

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD AUGUST 17, 2021**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021.

Present were Council President Bendo and Council Members Delury, McInnis and Treston. Council Member Mandel was absent.

Corporation Counsel Richard Berrios and City Manager Donna Gayden were also present.

City Manager, Donna M. Gayden gave her report. She introduced Commissioner Scott Kemins of the Building Department to give his report.

Commissioner Kemins thanked the city for supporting the Junior Lifeguard program. He continued by describing the different positions within the Building Department. Mr. Kemins gave an update on the amount of building permits and violations issued to date. He then mentioned some of the projects being conducted in the city.

Council Member Treston asked about the best way to lodge a complaint or how to report any AIRbnb's with the Building Department.

Commissioner Kemins noted that anyone wishing to lodge a complaint could call the building department directly or email their complaint to illegalrentals@longbeachny.gov. He also mentioned that people do not have to give their names if they prefer to be anonymous.

Council Vice President McInnis thanked Commissioner Kemins and the building department for their hard work and asked about the estimated timeframe and process involved for reporting illegal rentals.

Mr. Kemins noted that the procedure can take quite some time due to the many steps involved.

Council Member Delury asked about the newly constructed building on Grand Boulevard and Broadway and asked if it was anticipated to be completed by this year.

Commissioner Kemins stated that the building was probably 95% complete and hoped that it would be completed this year. He also noted that there were several steps and approvals that needed to be made before units could be sold.

Council Member Delury also asked if the total number of building permits issued was above normal.

Mr. Kemins replied that he believed that under normal circumstances, it was higher than normal.

Ms. Gayden then called upon Monique Powell, Director of Community Development to give her update.

Ms. Powell spoke about the Magnolia Community Center and how it is now designated a resource hub for city residents in need. She continued to describe the process in which one could apply and how the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds were now directly aligned to those services. Ms. Powell then spoke about the different programs that were being provided to Seniors and about the upgrade to the Leroy Conyers Park project that would accommodate more of the early childhood age group. She announced that at the request of the City Manager, she was able to add an employee adult literacy program and they would collaborate with the Adult Learning Center to provide a six-week program. Ms. Powell also noted that she would be working with Department Heads in an effort to recruit and motivate staff to attend. She then discussed the Intern program and thanked those departments that participated. Ms. Powell also spoke about the “Day Tripper’s” camp talent show that would be held at the Long Beach Middle School auditorium.

Council Vice President McInnis asked about how City Council members could gauge the effectiveness of these programs.

Ms. Powell replied that in her budget narrative, she created goals which are about engagement involvement, attendance, documenting and reporting and how funds were being used and how it was a good way of knowing how the programs were working.

Ms. McInnis asked if the transparency portal would contain this information in the future.

Ms. Powell replied that it would.

Council Vice President McInnis then noted that she was very happy to hear about the employee literacy program and commended the City Manager for recommending this program. She also mentioned that she would hope that the Unions would get involved to get at least the minimum of 10 participants required to start the program.

Ms. Powell stated that a great way to start would be to publicize the program so that people know it is available and involve all the stakeholders to help increase the participation in enrollment.

The City Manager added that there would be opportunity for those employees who had been already identified as needing these services to be included in the minimum of 10, but also could be given instruction on a one-on-one basis since they might not feel comfortable being identified by their peers.

Council President Bendo asked if the literacy program could lead to the possibility of one getting his/her GED.

Ms. Gayden replied that there were plans for that opportunity and spoke about the importance of utilizing CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) money for programs such as these, and to the fullest extent.

Mr. John McNally, Director of Public Relations gave his update and spoke about the role of the Public Relations Department including upcoming events.

Council Member Delury asked about communicating information regarding the city to new residents.

Mr. McNally described some of the options in place that could help inform new residents learn more about the city.

Council Member Delury then asked about the recent health fair that took place.

Mr. McNally explained that the health fair was sponsored by the CSEA for its members and was coordinated with South Nassau Mount Sinai in bringing the Vax-mobile to the fair. He also added that there were tests and healthcare screenings available as well and 55 people were newly vaccinated at this health fair.

Council Vice President commended Mr. McNally for his efforts in improving communications within the city.

