

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD NOVEMBER 4TH, 2020**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Wednesday, November 4th, 2020.

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

Corporation Counsel Simone Freeman and City Manager Donna Gayden were also present.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, public attendance was suspended for this meeting. The following notice was posted prior to the meeting:

In light of current health concerns and as per Gov. Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 we are making the following changes for this Council Meeting:

- **Public attendance for this meeting will be suspended.** A live Stream of the meeting will be available on our YouTube channel. Please visit longbeachny.gov/councilmeetings for the link to our YouTube channel.
- Anyone wishing to directly participate in the meeting was provided with a link to the Zoom meeting

City Manager Donna M. Gayden began her report by introducing Mr. John McNally to give his update.

Mr. McNally gave an update on the youth recreation activities. He reminded everyone that due to a positive COVID test, activities needed to be suspended temporarily. Mr. McNally also noted that the agreements with various third-party providers were being looked at. He added that the city would be following the School District's lead for all organized youth activities according to specific age groups. Mr. McNally also said that due to an issue that the school district had within their transportation department, it was currently doing only remote learning until November 12th, therefore all of the city run youth programs will be currently on hold until then. He concluded by noting that an RFP was put out and hoped that it would help bring back the third party vendors. Mr. McNally also added that general operations at the ice arena and the pool will be available to residents.

Ms. Gayden then introduced City Engineer, Mr. Joe Febrizio.

Mr. Febrizio gave a brief summary of the DPW projects. He noted that DPW was currently working on over 30 projects that he shared with the City Manager and if she concurred, he would send them to the City Council and post them on the city's website. Mr. Febrizio gave a summary on current and future construction projects.

Council Vice President McInnis asked for clarity about the GOSR infrastructure repair project at the central garage and the fact that the city declined the funds due to the possibility of other plans for the garage.

Mr. Febrizio replied that through FEMA, the city still had approximately \$550,000.00 to implement hazard mitigation at the garage that was placed on hold because of the discussion regarding the sale of the facility. He noted that the money did still exist.

Ms. McInnis also asked about capital improvements at the MLK Center and the Ice Arena. She wanted to know if there was a mechanism in place within the city to make sure that the city was not moving ahead on projects that could have other alternatives.

Mr. Febrizio noted that Ms. McInnis made an excellent point, especially with the Ice Arena since an issue came up when the design of the hazard mitigation started on the exterior of the building. He explained the process and spoke about how they would be incorporating within the design, repairs that remain in play, and that most of the repairs were for the exterior of the building.

Ms. McInnis asked how the council would have had this information if she didn't ask.

City Manager Gayden replied that council would know once they approved the capital budget. She continued to explain that in the Ice Arena RFP, it is stated that the city had money that would be coming in for hazard mitigation. Ms. Gayden also explained that any plans that the city might have for money coming in, the city makes sure that the money would not be spent if they had other plans for the property. She also noted that this is why the money was on hold for the garage until a decision was made about the garage. The City Manager stated that the money would not be spent on the garage if it is going to be sold. She also noted that Mr. Febrizio put a spreadsheet together with well over 30 projects that will be posted on the website to inform people of upcoming projects.

Ms. McInnis asked for clarification regarding council approval of the capital plan and when the money is spent.

Ms. Gayden replied that what the council approved was the capital plan, and when the council was ready to spend the money, they would be informed.

Mr. Febrizio added that currently, it shows \$3 million in the capital budget for FEMA HMP work but did not exactly designate which project it was for, however the summary that he gave to the City Manager listed all of the projects that were at various design stages. He also noted that the two projects that they were looking to complete in March was the MLK and the Ice Arena projects and each was about \$500,000.00.

Ms. Reznik added that Ms. McInnis was correct regarding the funds that were borrowed in 2017 or 2018 for the purposes of making renovations in the central garage that are deemed unnecessary right now since the city was working on different plans for this property. She continued to explain how the funds were used.

Council Member Delury announced that he received a lot of positive feedback regarding the East Broadway and Lafayette Blvd. overlays. He asked about the funding and cost of the pool liner and the elevator repairs. Mr. Delury also asked about the lighting on the boardwalk re-lamping. He asked Mr. Febrizio to explain the Monroe Blvd. to Water Front Park overlay.

Mr. Febrizio gave a thorough description and overview to answer all Mr. Delury's questions.

City Manager Gayden then introduced Jamel Taylor, Superintendent of Sanitation to give his report.

Mr. Taylor gave an update on the Sanitation department, which included improvements that were being made in an effort to keep Long Beach as clean as possible. He noted that there was a new Sanitation Inspector that would be helping with code enforcement, concentrating on the commercial district. Mr. Taylor mentioned the return of the residential e-cycling container that would be up and running very soon, as well as the paint and chemical drop off and clothing donation locations. He announced that the STOP program would be held on Sunday, November 8th, and anytime residents had the need to discard their hazardous waste, they could always bring it directly to the Sanitation garage.

Council Member Treston asked for the address of the sanitation drop-off location.

Mr. Taylor replied that it was located at 150 West Pine Street, behind the Long Beach Ice Arena.

Council Member Delury asked if batteries were accepted at the STOP program and/or the sanitation location.

Mr. Taylor replied that all batteries would be accepted at the sanitation location.

Mr. Delury asked if there was a bin that people should look for outside the sanitation garage where they could put their batteries.

Mr. Taylor replied that at the present time, they could just come to the garage and give them directly to the staff there. He also noted that there will be a bin location in the near future.

