

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2024**

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday November 19, 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 Finn opened the meeting by noting that some residents expressed their concerns regarding the length of the Council meetings. He continued to speak about the importance of keeping the public informed and at the same time, keeping the meetings from getting too lengthy. Mr. Finn offered some suggestions and ideas on how to help achieve this goal along with examples of what causes the meetings to become too long.

The City Manager began his report by commending the Long Beach Fire Department for their quick response to a recent house fire that was quickly extinguished with no injuries. He also announced that there have been significant brush fires in Orange County and when they called for mutual aid, our first responders, while remembering the outpouring assistance from their brother and sister agencies in the days following Superstorm Sandy, five (5) Class A Firefighters were dispatched to help Orange County with this significant wildfire impacting their community.

Mr. Creighton also thanked the city's Parks and Recreation and CSEA members for helping to make the recent Turkey Trot Race a huge success. He then announced a recent letter that was sent to every resident regarding a federal mandate to identify and remove lead pipes from the city's drinking water system. The City Manager added that as the city embarks on the water meter replacement project, the city will be able to identify the composition of every residential pipe during this process and suggested that residents visit the city's website for more information. Lastly, Mr. Creighton announced the closure of City Hall and the Magnolia Center for the Thanksgiving holiday on both Thursday and Friday with no residential sanitation pick up on Thursday and wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Calendar items were read by the Acting City Clerk

#1 – A “Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Preparation of Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents for the Rehabilitation of the Long Beach Police Auxiliary Building with the Lowest Responsible Proposer” was taken off the calendar.

#2 – Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Members to the Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Long Beach

The City Manager explained that this item would allow the city to reappoint two current members to the Zoning Board of Appeals for another 3-year term.

Council Member Reinhart recognized the two members and welcomed them back for another 3-year term.

Council Member Bendo asked about the posting of the positions.

Mr. Creighton replied to Mr. Bendo's question noting that they were not posted and that since they were both doing a great job, they were asked to return for another 3 year term. He also pointed out that they were originally appointed by the previous administration.

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

The City Manager noted that this item allowed the Police Department to accept a grant from the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee for \$26,400 to be used for seat belt enforcement safety and other traffic related initiatives.

Council Member Reinhart asked if this grant would cover the overtime for conducting these safety enforcements.

Police Commissioner, Rich DePalma responded that it would.

Council Member Lester asked if seat belt checks were done on normal policing hours.

Commissioner DePalma replied that the Police Department does seat belt checks frequently and during regular policing hours and this grant would allow them more opportunity to specifically go out and look for seat belt violations.

James Hodge – Thanked Governor Hochul for the grant.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing the City Comptroller to Enter into the Metropolitan Commercial Bank Demand Deposit Marketplace Program

Mr. Creighton explained that this item would allow the City Comptroller to enter into an agreement with the Metropolitan Commercial Bank Demand Deposit Marketplace Program that yields a higher rate than the city's current program and would allow it to diversify its investment portfolio.

Council Member Bendo asked how much money would be deposited in the money market account and in the checking account.

City Comptroller, Inna Reznik and the City Manager responded to Mr. Bendo's question.

Mr. Bendo then asked about the interest rates and insurance on the accounts.

Mr. Denney Teets, the representative of Metropolitan Commercial Bank replied to Mr. Bendo's questions.

Mr. Bendo expressed his concern about the council not receiving budget status reports.

Ms. Reznik reminded Mr. Bendo that those reports are posted on the city's transparency portal on the website and that she would send him the link and the report to the council.

The City Manager also clarified that this item will simply allow the city the ability to invest in another bank if it so chooses to do so. He added that no money was being invested at this time.

Council Member Lester asked how often the interest rates change.

Mr. Teets responded to Mr. Lester's question.

Mr. Lester asked how much money was invested in funds like this last year.

Ms. Reznik responded to Mr. Lester's question.

Michael Boyle – asked about how often the rates changed.

Mr. Teets responded to Mr. Boyle's question and gave an explanation on how rates are changed.

Mike Delury – asked about other municipalities who have gone in this direction and what type of authorizations are needed to conduct transfers internally.

Mr. Teets responded to Mr. Delury's questions and gave an explanation on how the process works. He also named several other municipalities who have joined the Metropolitan Commercial Bank.

James Hodge – asked about how the bank could assist non-profits within the city of Long Beach.

Mr. Teets responded to Mr. Hodge's question.

#5 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase a pH/C12 Freestanding Laboratory Analysis Station for the Water Purification Plant

The City Manager explained that this item allowed the city to purchase a freestanding laboratory analysis station from Eagle Control Corporation which would allow in-house water testing.

Council Member Reinhart asked about the lifespan of the laboratory.

Interim Commissioner of Public Works, Russell Darress replied that it was roughly 25 years.

Mr. Reinhart also asked about the warranties that are attached to this item.

Mr. Darress responded that it came with a one-year warranty and the option to enter into a service contract with the manufacturer to continue the maintenance on the product.

Council Vice President Fiumara asked how much the maintenance contract would cost the city per year.

Mr. Darress replied that he would get those figures for the council.

Council Member Bendo asked if this was replacing an existing piece of equipment.

Mr. Darress noted that it was replacing an outdated piece of equipment that is 25 years old and passed its useful life. He also added that the company that maintained it in the past, can no longer continue to maintain this equipment.

Mr. Bendo then asked if the staff would be trained on the use of the new equipment.

Mr. Darress noted that the training was included in the contract.

Council Member Lester asked what the city was paying to the previous company for maintenance.

Mr. Darress replied that he would get those numbers for the council. He also added that this equipment was top of the line equipment that is industry standard across the board.

Mr. Lester then asked if this equipment was something that could be used as part of a type of municipal sharing.

Mr. Darress replied that it would be used solely for the City of Long Beach and described what the equipment would be used for.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Administration

Council Pres. Finn made a motion to change the following in item #6:

Under Sec 2-31 Rules of Order:

Subsection G (2)

- Change the word **HIS** to **THEIR**
- Change "...unless further time is granted by the **Council**" to "...unless further time is granted by the **Presiding Officer**"

Subsection H (4):

- Change "...consent of the **Council**" to "...consent of the **Presiding Officer**"

Subsection I:

- Change "If the **Council** consents thereto..." to "If the **Presiding Officer** consents thereto..."

Under Sec. 2-34 Work Sessions.

- Change "**temporary president**" to "**Vice President**"

It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart and was carried by three affirmative votes. Council Members Bendo and Lester voted no.

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on December 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

#7 – Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of a Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Council

A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on December 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

#8 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of October 15, 2024

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

The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

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

(RES. #172/24)

Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Members to the Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Long Beach

Council Member Bendo 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. #173/24)

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. #174/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Comptroller to Enter into the Metropolitan Commercial Bank Demand Deposit Marketplace Program

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

(RES. #175/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase a pH/C12 Freestanding Laboratory Analysis Station for the Water Purification Plant

Council Member Reinhart introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution (as amended), seconded by Mr. Fiumara, and it was duly adopted by three affirmative votes. Council Members Bendo and Lester voted no.

(RES. #176/24)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Administration

Council Member Reinhart introduced and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Fiumara, and it was duly adopted by three affirmative votes. Council Members Bendo and Lester voted no.

(RES. #177/24)

Resolution Authorizing Publication for Hearing of a Local Law Amending the Charter of
the City of Long Beach Re: City Council

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

Dated: November 20, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Jen Sarafin – Neptune Blvd

Mike Delury – 6 June Walk

James Hodge – 95 E Fulton St.

Spoke about the proposed off shore wind farm

Asked for answers to previously submitted questions

Spoke about item #6