MINUTES OF THE LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 11, 2010

Present: Mayor, Lee McNew; Councilmembers Bill Lembke, David Haines and Jon Cabot; Police Chief, Jim Prosser; Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Attorney, Dan Christ; Building Official, Brian Oppmann; Jim Howlett, Emeritus; Clerk, Rosalie Lake

Absent: Councilmember, Karl Storrie


Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7:06 and the Pledge was recited. Jim Howlett stepped forward to designate Bill Lembke as a recipient of the James L. Howlett Volunteer Service Award for his extraordinary service to the Lake Angelus community. Mr. Howlett read a proclamation of the City Council expressing the gratitude of the City for Mr. Lembke’s many years of volunteer service in numerous capacities. Ed Dauw read a letter from Rick Winkley, a long-time friend of Mr. Lembke. Mr. Lembke received a standing ovation from his friends and family in attendance.

The Minutes of the meeting of April 2010 were approved as corrected. The Clerks report mentioned that IGD had included the missing sets of Council Minutes and created the revised link to the Charter and City Ordinances on the website; the Dust Control Contract had been submitted to the Road Commission before the deadline; the first No-Haz collection would be held on May 22nd and all households had received vouchers for $10 with instructions as to their use at the collection sites. Changes in election procedures are on the horizon; the filing deadline, which, for Lake Angelus City Council elections, had previously been the day after Labor Day, is now near the middle of July. The City will soon have to pay for extended warranty services for the election machines. The County will contract for these services and the jurisdictions will pay the County. There is the possibility of the need to hold four elections in the next fiscal year. The question of whether the State will hold a Constitutional Convention will be on the November ballot; if it passes, two additional elections will need to be held to elect delegates to the Convention. The Street Map requested by the Michigan Department of Transportation has been signed and submitted.

In response to the survey of the 20ft. Strip, Mr. Brinson will have his fence removed from City property. Bob Bailey will meet with him regarding this. Councilmember Cabot moved that the City grant a 1 foot license for the fence on the property at 724 W. Walton Blvd. The owner must remove any other equipment on City property that belongs to him. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Clerk has had several inquiries from political candidates regarding the City’s signage ordinance. The present ordinance does not regulate signage for this purpose. It was felt that some regulation as to size, placement, and duration should be considered. Councilmember Haines offered to bring Waterford’s signage ordinance to the Council. Attorney Christ will also look into this. There is a question of what portions of the Berm the City may be able to regulate.
North of the police driveway, the Berm is on City property. The southern portion is under the management of the RCOC.

Mr. Fred Eaton of Comcast appeared to explain the new digitizing process and what it means to Comcast customers. Analog channels will become digital, but the change will only affect those who do not have digital connection now. To receive the full array of channels, customers must have a digital converter. Comcast will provide up to three converters per household. Residents need to contact Comcast and Comcast will respond with the required service.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan is being updated. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the Mayor’s signature to the new plan when it is available. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Residents: Heidi Hoyles has emailed Councilmember Storrie about inadequate clean-up on Gallogly Road after the Road Commission did its trimming. Ms. Hoyles also requested renewal of permission to use the water ski course early in the morning with no-wake travel to and from the course as in previous years. Councilmember Cabot moved to renew the Council’s consent. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Jim Prosser reviewed the Police Department report for the month of April. MCOLES intends to increase the number of hours officers must work to continue to be certified. This will mean that the Department will have to eliminate some personnel and it also impacts the ordering of body armor vests. Ten vests will be required at $6500. The federal government will pay half of the cost. The vests have a shelf life of 3-5 years. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the purchase of ten vests up to $700 apiece. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously. There should be a requirement that officers wear them. Officer McLellan indicated that there are two hard copies of the Police Manual and it is also on a pdf file on the computer. Officers are aware of the rules and can be asked to sign indicating that they are responsible for knowing the contents of the Manual. Jim Hibbard will help to dismantle deer blinds on City property. They are not permitted there.

Building and Permits: Brian Oppmann presented a fact sheet regarding building projects in the City which was put together five years ago. Code Enforcement always asks for a meeting with a client. Councilmember Haines proposed that a notice be repeated in a prominent place in the ‘Angelus’ notifying residents that, if they want to do any kind of building project, they must call Code Enforcement for information. Attorney Christ indicated that Mr. Greenlee is planning to remove the retaining walls on his property. The court hearing is scheduled for June 2nd and will go forward if action is not taken. Assessor, Linda Burton, needs to let the City know when a property changes hands. Councilmember Cabot informed the Council that the fencing around the tennis courts will be taken down and then put back up when the surfacing is complete.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, gave her report. She reviewed the Contingency Fund Budget. It is not necessary to use these funds for this fiscal year, but they will be needed in the future. This will not cause a negative reflection in the fiscal indicator score. Councilmember Cabot moved to
approve the formation of the Contingency Fund Budget. Mayor McNew seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Frakes recommended an Amended 2009-2010 Budget which was based on no additional Barn expenses, a down payment of $45,000 for the tennis courts, and the purchase of the police vests. She reviewed the amended budget item by item. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the Amended Budget as presented. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Frakes reviewed the proposed Budget for 2010-2011. The budget is based on a reduction of $4 million in taxable value, from $69 million to $65 million. It is a deficit budget.

Councilmember Cabot moved to extend the meeting until 9:30pm. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Frakes continued, reviewing the proposed Major Road Budget and Local Road Budget. In 2012, the Taubman funds will be discontinued. $411,000 was previously spent for the fire truck. Mrs. Frakes cautioned that the Council needs to be aware that the City has major expenses coming in 2012. Negotiations will be needed with the Waterford Fire Department.

Mrs. Frakes reviewed the financial reports for the month of April. Councilmember Cabot move to approve the reports noting those warrants above $500. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Roads: Councilmember Storrie emailed a report regarding tri-party funding for super gravel in 2010. He has not yet received paperwork.

Attorney Christ will discuss cost recovery issues at the next meeting.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm.

Approved: Respectfully submitted,

Lee McNew, Mayor Rosalie Lake, Clerk