

TOWN OF LONG BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING at TOWN HALL
February 12, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Present were Pete Byvoets, Jane Neulieb, Bob Lemay, Joy Schmitt, Nick Meyer; Clerk-Treasurer Bill de Funiak, Police Chief Bob Sulkowski, Street Superintendent Tom Dolph, Long Beach Volunteer Fire Chief Dave Albers and Town Attorney Christopher Willoughby of Braje, Nelson & Janes. There were approximately 20 townspeople in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Lemay repeated his request that comments from the audience be done during the public comments portion of the meeting and that, responses by the council (if they choose), be done during the council session at the end of the meeting.

Police Department – Chief Bob Sulkowski presented the January, 2018 police report.

Police Commission – No Police Commission meeting was held in January.

Fire Department/Fire Commission – Dave Albers read the January report. He again complimented the Water and Street departments for their timely response to the January 4th fire hydrant accident. The Fire Commission will meet on Feb. 19th.

Street Department – Tom Dolph reported on the recent heavy snowfall that has been handled by the Street and Water Departments. The Town Council complimented them for their efforts.

Street Commission – Jane Neulieb reported that the commission had been invited to the next Park Board meeting to identify and prioritize beach stop improvements. The town drain pipe that exists on private property at Stop 16 will be shortened and positive discussions are ongoing with the homeowner. Pete Byvoets asked and received information on the progress of the Street Asset Management study being performed by Haas and Associates. There was attorney input as Pete had questions about the drain pipe issue mentioned above.

Park Board – Joy Schmitt provided a progress report on the 2017 Children’s Park Program. She also stated that routine sweeps of the beach stops will be made during the summer season, with chairs and other paraphernalia removed and left at the Maintenance Building. Jane asked about the reason for this procedure. Joy stated that neither Duneland Beach nor Michigan City allowed private property to be left at public beaches. Schmitt urged people to attend a park board meeting if they wished to discuss this. She will have Nick post this new Park Board rule on the website. The Park Board welcomed the new member of the park board, Zach Neff, at its January meeting. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 6 PM.

Long Beach Community Center Committee – Joy Schmitt reported that LED lighting had been installed in most of the common areas in the LBCC. Estimates for the cost in replacing the LBCC roof were being researched. A new gym usage policy has been developed, was read by Schmitt, and will be posted on the town web-site. The next meeting is March 5th at 4:00 p.m.

The **Water Board** met on January 22nd at 9:00 a.m. Nick Meyer reported that the fire hydrant break was discussed. The 2018 budget was approved. Discussions about re-painting the water tower were conducted.

Budget and Finance – Will meet on February 14th at 8:30 a.m.

Human Resources Advisory Committee – de Funiak said that no meeting was held.

Building Department – Bob Lemay reported on the January and February Building Commission meetings.

BZA Report – Lemay reported that Mike Gorman was elected BZA Chairman and John Wall was elected Vice-Chairman and reported on the January 9th meeting.

Advisory Plan Commission – Nick Meyer reported the commission met on January 15th; that Shabica & Associates had provided input on the Beach Protection Ordinance being developed. Bob Lemay commented that more work would be done, in this regard, at the February APC meeting.

January permit revenue report:

Pete Byvoets reported that 7 permits were issued with a total project cost of \$137,256 with town revenue of \$1,050.

C-T de Funiak announced that six electrical permits were issued for \$1,004.00 with town revenue of \$100.40.

Legal Expenses – Legal expenses paid in January were \$1,010.00 to Blachly, Tabor, Bozik and Hartman, \$9,443.50 to Knight, Hoppe, Kurnick & Knight.

Motion by Byvoets and second by Meyer to approve reports and claims. Motion to approve claims and reports was passed 5-0.

Old Business –

- Discussion was conducted regarding the Michiana Shores and Duneland Beach Police Protection agreements. Councilwoman Neulieb stressed that the contracts should be approved in an open council meeting, so that the public could be apprised of the financial dealings of the town. C-T de Funiak read the fees of the Michiana Shores agreement. Motion by Byvoets, second by Schmitt, and both agreements were approved unanimously. Lemay will be discussing the Duneland Beach contract with Chief Sulkowski and Duneland Beach Association.

Nick Meyer provided an update on the Stop 24 project.

Discussions among Neulieb, Schmitt and Meyer were conducted regarding the potential sewer project in Long Beach. Topics included Michigan City Sanitary District, possible LB participants and the State Revolving Fund. Neulieb believes the public should have opinion/input on the sewer project for Long Beach.

New Business –

- President Lemay stated that the 2017 committee/commission assignments remained the same with the exception of Mike Konicek, replacing Mike Horton on the Human Resources Advisory Committee.

Public Comments –

C-T de Funiak asked that the council instruct all their committee/commission chairs to send minutes and proceedings to the clerk's office, in addition to the web-site. Additionally, he asked that when council members make agreements with vendors that vendors be told to contact the treasurer's office, since that is the only way they can be paid.

Bill Irvine, Idlewood, asked when and where the next APC meeting takes place.

Resident Bob Boyce asked about the existence of a Long Beach Disaster Recovery Plan. President Lemay said that he was not aware of one, but that contact with Building Commissioner Larry Wall would be his suggestion.

Resident Mary Lou McFadden asked about the 35% lot coverage rule and was told that it had been in existence for quite some time. She also questioned the Palm Survey and the \$10,000 expense Long Beach paid.

Council Comments –

Bob Lemay spoke about the consultant assisting in the development of the Shoreline Protection ordinance; and stated no beach shoreline survey was done as was first addressed. The \$4,500 for the coastal expert's services had already been approved.

Jane Neulieb also commented on the need to work to provide a long-term solution for the Long Beach shoreline.

Claims Approval: Motion by Byvoets and second by Schmitt to approve check numbers #15154 through #15269 plus Shabica & Associates and Kurt West Garner invoices, totaling \$261,226.24 and salaries for January of \$90,896.17; approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM. with motion and second from Byvoets and Schmitt.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill de Funiak Clerk-Treasurer