February 15, 2023 6:36 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, SNIFFEN

ABSENT: PENTA

BOROUGH ATTORNEY BAXTER:

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

- i. Tax Appeals
- ii. Municipal Court Personnel
- iii. Administrative Personnel
- iv. Police Personnel

It was determined that the Mayor and Borough Council would go into executive session following the Council meeting.

The Borough Attorney stated that a new law was signed last month by Governor Murphy regarding construction inspections; apparently, property owners must notify in writing that the property is ready for inspection, afterwards, the municipality has three business days to respond, otherwise, the owner can seek a private inspection.

COUNCILMAN NEYHART

Councilman Neyhart reported that after getting the insight of residents and discovering that Ocean Township will be building their own dog park in town, it would be best to withdraw the idea of building a dog park in town. Councilman Neyhart stated that he likes the idea of building a pickleball court in place of the dog park, likely at the location previously discussed behind the police station.

COUNCILMAN BRAY

Councilman Bray lead the reporting on the departmental budgets and went over the main line item points for the recreation, public works, fire, first aid, public property, and police department. Councilman Bray thanked all the committees for having reviewed their individual department budgets prior to the hearing that evening. Councilman Bray stated that the budget should be assembled sometime mid-March, but introduction will only take place in April.

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MAYOR TUCCI

Mayor Tucci announced that a celebration of life will be held in honor of Evelyn Malick on May 12th at the West Long Branch Community Center and asked Chief Habermann to extend the invitation to the police department.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY PERSON TO BE HEARD:

1. Karen Salek, 16 North Locust Ave, West Long Branch stated that she and her neighbors are pleased that there will no longer be a dog park behind the police station and is happy with the idea of a pickleball court so long as the lighting installed won't impact the neighboring residents.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Neyhart moved Council adjourn Caucus Session at 7:17 PM. Seconded by Councilman Bray and carried unanimously.

ACTING BOROUGH CLERK