

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD JULY 5, 2023**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday July 5, 2023.

Present were Council Pres. Bendo and Council Members, Lester, McInnis, Posterli and Treston.

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

Acting City Manager, Ronald Walsh began the meeting by acknowledging the volunteer and paid fire departments for the great work they do to help keep the community safe. He then shared some good news about the City's upgrade in its bond rating. Mr. Walsh then noted that because of this upgrade, the City was able to save \$600,000.00 and commended the City Comptroller, Inna Reznik for her hard work in helping to manage the city's finances that helped bring us to a better Moody's rating. He then announced the "Gun Buyback Program" that was being held on Saturday, July 8, 2023.

Mr. Walsh concluded by speaking about the New York Forward meeting that will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, in reference to the \$4.5 million that was awarded to the city through a grant application that was initiated through the Economic Development Department. He thanked Ms. Patti Bourne, who helped secure this money for the city. He then invited everyone to attend this informational meeting to share ideas on how they would like to see this money invested in the city's downtown area.

Council President Bendo also spoke about the Moody's upgrade and the benefits to the city.

The public hearing was held

PUBLIC HEARING: Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: Assessment; Levy; Collection of Taxes

Tax Assessor, Raymond Flammer explained that this amendment was in reference to the 466A of the real property tax flow which allows a 10% exemption for all volunteer firefighters who own their primary residence in Long Beach.

The Acting City Manager added that the only members that would be entitled to the exemption were those who are in good standing. He also noted that there were provisions involved.

Council Member McInnis spoke about adding this information as part of the benefits of becoming a volunteer firefighter to help recruit new members. She then spoke about additional benefits that were available and addressed Mr. Joe Miller, Fire Commissioner with several questions regarding her past requests for information.

Mark Becker (452 Oceanview) – asked about the number of volunteer firefighters and how many organizations there were.

Commissioner Miller responded with 135 and noted that the exempt organization was separate from the volunteer organization.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: Assessment; Levy; Collection of Taxes

Editor's Note: This item was voted on out of order at the conclusion of the public hearing

#2 – Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Pay Administrative Costs Under the Emergency Tenant Protection Act, Authorizing the Passing On of Administrative Costs to the Owners of the Buildings Included Under Such Act, and Directing the City Comptroller to Make Billing Therefore

City Comptroller, Inna Reznik explained that the city is obligated to pay administrative costs to the state for all Section 8 dwellings in Long Beach. She gave a description of the costs involved and noted that a \$2.00/unit administrative charge for each dwelling is kept by the city.

Council Member Lester asked about what this would cost the city.

Ms. Reznik explained that because of the \$2.00/unit administrative charge incurred by the city, there is basically no cost to the city.

#3 – Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Purchase Office Supplies Under Master Agreement

Mr. Walsh explained that this resolution would allow the city to purchase office supplies through a state contract.

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

Acting City Manager explained that this transfer of funds was for a current employee who passed a civil service exam and would now be transferred over to the Water Department.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing the City to Host and Participate in a Gun Buy Back Event.

Mr. Walsh explained that this resolution would allow the city to take \$50,000.00 to purchase the weapons that would be presented at the Gun Buy Back event. He added that District Attorney Anne Donnelly had given the city \$40,000.00 along with a verbal commitment from the Nassau County Police Department to cover an additional \$10,000.00. The Acting City Manager also noted that the DA's office and Nassau County Police Department were providing additional staff to help with the event.

Council Member Lester asked about the criteria of the event.

Acting City Manager Walsh responded to Mr. Lester's question.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Purchase Fuel Under Various New York State Contracts

Mr. Walsh explained that this resolution would allow the city to purchase the necessary fuel for city vehicles under the New York State contract.

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

The Acting City Manager noted that Mount Sinai/South Nassau donated lifeguard shirts in the value of \$17,000.00 for the Lifeguard Crew, and this resolution would allow the City to accept this donation.

#8 – Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for Strategic Consulting Services.

Mr. Walsh noted that this company was the liaison between the City and Moody's to help setup meetings, etc. for evaluating and recognizing the city for its hard work in being fiscally responsible and other things.

#9 – Resolution Authorizing Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing of an Application to Waive the Off-Street Parking Requirements for Premises:

Re: 966 West Beech Street (street floor), Long Beach, New York

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on July 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

#10 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings of June 20, 2023

Council Pres. Bendo made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Ms. Treston and was approved unanimously.

The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

Council Member Posterli introduced and moved the adoption of the following local law, seconded by Ms. Treston, and it was duly adopted, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

(L.L. #III/23)

Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: Assessment; Levy; Collection of Taxes

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

(RES. #131/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Pay Administrative Costs Under the Emergency Tenant Protection Act, Authorizing the Passing On of Administrative Costs to the Owners of the Buildings Included Under Such Act, and Directing the City Comptroller to Make Billing Therefore

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

(RES. #132/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Purchase Office Supplies Under Master Agreement

Council Member Treston 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. #133/23)

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

Council Member Posterli 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. #134/23)

Resolution Authorizing the City to Host and Participate in a Gun Buy Back Event

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

(RES. #135/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Purchase Fuel Under Various New York State Contracts

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

(RES. #136/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Accept a Charitable Donation.

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

(RES. #137/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for Strategic Consulting Services

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

(RES. #138/23)

Resolution Authorizing Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing of an Application to Waive the Off-Street Parking Requirements for Premises:

Re: 966 West Beech Street (street floor), Long Beach, New York

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

Dated: July 6, 2023

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Mark Becker – 452 Oceanfront	Spoke about benches on the boardwalk, the wall constructed behind the dune on the beach, garbage on the boardwalk and the Wind Farm project
Gina Braddish – 740 W Bay Dr.	Spoke about policing on the boardwalk
Jamie Connelly – 90 Florida St	Spoke about policing on the boardwalk
Patrick Mcalister – 600 Washington, Stamford, CT	Spoke about the Wind Farm project and some related road construction work
Ira Charles, E Walnut St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project and about comments made to Christina Kramer at the last meeting
Eric Berkowitz – 160 Lincoln Blvd	Spoke about the Wind Farm project and the City's bond rating
Sandra Fiedler – 10 Monroe Blvd	Asked about adding vehicle charging stations in Long Beach
Leon Sutton – 310 Franklin Blvd	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
David Shokrian – 350 E Penn St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
Brendan Finn – 95 E Fulton St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project, policing on the boardwalk, and the operating hours of the beach
Anita Backrach – 361 E Market St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project and her recent tax bill
Alissa DeLucia – 155 Lincoln Blvd	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
Tim Kramer – 361 E Broadway	Spoke about the Wind Farm project and cameras on the boardwalk
Jennifer Sarafin – 107 Neptune Blvd	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
Christina Kramer – 361 E Broadway	Spoke about the Wind Farm project and a personnel issue
Karen Ryskin	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
Jamie Lynch	Spoke about sea life that has been dying off
Kelly Martinson – 311 E Penn St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
Kevin Martinson – 311 E Penn St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project
Charles Price – 372 E Harrison St	Spoke about the Wind Farm project