

MINUTES
LONG BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN HALL, LONG BEACH, INDIANA
MARCH 11, 2013

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Council members were present: Robert Angelo presided for President Robert Schaefer who was absent; Jane Neulieb, Patrick McDonald, and Peter Byvoets. Also present were Fire Chief Dave Albers, Street Supt. Tom Dolph, Police Chief Robert Sulkowski, and Clerk-Treasurer William de Funiak. Approximately 25 people attended the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – On motion made and seconded, the minutes of February 11, 2013 were approved.

Allen Hammond, from ADA, spoke about the American Disability Act and the participation of Long Beach in compliance with this Act. Mr. Hammond toured the town and facilities in February and reviewed our procedures. Council President Robert Schaefer was appointed as the council representative to coordinate activities regarding ADA. Indiana was rated 46th out of 50 states and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has mandated compliance by cities and towns throughout Indiana.

Police Department - Chief Bob Sulkowski delivered a report for February which is available in the town hall. He announced the retirement of Officer Michael Chastain after 38 years of service with Long Beach.

Police Commission – Robert Angelo delivered the report. Discussion included retirement benefits for Officer Chastain, and costs of new firearms and evidence material.

Volunteer Fire Department – Chief Dave Albers delivered the report for February 2013; 246 hours year-to-date with about \$10,000 savings to the town. Albers suggested replacing the 24 year old fire truck.

Street Department – Tom Dolph announced leaf pick-up will be conducted by the town employees this year. A schedule will be developed and announced later for pick up. Six (6) large oak trees need to be replaced. The DNR will provide 10 seedlings for the town. Councilman Pat McDonald explained the town signs must be as designated by the federal government and cannot be unique to Long Beach.

Park Board – Jane Neulieb reported the summer program will be conducted as in 2012. Long Beach Community Center maintenance has begun and painting of the front lobby will be done shortly. Stop 21 restoration will begin in early spring.

Community Center – The fire department has donated smoke detectors to be installed at the community center. Clerk-Treasurer, Bill de Funiak said the hot water heaters for the bathrooms were being installed on March 11, 2013.

Water Board - Robert Angelo read the report for Robert Schaefer who was absent. Superintendent Ron Griffin attended classes to renew his license. Next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2013 at 9:00 .m. at town hall.

Budget & Finance – Pete Byvoets reported \$1,000 for magnetic media software from Civic Systems was approved by council. \$2,500 approved for a trip to Civic Systems in Madison, Wisconsin to develop a better understanding of all administrative software.

Building Commission – Expenditures for legal defense of Paul Fithian, Bldg. Commission, in the Thomas King lawsuit have exceeded \$10,000 to date.

Building Permits – Bill de Funiak reported for the month of February, 2013 there were 6 building permits with construction costs of \$149,866.00 and fees to the town of \$1,250.00. There were 5 electric permits totaling \$935.00 with revenue to the town of \$93.50.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the above council reports as presented. Motion approved.

Advisory Plan Commission – Peter Byvoets: The “30 –day rental” ordinance was reviewed and approved by the Advisory Plan Commission. It will take \$7,000 – 9,000 to complete the Lake Shore Drive sewer study. Residents have asked for explanation of the 200 ‘ setback for septic systems. Byvoets said that review seems to show the setback was developed in the 1970’s or 80’s and he is waiting for scientific reports.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Shawn Kaczmarek, 1535 LSD, spoke of Save Moon Valley and coordination with Scott Pelath. He provided his analysis of the suggested study discussed at the last council meeting by Robert Uppencamp.

Dave Albers, 2208 Oriole Tr., spoke of his concern for the health of residents because of indiscriminate pollution of the land around Michigan City.

Jim Neulieb, 2201 Florimond Ave., complimented Jeff Thorne for his 30+ years to the Town of Long Beach as town attorney and suggested a plaque in his honor. He also stated that, in his opinion, Michiana Shores is not paying a sufficient share of police expenses to Long Beach.

Bill Sullivan, 2524 Lake Shore Dr., complimented Peter Byvoets for his continued review of septic separation. He also asked if the old Stop 24 water plant would be available for purchase by developers.

Clerk-Treasurer, Bill de Funiak, urged the town council to be generous with all employees who are retiring before age 65, within financial constraints. He also asked the council to consider benefits for our regular part-timers, including holidays and vacations.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Julie Paulson, Town Attorney, provided her interpretation of the Open Door Law.

Jane Neulieb asked that comments by residents be moved to after the new business portion of the council meetings. Motion made and seconded 2 – 2 . Clerk-Treasurer voted in favor.

Jane Neulieb suggested golf carts be allowed for local transportation. Chief Sulkowski said the subject had been brought up in 2009 but not approved.

CLAIMS APPROVAL: #11016 THROUGH #11072 = Total \$113,580.24

Salaries for February 2013 were \$56,648.24

Motion to approve claims made, seconded and approved.

The next town council meeting will be held Monday, April 8, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William de Funiak, Clerk-Treasurer