

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

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

Council President Brendan Finn began the meeting with a moment of silence for Mr. Raymond Jude Ellmer and recognized his contribution and services to the City of Long Beach. He also asked for a moment of silence for Police Officer Jonathan Diller who was recently killed in the line of duty.

City Manager, Dan Creighton began his report by announcing that the draft of the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget should be ready to be released to the public by Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. He added that the City Council requested a 0% increase, and he was pleased to say that he and his staff are getting closer each day to achieving that goal. Mr. Creighton thanked the department heads and unions for working together to help reach this goal. He especially thanked Ms. Inna Reznik, City Comptroller and her staff for their efforts in managing the fiscal responsibilities of the city. Mr. Creighton then announced that the streetscaping work continues as planned on Park Avenue between Long Beach Blvd. and Riverside Blvd., and nearly all the work on the sidewalk and curb is complete on the north side of the street. He noted that within a week or so, the same work will begin on the south side of the street of Park Avenue. The City Manager then recognized the challenges and patience from all the local businesses and encouraged everyone to make an extra effort to patronize them.

A few announcements were made by Mr. Creighton including the Pacific Blvd. Playground equipment had been delivered and it is anticipated the re-opening to take place by Memorial Day. He added that the decking area would be expanded and new shade structures will be installed. The City Manager then announced the installation of the new parking meters at the LIRR parking garage in an effort to improve the area and anticipate rolling out an “app” based solution for Long Island Railroad parking within the next month. He also recognized the paid and volunteer fire departments for their efforts and professionalism that took place at a recent fire event that occurred in the Westholme area. Mr. Creighton noted that within minutes of the alarm, they were on scene and able to extinguish the fire before it could spread. He thanked all for their commitment to the residents of Long Beach.

In conclusion, the City Manager announced the following events:

- Saturday, April 6, 2024 – The Gerrin Hagen Memorial Hockey Day at the Long Beach Ice Arena.
- Sunday, April 14, 2024 – E-Cycling day from 9am to 1pm (behind City Hall)
- Sunday, April 21, 2024 – Annual S.T.O.P Program (Stop Throwing Out Pollutants) 8am-3pm (behind City Hall)

**The calendar items were read by the City Clerk**

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

Mr. Creighton announced the appointment of Ms. Theresa Williams, Esq. as the hearing officer for potential vehicle hearings.

Council Member Lester asked for Mr. Dennis Cohen, Corporation Counsel to speak about Ms. Williams experience in this field.

Mr. Cohen noted that Ms. Williams and Ms. Enrique had sufficient experience to be able to handle what he expected to be a pretty small caseload.

#2 – Resolution Appointing a Hearing Officer for the City of Long Beach

The City Manager announced the appointment of Ms. Ona Enrique, Esq. who would be handling the same caseload as Ms. Williams.

#3 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Various T-Shirts and Athletic Apparel with Imprints from the Lowest Responsible Bidders

Mr. Creighton explained the purpose and reason for this resolution and noted that he would personally review the quantity being ordered and ensure that it would be appropriate.

Mr. Lester noted that he had refused voting for this item before but is more comfortable knowing that the City Manager will be overseeing this purchase.

Council Member Reinhart also noted that with the help of the City Manager and Joe Brand, they would also be looking into creative ways to eliminate waste in the event there might be an excess of t-shirts.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Certiorari Proceedings

The City Manager went on to explain the purpose and reason for this resolution.

Council Member Lester asked about the reduction in the assessed valuation in the past.

Mr. Raymond Flammer, Tax Assessor responded to Mr. Lester's questions.

Council Member Bendo asked about the revenue and expenses being part of the assessment for the commercial properties.

Mr. Flammer responded to Mr. Bendo's questions.

Council President Finn asked about the negotiation process and cost to the city regarding these cases.

Mr. Flammer responded to Mr. Finn's questions.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Assignment Agreement.

Mr. Creighton explained this resolution that references the electronic beach passes.

Mr. Bendo asked if this was a new system and asked if the one-year extension would affect this agreement.

Mr. John McNally, Director of Public Relations gave the background of this new assignment and noted it would not affect the agreement.

Mr. Bendo then asked how many electronic beach passes were sold.

Mr. McNally replied that last year it was around \$600,000.

Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, Joe Brand gave a complete breakdown of how the electronic beach passes were sold.

Council Member Reinhart asked if there was a tracking system that could tell where the passes were purchased, and the total number sold.

Mr. Brand replied that there is a way to tell how and where the passes were sold.

Council President Finn asked that moving forward, the city have some type of reporting on how many passes are sold and how many people are going to the beach each day.

Mr. Bendo asked about the possibility of getting a report showing the location that people are entering the beach and the time of day they are going to the beach.

