

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday February 20, 2024.

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

Corporation Counsel Dennis Cohen and City Manager Daniel Creighton were also present.

The City Manager, Daniel Creighton thanked both the paid and volunteer Firefighters for their hard work in putting out a fire that occurred Monday, 2/19/2024 and for keeping Long Beach safe. He also thanked the CSEA employees for a job well done during the recent snowstorm and for their hard work and dedication. The City Manager recognized the success of the 2024 Polar Bear Splash. He proceeded by noting that the first round of budget meetings with Department Heads had been completed and there will be others to discuss increasing revenue and decreasing costs. Mr. Creighton also added that he had met with local legislators to discuss outstanding funding and future grant opportunities. He reported that the city had been notified by Nassau County that they would be increasing the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding by an additional \$300,000.00. The City Manager also noted that Board and Commission interviews are being conducted in an effort to fill vacancies. Mr. Creighton added that the city continues to meet with city contract holders to discuss the possibilities in reducing costs and he also spoke about how escalation will affect future budgets.

The public hearings were held

PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution Granting Waiver of Off-Street Parking Requirements Re: Premises 1024 West Beech Street (street floor), Long Beach, New York.

Council President Finn asked about the nature of the business and explained the purpose of the hearing.

The owners explained the nature of the business would be to provide bubble tea, donuts, and south Korean fried chicken.

Council Member Lester asked for clarity on Bubble Tea.

The owner described it as a popular drink from Asia and described the ingredients.

Mr. Finn asked about the number of employees that would be working at one time.

The owner replied 3 or 4.

Council Member Reinhart asked about the hours of operation.

The owner replied somewhere from 11am to 8pm daily.

President Finn asked if the employees would be local people.

The owner replied that they would be.

Mr. David Fraser, City Clerk asked about the number of deliveries that might take place each week.

The owner replied, 2 or 3 deliveries.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – thanked the new business for coming to Long Beach.

Editor's note: This item was voted for out of order at the conclusion of the hearing

PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application with the County of Nassau for the Purpose of Undertaking a Community Development Program, Under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended, and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as Amended, for Inclusion in the City's Community Development Program for 2024-2025 (50th Year)

The City Manager explained that this resolution was for the purpose of filing an application with Nassau County for its 50th year of Community Development Program. He then asked Ms. Pattie Bourne, Director of Economic Development and Mr. Tyler Huffman, Director of Community Development to speak about the CDBG grant.

Ms. Bourne and Mr. Huffman gave a presentation and overview on how the funding is received and how it is disbursed.

Council Member Reinhart asked about the process after all comments are received from the council and/or the public.

Ms. Bourne explained the steps and breakdown that would take place.

Council Member Lester asked for clarity on the breakdown and how funds are distributed.

Mr. Huffman and Ms. Bourne responded to Mr. Lester's questions.

Council Member Bendo thanked both Ms. Bourne and Mr. Huffman for their efforts in the improvement on obtaining Community Development Block Grant funding.

Eileen Hession – asked about the type of requests that could be made to receive some of the funding.

Mr. Huffman responded to Ms. Hession's questions.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – asked for a complete report on the disbursement of the fundings and expressed his disapproval on how the fundings are distributed. He also asked about the funds that come from the Urban Development fund and how that money is disbursed.

Crystal Lake – spoke about the funding vs. the census tracts. She also noted that the funding was based on old demographics, and it would be a good time to ask for Housing funding.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach
Re: Appendix A – Zoning

Mr. Creighton explained the purpose of this hearing which would allow businesses a smoother process when applying for variances for off-street parking.

Councilmember Lester asked if this would result in a loss in the application fees.

The City Manager noted that he would look into that.

Mr. Lester also asked about the cost for applying for this type of variance.

Building Commissioner Scott Kemins explained the process and noted that the waiver of off-street parking application fee is \$100.00.

Mr. Bendo asked if any past occurrences using this process prevented any undesirable businesses from opening in Long Beach.

Mr. Kemins did not recall any occurrences of that nature.

Mr. Dennis Cohen, Corporation Counsel, added that there are criteria that need to be considered.

Mr. Creighton added that these situations are pre-existing, nonconforming situations and these businesses are in places where there is no way to add parking and if this is the case, it could hurt the city's commercial district.

Sam Pinto– asked that moving forward and as in the past, businesses should be asked if they are interested in putting a bike rack outside their business.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Resolution Granting Waiver of Off-Street Parking Requirements Re: Premises 1024 West Beech Street (street floor), Long Beach, New York

#2 – Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application with the County of Nassau for the Purpose of Undertaking a Community Development Program, Under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended, and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as Amended, for Inclusion in the City's Community Development Program for 2024-2025 (50th Year)

#3 – Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Appendix A – Zoning.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a List of Eligible Volunteer Firefighters for 2023 Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) Service Credit

The City Manager explained that this resolution was for the approval of eligible Volunteer Firefighters to receive their service credit awards. He then asked Fire Commissioner Joe Miller to give an overview of this program.

