

TOWN OF LONG BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING at TOWN HALL
April 10, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Present were Pete Byvoets, Jane Neulieb, Bob Lemay, Joy Schmitt, Nick Meyer; Attorney Julie Paulson from HWL, Clerk-Treasurer Bill de Funiak, LBVFD Treasurer Larry Wall, Police Lieutenant Todd Bullis and Street Supt. Tom Dolph. Fire Chief Dave Albers and Police Chief Bob Sulkowski were not in attendance. There were approximately 30 townspeople in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Joy Schmitt to **approve minutes** for the council meeting of March 13, 2017, second by Bob Lemay, approved 5 – 0.

Police Department – Todd Bullis presented the March police report.

Police Commission – Pete Byvoets reported that Town Hall parking stickers could be updated for 2017 at the police dispatch desk. A sign ordinance was discussed and will be forwarded to the APC. The La Porte County 800 megahertz System to alleviate problems with communication dead spots in LB is still in development. Melrose Park policies were discussed. Body cameras were mentioned with continued considerations regarding control, categorization and distribution. An embellished Noise Ordinance was evaluated.

Fire Department/Fire Commission – Larry Wall read the YTD report through March, 2017. Peter Byvoets reported that continued meetings will be held with the Michigan City Fire Department. Byvoets stated that additional expenses for a new fire truck and expanded fire station will be presented at future meetings. Jim Dehner asked about cost estimates for Long Beach residents. Mary Lou McFadden asked about costs per household for fire protection Pete Byvoets indicated they were \$40/household/year.

Street Department – Tom Dolph mentioned that asphalt patching has been performed and is ongoing. He said that storm remediation required considerable removal of branches and debris from town streets. The leaf pick-up is scheduled for April 24th through April 28th. C-T de Funiak reported that the vendor had agreed to perform the one-pass service for last year's fee, \$4,000.

Street Commission – Jane Neulieb reported that there was no meeting in March and the next meeting would be 4/19 at 5:30 PM. She did mention that it was determined that Beach Clean-up would be the weekend after Memorial Day to attract the most volunteers for the effort.

Park Board – Joy Schmitt reported that Sarah Plooster attended the meeting and provided details for the 7 – week Summer Program. A new backstop and benches will be purchased and installed by staff and volunteers at the LB Community Center. The next meeting is scheduled for 4/26. Jane Neulieb asked about a list of Stop Captains and was promised to be delivered by Joy as soon as available.

Long Beach Community Center met on April 3rd in room 2; Joy reported that a visit by a fire safety vendor discovered a non-working alarm system, installed in 1997. It will be replaced. She stated that a walkthrough by a Lockheed-Martin field engineer would evaluate energy issues and provide suggestions.

Sidewalk repair at the YMCA entrance is required. A price of \$2,759 was presented. Mary Lou McFadden requested that grading to deflect water be considered. Larry Wall was asked about the cost and indicated that \$10/sq ft was a good price. Motion by Byvoets and second by Lemay: passed 5 – 0.

Water Board – Nick Meyer reported that policies for late payments were discussed.

Budget and Finance – C-T de Funiak reported that the members discussed caution on the Stop 24 project.

Human Resources Advisory Committee –Bill de Funiak reported that Family Medical Leave updates to the Employee Handbook would be submitted at a future meeting. Questions about retirement health benefits will need to be reviewed at future B &FC meetings.

Building Department – Bob Lemay made the building report for March. The meeting for April 14th is cancelled because of Good Friday so the next meeting is April 28th at 1:00 PM in room #3 in the community center. Jane asked about citations issued to a builder.

BZA Report - Lemay stated the March 14th meeting was cancelled.

Advisory Plan Commission – Nick Meyer reported that Pat Cannon had resigned and had been replaced by Doug Wickstrom. A special meeting had taken place on April 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. where Bob Lemay was elected President and Secretary of the APC. Discussions are planned for 3 ordinances: View Protection, Non-Conforming Houses/Lots and Continuous Seawalls.

Jane Neulieb asked questions about a recent APC meeting, regarding its purpose, necessity and appropriateness. Jim Neulieb spoke about his opinions of the APC meeting to discuss the Continuous Seawall Ordinance.

March permit revenue report:

Building permit fees of \$3,250.00 on project costs of \$391,665.55
3+ electric permits issued at \$765.00 with town revenue of \$76.50

Legal Expenses paid in March were \$10,995.50 to Harris, Welsh & Lukmann.

Motion by Schmitt and second by Lemay to approve reports and claims; 5-0.

Old Business – de Funiak discussed the earlier decision to ban the clerk-treasurer and his office from attending executive sessions of the council. Nick Meyer made a motion to include the clerk-treasurer in future executive meetings; seconded by Jane Neulieb. Roll call vote was 5-0.

New Business – de Funiak spoke of a block party requested by a resident at Stop 28 in June. de Funiak indicated that Chief Sulkowski had given tentative approval if other residents were informed. Motion by Byvoets and second by Schmitt to permit this activity subject to continued review and approval by the LB Police. Motion passed 5-0.

de Funiak said that the LB Civic Association has asked for permission (as in past years) to conduct the 4th of July celebration, including the parade, concessions and fireworks. They have presented the requisite insurance for the functions. Motion by Pete Byvoets, second by Nick Meyer was approved 5-0.

Nick Meyer brought to the attention of the council a request by a resident to remove a street light near 1907 LSD and add another in the 2900 block of Loma Portal Way. Surrounding residents were in agreement and NIPSCO was amenable to the change. Council approved unanimously.

Nick Meyer discussed the Stop 24 project. He suggested that a phased approach would be most advantageous and that he recommended a Phase 1 study be approved. This effort would include a topographic and engineering study to evaluate the demolition of the pump house and the associated environmental and structural issues. Catherine de la Barre spoke about the need to have money in hand before beginning the project. Marti Riley and Doria Lemay also spoke about the project. Bob Lemay expressed concern about continued upkeep of the stop until project completion. Global Engineering had submitted a bid of \$11,700 for Phase 1. Nick Meyer answered questions about other bidders and indicated that 2 other qualified vendors had declined to bid. Global Engineering is a local firm with experience in LB town projects.

Motion by Byvoets and second by Schmitt to pursue a contract with Global Engineering was approved unanimously.

Public Comments – Mary Lou McFadden, Duffy Lane, spoke about legal expenses and invoices. Bob Boyce, Lake Shore Drive, suggested that better controls be put on access to the town attorney.

Council Comments – There were no council comments.

Claims Approval: Motion by Joy Schmitt and second by Bob Lemay to approve salaries for March of \$63,941.64 and checks #14424 through 14489 totaling \$115,470.71; all were approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill de Funiak
Clerk-Treasurer