

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD JULY 16, 2024**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday July 16, 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.

Council President Brendan Finn asked for a moment of silence for the volunteer firefighter Corey Comperatore who was tragically killed recently.

City Manager, Daniel Crieghton thanked all those who helped make the fireworks display a huge success. He also recognized the Lifeguards and Beach Patrol for a job well done in keeping swimmers safe. Mr. Creighton continued to thank CSEA workers for their assistance at certain beach ticket booths throughout the city to ensure that patrons are purchasing and displaying their beach passes. He then announced some upcoming events.

- Next Beach concert – Lincoln Blvd. – Sir Duke “Stevie Wonder” tribute band
- City Summer Blood Drive – 2pm – 8pm – Magnolia Senior Center
- City’s Arts and Crafts Festival – Saturday/Sunday from 10am to 6pm
- Movies on the Beach
- Friday Nights in the Plaza
- National Night Out – 8/6/2024
- Welcomed the Waterfront Warriors – visiting Long Beach this week

The Public Hearings were held

PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach
Re: Ocean Beach Park.

The City Manager noted that this hearing would allow the City Manager and Police Commissioner to modify the schedule for opening the beach park and boardwalk that would preserve peace, health and safety, by filing a memorandum with the City Clerk. He noted that this ordinance could be revoked by the city council.

Council Member Lester noted that he believed this already existed in the City’s Code and State law and said that he did not think this would be necessary.

Mr. Creighton explained that this would give authority to the Police Commissioner as well.

A discussion continued regarding the verbiage of the amendment to this code.

Steve Golego– asked if the train station would fall under this amendment as well.

President Finn replied that the train station would fall under the MTA’s control.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach
Re: Personnel Code.

The City Manager noted that this amendment explains the employee separation payment limits according to the CSEA collective bargaining unit.

Council Member Lester asked for clarity on the exempt employee separation payment benefits.

Commissioner Scott Kemins, spoke as an exempt employee and expressed what he felt was fair and equitable and good government. He continued to note that exempt employees always received the same benefits that the CSEA employees received. Mr. Kemins continued to speak about the cost of legal fees for the lawsuit that was filed against several exempt employees even though no criminal wrongdoings were found and forced the city to have to settle and pay people for some of their time. He continued to share his support of this amendment and noted the dedication and commitment from exempt employees and how they should be treated the same as CSEA employees.

Council Member Lester asked several more questions.

Council Member Bendo spoke about what had been done in the past.

Council Member Reinhart thanked Commissioner Kemins and noted that this would be corrected.

Sean O’Neill (CSEA Exec. Board) – noted that the CSEA stands behind this amendment and asked the Council to vote yes.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach
Re: Motor Vehicles and Traffic.

Mr. Creighton noted that this would increase the fine for motor vehicles and traffic from \$2.00 to \$50.00 with a maximum fine of \$250.00 to \$500.00. He noted that this would include fines for usage of e-bikes in unauthorized areas such as the boardwalk and sidewalks in the business district.

Mr. Lester asked about enforcement vs. increasing fines. He asked about the number of tickets issued for people walking in the bike lanes.

Police Commissioner, Rich DiPalma noted that he believed there were about 180 or so tickets issued.

The City Manager added that increasing a fine from \$2.00 to \$50.00 would be substantial enough to send a message and noted that nobody would pay attention to a \$2.00 fine. Mr. Creighton also noted that there has been increased enforcement and means to help educate the public about the dangers of e-bikes.

Commissioner DiPalma agreed that there are challenges with the enforcement of e-bikes on the boardwalk since the police are on foot and it is difficult to stop someone moving on e-bikes. He added that the police department has some new techniques that they have that will help improve enforcement efforts and will be requesting e-bikes for the police department in the next year’s

budget to help keep up with and catch those who are on e-bikes. In the meantime, measures have been added to help with enforcement.

Tim Kramer (361 E Broadway) – asked about the specific concern with e-bikes. He added that since speed is the problem, it should include other riders who are speeding as well.

Linda Giles – suggested that a recorded message continuously announcing the rules on the boardwalk could be helpful.

Council Member Reinhart agreed that a public service announcement would be helpful.

Christina Kramer (361 E Broadway) – spoke about the safety of the bike lane and suggested limiting the speed on the weekends and adding a speed sign for bikers to see how fast they are going. She also suggested increased signage.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – asked how this would affect those who need motorized wheelchairs, etc. and asked if this was just a way to get more revenue.

Council President Finn noted that this was a safety issue.

PUBLIC HEARING: Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Officers; Their General Powers and Duties.

