



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT COUNCIL OF TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATIONS OF LBI MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Note that “TA” is the abbreviation for taxpayer or property owner association

- ▶ **Audit committee.** Annually, JCTA does a self-audit of all financial data. The audit committee is in the process of completing the 2022 audit and will deliver a full report at the March meeting.
- ▶ **Q & A: Insurance coverage for taxpayers’ associations.** Dan Wyrsh and Pete Papa from the Van Dyk Agency will be joining us at our March 6 JCTA meeting to answer questions on this topic. The JCTA representative from each TA will reach out to the board member who handles insurance and invite him or her to attend this portion of the March meeting.
- ▶ **Taxes.** We learned via a very productive discussion at this meeting that most TAs are already independently focusing on some aspect of taxes as it specifically impacts their towns. Because each town has its own structure and financial issues, we agreed that we should, at least for the time being, continue to focus on the issue(s) within our own towns that are the most relevant **AND** to continue to keep everyone else in the loop about how that analysis is going.
- ▶ **Windmill survey launch schedule**
  - By **Thursday February 9**, the voting representative of each participating TA will receive the final version of the cover language for the email to be sent to its members and the survey link. This timing will give the TA one week to get the email set up in whatever communication platform is in use.
  - **Provided Harvey Cedars TA is ready**, the email with the cover language and survey link should be sent out to the members of all participating TAs on **Thursday February 16 at 9 am** by the designated person in each TA. The survey will be shut down Sunday February 19 at 11 pm by the survey’s administrator.

We talked about how unauthorized use and unauthorized participation in the survey can be monitored. An example of unauthorized use would be seeing the survey’s link posted on social media. An example of unauthorized participation would be someone completing the survey who is not a member of a participating TA.

We agreed that we all have to monitor our Facebook accounts and other social media to see if the link shows up. If you see a posting from someone you know, please reach out to them and ask them to remove it. Also, please reach out to the administrator of that social media platform and ask him or her to remove this copyrighted material.

► **Reports from the priority committees**

☆ **Beach Erosion/Replenishment** Mayor Mancini said in a meeting this week that he believes beach replenishment will not happen this year and hopes it will happen in 2024.

☆ **Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety** The committee's activities will start again closer to season, although some preliminary activities are revving up now.

☆ **First Responder Support** The concentrated efforts of JCTA and John Fiore, JCTA president and chair of this committee, to raise awareness of the Island's first responder situation has elicited good reactions and yielded tangible results: In at least two fire companies, donations have been received as a direct result of JCTA's articles. Four people joined one organization in the last two weeks. One first aid squad announced that it had exceeded the amount of donations collected in any previous year.

As a group, we agreed that publicizing all first responder-sponsored events on the island through our TA communication networks is a good idea. Our president will work with the fire companies and EMT squads to see how we can get information about these activities on a timely basis. Each TA board can make its own decision about how it wants to communicate this information to its members.

☆ **Flooding** We plan to talk in the March meeting about how we could potentially move forward around this topic.

☆ **Offshore Wind Farms** After taking a pre-announced break in February, issue #10 of the Round Up is on schedule to be ready during the second week of March. The March issue focuses almost exclusively on the recent whale strandings along NY & NJ shores.