

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD MARCH 5, 2024**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday March 5, 2024.

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

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

City Manager, Daniel Creighton reported that the Long Island Village Clerk's and Treasurer's Association, along with the City Clerk, David Fraser is participating in the Island Harvest Food Drive and accepting donations of canned goods, etc. through next Wednesday, 3/13/2024 in the City Clerk's Office on the 3rd floor.

He also noted that a proclamation was issued declaring March 10th through March 16th "Flood Safety Awareness" Week in the City of Long Beach, and thanked the Building and Public Works Departments (Joe Febrizio & Scott Kemins) who did a tremendous amount of work that resulted in the potential savings of 15% for our city Residents flood insurance bill and will continue to work in the coming weeks and months to provide additional information on this program to try and get the insurance companies to reduce flood insurance by up to 20%.

Mr. Creighton then announced that he had the honor of swearing in a new Firefighter who will begin the training academy in Westchester. He added that he will continue to work to get an additional four (4) more people vetted, with the expectation to have them start the academy in the next class in the Fall. He also added that although staffing levels remain tight and while contending with overtime issues, he felt the city was making progress in addressing this concern. Mr. Creighton then announced that improvements had been made at the Long Island Railroad station that included upgrading the parking meters with an APP based solution. In addition, he mentioned that the stairwell and walkover were repainted and would be power washed on a weekly basis while be monitored by both by the Public Works Department for cleanliness and patrolled by the Police Department so that there is a presence of safety.

The City Manager continued by stating that he was still in the process of interviewing and filling vacancies on the Boards and Commissions and was pleased by the amount of people who were willing to serve the community.

He then concluded by announcing that there would be a Rally taking place on Sunday, March 10th on the boardwalk in respect to the RAPID (Renewable Action through Project Interconnection and Deployment) Act, and although the city was not taking an official position, he felt that it was important to inform the public on what the rally was all about. The City Manager then invited Ms. Christina Kramer to give a brief presentation.

Ms. Kramer gave the presentation.

Council President Finn thanked Ms. Kramer for the presentation and noted that although the city is not taking an official position on this matter, he felt it was important that the people of Long Beach have an understanding of what the RAPID Act was all about.

Council Member Lester asked Ms. Kramer about the RAPID Act vs. the Parkland Alienation Rights of the state.

Ms. Kramer responded to Mr. Lester's question and a discussion ensued regarding this topic.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Two John Deere Tractors, Two John Deere Loaders and Two John Deere Gators Under Sourcewell Contracts

Mr. Creighton gave a full explanation of this resolution and the need for this purchase.

#2 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Renovation of the Bathrooms at the Ice Arena with the Lowest Responsible Bidder

The City Manager spoke about the agreement and noted that the funding would be reimbursed through DASNY (Dormitory Authority for the State of New York).

Council Member Reinhart expressed the importance of the timing of this project. He noted that the Ice Arena could be a sense of revenue for the city by hosting activities/tournaments that would generate revenue throughout the city. He added that the sooner this project is completed, the sooner these types of activities could begin.

Commissioner of Public Works, Joe Febrizio explained that the project is planned to take place during April, May and June which is a quiet time for the Ice Arena. He noted that he hoped to have the project completed within the 90 - 120 day completion that is in the contract. Mr. Febrizio also noted that they just completed the roof project at the arena and since it came under budget, that money was being transferred into another capital line so that they could use it to paint the interior of the Ice Arena.

Council Member Bendo asked about the money that had been invested into the Ice Arena and at what time will there be a plan to monetize the facility.

Council Vice President Fiumara replied that it really falls on the Council to come up with a plan and the vision for the future of the Ice Arena.

Mr. Fiumara asked about utilizing our CSEA employees to do some of the work in-house in an effort to save money.

Mr. Febrizio replied that the CSEA employees are always offered the opportunity first before the job goes out to bid. He did add that in this particular case, it was a timeframe issue.

Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, Joe Brand elaborated on the timeframe involved for the future projects that will be taking place at the Ice Arena.

Commissioner Febrizio also mentioned that during the months this project is taking place, they are the busiest months for our employees who are preparing and getting ready for the beach season. He added that the CSEA employees do spectacular work and used the city hall bathrooms as an example.

Mr. Bendo asked about the existing walls in the Ice Arena and if any testing had been done to see if there is any lead paint contained there.

