot is used by more than employees and visitors to either location. It has become a regular habit for the past two years that the college rental property on Broadway use the boro lot on a daily basis. In addition random vehicles seem to come and go from time to time. As I arrived for work today there was a New York registered vehicle parked where police employees usually park. I noticed it on Thursday and it has not appeared to have moved. There was a second vehicle today parked in the same general location with clearly no business to be conducted at boro hall or the police department or the park.

Normally this is not an issue but I recall last year when the boro recycling event needed space to park or unload the dumpster/recycling bin we needed to go knocking on the door to the rental property to please ask to move their vehicles. Luckily they did, but being as there is no regulations for the parking lot they could have easily told us no. In addition what is preventing local residents on North Locust from using our lot during snow storms. It makes sense to keep their driveways clear for easy snow removal and they don't park in the streets in violation of our snow ordinance. Where

as it makes it difficult for the plows to clear our lot. How about a Homeland Security issue. Anyone can park a vehicle in the lot for an extended amount of time. If they chose they could use the vehicle as a bomb delivery system and wait for a target rich time to detonate. Without any regulations the parking lot is fair game for long term undisturbed parking. I could go on about other situations, but I think you get my point. There is a employee and short term ordinance that covers the boro lot at Cedar and Monmouth (B.O. 8-1.1), perhaps it would be wise for the council to enact an ordinance to cover this lot as well.

Sgt. William Lynch

The Police Committee discussed this matter and recommended amending the current ordinance to include a time restriction for parking in the Borough Hall parking lot. The Borough Attorney was asked to prepare the amending ordinance for consideration at the next meeting. The Borough Attorney noted that once the ordinance was adopted, signs would have to be posted.

COUNCILMAN MIGLIACCIO:

1. A quote has been solicited to clean the outside of the Police building.
2. Mayor Tucci asked about the status of the resurfacing of the parking lot in Sorrentino Park. Councilman Migliaccio replied that a vendor looked at it, but hasn't gotten back to him yet.

Councilman Bray moved that the Council enter Executive Session at 6:44 PM. Seconded by Councilman Neyhart and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the following portion of this meeting dealing with the following generally described matters shall not be open to the public:

Potential Property Acquisition; WLBVP Litigation; Opioid Class Action; Zoning Violations; PBA Contract Negotiations; DPW Personnel; School Bus Contract

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is anticipated that the matters to be considered in private may be disclosed to the public at a later date under the following circumstances:

When the need for privacy as to each item no longer exists.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the private consideration is deemed required and is permitted because of the following noted exceptions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12):

- ☐ 1. Rendered confidential by Federal law or that if disclosed would impair receipt of Federal funds.
- ☐ 2. Rendered confidential by State Statute or Court Rule.
- ☐ 3. Would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy.
- ☐ 4. Deals with collective bargaining or any employment agreement, including negotiations positions.
- ☒ 5. Deals with purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds.
- ☐ 6. Related to setting of bank rates or the investment of public funds and disclosure could adversely affect the public interest.
- ☐ 7. Related to tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public and disclosure may adversely affect the public.
- ☒ 8. Related to investigation of violations or possible violations of the law.
- ☒ 9. Related to pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the public body is or may be a party.
- ☒ 10. Falls within the attorney-client privilege and confidentiality is required.

- X 11. Deals with personnel matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, performance evaluation or discipline of any public officers or employees, either current or prospective, and all of the employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected have not requested that the matter be discussed publicly.
- _____ 12. Quasi-judicial deliberations after public hearing that may result in imposition of a civil penalty or suspension or loss of a license or permit.

Councilman Neyhart moved Council adjourn Executive Session at 7:47 PM, seconded by Councilman Penta, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucci opened the meeting up to the public.

Patrick Mermini, 285 Monmouth Road, read the following statement:

Hello. My name is Patrick Mermini, and I am a West Long Branch resident. I live at 285 Monmouth Road. I am here tonight because I want to propose the idea of a skatepark in West Long Branch.

I have lived here for almost ten years. My friends and I have enjoyed riding skateboards in town since we were little. However, there are many restrictions on where we can ride. I understand that these restrictions are there for our safety because kids sometimes skateboard in dangerous locations, sometimes interfering with pedestrians, cars, or places of business.

That is why we are hoping to have a skatepark – a place we can call our own for a sport we love. It would be a safe place for young people to meet and have fun.

We understand that our proposal involves costs and construction, but we think it is worth it for the community. We did some research, and there are many grants available for the construction of parks. There are many young people who would go there for exercise, to be social, and to get outdoors. This would be great to encourage kids to exercise and to keep them from staying indoors and playing video games or getting in trouble.


The skatepark in Long Branch is an example of a success story and could be used as a model.

I hope you will take our idea into consideration for the community. Thank you very much for your time.

Mayor Tucci asked him if he had a proposed location in mind and if he had an estimated cost of construction. Mr. Mermeni suggested building the skate park in Valenzano or Sorrentino Park, but he didn't know how much it would cost to build.

Mayor Tucci explained to him that this would be a costly project, but agreed to ask the Recreation Commission to investigate his request.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Neyhart moved Council adjourn Caucus Session at 7:58 PM. Seconded by Councilman Bray and carried unanimously.


BOROUGH CLERK