

# Borough of West Long Branch

---

## Special Minutes - June 22, 2016

---

Contact:

Borough Clerk Lori Cole (732) 229-1756 Ext. 100

Category: SPECIAL MEETINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE West Long Branch, NJ - July 18, 2016

June 22, 2016

5:35 PM

A special 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: ARIA, JULIANO, MIGLIACCIO, NEYHART, PENTA, VILLA

ABSENT: NONE

The Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector were in attendance.

Mayor Tucci read the following statement:

The 2016 budget that we will introduce tonight is the result of ongoing discussions and meetings. I would like to thank our newly appointed Chief Financial Officer Michael Martin, our Acting Borough Administrator Lori Cole and our Borough Auditor Robert Oliwa for their insight and diligence in preparing this document.

As you know the budget process continues to be extremely difficult for municipalities. As elected officials our focus is to provide a superior level of service to our residents with special emphasis in the areas of public safety and public works, while attempting to keep the municipal tax rate at the lowest possible level, without a reduction in services.

Our departments will see no budget increase this year except for contractual employment obligations for insurance and pension. Our capital budget calls for road improvements, curbs and sidewalks in parts of town.

Our state aid of \$796,169 has remained the same as last year. We are using \$200,000 more of surplus than last year.

We are proposing an increase of 1/3 of a cent in the municipal tax rate. Homeowners in West Long Branch will see an approximate increase of 1.95% for the municipal portion of their tax bill which equates to a \$12 increase for an average assessed home at \$400,000.

Finally I would again like to extend a note of appreciation to our taxpayers for achieving a collection rate of 97.50%. This helps to keep the borough's reserve for uncollected taxes at a minimum.

The public hearing for this budget is scheduled for July 20, 2016 at 5:30 PM.

-----

ORDINANCE NO. O-16-6

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
APPROPRIATIONS LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit an increase in said budget to 2.5% or the cost of living adjustment, whichever is less, unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2016 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

June 22, 2016

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determined that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$279,845.72 of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to the final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2016 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of West Long Branch shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5% amounting to \$279,845.72 and the CY 2016 municipal budget for the Borough of West Long Branch be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said director within 5 days after such adoption.

Councilman Aria moved to approve the above ordinance on its first reading and to set the public hearing on this ordinance for July 20, 2016, at 5:30 PM. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Juliano and carried upon the following roll call vote:

AYES: ARIA, JULIANO, MIGLIACCIO, NEYHART, PENTA, VILLA

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

-----

Councilmember VILLA offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO UTILIZE A THREE-YEAR AVERAGE IN THE  
CALCULATION OF THE RESERVE FOR UNCOLLECTED  
TAXES APPROPRIATION IN BUDGET YEAR 2016  
(R-16-94)

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-41 (c) (1), provides for a municipality to elect to utilize a three-year tax collection average to calculate the reserve for uncollected taxes appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the three-year tax collection average of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth for years 2013 through 2015 inclusive is 98.00%; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth finds it advisable and necessary to utilize a three-year tax collection average in the calculation of the reserve for uncollected taxes appropriation in budget year 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of West Long Branch, in the County of Monmouth, that a three-year tax collection average be utilized in the calculation of the reserve for uncollected taxes appropriation in budget year 2016; and

June 22, 2016

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Seconded by Councilmember ARIA and carried upon the following roll call vote:

AYES: ARIA, JULIANO, MIGLIACCIO, NEYHART, PENTA, VILLA

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

-----

Councilmember ARIA offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember VILLA.

MUNICIPAL BUDGET NOTICE  
(R-16-93)

Section 1.

Municipal Budget of the Borough of West Long Branch, County of Monmouth for the Year 2016;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2016;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget be published in the Asbury Park Press in the issue of June 27, 2016.

The Governing Body of the Borough of West Long Branch does hereby approve the following as the Budget for the year 2016:

AYES: ARIA, JULIANO, MIGLIACCIO, NEYHART, PENTA, VILLA

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the GOVERNING BODY of the BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, on June 22, 2016.

A hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Municipal Building on July 20, 2016 at 5:30 o'clock (p.m.) at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2016 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

-----

Councilman Neyhart presented a Certificate of Recognition to Mayor Tucci on behalf of the Borough Council in recognition of her and her husband's 50th wedding anniversary on June 25th.

-----

Mayor Tucci opened the meeting to the public.

There being no one wishing to speak, on motion made by Councilman Aria, seconded by Councilwoman Juliano, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 PM.

BOROUGH CLERK