

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

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Long Beach was held on Tuesday December 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, Ron Walsh began his report by introducing the presentation of the Phase II of the Resilient Connectivity of Park Avenue project. He added that should anyone have any questions after the presentation, they could join Commissioner Febrizio and the team in the OEM conference room where they would be happy to answer any questions they may have.

Commissioner of Public Works, Joe Febrizio introduced Suzanne Boyle and Nick Ernesto of MV5 who gave the presentation.

Council Member Lester asked questions regarding the replacement of the trees and the sidewalk reconstruction.

Ms. Boyle and Commissioner Febrizio responded to Mr. Lester's questions.

Council President Bendo asked about the new lamp posts.

Mr. Febrizio responded to Mr. Bendo's question.

Council Member Posterli asked about seeing the prototypes for bike racks and the street planters.

Ms. Boyle responded to Ms. Posterli's questions.

Council Member McInnis asked the Acting City Manager questions about the status of grant funding regarding the volunteer firefighter ladder truck that was approved for \$2 million dollars last year. She also asked about the cost to the city for the Electric Light Parade.

Mr. Walsh noted that he would get back to her regarding the firefighter ladder truck and added that he would not know the cost for the parade until the event was over and the actual expenses were recorded. He then added that the Chamber of Commerce made a commitment to pay a proportional share for the event.

Ms. McInnis then asked questions regarding the cost recovery of events and questioned the lack of equity when it came to the taxpayers paying for events solely occurring in one location of the city. She used the Irish Day Parade as an example.

The Acting City Manager replied that the Irish Day Parade was a co-sponsored event and the AOH agreed to pay a certain dollar amount towards the expenses which he believed was \$15,000.00. He added that all non-city sponsored events are billed according to the expenses incurred by the city so not to burden the taxpayer.

Council Member McInnis asked for a report on the past Irish Day Parade expenses.

Mr. Walsh asked Ms. Reznik, City Comptroller, to prepare the report.

### **The public hearings were held**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach  
Re: Automatic Alarm Systems.

Corporation Counsel Dennis Cohen explained that this amendment would add fire alarms to the existing Alarm code of ordinance. He added that those who install or have fire alarms, would be required to get a permit and the fine structure that applies to burglar alarms would now apply to fire alarms.

Mr. Walsh added that the reason behind this amendment was due to the high number of false alarms that are being responded to because of faulty alarms, or a repetitive condition that needs to be corrected. He noted that the business owner and/or homeowner would now be responsible for the cost of the resources and would hopefully encourage them to make the necessary repairs.

Mr. Cohen also added that this amendment added an appeal process for those permits that get revoked or for when fines are imposed for false alarms.

Council Member Lester asked if there was a study for the cost to run a single false alarm.

The Acting City Manager replied that he was not aware of any dollar analysis that was performed.

Council Member Lester asked how many fire vehicles attend to a false alarm.

Fire Commissioner, Scott Kemins replied that it could be different depending on the time of the occurrence and whether or not it was for a chronic alarm. He did not believe he could put a definitive cost on the alarm runs. Mr. Kemins also noted that he agreed with the Acting City Manager where the goal of this amendment was to raise awareness for the business owner and homeowner to correct any issues with their fire alarms.

A discussion continued regarding the fines.

Council President Bendo asked out of the 5,000 plus calls that the fire department responded to each year, what the percentage was for false alarms.

Mr. Kemins replied that almost 80% of the calls were EMS calls and possibly 1,000 calls were false fire alarms.

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

Mr. Cohen noted that this amendment was establishing a pre-depravation notice and hearing for boot and tows relating to scofflaws and establishes a post-depravation notice and hearing for all other boot and tows.

**The calendar items were read by the City Clerk**

#1 – Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Automatic Alarm Systems

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

#3 – Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund Budget.

Mr. Walsh noted that this was basically a pass-through of funds from the state to the capital projects fund budget.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing Settlement of an Action Brought by Debra O’Sullivan Against the City of Long Beach

Corporation Counsel explained the incident that occurred and recommended this settlement be made for \$100,000.00.

#5 – A “Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Accept a Grant for the Police Department and Authorizing Budget Amendment to the General Fund Budget” was taken off the calendar

#6 – Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Furnish and Install Vehicle Upfitting Equipment for the Police Department

The Acting City Manager noted that this item was for the upfitting of lights, sirens, etc. of the vehicles that were already purchased for the Police Department.

#7 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting of November 21, 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 Treston introduced and moved the adoption of the following ordinance, seconded by Pres. Bendo, and it was duly adopted, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

(ORD. #3082/23)

Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Long Beach Re: Automatic Alarm Systems

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

(ORD. #3083/23)

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. Lester, and it was duly adopted, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #214/23)

Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund Budget.

Council Pres. Bendo 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. #215/23)

Resolution Authorizing Settlement of an Action Brought by Debra O'Sullivan Against the City of Long Beach

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. #216/23)

Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Furnish and Install Vehicle Upfitting Equipment for the Police Department

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

Dated: December 6, 2023

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David W. Fraser  
City Clerk

**Good and Welfare**

Tim Kramer – 361 E Broadway	Spoke about the Park Avenue Resilient Connectivity Project presentation
Christina Kramer	Spoke about city events, the Wind Farm project and the Park Avenue Resilient Connectivity Project presentation
Steve Diamond – 64 Prescott St, Lido Beach	Spoke about parking
Karen Riskin	Spoke about surveyors working the east End and the Wind Farm project
James Hodge – 95 E Fulton St	Spoke about the MLK Center, Auxiliary PD, Jr firefighters, the Park Avenue Resilient Connectivity Project presentation and parking