

**TOWN HALL MEETING  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2016, 9am  
LONG BEACH COMMUNITY CENTER  
HISTORICAL ROOM 2**

Council members present: Bob Lemay, Joy Schmitt  
Residents present: 16

Issues discussed-

Can we have a handbook/booklet for rules, regs, building info, permit info, etc. It was noted that the Communication Committee is working on this issue. Could possibly even cover the cost with advertising from local vendors at back, coupons for pizza, etc.

What can be done about noise pollution? Example presented was trying to enjoy sunset on beach with lakefront homeowner consistently blaring their music. Is there an ordinance? How can police enforce the ordinance? It was suggested to have a conversation with the homeowner to try and resolve. If that is unsuccessful, what recourse do you have?

Dogs on beach and dogs not on leashes. It was pointed out that below the OHWM, the DNR allows dogs on the beach. Does DNR require them to be on a leash? If dogs are not on leash around town what is the consequence?

What can be done about the garbage on the beach? Can we get more pick ups in the summer? Can we get more toters? How can we disguise the ugly toters?

Question regarding safety issues with the large number of people staying in some houses, particularly in summer on LSD. Overload on septic? Vehicles squeezed in everywhere.

Should weekly rentals be allowed? Mixed bag of those in favor and those against. Residents would like Council to not move on this issue until

survey results from McKenna are analyzed. Is it possible to control who you rent to?

Bonfires on the beach. Could a "proper procedure" be handed out to residents when they obtain the permit? Eg. How to extinguish, how to clean up. Is there any follow up to see if proper procedure was followed? Issue is, resident found embers still burning next morning even though it was a permitted bonfire. Not safe.

Residents concerned about speeding in Long Beach and running of stop signs. It was suggested to notify police and they will monitor for a time and issue tickets. Problem becomes, this is only a short term fix and issue returns after police are done monitoring that area. Is there an answer?

Why are golf carts not allowed in Long Beach? If a golf cart is street legal with seat belts, lights, turn signals, license plate and insurance and requires a licensed driver, why can they only be driven to and from the golf course?

Can Long Beach reclaim their property that has been encroached upon at the stops? It was pointed out that certain areas were vacated or traded by previous councils in the past and nothing can be done about those, but what about the ones that have just been encroached upon? Will a survey be done to show what could/should be reclaimed?

Why are the taxpayers paying for the 1929 survey? Why is the Alliance not paying for that since it does not appear to be relevant for any other reason? All the homes north of LSD have deeds for their property, what is the point of saying their deeds were non existent in 1929?

Builders appear to be encroaching on the stops. Is there an ordinance regarding spec houses in Long Beach?

Is it possible to get a bad contractor off the approved contractor list for Long Beach? It was pointed out that it is up to the homeowner to ask the contractor/builder to produce evidence of a bond that protects the homeowner. The \$10,000 registration bond required by the town only protects the town and proof of workman's compensation.

How do you know if you need a building permit? You can check the building codes or ask the Building Commissioner. You need to be very specific as to whether the permit is for improvement or repair. If you make a \$50,000 repair and it gets listed as an improvement, your taxes will increase. Your taxes should not increase for a repair. Example given was a tree falling on a house which caused a \$45,000 repair which got listed as an improvement.

We have a full time Building Commissioner and a part time Building Commission. Will the Building Commissioner be able to answer questions so there are no delays for residents wanting to move forward on projects? Having to wait for the next Building Commission meeting to get an answer to a non complicated question seems unreasonable to residents.

Is there an existing survey of all of the stops?

Wider steps are needed at stop 29. Residents state they are so narrow that 2 people are unable to pass each other on steps.

Is there a plan for ADA compliant access to the beach? Bill deFuniak stated that the specialist suggested Stop 30 would be the best selection although they should be available every half mile. Every half mile does not appear to be feasible for Long Beach.

There was much discussion regarding the molybdenum contamination coming from Criterion and Cytek on Hwy 12. It is now in the ground water and there is a plume spreading in the ground water toward Lake Michigan east of Lake Kai at Beachwalk. The contamination has already reached Lake Michigan. The company asked permission of the previous Council to put more wells for testing on Long Beach property. Bob Lemay is working on setting up a public meeting with representatives from Michigan City Sanitary District, Cytek and MC Mayor Ron Meer. Notices will be posted when details are available.

Could different rules be set up for residents depending on the season? Residents feel we live two different lives in Long Beach in summer and winter. Example brought up was 10 minute parking at stops.

Could there be different rules in winter so full time residents could spend an hour or two walking on beach or watching sunset?

Discussion of a letter that was distributed to residents at last Council meeting from a disbarred attorney that is now involved in town government. Resident stated after looking at public records, that letter was not completely honest due to omission. Joy and Bob have not seen the letter and requested that it be forwarded to them.

Why were the committee seats only filled with supporters of the Long Beach Party? Why were active committee members politely dismissed and not asked to finish their term or continue serving. Will the Council reconsider their process when committee members are appointed next year? Some residents do not feel this type of action will bring our community together. One resident commented that she feels there is a more diverse group of residents on the committees than there was previously. One resident stated he was asked to be on a two committees and he has never contributed to the Alliance and did not vote for a slate, he voted for individuals he thought would be best for the town.

Since there are no longer wards in Long Beach, would the Council consider having Stop representatives to provide input as to what is important for residents at each Stop?

Is there a way to get to know our police force? Could their photos be put on website? Could there be a photo and article about each of them in the Beacher. How can we improve the relationship between the police and the residents?

How can we improve Stop 24? Residents feel this should be the showcase of Long Beach. Can a committee be put together to come up with some options? Open air pavilion? ADA access? Landscaping?

Can the Stops be considered as parks and be returned to the Park Board so future monies can be spent on the Stops? Residents feel that now that our 2 parks have been taken care of, the Stops seem like a good place to spend Park Board money.

Are the drainage issues at the stops being addressed? Long time residents stated there have been drainage issues for over 40 years, particularly at Stops 23 and 22. It was stated that current council and street department are working on permanent fixes for these drainage issues.

All residents attending we extremely pleased at having the opportunity to openly discuss their individual issues. Many different opinions but nothing hateful and we did laugh a lot. I thought the atmosphere was comfortable.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Schmitt