Commissioner Miller gave a complete overview on how the LOSAP program works.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for Water/Sewer Testing with the Sole Bidder

Mr. Creighton described the purpose for this resolution.

Public Works Commissioner Joe Febrizio gave a complete background and update on the bid process and recommended moving forward with Pace Analytical, the company chosen for the job.

Mr. Lester asked if this type of testing would pick up salt water in our wells.

Mr. Febrizio noted that this would be picked up by Pace Analytical.

A discussion ensued regarding how the testing is performed and analyzed.

Council Member Reinhart asked Mr. Febrizio to speak about how often the testing is conducted.

Commissioner Febrizio explained the testing process.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement to Purchase a 6-Ton Slip-In-Hotbox Under a Sourcewell Contract

Council Pres. Finn made a motion to change the two figures in the item of \$53,870.00 to \$58,870.00 and to remove the wording “after trade-in of the 2014 Falcon 4-ton Pull-Behind-Hotbox unit” from the third WHEREAS clause and “after trade-in of a 2014 Falcon 4-ton Pull-Behind-Hotbox unit” from the RESOLVED clause. It was seconded by Mr. Lester and was carried unanimously.

The City Manager described the purpose of this resolution.

Mr. Febrizio expanded on the explanation of this resolution and described it as a much more efficient product.

Council Member Bendo asked about the contract.

Mr. Creighton replied to Mr. Bendo’s question.

Council Member Lester asked Mr. Febrizio to inform him on how many tons of asphalt the city uses each year.

Commissioner Febrizio noted that he would.

Mr. Bendo asked about the usage of the unit.

Mr. Febrizio responded to Mr. Bendo’s question.

Mr. Reinhart noted that not only is the unit safer, but it would also cut down on labor time.

Commissioner Febrizio noted that Mr. Reinhart made a very good point and described the benefits.

#7 – Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund Budget

The City Manager explained how this resolution is for reimbursement from FEMA which replenishes funds that were paid for the Northshore Critical Infrastructure project.

#8 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Withdraw Funds from an AIG American Pathway Annuity and Authorizing the City Comptroller to Purchase an Annuity Product from the National Life Insurance Company

Council Pres Finn made a motion to change in the first RESOLVED clause the figure of \$662,162.26 to \$396,704.42. It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Creighton explained the reason and purpose for this resolution.

Lynn Padian – noted that this was not a withdrawal but a transfer from one annuity to another.

#9 – A “Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of a Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Officers” was taken off the calendar.

#10 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of February 6, 2024

Council Pres. Finn made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart 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, seconded by Mr. Reinhart, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #17/24)

Resolution Granting Waiver of Off-Street Parking Requirements Re: Premises 1024 West Beech Street (street floor), Long Beach, New York

Council Member Lester introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Reinhart, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #18/24)

Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application with the County of Nassau for the Purpose of Undertaking a Community Development Program, Under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended, and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as Amended, for Inclusion in the City’s Community Development Program for 2024-2025 (50th Year).

Council Member Reinhart introduced and moved the adoption of the following ordinance, seconded by Pres. Finn, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(ORD. #3084/23)

Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Appendix A – Zoning

Council Member Bendo introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Reinhart, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #19/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a List of Eligible Volunteer Firefighters for 2023 Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) Service Credit.

Council Pres. Finn introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Reinhart, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #20/23)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for Water/Sewer Testing with the Sole Bidder

Council Member Bendo introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution (as amended), seconded by Mr. Lester, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #21/23)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement to Purchase a 6-Ton Slip-In-Hotbox Under a Sourcewell Contract

Council Member Reinhart introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Pres. Finn, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #22/23)

Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund Budget.

Council Member Bendo introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution (as amended), seconded by Mr. Reinhart, and it was duly adopted, all four council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #23/23)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Withdraw Funds from an AIG American Pathway Annuity and Authorizing the City Comptroller to Purchase an Annuity Product from the National Life Insurance Company

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

Dated: February 22, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Ron Paganini – 62 Harmon St

Spoke about issues at the City Garage, bathrooms at the Recreation Center, issues with the paid firefighters and overtime

Sam Pinto

Spoke about the negotiations between the city and the UFA moving forward

James Hodge – 95 E Fulton St

Spoke about the use of community development funds

Tim Kramer – 361 E Broadway

Spoke about conditions at the Stop and Shop supermarket and the business district

Christina Kramer

Spoke about the Wind Farm project

Carin Ruskin

Spoke about petitions against the Wind Farm project and about the housing of immigrants at the Long Beach Hotel