

Town of Long Beach
Council Meeting
June 12, 2023
7 PM

Attending the meeting this evening were all five council members-Lemay, Johnstone, Wall, McFadden, and Kocher. Atty. Willoughby, Police Chief Swistek, and present also was ALCO TV cameraman. Marilyn Jones & Associates with Becky Lempa, reporter, was in house.

After the Pledge, Lemay added to the agenda- Stop 29 and leaf pick up for unimproved lots.

Minutes were approved for the executive council meeting on May 26th and the special council meeting on May 26, 2023 with a motion by McFadden and second by Johnstone. Both sets of minutes approved 5 - 0. Minutes of the May 8th regular council meeting are pending completion.

All committee reports were read by department heads. On file with this meeting are the reports by the Fire Department and the Police department. There were no meetings, so no reports, for the Community Center committee, the Human Resources, the Tree Board, and the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

Special mention - In July Swistek will know if the Police department has received a grant or not from the IN Criminal Justice Service, the State Fire Marshal report on the 1302 Lake Shore Drive house fire is forthcoming along with the local incident report.

A new employee, Diane Heitmann, was introduced as the water department office manager; she started the first of April in that position.

Perry stated the calendar year 2022 is not closed yet due, partially, to the 2022 bank reconciliations not complete by Cender & Co.

A newly formed ordinance currently at the APC level will go to public hearing with the council in June.

Permit reports and Legal expenses were announced by Perry: 36 building permits issued totaling \$1,286,194.00 with revenue of \$13,879.00; 4 electric permits issued totaling \$744.00; 1 street cut permit with revenue of \$100.00.

Legal expenses paid in May to Braje Nelson & Jane's totaled \$ 6,312.00. Motion to approve all reports and legal expenses was made by Lemay; second by Johnstone and passes 5 - 0.

Public Hearing of Ordinance #2023-____: re: Amending and restating Water Rates and/or Charges for Use of the Services Rendered by the Town of Long Beach Water Department was held. Changes were made to Section 3D only. No one spoke as supporting the ordinance. Mary O'Neil, 1532 LSD, questions council on what warrants vacant lots to be charged? Bob Route, 2501 LSD, questions the fire protection fee. Nicola Chalik, 1412 LSD, questions the billing procedures. The public hearing portion is closed. Johnstone motions to approve and pass the ordinance/McFadden seconds and it passes 5 - 0.

Chapter 96 of the Town code regarding leaf pick up is discussed also. Willoughby will amend that chapter per motion by Lemay and second by McFadden; approved 5 - 0.

J. Wall stated he met with residents at Stop 29 "trying to negotiate the Woodruff invoice, to settle at \$80,000.00". J. Wall motions for the council to approve the \$80,000 amount "to

settle”, so “Wall can ask Woodruff for an \$80,000.00 invoice to present to the council. Lemay seconds that motion. It does not pass with a 2 - 3 vote. Kocher tells Wall to get the invoice for the \$80,000.00, or less, first, and then the council will review/ discuss the invoice for possible approval. That was then put as a motion by Kocher; second by Wall and approved 5 - 0.

Perry states he put \$500,000.00 of town money into a 30-day CD at 4.75% and it earned \$3,702 interest. Kocher calls for more money in investments for quick interest earnings. Perry will call Horizon Bank for rates.

Perry gave an update on moving Civic software to the cloud and explained the process is more difficult than he expected.

Lemay stated he spoke with Haas & Associates Engineering about the private sewers of the LSD residents and will go to their office to meet. A report from Haas is holding.

Perry announced he has been making phone calls about financing for the fire department’s anticipated new fire truck.

Willoughby is contacting the LP County and working on the Interlocal agreement with them; when ready, council will then address.

Lemay dismissed the letter to Spirit Airlines; he noted no letter was needed.

The annual Higdon family 5K run on the fourth of July was given approval by council with a motion by McFadden and second by Lemay. All approved with 5 - 0 vote.

A party at 2522 Glendale Way that calls for a request to close Glendale Way on July 22nd has been granted. The party will take place from 6 - 10 PM. Motion to approve by Lemay; second by McFadden; passes 5 - 0.