Council Vice President McInnis thanked Mr. Taylor for his report, and how refreshing it was to hear from the Sanitation Department. She also thanked him for his continued service in helping the city move forward.

Ms. Gayden then introduced the Community Development Director, Ms. Monique Powell to give her report.

Ms. Powell expressed her thanks for the opportunity to serve in her new role. She noted that her main goal was to make people aware of various problems within the community, and develop the areas of education, health, recreation, employment, youth and seniors. Ms. Powell spoke about how a community needs assessment could help create a system that would help the community move forward. She also added that she met with many community members and the school district to help establish “learning spaces” where children could attend and continue their educational instruction in a safe and healthy setting. Ms. Powell also noted that she would be identifying the needs of the seniors in the community as well.

Council Member Delury welcomed Ms. Powell.

City Manager Gayden commended Ms. Powell on her enthusiasm and getting the programs up and running.

Ms. Gayden then introduced the City Comptroller, Inna Reznik to give her report.

Ms. Reznik noted that at the direction of the City Manager, she communicated with all city employees that all non-essential spending would be suspended. She added that all essential spending will only be allowed once approved by the spending committee consisting of herself, the City Manager, Greg Scott, Rosemary Alton and Joe Febrizio. Ms. Reznik explained that all essential purchase orders along with the backup explaining why they are essential, are submitted and reviewed. After discussion and review by the committee, a decision is made on whether or not they should be approved. She also noted that all departments were directed to follow the procurement policy and not engage in any direct purchases. Ms. Reznik noted that historically many purchases were done outside of the procurement process which becomes financially problematic. She thanked the city employees for their cooperation and noted that she has seen a big difference in non-essential spending. Ms. Reznik made it clear that this only related to the general fund. She also gave a description and overview on the test run of the procurement module in the Munis system. Ms. Reznik announced that she had completed an application for the Cares 3 Grant through the US department of Health and Human Services that addresses the loss of revenue on the ambulance charges. She also noted that embarking on the budgeting process for the next fiscal year, all City Department Heads received their excel performance templates for their 2021-2022 operating budgets.

Ms. Gayden reminded Ms. Reznik about the Auditors that were starting this week.

Ms. Reznik replied that the Auditors would be starting this week and would be beginning their field work in designated departments.

Ms. McInnis stated how important the procurement online is and realized the amount of work that it takes in order to get this accomplished.

Council Member Delury asked how the outside departments had been trained on the procurement process.

Ms. Reznik explained the Muni process and the testing and training of the procurement process.

City Manager Gayden finished the report by announcing that she had been interviewing for all of the Boards and Commissions, and letters had gone out to several of the appointed members. She also announced that if there are any vacant positions available, she would put the notice back up on the website but not until she completed the rest of the interviews.

Council President Bendo spoke about the many things that were taking place and being accomplished in the city, in spite of the pandemic.

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

#1 – Resolution Authorizing a Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year.

Ms. Reznik explained that whenever the city had expenses where there was more revenue that was not included in the budget, the city council would then be asked to amend the budget to reflect the additional money to allow for the spending to occur in the general fund.

Council President Bendo wanted to clarify that this amendment was basically for reallocating grant money received to help pay for CMA's contract

Ms. Reznik confirmed Mr. Bendo's clarification.

Council Member Delury asked if the city received the money already.

Ms. Reznik replied that the money was not received yet and the amendment was for setting up the budget. She explained how she was only allowed to spend the amount that the City Council approved in the budget, and this was the reason for the amendment.

Roy Lester (72 Boyd St) – asked about a past resolution authorizing the comptroller to pay the cost of the receipt of duly executed contracts and questioned the amount in certain budget lines. He also asked about a report written by SCG.

Ms. Reznik gave a full explanation about the resolution Mr. Lester asked about. She directed him to the specific budget line/accounts and explained the governmental accounting and budgetary accounts.

City Manager Gayden responded to Mr. Lester's question and said that they could post the report on line and the council had received a quarterly report from CMA.

#2 – A “Resolution Adopting an Expenditure Policy for the City of Long Beach” was taken off the calendar

#3 – A “Resolution Adopting an Americans with Disabilities Act Policy for the City of Long Beach” was taken off the calendar.

#4 – A “Resolution Adopting a Grant and Financial Award Policy for the City of Long Beach” was taken off the calendar.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Motor Vehicles and Traffic

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on November 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Due to public health and safety concerns related to COVID-19, the City Council may not be meeting in-person. In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 202.1, the November 17, 2020 City Council meeting may be held via videoconferencing, and a transcript will be provided at a later date. The public will have an opportunity to see and hear the meeting live.

The public will be given an opportunity to observe and participate in the virtual meeting by registering for the hearing at longbeachny.gov/councilmeetings.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing of an Application to Waive the Off-Street Parking Requirements for Premises: 126 East Park Avenue (street floor), Long Beach, New York.

Re: Gym Studio

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The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

Council Member McInnis 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. #99/20)

Resolution Authorizing a Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year

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

(RES. #100/20)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Motor Vehicles and Traffic

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

(RES. #101/20)

Resolution Authorizing Publication of a Notice of Public Hearing of an Application to Waive the Off-Street Parking Requirements for Premises: 126 East Park Avenue (street floor), Long Beach, New York.

Re: Gym Studio

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

Dated: November 5, 2020

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Roy Lester – 72 Boyd St
Eileen Hession

Spoke about the City's Financial scorecard
Thanked Beach Maintenance for their work on
the memorial bench program and spoke about
the MLK Director and the conditions on the
former Hebrew Academy property