

June 17, 2020  
6:32 PM

A caucus meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of West Long Branch was held on the above date and time virtually via Zoom due to the Coronavirus and the need for social distancing.

Mayor Janet W. Tucci presided.

The Borough Clerk 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 in the newspaper and through a public notice posted on the Borough's website providing members of the public with the link to join the Zoom meeting.

PRESENT: BRAY, CIOFFI, MANGO, NEYHART, PENTA, SNIFFEN  
ABSENT: NONE

**MAYOR TUCCI:**

Nothing.

**COUNCILMAN BRAY:**

Nothing.

**COUNCILMAN CIOFFI:**

Nothing.

**COUNCILWOMAN MANGO:**

Nothing.

**COUNCILMAN NEYHART:**

1. It was recommended that the Borough purchase ten 6' long plastic water-filled barriers at a cost of \$315 to \$380 per section through the Public Works budget and seek reimbursement from the County through the Municipal Coronavirus Relief Fund Program. These barriers could then be used to assist restaurants with setting up their temporary outdoor dining areas. The only concerns that were mentioned were if multiple restaurants requested use of them and there were not enough

**COUNCILMAN NEYHART: (Contd.)**

and if their use would conflict with the fire lane. As to the second concern, it was explained that those restaurants seeking permission for temporary outdoor dining must submit an application with various documentation for approval by the Police Chief, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer, and Fire Official. The Borough Administrator was directed to proceed with the purchase since no one had an objection.

**COUNCILMAN PENTA:**

1. A photograph of the street in front of 38 Laurel Street was displayed showing the repair of the potholes and uneven pavement done by the Public Works Department. It was noted that there was still an issue with standing water in that vicinity which would have to be addressed when the road was repaved.

**COUNCILMAN SNIFFEN:**

Nothing.

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR DOLLINGER:**

Nothing.

**BOROUGH CLERK COLE:**

Nothing.

**BOROUGH ATTORNEY BAXTER:**

1. The Borough Clerk confirmed that the flyer announcing the semi-annual recycling event to be held on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, was posted on the home page of the Borough's website.

Mayor Tucci opened the meeting up to the public.

Vincent Lepore, 33 Ocean Terrace, Long Branch, commented on the following items:

- He informed the Mayor and Council that the City of Long Branch had a supply of barriers which should be available to borrow since there were no events taking place that would require them. Councilman Neyhart replied that he checked with the City and found that they had already lent many of their barriers to another municipality.
- He asked if there was any other COVID funding coming into West Long Branch in addition to funding through the CARES Act. The Chief Financial Officer, who was in attendance, advised him there was not.
- He wanted to know if the 90% collection rate for the second quarter taxes had increased. The Borough Administrator confirmed that it was over 96% as of today.
- He expressed concern with the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the City of Long Branch and pointed out that the City has had an upward trend for the past four weeks. Further, he stated that pedestrians on the boardwalk were not wearing masks and were not practicing social distancing. He questioned the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission's statement as to the cause for this increase.

The Borough Attorney explained that the Mayor and Borough Council would be going into executive session following the Council meeting.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Neyhart moved Council adjourn Caucus Session at 7:05 PM. Seconded by Councilman Bray and carried unanimously.

  
BOROUGH CLERK