

Long Beach Township (LBT) Public Meeting September 7, 2022

In attendance from LPOA: Ann Barkey

H I G H L I G H T S

Restoring Bay Islands for Community Resiliency. A resolution was passed to “Approve Various Chapter 159s” including “Restoring Bay Islands for Community Resiliency.”

LBT was awarded a grant to be used to fund efforts to preserve bay islands that are in danger of sinking or washing away without some intervention. Interventions include building living shore lines around those islands and/or raising them. Offshore islands are important because they act as barriers that protect the LBI shoreline during storms.

Under NJ Law (NJSA 40A: 4-87 Chapter 159 Procedures), a governing body – the LBT Commissioners, for example, must adopt a resolution to insert “a special item of revenue” such as money received from a grant into the current budget if that revenue item was unknown at the time the budget was adopted. That was the situation here. This resolution had to be passed so that LBT can officially add the money to the budget and then turn around and spend it on the projects for which the grant was awarded.

Restrictions on Backpack Blowers. The Mayor and Commissioners are considering creating and adopting an ordinance to restrict the use of these noisy contraptions “that just push dirt around from one place to another,” as the Mayor described them. What do you think? Should use be restricted? Only certain months of the year?

GATOR Service will continue Saturdays and Sundays through September.

LBI Shuttle Bus will operate through October 9 on Fridays and Saturdays only:

Fridays 4-10 pm and Saturdays 10 am – 10 pm.

Ordinance Proposed (First Reading). None were proposed.

Ordinance Passed on Second Reading:

22-20C: Establishes set-backs on the property for air conditioning units and other such equipment.

22-21C: Carrying concealed and unconcealed guns into government buildings (including the LBT Municipal Building), in parks, on township property and on beaches in LBT is prohibited.

Offshore Wind Farm. Mayor Mancini has been very clear, and continued to be very clear during this meeting, that he is opposed to the construction of the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Farm off LBI. In the meeting today, he expressed his opinion that he “fully supports savelbi.org” and urged all LBT taxpayers to donate money to that

organization to cover its legal fees. The Mayor said that LBT would match “up to \$25,000-\$30,000” in contributions to Save Long Beach Island. A link to a petition created by Save Long Beach Island has been posted on the LBT website www.longbeachtownship.com.

Back Boards Installed on Pickleball Courts? Nope, not going to happen. Back boards on a court increase the time that neighbors hear the thwack-thwack of a ball hitting a hard surface. Yes, pickleball played over the net is noisy, too, but pickleball is very popular and the Township was trying to be sensitive to the demand by building and refurbishing these courts. Adding the potential for an extra layer of noise by installing back boards, however, is zero-zero.

Trash Challenges. Nothing ambiguous about the Township’s approach to unlidded trash cans, which present seagulls with an irresistible opportunity to rifle through your garbage in search of a snack. Within minutes, those determined foragers can have the entire contents of your trash receptacle strewn all over the street, adorning neighbors’ yards, decorating your driveway... we have all see it and experienced it. **If your trash can is spotted without a lid, you will get a ticket and a fine.** The Township does not issue warning for first offenders, so make sure you have trash cans with a secure lid.

Water/Sewer Bills. In answer to a question from an audience member, Commissioner Bayard said that there has been essentially no push back about the current billing system for water usage, with the reception of people who use excessive water.