

TOWN OF LONG BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING at LONG BEACH TOWN CENTER
October 8, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Present were Councilpersons Bob Lemay, Nick Meyer, Pete Byvoets, Joy Schmitt, Jane Neulieb; Clerk-Treasurer Bill de Funiak, Police Chief Bob Sulkowski, Long Beach Volunteer Fire Chief Dave Albers and Town Attorney Chris Willoughby of Braje, Nelson & Janes. There were approximately 30 townspeople in attendance, Marilyn Jones & Associates court reporter and Access LaPorte County (ALCO) were present. Street Superintendent Tom Dolph was not in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Council Meeting minutes of September 10, 2018; motion made by Schmitt, second by Byvoets for approval, were approved 5 – 0. Minutes of the Budget Hearing of September 17, 2018 were approved 5 -0. Minutes of the Budget Adoption meeting on October 1, 2018 were approved 5 – 0.

Police Department – Chief Sulkowski presented the September, 2018 report.

Police Commission – Pete Byvoets reported that Firearms Training has been completed, the 30 day rental ordinance was discussed and the Ordinance Violations Bureau procedures have been forwarded to Attorney Willoughby. Jane Neulieb asked about radio coverage.

Fire Department/Fire Commission – Dave Albers read the YTD report through September. He urged residents to check batteries on smoke detectors and CO detectors. No Fire Commission meeting was held.

Street Department/Street Commission – Jane Neulieb reported that leaf pick-up would begin on a date between October 29th and November 5th. The leaf vacuums (3) are in good working order. The Street Commission met on 9/19. Drainage/erosion issues on Moore Road were discussed. Several planned street cuts were evaluated.

Park Board – Joy Schmitt reported that the Park Board intends to complete upgrades at Stop 22 and 26 by year-end. Discussions followed regarding weddings on the beach at Town Stops. Consensus was reached that wedding ceremonies with minimum disruption would be allowed, but receptions would not be permitted.

Long Beach Community Center Committee – Joy Schmitt indicated that all electrical fixtures had been converted to LED. New paper towel and toilet paper dispensers have been installed. The roof replacement project will begin in October and it appears that GAF will donate the roof shingles. This will reduce the project expense by \$17,000.

Water Board – Nick Meyer reported that Water Department Office Manager Barbara Stupeck has announced her retirement. Her official date for retirement is February 28, 2019. Plans are underway for development of a comprehensive job description and an active recruiting campaign.

Budget and Finance – Pete Byvoets discussed the financing for the LBCC roof.

Human Resources Advisory Committee – No meeting. C-T DeFuniak said a meeting would be held in October to discuss open positions and those soon to be open following retirements.

Building Department – Commissioner Larry Wall made the Building Department report. He then complained about the comments made by resident Ernie Summers at the recent DNR meeting. President Lemay commented that a clerical error had been made by not removing a “Pending” designation on a permit log. Comments by Byvoets and Neulieb followed.

BZA Report – Lemay reported that a preliminary hearing was held on property owned by Hnatusko, 2503 Lake Shore Drive, at the 9/11/2018 BZA meeting.

Advisory Plan Commission – Nick Meyer reported on the recent APC meeting.

September permit revenue report:

C-T de Funiak reported that permits were issued with total town revenue of \$7,758.00 for project costs of \$736,145.00.

C-T de Funiak announced that 2 electrical permits were issued for \$405.00 with town revenue of \$40.50. 4 Street Cut permits were issued with fees of \$400.00.

Legal Expenses – Legal expenses paid in September were \$8,496.41 to Braje, Nelson & Janes, LLC.

A motion was made by Schmitt and a second by Byvoets to approve the reports. Motion carried by 5 - 0.

Old Business – Schmitt reported on the proposed sewer system. She requested that the council approve the expense of a letter to all residents on Lake Shore Drive, providing details on the options available to them regarding the sewer system. Motion made by Schmitt, second by Byvoets, approved 4 – 1.

The Toter Ordinance was discussed. A motion by Byvoets with second by Schmitt and amendment by Lemay and second by Byvoets to enforce the current Toter Ordinance, beginning in 2019, passed 4 – 1.

New Business –

DeFuniak spoke about the need to replace the 20-year old phone system. He indicated that he had received a proposal from New Age for a new Panasonic phone system which would include phones and maintenance for a 60 month period. At the end of that period, Long Beach would own the phones and could purchase a maintenance agreement with the vendor. Fees would be \$375/month for the 60 month contract. Motion by Byvoets, second by Schmitt, was approved 5 – 0.

Trick or Treat hours -October 31st, 5 – 7 p.m. were announced.

Healy Landscaping has provided a proposal to perform leaf pick-up at last year’s prices. Motion by Neulieb and second by Byvoets to accept the Healy proposal was approved 5 – 0.

De Funiak and Lemay will meet with Republic Services representatives regarding contract renewal and additional services regarding toter placements.

Motion by Schmitt and second by Byvoets to accept loan proposal from First Source Bank for the new Community Center roof, was approved 5 – 0. Motion by Meyer, second by Byvoets to approve Lemay to sign loan document was approved 5 – 0.

Public Comments:

Bob Boyce, Lake Shore Drive, complained about the La Porte County Health Department (LPHD) moratorium on septic systems north of LSD. Pete Byvoets explained his involvement with LPHD. Boyce then asked why Larry Wall had informed LPHD of the Barr septic failure. Larry said that he could not recall any contact with LPHD regarding septic failures.

Ernie Summers, Elbridge Way, requested a meeting with Larry Wall to discuss what he considered to be inconsistencies in the building department reporting.

Attorney Steve Hale, Michigan City, requested action on the resident Jaksa proposal to pursue a private connection to the MC Sanitary District sewer system.

Nancy McGeady, Chastleton Drive, repeated her request for a deer cull.

Brian Kanyer, Oakenwald Ave., spoke of the health hazards presented by the over-population of the deer community.

Councilman Nick Meyer will bring information to the November meeting regarding neighboring communities' handling of the deer population.

Keith Davis, Chastleton Drive, questioned the use of crossbows in Duneland Beach.

Dave Albers, LBVFD Chief, made some suggestions on the toter issue.

Boyce suggested that the first day of enforcement of the toter ordinance not begin in the winter season.

Council Comments:

Claims Approval: Motion by Neulieb and second by Byvoets to approve check numbers #15747 through #15811, totaling \$137,648.99 and salaries for September of 62;241.68, approved by a vote of 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM. with motion and second from Byvoets and Schmitt.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill de Funiak Clerk-Treasurer