

TOWN OF LONG BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING at TOWN HALL
AUGUST 8, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Present were Peter Byvoets, Jane Neulieb, Bob Lemay, Joy Schmitt, and Nick Meyer; Attorney Julie Paulson, Clerk-Treasurer Bill de Funiak, Fire Chief Dave Albers, and Tom Dolph, St. Supt. Police Chief Robert Sulkowski was absent. There were approximately 20-25 people in attendance this evening.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Joy Schmitt to **approve minutes** for the council meeting of July 11, 2016, second by Bob LeMay, approved 5 -0 .

Police Department – Pete Byvoets read the Chief’s report for July. Chief Sulkowski was absent due to a boating accident. Made mention the Long Beach Police Dept has a Facebook page that has a link to the town’s website www.longbeachin.org.

Police Commission – Pete Byvoets reported that the community center doors seem to always be left open. They are trying to solve the problem with some communication with the YMCA in their staff changing shifts and designated routine checks. The temporary building commissioner office that was in the conference room has been removed. About 18 30-day rental advisory letters to residents have been mailed out to those suspected or known to be less than 30 day rentals. Byvoets said letters have also been sent to realtors “so they don’t contribute to this situation”.

The Michigan City Triathlon will be August 13th with limited access to Lake Shore Drive from Michigan City to Stop 24 a couple of hours in the morning.

Outdoor advertising has been an issue the commission is trying to address; the Supreme Court handed down rulings regarding free speech and municipal signage, so just trying to understand it all.

The Chief is working on getting the town hall front stoop fixed. Commission has up to \$3,000 for new computer equipment for the police automobiles. The Northwest Athletic Club will be contributing \$500 toward “the inconvenience” of the Triathlon in August which will be deposited into the general fund.

Nick M. questioned the use of hang tags at Melrose Park with regards to residents parking there. Byvoets mentioned an Ordinance to be passed later in meeting. Joy Schmitt mentioned the NAC was uncertain about the positioning of the triathlon signs along Lake Shore Drive, and who was to place them. Byvoets said he would take care of it when the NAC called him.

Fire Department/Fire Commission – Dave Albers read the Y-T-D report through July 2016; no fire commission meeting. Jane questioned Albers about EMS calls.

Byvoets noted that **on August 1st, Chief Robert Sulkowski celebrated his 35th Anniversary** with the Long Beach Police Department; the audience congratulated him with applause.

Street Department/Street Commission – Tom Dolph reported street department work done throughout the month. New signs were placed at Melrose Park. Drains were maintained around town. Some maintenance on playground equipment was done at Community Center. Street paving requirements were written up so bids could be published soon.

There is a proposal of \$2,000 from Maple City Tree Service to enhance the view on the west side of Stop 24 by removing a cottonwood tree and trimming others. Another price of \$750 to remove tree/bush debris on the east side was mentioned, although addressing maintenance of the east side would be at a later date. (See add'l information from Tom Dolph's notes) Jane proposed proceeding with \$2,750 worth of tree work by Maple City Tree Service at Stop 24, Nick seconded; passed 5 – 0.

Bids for the front loader went out a couple of weeks ago with bid submission deadline of August 19th; street paving bids still in progress.

Jane reported the Street Commission met on July 20th at 9:00 a.m. (see Jane's report/minutes of 7/20/16 for more) Next meeting is Wednesday, August 17th at 9:00 a.m.

Park Board – Joy Schmitt reported the committee met July 27th and read report. She stated the Board investigated party affiliations for members of the park board; Kendra Bartlett and Bill Hazelgrove are Republicans, De La Barre and Massey are registered as Independents. She welcomed Jerri Massey to the Park Board. Sarah Plooster submitted a final report on the 2016 summer camp program. Hazelgrove commended the police department for their recently patrolling near Melrose Park and monitoring vehicles at the intersections ensuring stop signs are being obeyed since children are using the new park.

Long Beach Community Center – Joy Schmitt reported the committee met on August 1st. Possibly some new programs will be accepted at the center and through the YMCA. Repair work on the façade is underway with Austin Masonry. The new roof estimate for the 2017 capital budget is \$200,000.00; the roof is going to be replaced. Door replacement for 2017 capital budget is \$13,000; \$3,100/per door. Window glazing is under investigation by Doug Wickstrom. Joe Jogmen is waiting on a yearly maintenance proposal on the 24 separate heat pumps. Future uses for room #12 are being contemplated; Doug Wickstrom is waiting for a proposal from Central Indiana Hardware for re-keying the building; the building commission office has moved to room #3; there will be a check for \$600 written to the Town and coming sometime in September for some old YMCA equipment; there was discussion of the Town paying/transferring funds for possible rent/use of room #3 for the building commission office. (See Community Center 8/1 report for more) Next meeting was rescheduled for September 12th.