Mr. McNally replied that there is a way to show where people are entering the beach but would need to look into the time of day portion.

Council Member Fiumara asked how many physical passes were sold last year.

Commissioner Brand replied that the total for the season was \$4,000,046,172.

A discussion continued regarding the digital passes vs. physical passes.

Eileen Hession – asked how much the company charges the city for the electronic pass.

Mr. McNally replied that there is no charge to the city.

Ms. Hession also asked if the city made a profit on the beach passes last year.

Inna Reznik, City Comptroller noted that it costs the city over \$5 million to run the beach which involves many departments. She noted that the city collected a little under \$4 million dollars this past summer season.

Tim Kramer (361 E Broadway) – spoke about the tracking of beach passes and the possibility of advertising some of the local restaurants who might offer discounts relevant to that specific beach area.

Council President Finn asked Deputy City Manager, Philip Ragona to say a few words regarding the beach operations.

Mr. Ragona announced that the city would be doing a whole new training with the ticket takers and cashiers and in addition to partnering with the LIRR and the get-away program, the city would be working with its merchants to try and advertise via a brochure of some sort that would be handed out as folks are getting off the train, offering a discount from the different restaurants and merchants in town. He also noted that the Trolley is free to all who take advantage of the LIRR get-away package. Mr. Ragona concluded by saying that he is aware of the need for improvement in all areas and looks forward to a successful beach season.

Veronica Endalton (141 Madison Ave, Harbor Isle) – asked about the possibility of offering Island Park Residents a more affordable way to enjoy the beach. She also questioned the policy on lost passes.

Mr. Fiumara noted that digital passes is one way that actually addresses the lost pass policy.

#### #6 – Resolution Adopting a Title VI Policy

The City Manager explained that this resolution adopts the title six policy and addresses where the actual responsibilities lie when it comes to federal grants and how EEO complaints would be addressed.

Crystal Lake – asked for clarification on a portion of the backup document and requested there be an Environmental Justice Coordinator/Officer and an Environmental Justice analysis as well as an Environmental Justice gentrification study. She also noted the importance for citizen participation and a health component.

The City Manager noted that he would be looking into the backup document that Ms. Lake was referring to.

Helen Dorado-Alesi –spoke about the current Language Access Policy.

Alison Blanchette – spoke about the monitoring of data and other portions of the Title VI policy.

#### #7 – Resolution Appointing a Member to the Board of Ethics of the City of Long Beach

Mr. Creighton announced the appointment of Ms. Lisa Spar as a new member of the Board of Ethics.

#### #8 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement to Furnish and Install an Air Compressor System

The City Manager explained the reason and purpose of this resolution which would install a new air compressor system for the Fire Department.

Mr. Lester asked about the condition of the current air compressor system and how long it had been out of service.

Commissioner Scott Kemins replied that it is not operational and was over 25 years old. He added that the cost to repair it would run over \$10,000.00. He also noted that it was out of service for approximately 3 months and is way beyond its useful life. Mr. Kemins also noted that funds are available through the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds.

Council Member Lester continued to ask several questions regarding the usage of the Air Compressor System.

Commissioner Kemins responded to all Mr. Lester's questions.

#9 – 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 April 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

#10 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Zoning Board of Appeals

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on April 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

#11 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of March 19, 2024

Council Member Bendo 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 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. #42/24)

Resolution Appointing a Hearing Officer for the City of Long Beach.

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. #43/24)

Resolution Appointing a Hearing Officer for the City of Long Beach.

Council Member Bendo 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. #44/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Various T-Shirts and Athletic Apparel with Imprints from the Lowest Responsible Bidders

Council Pres. Finn 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. #45/24)

Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Certiorari Proceedings

Council Member Bendo 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. #46/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Assignment Agreement

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. #47/24)

Resolution Adopting a Title VI Policy

Council Pres. Finn 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. #48/24)

Resolution Appointing a Member to the Board of Ethics of the City of Long Beach

Council Member Lester 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. #49/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement to Furnish and Install an Air Compressor System

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. #50/24)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an 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. Fiumara, and it was duly adopted, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #51/24)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Zoning Board of Appeals

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: April 2, 2024

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David W. Fraser  
City Clerk

**Good and Welfare**

Ron Paganini – 62 Harmon St

Spoke about the power transmittal cable from the proposed off shore wind farm

Wanda Brooks

Spoke about playground equipment

Christina Kramer

Spoke about the proposed wind farm project

Tim Kramer

Spoke about the conditions on the Long Beach Bridge and the lighting at the LIRR station

Eileen Hession – 516 W Beech St

Spoke about the medical pavilion, the grass strips in the canals, the City Garage and lights in Kennedy Plaza