

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
HELD DECEMBER 3, 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 commending the Police and Fire Departments for all they do.

City Manager, Dan Creighton began his report by noting that there were two firefighters and two police officers recently sworn in and wished them well in their new careers. He also congratulated the 8-year-old Bulldog team for winning the Division One Nassau County championship. Mr. Creighton then announced some upcoming events:

- Annual Tree Lighting
- Pearl Harbor Commemoration,
- City's winter blood drive
- 5th annual Long Beach Light Up House decorating event
- Electric Light Parade

The City Manager added that the 2025 Parking Permit sale will begin Monday, 12/16 and the City Clerk's office will remain open until 7pm on Tuesday, 12/17 for those Commuters who might need extra time to purchase their permits. He then thanked and congratulated Firefighter Ryan Russo who was awarded for a "pre-hospital" save by the Oceanside Fire Department.

Council Member Lester then addressed the comments made at the previous meeting regarding the length of the meetings.

The public hearings were held:

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

Mr. Creighton noted that this amendment was a clean up to the code of ordinances regarding the regular city council meetings. He noted that this effort had been ongoing for the past two years and although it was not initiated by the new council, the sitting council believes that a municipality that has a well maintained and consistent Charter is a commitment to good governance.

City Clerk, David Fraser explained the changes that were being made.

Council President Finn thanked Mr. Fraser for the hard work that went into amending this ordinance.

Council Member Reinhart also thanked Mr. Fraser and Corporation Counsel for their hard work. He then recognized the reasons and purposes for these revisions to correct inconsistencies and document current practices and procedures.

Mr. Fraser agreed with Council Member Reinhart and added that this amendment would bring the city's code in line with what is and has been done at the Council meetings.

Mr. Reinhart also noted that nothing in this amendment would have any effect on the public's time to speak.

The City Clerk agreed.

Council Member Bendo addressed some concerns he felt that the members in the audience might have had regarding the amendments.

Council Member Lester added that the city's Charter needs updating and touched upon some concerns he had.

Mr. Fraser addressed some of those concerns.

A discussion continued regarding the changes being made.

Nora Egan – asked for clarification on the meeting notices and commended the City Clerk for his explanation.

The City Clerk responded to her questions.

Eileen Hession – commented and shared concerns on the amendments to this code of ordinance.

Daniel Lamparter – asked about the good and welfare portion of the ordinance.

Kathleen O'Leary – expressed her concern regarding the cohesiveness of the city council.

James Hodge – spoke on many portions of the amendments made to the ordinance and shared his concerns.

Mr. Fraser responded to Mr. Hodge's questions.

Council Member Lester asked about the Executive Session portion of the amendment.

Phyllis Libutti – spoke about the importance of democracy and respect at city council meetings.

Council President Finn made it clear that there was no intent to shorten the time for public speaking at the meetings and encouraged more people to attend.

PUBLIC HEARING: Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Council

The calendar items were read by the City Clerk

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

Pres. Finn made a motion to make the following amendments to the item:

- In Section 2-30, change subsection c to read: “(c) Public Hearings. Public comment shall be held, unless otherwise noted in applicable law. The Presiding Officer shall call upon individuals wishing to speak. Those individuals shall address the Council in accordance with the time limitations and guidelines set forth in the rules of order.”
- Also in Section 2-30, Add subsection h to read: “(h) Motion to close. “
- In Section 2-31, subsection (g)2 change “shall have three (3) minutes in total.” To “shall have three (3) minutes speaking time in total.
- In Section 2-31, in subsection (h)(3) change “and cause him to be prosecuted” to “and cause the individual to be prosecuted”

It was seconded by Mr. Reinhart and was carried unanimously.

#2 – Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Council

Council Member Bendo made a motion to add “and contacted by their primary telephone number” after “or leaving at his/her residence.” It was seconded by Mr. Fiumara and was carried unanimously.

The City Clerk described the changes made to this portion of the code regarding notification of special meetings.

Council Member Lester asked for clarification on the public speaking portion at these meetings.

#3 – Resolution Authorizing and Empowering the Planning Board of the City of Long Beach to Approve Preliminary and Final Plats of Subdivisions and to Approve the Development of Plats.

The City Manager explained that this item would allow the city to develop a Planning Board and gives the future Planning Board to approve subdivisions and development of plats.

Council Member Reinhart asked for the City Manager to explain the difference between a Planning Board and a Planning Advisory Board. He also expressed his approval and support of a Planning Board.

Mr. Creighton gave a complete explanation.

Mr. Fraser noted that there would be two public hearings on this item.

Council Member Fiumara expressed his support on this item.

Council Member Lester asked for clarity on the role of the Planning Board.

Ms. Patti Bourne, Director of Economic Development responded to Mr. Lester’s questions.

A discussion ensued regarding the definition of “plats”.

Nora Egan – asked about the Planning Advisory Board vs. the Planning Board.

Mr. Crieghton explained how the Planning Board and Planning Advisory Board would operate.

Michael Zakai – asked about the rights of the property owners.

Council President Finn responded to his questions.

Ms. Bourne added to the explanation.

Steve Candon – expressed his support of the Planning Board.

James Hodge – asked if there will be public meetings of the Planning Board for public input.

The City Manager replied that there would be public meetings similar to the Zoning Board meetings.

Crystal Lake – spoke about the need for cohesiveness of all boards that address all the neighborhoods of the city.

