

TOWN OF LONG BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING at Town Hall
via In Person / Zoom
August 8, 2022
7:00 p.m.

All council members Bob Lemay (via Zoom), John Wall, Mary Lou McFadden, Mike Johnstone, and John Kocher, Clerk-Treasurer Perry, Police Chief Mark Swistek, Attorney Chris Willoughby of Braje, Nelson & Janes, and Marilyn Jones & Associates were present either in person at Town Hall or via Zoom. ALCO was present to record this meeting for television viewing. Approximately 20 Zoom/in person audience members attended the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance, with meeting convening at 7:00 p.m.

Wall, in attendance at Town Hall announced Lemay is attending by zoom and Attorney Willoughby reminded the council that this evening's meeting would need to include roll call voting with Lemay on zoom.

Wall added to tonight's agenda: 1) CCMG Revisions; 2) Stop 16 Cottonwoods; 3) Stop 21 Drainage; 4) Stop 18 increase of funds over \$8,000; 5) Appointments to the Advisory Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

Town Council meeting July 11, 2022 and Special Council meeting August 1, 2022 minutes were unanimously approved 5 – with a motion and second by Kocher and Johnstone.

All department/ committee reports were read. These council meetings are recorded and are on the town's website for viewing. In brief:

Police Department/Police Commission – Swistek gave the report for July. Announced that Jeremy Van Giesen would like to, once again, use the gymnasium on January 29, 2023 for the Red Cross blood drive. McFadden motions to approve that event for Jeremy; Kocher seconds; approved 5 – 0. There wasn't a police commission meeting to report on.

As Town Administrator: - Swistek stated that new microphones/system is in use now for meetings in Town Hall. There will be a Street Dept. truck in service by November. The cooling tower is now running properly at community center. With regards to the short-term rental agreement with Granicus; there are 8 properties, 1 in violation. This is the first year that three 30-day leases have been submitted to the Clerk's office. Work in progress for the additional Long Beach email addresses for committee members.

Fire Department/Fire Commission – Wall gave the fire report for July with fire/medical call stats. Quotes for a new fire truck are coming in. The survey for the station has been completed.

Public Works met on August 1st. The CCMG revised schedule was discussed. Stop 17, 18 21, and 28 drainage issues were discussed. Residents will see a 1.4% decrease on their water bills thanks to House Bill 1002.

Park Board met July 28th. The design for Stop 18 is in progress. Art in the Park was a big success. This year's summer camp registered over 180 campers. The committee talked about the stop 16 cottonwood trees and stated there are no drainage issues at Stop 16.

Long Beach Community Center Committee – Kocher gave the report and said the capital improvement schedule is in progress.

Budget and Finance met on August 3rd. Perry stated the second half of the cooling tower for the community center had been paid.

Human Resources Advisory Committee - McFadden mentioned the committee was discussing the possible increase for employees and longevity pay for those over 20 years of service and performance appraisals for employees. She stated there are still 2 “outliers” yet to work on with regards to wages. Working on an office staff analysis by calling Burns Harbor, Westville, and Porter Clerks’ offices.

The **Tree Board** stated they are tweaking the Tree Ordinance for consideration. The tulip tree purchased will be planted at the community center.

The **Building Commission** will meet on August 12th. No meeting to report since last council meeting.

Board of Zoning Appeals met on July 12th. Public hearing held for 2016 Oriole Trail petition for variance and approved. Public hearing for Yellow Bear Farms, Captains Walk, petition for variance was continued to August 19, 2022.

Advisory Plan Commission met August 1st. Regarding a possible amendment to the Shoreline Preservation Ordinance, Attorney Willoughby continues to contact the DNR and Army Corp of Engineers. If no response from these two parties he suggests the council think about changes to the ordinance. Public Hearing on the Steep Slope ordinance was continued. The Non-conforming property ordinance was sent to council with a favorable recommendation.

Building Permit Revenue Report for July 2022: There were 16 permits issued totaling \$430,275.00 w/ Town revenue of \$5,027.00; 4 electric permits totaling \$1,099.00; 4 street cut permits with \$400.00 revenue.

July Legal expenses paid totaling \$18,937.50 to Braje, Nelson & Janes

A motion made and second by Wall and McFadden to approve all committee and revenue reports + legal expenses; approved 5-0.

Old Business –

2nd Reading of the #2022-10 Solar Ordinance: Johnstone motions to approve the ordinance. Lemay spoke of a recent fire where the house had solar panels hooked up to the NIPSCO grid. He says homeowners should notify the fire department with information like this. It was agreed that amendments be made to this ordinance so it can be presented again at the September meeting.

New Business –

The blood drive was discussed in the police report earlier in this meeting.

The stop 18 pillar light repairs will be done within the next 30 days.

The resolution regarding Dept. Heads expenditures authorization was tabled until September meeting.

There was clarification given by Attorney Willoughby as to who has jurisdiction over the bus stops and he stated the bus stops are under council's control.

Ordinance #2022-11: Amending and Restating Title XV, Chapter 154, Sections 154.125 - 154.135

(Nonconforming Uses and Structures) of the Zoning Code of the Town of Long Beach, IN was approved unanimously 5 – 0 with Lemay's motion to pass and McFadden's second, and with Lemay's motion to suspend the rules and second by Wall. Approved on second reading.

Wall announced the CCMG paving project costs and the increase in the work scope and requested council's approval of the increase. Johnstone motions and McFadden seconds; 5 – 0.

Wall spoke about the Stop curb work east of Stop 21 and requests \$9,000 expenditure be taken from storm water funds. Wall motions and McFadden seconds the request. Approved 5 – 0.

Wall states work to commence Wednesday, August 10 on drainage at Stop 18 and expenses increased to \$10,000 for ramp, etc. Requests the additional funds with a motion; second by McFadden; 5 – 0.

Lemay announces the vacancy to be filled upon expired term of Anita Remijas on the Advisory Plan Commission and recommends Matt Karstrand with council agreement. Lemay appoints Fred Woods Jr. to the Board of Zoning Appeals to fill a vacancy left by Rich Jercich's resignation. Johnstone motions and McFadden seconds the appointments; approved 5 – 0.

Council will be restructuring the Board of Public Works. There are currently 8 members serving on the committee. More about this matter at the September meeting.

Public Comments –

William Becht, 2925 Lake Shore, thanked the council and park board for opening the Stop 29 beach access. He addressed the council on a neighbor's property that he believes is being split to (2) non-conforming lots. Lemay told Becht he sent Becht's letter to the town attorney. Willoughby then commented on the law and town code.

Anita Remijas, Florimond Ave, thanked Chief Swistek for enforcing town ordinances. She commented about the cottonwood trees being gone at Stop 13.

Claims Approval: Checks #19055 through #19127 totaling \$192,292.38; July payroll was \$85,478.50

A motion to approve by Lemay, second by Johnstone; approved 5-0

Motion and second to adjourn by Johnstone and second by McFadden, approved 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna Carlson,

Deputy Clerk