

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD JANUARY 2, 2024**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday January 2, 2024.

Present were Council Pres. Finn and Council Members Fiumara, Lester, and Reinhart. Council Member Bendo was absent.

Corporation Counsel Dennis Cohen and Acting City Manager Ronald Walsh were also present.

Council President Finn welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Acting City Manager, Ron Walsh to give the City Manager's report.

Mr. Walsh began the report by making some personal comments reflecting on his tenure as Acting City Manager. He named some accomplishments that had been made during this time and recognized and thanked the city employees for their hard work and dedication. Mr. Walsh concluded by stating that it was an honor and privilege to serve as City Manager and he believed that the right people are in place to lead the city forward.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Resolution Appointing a City Manager for the City of Long Beach

Council Pres. Finn made a motion to add Daniel Creighton to the item. It was seconded by Mr. Fiumara and passed by three affirmative votes. Council Member Lester abstained.

During the motion, Council Member Lester expressed his disappointment regarding the search and interview process for hiring the City Manager.

Council Vice President Fiumara thanked Ron Walsh for his service to the city.

Council Member Reinhart also thanked Ron Walsh for his service to the city.

Council President Finn thanked Commissioner Walsh for his conscientious efforts and endeavors related to the Acting City Manager's position. He expressed appreciation for his service by the present council and the people of Long Beach. Mr. Finn then spoke about the process that took place in the hiring of a City Manager and added that he believes right person was chosen for the position.

Council Member Lester then thanked Mr. Walsh for doing a great job.

Denise Ford (36 Ohio Ave) – Thanked Ron Walsh for his service and noted his dedication to public service. She also expressed how pleased she was that the city was able to appoint a City Manager while saving the city money by doing so.

Eileen Hession – Thanked Commissioner Walsh for his service and congratulated the new city council members. Ms. Hession also expressed her disappointment in the hiring process of the new City Manager.

Council President Finn acknowledged Ms. Hession's comments and addressed her questions. Mr. Finn then spoke about the process that took place in hiring the City Manager.

Council Vice President Fiumara shared his comments regarding the appointment of the City Manager.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – Congratulated the new council members and shared his thoughts on hiring more minorities in the future. He then congratulated the new city manager and asked that the MLK Center's situation be addressed.

John McQuade (573 Magnolia Blvd) – Congratulated the newly elected city council members and shared his thoughts on his support and confidence in the new city administration.

Editors note: Item was called for a vote out order (see voting section below).

Daniel Creighton was then officially sworn in by the City Clerk as the newly appointed City Manager.

#2 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of December 19, 2023.

Council Pres. Finn made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Fiumara and was approved unanimously.

The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

Council Pres. Finn introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution (as amended), seconded by Mr. Fiumara, and it was duly adopted by three affirmative votes. Council Member Lester abstained.

(RES. #3/24)

Resolution Appointing a City Manager for the City of Long Beach

There being no further business before the Council, Council Member Lester made a motion to close the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart and was duly closed, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

Dated: January 3, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Kathleen O'Leary

Spoke about shot spotter in the Stop and Shop parking lot and about conditions at Long Beach Assisted Living

James Hodge – 95 E Fulton St

Spoke about diversity in the Police Dept.