Mr. Febrizio replied that he did not believe so and that the specs for this job did not entail the removal of pain. He did note that the testing is another component of the project and that the bid for that will be going out next week.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – Suggested that this job should be given to the CSEA workers.

#3 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Renew the Enterprise Resource Planning Agreement for the City’s MUNIS System.

Council Pres Finn made a motion to remove the word “Acting” for the RESOLVED clause of the item. It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Creighton explained that this resolution was to renew the software maintenance with the City’s MUNIS system.

Council Member Bendo asked about the modules used in the system.

Council Member Lester asked if there were any other types of software that could be used.

The City Manager asked Inna Reznik, City Comptroller and Al Perez, Director of Information Technology to address these questions.

Ms. Reznik explained what MUNIS was and how it is used. She did add that the city could move to another system but it would probably cost millions of dollars.

Mr. Perez spoke about the system’s production and that this resolution was only for the licensing and maintenance.

A discussion ensued about the potential increases that come with future agreements.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Merge the Youth and Family Services Department into the Recreation Department and Authorizing the City Comptroller to Transfer Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year to Effectuate Said Merger

Mr. Creighton explained that this would combine the Youth and Family Services Department with the Recreation Department in an effort to streamline a more efficient functioning with some of the programming and activities that are provided by Y&FS. He believes it will help with the efficiency of oversight and management and see that employees are properly utilized.

Council Member Lester asked Commissioner Brand about the fiscal impact of this resolution and if it will cost the city money.

Mr. Brand replied that it will not cost the city money.

The City Manager added that it was just a matter of moving the resources across the board with no cost to the city.

Commissioner Brand added that there are 4 full time employees and 3 part time employees that will be absorbed by the Recreation Department and is in the best interest for all.

Mr. Creighton also noted that this was also an effort to avoid layoffs and keep people employed. By moving them over to recreation where they can not only continue what they were doing in Youth and Family Services, but they could assist in whatever the recreation center might need.

Eileen Hession – Asked that funding for senior programs not be cut.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

The City Manager explained that this provides for the transfer of the remaining funds from the Ice Arena roof project into the account for painting the Ice Arena.

Council Member Lester asked for clarity on the amount of the bond that was issued.

Ron Paganini – suggested looking into putting solar on the roof of the recreation center.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

Mr. Creighton explained that these funds would be for the hiring of a Grant Employee. He also added that he believes by increasing grant staffing will result in increased grant awards and will pay for itself over time.

#7 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

The City Manager noted that this transfer would be to cover a leave balance request.

#8 – A “Resolution Appointing a Hearing Officer for the City of Long Beach” was taken off the calendar

#9 – A “Resolution Appointing a Hearing Officer for the City of Long Beach” was taken off the calendar

#10 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of a Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: Miscellaneous Provisions

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m

#11 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Various Boards and Commissions

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m

#12 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Appendix A – Zoning

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m

#13 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of February 20, 2024

Council Member Reinhart 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, seconded by Mr. Bendo, and it was duly adopted, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #24/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Two John Deere Tractors, Two John Deere Loaders and Two John Deere Gators Under Sourcewell Contracts

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

(RES. #25/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Renovation of the Bathrooms at the Ice Arena with the Lowest Responsible Bidder

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

(RES. #26/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Renew the Enterprise Resource Planning Agreement for the City's MUNIS System.

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

(RES. #27/23)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Merge the Youth and Family Services Department into the Recreation Department and Authorizing the City Comptroller to Transfer Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year to Effectuate Said Merger.

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

(RES. #28/23)

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

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

(RES. #29/23)

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

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

(RES. #30/23)

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

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

(RES. #31/23)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of a Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: Miscellaneous Provisions

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

(RES. #32/23)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Various Boards and Commissions

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

(RES. #33/23)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Appendix A – Zoning.

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 five council members present voting in the affirmative.

Dated: March 6, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Tim Kramer – 361 E Broadway | Spoke about the former boot and tow policy |
| Christina Kramer – 361 E Broadway | Spoke about the Rapid Act and the proposed Wind Farm project |
| Wanda Brooks – E Hudson St | Spoke about Leroy Conyers Park |
| Eileen Hession – 516 W Beech St | Spoke about bike lanes |
| Ron Paganini – 62 Harmon St | Spoke about issues at the City Garage and bathrooms at the Recreation Center |
| Sam Pinto | Spoke about the hiring of new firefighters |
| James Hodge – 95 E Fulton St | Spoke about community development budget hearings and parks in the North Park area |