Water Board – Nick Meyer reported the board met on July 25th. Long Beach's water quality is fine. The water bill is explained on the website www.longbeachin.org. Next meeting is scheduled for August 29th.

Budget and Finance –Byvoets announced that the 2017 budget is in the process of completion. Front loader bid requests have been sent. The Wheel Tax possibility was researched but is only available to communities with a population of at least 10,000.

Human Resources Advisory Committee –de Funiak announced that the ad for a Building Inspector is being prepared.

Building Commission – Lemay reported there was no meeting; no building permit report was given but stated the commission will meet on August 12, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Advisory Plan Commission – Nick Meyer said a meeting with McKenna & Associates was held on July 18th and was basically about McKenna discussing results of the survey. Another meeting was scheduled for August 15th to start formulating a plan with those results. Nick says they plan to proceed with the Stop 24 project and would like permission to submit a pre-application for the Coastal Master Grant due

in September for \$100,000.00. Pete motioned and Jane seconded for Nick to proceed with the pre-application for this grant; passed 5 – 0. Nick will have an update for next month’s council meeting.

July permit revenue report: Fees of \$ collected on project costs of \$; 5 electric permit issued at \$658.00 with town revenue of \$65.80; 2 Street Cut Permits with revenue of \$200.00.

Legal Expenses paid in July were \$22,697.50 to Harris, Welsh & Lukmann.

Reports and claims were approved 5-0.

In Unfinished Business Jane Neulieb reported that Republic Services, Inc. would charge us an additional \$100 to empty beach stop garbage cans on the Friday before a Monday holiday.

Pete Byvoets explained the Net Assessed Value and CCD computations.

In New Business Resolution #16-001: Use Riverboat Funds for legal Fees, moving \$60,000 from Riverboat Capital Outlays to Riverboat Audit/Legal was discussed. Mary Lou McFadden, Duffy Lane, asked if this was for current or future legal costs. W. de Funiak explained that it covered \$6,000 of budget overrun and the balance was for future expenses. The **Resolution was approved 5 – 0.**

Ordinance #16-08 was presented, **modifying Ordinance 72.14 to include a requirement for “hang tags” at Melrose Park.** The ordinance was approved unanimously on first reading; motion to suspend rules was passed 5 – 0. The ordinance was **approved 5 – 0** on second reading.

Pete Byvoets related his discussions with the State Fire & Safety Commission. Amended wording was suggested for the building codes and Pete will complete the approval process with the commission next month.

Pete also announced that the building commission office has been moved to Room #3 in the Long Beach Community Center. The Building Inspector search includes ads with IACT, La Porte Herald-Argus, the Michigan City News-Dispatch, and the Beacher and the town’s website.

Council approved amending the minutes of the June 17th meeting to appoint Larry Wall interim Building Commissioner/Inspector.

Mary O’Neil asked if the Council felt that appointing an active builder as commissioner/inspector was a conflict of interest.

Ordinance #16-09: Establishing a Salary for the Position of Interim Building Commissioner/Inspector, approving Larry Wall as interim building commissioner/inspector at a pay rate of \$25/hour with a maximum of 12 hrs. a week, was passed on first reading. Motion to suspend rules was approved unanimously. **Ordinance #16-09 was approved 5 – 0 on 2nd reading.**

Clerk-Treasurer de Funiak explained that a **remonstrance petition against the new CCD ordinance** had been submitted to La Porte County Auditor, Joie Winski. After verifying the status of the 97 petitioners, it was forwarded to the DLGF (Department of Local Government Finance) in Indianapolis. A hearing will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jim Dehner, Fairway Drive, spoke about costs for fire improvements and legal expenses.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Jane Neulieb requested that the August 20, 2016 open town hall meeting at the gym not be cancelled and proceed as scheduled. This was approved.

Claims Approval: Motion and second to approve salaries for July of \$116,456.10 and checks #13870 through 13934 totaling \$104,746.73; all were approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill de Funiak
Clerk-Treasurer