

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD JUNE 18, 2024**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday June 18, 2024.

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

Corporation Counsel Frank Dikranis and City Manager Daniel Creighton were also present.

The City Manager, Daniel Creighton gave community updates on the following topics:

- Juneteenth
- City Clerk’s Commuter Parking Permit sales
- Chamber of Commerce Vendor Fair
- City of Long Beach Boardwalk Fair
- Kids Bike Safety Rodeo

He then spoke about the recent incident involving an unauthorized large gathering at the Ocean Beach Park that took place on the previous Thursday. Mr. Creighton proceeded to inform the audience that the City of Long Beach was doing everything to ensure that this type of situation never happens again. He noted that on Friday, he signed an emergency declaration granting him the authority to make certain changes necessary to prevent this type of event from reoccurring. Mr. Creighton thanked and commended the LB Police Department, Nassau County Police Department and the MTA Police for the outstanding job they did during a very difficult and impossible situation. He then gave some background about the incident and the measures that were taken to help maintain the situation. The City Manager concluded by once again thanking the Police, Fire and CSEA departments for their efforts during this unfortunate incident.

Council President Brendan Finn thanked the Police Department and the Police Commissioner for doing an excellent job under very difficult circumstances. He continued to speak about the importance of respect when it comes to law enforcement.

Editors Note: Item #5 was called out of order at this point. See below.

The public hearing was held

PUBLIC HEARING: Bond Ordinance Authorizing Financing for Various Capital Projects in and for the City, Stating the Estimated Total Cost Thereof is \$22,369,395

The City Manager explained that this item would allow for financing various capital projects through a bond ordinance.

Council Member Lester asked several questions regarding the interest payments and the city’s debt service and asked if some of the projects would be funded and reimbursed through this Bond Ordinance.

The City Comptroller, Ms. Inna Reznik responded to Mr. Lester’s questions.

Council Member Bendo also asked about the city's debt service.

Ms. Reznik replied to Mr. Bendo's questions.

Council Member Reinhart asked about how the spending would be monitored.

Ms. Reznik suggested that this information be included in the City Manager's report preceding the issuance of debt and report on how much would be issued.

Mike Delury – Spoke in favor of the item

Tim Kramer (361 E Broadway) – expressed his concern about getting the appropriate tax revenue and asked about the interest rate on the debt service.

Ron Paganini – asked about the old and new sanitation trucks.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Financing for Various Capital Projects in and for the City, Stating the Estimated Total Cost Thereof is \$22,369,395

#2 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Grant for the Police Department and Authorizing a Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget

The City Manager noted that this would allow the city to accept a grant of approximately \$48,000.00 for a new records management system for the Police Department.

Council Vice President Chris Fiumara asked about the cost to maintain this new record system.

Police Commissioner Rich DePalma replied to Mr. Fiumara's questions.

#3 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Grant for the Police Department

Mr. Creighton noted that this item would allow the city to accept a grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Department of Homeland Security for the installation of cameras and access control at City Hall.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – set off a siren on a bull horn and was asked to please not be disruptive during the meeting. He then continued to speak about the recent situation that took place on the beach.

Cathlena Lollis – asked about other grants available to the Police Department and was directed to speak at Good and Welfare for the other topics she wanted to discuss.

Council Member Lester commented on the recent incident that took place on the beach.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing the City Purchasing Agent to Register the City of Long Beach as a Participant in the Savvik Buying Group.

The City Manager noted that this item would allow the city to purchase fire department equipment through a purchasing cooperative that had already been competitively procured.

Council Member Bendo asked if there was any cost to joining this buying group.

Fire Commissioner Joe Miller replied there was no cost.

Council President Finn noted that the city would continue to monitor bids regardless.

Mr. Creighton replied they would continue to get multiple bids until the city was comfortable with the pricing.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – asked about including communication equipment in this purchase.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Charitable Donation

Editor's Note: This item was called out of order before the public hearing.

Mr. Creighton announced the donation of \$10,000.00 for new Zamboni gate doors at the ice arena from the G2H foundation and personally thanked the foundation for their generous donation.

Council Member Mike Reinhart extended his thanks on behalf of the Council and the City of Long Beach for the generous donation from the G2H foundation. He proceeded to give some background about the Foundation and recognized their accomplishments and the many organizations G2H supports through their efforts.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract for Water Main Replacement for the “Walks” Project-Phase 1 with the Lowest Responsible Bidder and to Enter into a Contract for Construction Inspection Services

The City Manager noted that this would allow the city to enter into a contract for the Water Main Replacement for the “Walks” project and added that 4 bids were received for this item.

Council Member Reinhart asked for clarification on the lowest bidder.

Commissioner Febrizio replied to Mr. Reinhart's question and spoke in favor of awarding the bid to the lowest responsible bidder which was T Novelli Contracting Inc.

Council Member Bendo commented on this item.

Commissioner Febrizio responded to Mr. Bendo's comment and thanked Mr. Mike Delury for his support with the project.

Mike Delury – spoke in full support of this project and offered his assistance in any way as the Acting President of the “Walks” Civic Group. He then thanked the City Administration and Commissioner Febrizio and his staff.

#7 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year

Mr. Creighton noted that this item would allow for the transfer of funds for the office of Corporation Counsel.

#8 – Resolution Confirming an Emergency Executive Order of the City Manager Regarding Ocean Beach Park

The City Manager confirmed the Emergency Executive Order made concerning Ocean Beach Park because of the situation that occurred last Friday. He then continued to describe the order and the changes that were being made.

Council Member Lester spoke in favor of opening the beaches earlier in the season.

Kathleen O’Leary – asked for clarity on the ocean beach hours and suggested closing the beaches to non-residents only after hours.