A resident at 2006 Idlewood requests a street closure for a Silvertip block party on June 24th. The closure between Silvertip and Somerset between 5-11 PM was granted with a motion by McFadden and second by Johnstone; passes 5 - 0.

A proposal from Jakab Falatovics to place stairs to the water tower was presented by Swistek; for \$10,800.00. Since there are funds in the 2023 water department budget to pay for this, it was approved with a motion by McFadden and second by Johnstone. 5 - 0.

The request to hire Laurel Kuczinski as part time help for the clerk-treasurer’s office for \$19.00/hr. and within budget was approved with a motion by McFadden and second by Johnstone. Passes 5 - 0.

There was discussion about a buyout of the cell tower lease from Tower Point for a lump sum cost of \$170,000.00. The council asks that this subject be tabled for now.

J. Wall motions to approve, for payment, Holliday Construction Group’s revised invoice #3 for \$346,777.72. Lemay seconds the motion. Kocher questions the status of the septic permit, after which Wall says “it was re-submitted to the State and the County. Willoughby clarifies some important questions raised on the public safety building’s usage. Johnstone asked Wall

for final drawings on the building, since those on current file are at 90% complete and not at 100% complete. Johnstone wants to suspend payment until 100% final drawings/ plans are received and reviewed. Kocher asked what is included in this current invoice. Wall states June 19th is demo day! And the building is being delivered at the end of June. Lemay makes a motion to table the approval of the invoice until after the working group of the budget and finance meet on the 20th at 11 AM and the Fire Commission meets. They motion is seconded by McFadden; 5 - 0 vote.

Lemay motions to allow the water department to instruct Haas & Associates to solicit bids for the water service replacement project on LSD. McFadden seconds the motion. It passes 5 - 0. This will be the final phase for approximately 140 homes along Lake Shore Drive in the replacement project.

Public Comments begin with Carol Tormey, 1706 LSD who addresses the council and questions selective enforcement of rules in Long Beach regarding sand removal. She received a ticket and a visit last fall from Lou Mellen. In May she received another ticket for \$1000 by the LB Police Department for shoveling sand back to the beach. Asked how to remediate an unexplained ticket.

Vicky Znavor, 2305 LSD, commented about council members "bragging to the public of putting a cabosh on the public safety building". She also asked if there was an update of a previous request for an SBOA audit.

Bob Boyce, 2926 LSD, commented "the building will be owned by a corporation, not the Town, and it should be done right". He asked how a privately owned corporations septic could be hooked up on the Town's property.

Tom Znavor, 2305 LSD, commented on those trying to circumvent the process.

Anita Remijas, 2300 Florimond Dr., comments on civility and respect at public meetings and procedures within the Clerk-Treasurer's office. Wants to know if the town has thought of providing a doggy daycare like some provide daycare for kids? Spoke of Perry leaving his dog in the hands of other employees in his absence from the office.

Mike Konicek, asks if there is a job description for the part time employee just hired. Also, mentioned thinking through the Tower Point negotiations and the possibility of smaller towers along Lake Shore Dr.

Dave Albert, Oriole Trail, spoke of the Town Hall renovations back in 2001.

Jim Dehner, 2300 Fairway Dr, told of the December 27th meeting at the community center gym last year and how he was there but most of the town was gone, either for the holidays or down south for their winter residencies. He felt that with all the LBVFD present and speaking in force, it was somewhat "orchestrated". He believes this new building project is "a runaway train and is "quite an expense" for the town.

Mary O'Neil, 1532 LSD, asks that agendas for meetings be posted in advance. She also "hopes that the Volunteer Fire Dept goes for grants for these big expenditures and projects they want".

Perry reads claims approval - town checks 19820 - 19888 totaling \$171,300.24; water department checks 54706 - 54722 totaling \$82,496.45 and May payroll of \$77,339.25. Lemay motions to approve; McFadden seconds; approved 5 - 0.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Lemay; second by McFadden; 5 - 0 vote to adjourn, ad it does, at 8:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Deanna Carlson
Deputy Clerk