#4 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Design for the Rehabilitation of the Long Beach Police Auxiliary Building with the Lowest Responsible Proposer

Mr. Creighton explained that this item would advance the design of the LB Police Auxiliary building.

Interim Commissioner of Public Works, Russell Darress addressed the re-design vs. selling the building.

Mr. Bendo asked about the timeframe on the completion of the project.

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

The City Manager also added to the response to Mr. Bendo's question.

Mr. Reinhart expressed his support for this project.

The City Manager also noted that the city's sign shop is part of this building.

Mr. Bendo asked if the fence in the back of the property that separates the property from the canal was part of city property.

Mr. Darress replied that it was.

Mr. Lester asked about the meets and bounds of the property and the electric transformers in the building.

Mr. Darress responded to Mr. Lester's questions.

James Hodge – expressed his support for the project and applauded the Auxiliary Police Department.

Craig Folander – asked for clarity on the scope of the project. He also added information regarding the transformers on the building.

Mr. Darress addressed Mr. Folander's questions.

#5 – Resolution in Support of Continued and Increased State Aid for Local Governments

The City Manager noted that this item would support the NY Council of Mayors urging officials to continue to provide the \$50 million dollars of state aid to local governments and recognized the benefits it has to the City of Long Beach.

#6 – Resolution Authorizing the City Comptroller to Expend Funds for Disaster Management Response and Recovery Consulting Services

Mr. Creighton explained that this item allowed the city to fund existing retainer agreements with several design professionals for the remaining housing mitigation projects.

Council Member Bendo asked about the approval of retainer agreements vs. approval of expenditures.

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

#7 – Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund Budget

The City Manager explained that this item allows the city to receive reimbursement from FEMA for the Northshore Critical Infrastructure project.

#8 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Various Sized Trash Bags from the Lowest Responsible Bidders

Mr. Creighton noted that this would allow the city to purchase various sized trash bags from the lowest of 6 responsible bidders.

Council Member Lester asked about the bids that did not provide samples and the reason for purchasing black bags vs. clear bags and the purposes for these specific bags.

Mr. Creighton replied that he would get to Mr. Lester with this information.

#9 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Transport and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste.

The City Manager noted that this item allowed the City to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Hempstead for the transport and disposal of municipal solid waste. He added that this contract could save the city approximately \$70,000.00 per year.

Council Member Reinhart asked if the savings were based on the weight.

The City Manager responded to Mr. Reinhart's question.

Council Member Bendo asked about the rates vs. the different types of waste and how the waste was distributed.

Mr. Creighton responded to Mr. Bendo's questions.

Mr. Lester asked about the rates on the different types of waste and his concern on how it is disposed of.

The City Manager replied to Mr. Lester's question.

#10 – Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract for Asphalt Overlay Work at Various Locations Throughout the City on an “As-Needed” Basis with the Lowest Responsible Bidder.

The City Manager announced that this contract was awarded to Roadwork Ahead, the lowest of 9 bidders and would be a savings of \$200,000.00.

Council Member Reinhart asked for clarification on the savings and language of the agreement.

Mr. Darress responded to Mr. Reinhart's questions.

Council Member Bendo asked about the “as needed basis” clause in the agreement.

Mr. Darress replied to Mr. Bendo's question.

#11 – Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings of November 6, 2024, and November 19, 2024

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

ADDED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

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

This item was for publication only. A Public Hearing will be held at City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach, New York, on December 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

The voting portion of the meeting was then begun.

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

(ORD. #3097/24)

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 local law (as amended), seconded by Pres. Finn, and it was duly adopted, all five council members present voting in the affirmative.

(L.L. #IX/24)

Local Law Amending the Charter of the City of Long Beach Re: City Council.

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

(RES. #178/24)

Resolution Authorizing and Empowering the Planning Board of the City of Long Beach to Approve Preliminary and Final Plats of Subdivisions and to Approve the Development of Plats.

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

(RES. #179/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement for the Design for the Rehabilitation of the Long Beach Police Auxiliary Building with the Lowest Responsible Proposer.

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. #180/24)

Resolution in Support of Continued and Increased State Aid for Local Governments.

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

(RES. #181/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Comptroller to Expend Funds for Disaster Management Response and Recovery Consulting Services.

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 present voting in the affirmative.

(RES. #182/24)

Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment to the Capital Projects Fund Budget.

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. #183/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Various Sized Trash Bags from the Lowest Responsible Bidders.

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 voted no.

(RES. #184/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Transport and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste.

Council Member Bendo 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 voted no.

(RES. #185/24)

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract for Asphalt Overlay Work at Various Locations Throughout the City on an “As-Needed” Basis with the Lowest Responsible Bidder.

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

(RES. #186/24)

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

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

Dated: December 4, 2024

David W. Fraser
City Clerk

Good and Welfare

Dori Castello – 180 E Boardwalk

Spoke about the hours for the Ocean Beach Park

Mindi Dovberg – 1 E Broadway

Commended Kerry Ann Troy and Tracy Murray for their work on city events

Michael Zakai – 321 W Beech

Spoke about books in the public library

Crystal Lake – 206 E Market St

Asked for updates on the North Shire Infrastructure Project and the upgrades at Sherman Brown Park

James Hodge – 95 E Fulton St.

Took a moment of silence for Donald McKeever