Council Member Treston also thanked Nassau County for providing the NARCAN training this year via zoom.

The public hearings were held

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

Police Commissioner Ron Walsh explained that this amendment was for the impounding and the booting of motor vehicles that were in violation of the city ordinance, the vehicle and traffic law and/or presenting a problem for public safety reasons within the city. He went on to say that it gives the city a newfound ability to boot vehicles who are scoff law or had other forms of violations on them. Commissioner Walsh also explained the advantages of booting a vehicle rather than impounding it and how it would be much more convenient for the resident to retrieve their vehicles.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings of May 18, 2021 and June 15, 2021

Pres. Bendo made a motion to approve the minutes pending the correction of a typo. It was seconded by Ms. McInnis and was carried unanimously.

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

#3 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Core BTS, a Partner of Cisco Systems

Mr. Jaime Roman, Network Specialist gave a brief background on the current phone system. He continued to explain the benefits of moving forward with the Core BTS agreement.

Council President Bendo asked if it was a VOIP system.

Mr. Roman replied that it was but would be cloud-based.

Council Vice President McInnis asked about the maintenance cost.

Council Member Delury asked if this system was solely for the city hall building.

Mr. Roman noted that it would be for both outside and inside city numbers.

Roy Lester (72 Boyd St) – commended the new system. He then asked about the monthly cost of the phone equipment.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the County of Nassau to Receive Funding for the Procurement of Emergency Communications Equipment and Related Items

Police Commissioner Ron Walsh explained that this agreement included \$354,000.00 worth of equipment for the City's public safety communications. He noted that this would bring the police and fire departments into a more centralized location to create greater efficiencies.

Ms. McInnis asked if the equipment was going through an expense account.

Mr. Walsh explained that the city would lay out the money and the county would reimburse it.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Providing of Comprehensive Banking Services

Ms. Inna Reznik, City Comptroller explained the reason for the agreement and the importance for submitting RFP's for services provided to the city. She also added that instead of having just one bank, Chase, TD Bank and Capital One would become the City's banks and would diversify the accounts between them.

Council President Bendo asked if going from one bank to three would require any additional resources to track activity.

Ms. Reznik explained that going from one bank to three would require some extra time from the comptroller's office and IT to ensure that the setup is done properly, but after that, it should not require any more resources.

Council Member Delury asked if the signatory authority would be the same for all 3 banks.

Ms. Reznik stated that there were two signatures required for each bank.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget

Ms. Reznik explained that this amendment had to do with the cost of the recent sinking sailboat and that the cost for this would be picked up by the County.

Police Commissioner Walsh gave a brief background of the situation regarding the sinking sailboat and who was responsible for the cost to remove the boat. He thanked beach maintenance and department of public works for their assistance and commended the County for taking responsibility for this situation.

#7 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

The City Comptroller explained that this item pertained to the procurement of the cyber security insurance. She noted that at the time when the budget was being prepared, the city did not have a quote from the brokers. Ms. Reznik asked that \$10, 687.58 be transferred from the contingency to the unallocated insurance line to cover this expense.

#8 – Resolution to Reschedule the First Regular Council Meeting of September for Thursday, September 9, 2021

Council President Bendo announced that due to the Jewish Holiday on September 7th, the council meeting would be moved to Thursday, September 9th.

The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

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

(ORD. #3056/21)

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

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

(RES. #129/21)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Core BTS, a Partner of Cisco Systems

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

(RES. #130/21)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the County of Nassau to Receive Funding for the Procurement of Emergency Communications Equipment and Related Items

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

(RES. #131/21)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Providing of Comprehensive Banking Services

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

(RES. #132/21)

Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget

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

(RES. #133/21)

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

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

(RES. #134/21)

Resolution to Reschedule the First Regular Council Meeting of September for Thursday, September 9, 2021

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

Dated: August 18, 2021

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Roy Lester – 72 Boyd St

Spoke about air conditioning in City Hall and the recreation center, bikes on the boardwalk and using Zoom for council meetings

Eileen Hession – 516 W Beech St

Thanked Joe Brand and Jen Cruz. Spoke about COVID rates in Long Beach, fines, boardwalk conditions and the American Rescue plan funding from the federal government.