

February 1, 2023
6:33 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, GOMEZ, NEYHART, PENTA, SNIFFEN
ABSENT: NONE

BOROUGH ATTORNEY BAXTER:

The Borough Attorney listed the items on for discussion in Executive Session, which included the following:

- i. Fire Department Personnel
- ii. Public Works Personnel
- iii. Administrative Personnel
- iv. Municipal Court Personnel
- v. Property Lines
- vi. Police Personnel
- vii. Verizon Claims
- viii. Zoning Board Membership

It was determined that the Mayor and Borough Council would go into executive session twice, one session following the Council meeting and one session during caucus.

Councilman Penta moved to go into the first executive session at 6:35 PM. Seconded by Councilman Sniffen and carried unanimously.

Regular Caucus resumed at 6:43 PM.

MAYOR TUCCI:

Mayor Tucci stated that it was brought to her attention that the signage on Larchwood Avenue is incorrect; there are some signs that permit temporary parking and others that say no parking at all. Mayor Tucci stated that the signs forbidding parking are the inaccurate ones, however, some residents had reached out and declared that forbidding parking on Larchwood Ave is beneficial. Mayor Tucci stated that she would like the Council to consider amending the current parking ordinance regarding Larchwood Avenue to forbid parking.

COUNCILMAN NEYHART

Councilman Neyhart stated that he believes the area behind the Borough Police Department would be an ideal place to put in the dog park that was initially considered for East Lakeview. Councilman Neyhart summarized what the rules for a dog park would be. Mayor Tucci stated her concerns with enforcement and the location of the police parking lot so close to the park.

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COUNCILMAN NEYHART CONT.

Councilman Cioffi commented that he likes the idea of the park but does not like the idea of it being near the police station due to ongoing traffic in the parking lot. Councilman Bray commented that this location is more ideal than the previous due to there being more space between property lines. Mayor Tucci stated that the matter should be tabled for now.

COUNCILMAN SNIFFEN

Councilman Sniffen stated that people often park on Norwood Avenue, which is permitted but extremely dangerous. Councilman Sniffen asked Police Chief Habermann if there was any way to reach out to the County in regard to parking on Norwood Avenue since it is a county road; Chief Habermann said he would look into it.


BOROUGH ATTORNEY BAXTER

The Borough Attorney commented on the gap between the second March Council Meeting and the first April Council Meeting and asked the Governing Body if they would prefer to meet on March 22nd rather than the 15th; the Mayor and Council agreed to leave the meeting schedule as is.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY PERSON TO BE HEARD:

1. *Karen Salek, 16 North Locust Ave, West Long Branch* stated that she appreciates the dog park idea, however, is not in favor of the proposed location behind the police department. Miss Salek commented that the Public Works Department is already spread thin, the maintenance of the dog park would likely become unmanageable.
2. *Michelle Borriello, 50 East Lakeview, West Long Branch* commented that she is happy that the Council is no longer considering putting the dog park on East Lakeview since it would be directly in front of her property with less setback. Miss Borriello stated that she would be more than happy to volunteer her time to assisting any Borough projects, should she be needed.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Neyhart moved Council adjourn Caucus Session at 7:30 PM. Seconded by Councilman Bray and carried unanimously.


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