Mr. Creighton responded to Ms. O’Leary’s question and explained that since the city accepted Federal Funding to help rebuild the boardwalk, etc., the beaches must be opened to the public and the city could not discriminate against non-residents.

Eileen Hession – expressed her concern regarding having lifeguards on duty for the upcoming holiday (Juneteenth) and the influx of people she witnessed coming to the beach after hours. She also asked for larger signs to be made for beach rules/passes.

Council President Finn replied that this executive order was not for the purpose of keeping non-residents off the beach and that these measures were enacted to control the beaches. He then asked Chief of Lifeguards, Rich Borawski to share some information regarding the lifeguards on duty.

The City Manager intervened by noting that even before the Executive Order was made, ticket takers and lifeguards were already going to be staffed for the holiday (Juneteenth).

Council President Finn also added that the city was in the process of creating larger signs with the ocean beach park rules.

Chief of Lifeguards, Rich Borawski noted that with the City Manager’s permission, lifeguards were also on duty Monday and Tuesday and were staffed from Monroe Blvd. to Magnolia Blvd., with emergency response trucks patrolling the East End and West End every hour.

Samantha Hurwitz – a summer employee (Gate Attendant), spoke about the difficulty that ticket takers have with beach pass holders and resisting to have their passes punched.

Council President Finn recognized her concern and spoke about the importance of people being respectful and civil.

Mr. Creighton also thanked her for her diligence in her role.

Tina Posterli – asked for clarity on the beach hours and suggested that in the future, there be more discussion at a meeting before making any changes.

Mr. Finn replied that there was a great deal of consideration that went into making the decision, including the idea of a press conference and the resolution. He added that it was important to make everyone understand that the city is going to control its beaches to ensure that this sort of thing doesn't happen again.

Matt Dwyer – spoke about the unfortunate situation that occurred on the city's beaches and gave a shout out to the Police Department and Fire Department for doing a fine job. He continued to speak about the lack of enforcement on the boardwalk for electric bikes, skateboards, dogs, etc. and the danger that electric bikes present.

Commissioner DePalma acknowledged the Electric Bike situation and noted that enforcement had been increased on the boardwalk with more Special Officers and Police Officers. He touched upon the issue with service dogs vs. emotional support dogs.

Michael Hartsby (E Penn St) – commended the Police and Fire Departments for the exceptional job they did regarding the incident on the beach. He continued to speak about the incident and commended the action that the city council took and shared some personal experiences he had with emergency situations.

Matt Manzella (Vinton St) – spoke about his observation while riding the train that day and the influx of people that came off the train that evening. He asked if there is any communication between the conductors and the city.

Commissioner DePalma replied that the Long Beach Police Department is in contact with the MTA and they do share intelligence.

Liz Treston – spoke about the event that happened on Senior Cut Day and the importance of communication. She asked about the role of the Public Safety Committee and having Lifeguards on duty. Ms. Treston also asked if city would be reimbursed through the Declaration of local state of emergency for costs related to the recent emergency.

Mr. Bendo gave the example that when the Governor declares an emergency, one can get reimbursed for costs related to overtime or responding to an emergency.

Mr. Creighton agreed that this could be done at the Governor's level but not at the local level, but the city could ask. He also added that there were lifeguards on duty today.

Josh Danow – spoke about the enforcement on the boardwalk and changing the signs.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – spoke about communicating with community leaders and organizations when the city is in emergency situations.

Kayla Manzella (Vinton St) – expressed her disappointment in the timing with the changes made in the executive order regarding the beach park hours.

Robert Florie – suggested that children not be allowed on the beach without adult supervision and keeping the beaches open later.

Council Member Bendo made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart and was carried unanimously.

The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

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

(ORD. #3090/24)

Bond Ordinance Authorizing Financing for Various Capital Projects in and for the City, Stating the Estimated Total Cost Thereof is \$22,369,395

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. #92/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Grant for the Police Department and Authorizing a Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget

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. #93/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Grant for the Police Department

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. #94/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Purchasing Agent to Register the City of Long Beach as a Participant in the Savvik Buying Group

Council Member Reinhart 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. #95/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Charitable Donation.

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. #96/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract for Water Main Replacement for the "Walks" Project-Phase 1 with the Lowest Responsible Bidder and to Enter into a Contract for Construction Inspection Services

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. #97/24)

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year

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. #9824)

Resolution Confirming an Emergency Executive Order of the City Manager Regarding Ocean Beach Park

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

Dated: June 20, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Robert Florie – 103 Pacific Blvd	Spoke about quality of life issues
Ron Paganini – 62 Harmon St	Spoke about overtime, the paid Fire Dept., the Long Beach Housing Authority and the proposed off shore wind farm and fireworks
Liz Treston	Spoke about Citizens Preparedness Training, the City's ADA coordinator and Mobi-Mats
Rev. Ron McHenry – 35 Oak Ct	Spoke about Juneteenth and an incident involving the LBPD
Cathlena Lollis – 25 W Broadway B1	Spoke about the Senior Cut Day beach incident
Meg Poretz – 65 Lincoln Blvd	Spoke about the Senior Cut Day beach incident. Motorized bikes and body cams
Tina Posterli – 12 Harmon St	Spoke about cameras on the boardwalk and a survey being conducted by the school district
Mindi Dovberg – 1 E Broadway	Spoke about the Senior Cut Day beach incident and community notification apps
Tim Kramer – 361 E Broadway	Spoke about interest on the City's debt, ebikes and bike speed and Ice Cream Trucks
Christina Kramer	Spoke about the proposed off shore wind farm
James Hodge- 95 E Fulton St	Spoke about Juneteenth and an incident involving the LBPD