The City Manager noted that this amendment would combine the Treasurer position with the Comptroller's position and update the pronouns throughout the Charter.

Council President Finn added that this was advised by CMA as an advantageous move for the city.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Ocean Beach Park

#2 – Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Personnel Code

#3 – Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Motor Vehicles and Traffic

#4 – Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Officers; Their General Powers and Duties

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

Mr. Creighton explained that this resolution allowed the city to accept a charitable donation from the Squads Memorial Hockey Tournament in the amount of \$9,995.00 for the purchase of a new electronic scoreboard at the Ice Arena.

Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, Joe Brand gave the background on how this donation was established and thanked the organization for their contribution.

Council Member Reinhart thanked them for the donation and asked Commissioner Brand if the scoreboard could be used for the roller hockey events as well.

Commissioner Brand replied that it would be.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – thanked Commissioner Brand and the organizers of the organization for the donation.

Council President Finn thanked the organizers for their donation and recalled the time when he played roller hockey.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Towels and Tissues from the Lowest Responsible Bidders

The City Manager described this resolution and the bidding process.

Council Member Bendo asked about one of the suppliers' addresses.

#7 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order for the Supply, Transport and Delivery of Concrete from the Most Responsible Bidder

Mr. Creighton noted that this would allow the city to order concrete on an as-needed basis. He proceeded to give a breakdown on the materials and the cost.

Council Member Bendo noted that the city was saving money on this item as opposed to the purchase made 2 years ago.

#8 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase a 2023 Chevrolet Silverado Under a Franklin County Contract

The City Manager explained that this resolution was a contract to purchase a water rescue pickup truck for the Fire Department that replaced a very rundown pre-Sandy vehicle.

Mr. Bendo asked if this vehicle was a take-home vehicle and if it would be treated for rust prevention.

Commissioner Joe Miller replied that this vehicle would remain at City Hall.

Mr. Creighton replied that a lot of the new vehicles were being rust proofed.

Council Member Lester noted that the city had received insurance money for the vehicles damaged during Super Storm Sandy and asked if the city received any insurance money for the vehicle this was replacing.

Commissioner Scott Kemins replied that this vehicle did not have any damage due to Super Storm Sandy therefore, no insurance claim was made.

Mr. Lester asked about looking at “mini” bids in the future.

Mr. Creighton asked Commissioner Miller about the bidding process for this vehicle and suggested that they investigate the “mini” bids in the future.

Commissioner Joe Miller noted that this was a state contract bid and that they did look at others that had the bare minimum that did not include any additional equipment.

James Hodge (95 E Fulton St) – spoke in honor of firefighters and supported the city in providing new equipment for the Fire Department.

#9 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of June 18

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 by three affirmative votes. Council Members Bendo and Lester voted No.

(ORD. #3091/24)

Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Ocean Beach Park

Council Member Reinhart introduced and moved the adoption of the following ordinance, seconded by Mr. Fiumara, and it was duly adopted by four affirmative votes. Council Member Bendo voted No.

(ORD. #3092/24)

Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Personnel Code

Council Member Bendo introduced and moved the adoption of the following ordinance, seconded by Mr. Reinhart, and it was duly adopted by four affirmative votes. Council Member Lester voted No.

(ORD. #3093/24)

Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Motor Vehicles and Traffic

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

(L.L. #V/24)

Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Officers; Their General Powers and Duties

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. #107/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Charitable Donation.

Council Member Reinhart introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Pres. Finn, and it was duly adopted by four affirmative votes. Council Member Lester abstained.

(RES. #108/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Towels and Tissues from the Lowest Responsible Bidders

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. #109/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order for the Supply, Transport and Delivery of Concrete from the Most Responsible Bidder

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 were present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #110/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase a 2023 Chevrolet Silverado Under a Franklin County Contract

There being no further business before the Council, Council Member Reinhart 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 17, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Sean O'Neill	Spoke about item number 5 and praised Joe Brand and his involvement with hockey programs in Long Beach
James Hodge- 95 E Fulton St	Spoke about Joe Brand and his involvement with hockey programs in Long Beach and about political discourse
Samantha Hurwitz – 113 Cleveland Ave	Spoke about a Beach Park issue
Caren Riskin	Spoke about the proposed offshore wind farm
Christina Kramer	Spoke about the proposed offshore wind farm
Tim Kramer – 361 E Broadway	Spoke about the proposed offshore wind farm
Ron Paganini – 62 Harmon St	Spoke about fireworks
Judy Vining – 410 E Broadway	Spoke about drinking occurring during the Movie Night events