LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

JANUARY 14, 2014

Present: Mayor, Patrick McNew; Councilmembers Dennis Mitchell, Chuck Poploskie, and Jon Cabot; Attorney, Dan Christ; Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Police Chief, Jim Prosser; Building Official, Brian Oppmann; Planning Commission Chair, Bob Bailey; Road Commissioner, Karl Storrie; Environmental Board Chair, Linda Daniels; Web Administrator, Jim Cortez; Clerk, Rosalie Lake

Absent: Councilmember Dan Jenaras

Visitors: Jim Howlett, Michele Drake, Officer Don McLellan

Mayor McNew opened the meeting at 7 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2013 were approved as corrected. Jim Cortez discussed the version of the Boating and Safety Rules to be posted on the website and published in the ‘Angelus’.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department report. He thanked Bob Bailey for responding to a water leak in the Police Station. The Census Bureau is continuing to contact a resident who does not wish to reply. Attorney Christ gave an opinion. The resident can prevent trespassing on private property. The Chief wishes to promote Sergeant Kevin McDaniel to Lieutenant to allow him to represent the Chief, when necessary, in various functions. He wishes then to promote Officer David Ceci to Sergeant. He is a senior training officer at the Police Academy. Councilmember Poploskie acknowledged Chief Prosser as the manager of the Police Department with the authority to make the appointments he wishes to make.

Building and Permits: Building Official, Brian Oppmann, has contacted the Water Resources Department and asked that information on the drain map be corrected. All escrow fees have been paid except Gitter. The fee must be paid prior to an appearance before the Planning Commission. The Knsyz family on N. Lake Angelus Road has not yet chosen an architect. They are still in an exploratory stage and may be thinking about a boathouse. Only a small corner of the present house is non-conforming. There was no news about the Private Drive project.

Clerk Lake discussed the Assessors position in light of the passage of the amendment to the Charter permitting the Assessor to be a non-resident. Councilmember Cabot moved to appoint Linda Burton as Assessor for the City. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Jim Cortez recommended approving the up-to-date Records Retention Schedules. Attorney Christ noted that many schedules do not apply to the City, but if all schedules, including amended schedules, are adopted then all records can be dealt with. Councilmember Cabot moved to adopt all current State Records Retention Schedules. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. It may be wise to keep a log of what has been done as records are determined for disposal. Clerk Lake presented a letter regarding whether the City had interest in selling property at the corner of Baldwin and Lake Angelus Road. Councilmember Cabot moved to allow the Clerk to respond to such inquiries, on behalf of the City, that the City has no intention of selling the property. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
Planning Commission: Chairman, Bob Bailey, requested that the Mayor appoint Mark Symonds and Joe Hilger to replace retiring PC members Dale DeLorge and Jim Cortez. The Mayor approved and Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the Mayor’s appointments of Mr. Symonds and Mr. Hilger to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, gave an overview of City finances. The City’s income comes primarily from property taxes, 85%, with State funds contributing 3%. The current budget deficit is $85,000. The City has four major funds, the General Fund, the Contingency Fund, Major Road Fund and, Local Road Fund. Mrs. Frakes reviewed the funds within the General Fund. Budget expenditures must be within 10% of budget projections. Budget adjustments are made in May. Mrs. Frakes reviewed exceptional warrants as she does with the Council each month. She discussed the Revolving Funds, indicating what they contain, and the Major and Local Road Funds, both of which are presently running at a loss. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants above $500. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#19004 to Robert Bailey for $1950
#19009 to Voyager Fleet for $791.26
#19031 to Patrick McNew for $1350
#19033 to Code Enforcement for $1020
#19038 to James Prosser for $632.50
#19039 to Voyager Fleet for $791.26
#19040 to Code Enforcement for $1170
#19042 to OC Sheriff for $1092
#19043 to Patrick McNew for $1350
#19044 to Robert Bailey for $1950
#19045 to Voyager Fleet for $791.26
#19054 to Linda Burton for $1092

Mrs. Frakes indicated that the W2s and W3s are done, but not yet the 1099s. A CD will need to be renewed in February. There will need to be a refund of the Case winter taxes due to the Tax Tribunal decision. Projects are being referred to the Building Department which will aid in meeting the budget there. The City has not received payment for the Kevlar vests from the Federal government. Chief Prosser will look into this.

Mrs. Frakes indicated that she would be away on vacation from January 30th to February 10th.

Roads: Road Commissioner, Karl Storrie, reported that the Superintendent of the Road Commission has apologized for the condition of gravel roads, noting that there is not much they are able to do about them. They could put ground asphalt in holes but he didn’t recommend that solution as the asphalt will create a problem later with chloriding. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has approved the use of road funds for a path to N. Lake Angelus Road. The project must comply with design requirements. If the expenditure for the project can be spread over a number of years, it can extend the requirement of funding another project again in ten years as is the present requirement.

Environmental Quality Board: Chair, Linda Daniels, has received two bids for weed harvesting, one from Huron Lakes and one from Inland Lakes, which the Board will review at its meeting in February. The Inland Lakes bid includes moving the dock at the boat launch site. Consideration needs to be given to the entrance to the lagoon. Huron Lakes gave an additional quote for this work. Aeration may be a possibility in this area. There are three vacant seats on the Board and new members are being sought. Mrs. Daniels wishes to step down as Chair, although remain on the Board and serve as Secretary. The Board will choose a new Chair at its next meeting in February or March.
Don Clapham and Linda Daniels have been working on a sanitary sewer project for the Shores Road. Mr. Clapham discussed the survey that had been previously done to assess interest in proceeding with a feasibility study. Of 47 households sent the survey, 18 responded ‘yes’, 13 responded ‘no’, and 15 did not respond. For the Council to consider forming a special assessment district, it was felt that there needed to be significant interest as all in the district would be required to participate. The question of whether another survey should be undertaken was discussed. Dr Cabot felt that, if so, more information needs to be presented to those surveyed, such as costs and participation. Attorney Christ suggested a petition to the Council from the affected residents. Mr. Poploskie thought that the Shores Road Association might be helpful in gathering information from residents. Mrs. Daniels felt that the bottom line was protecting the Lake from a preventable crisis. Mr. Clapham noted that the next step is a feasibility study, which would be costly, and would take courage on the part of the Council to initiate. He felt that it needs to be done and the Council should undertake it. Mr. Mitchell noted that 18 positive responses of 47 households is not a strong response. The Council needs a positive response from those who would be required to participate. Mr. Clapham asked what response the Council would need to be able to proceed. Mr. Poploskie felt at least a 51% positive response. Mr. Clapham thought the costs would range from $20,000 to $30,000 per household. Attorney Christ will send petition language to Mr. Clapham and Mrs. Daniels to prepare a petition.

Attorney Christ advised that it appears that the City still has to submit a Title VI Plan and an English Proficiency Plan. Mrs. Frakes has worked on this.

Jim Cortez commented that the City was at a disadvantage in negotiating with the Waterford Fire Department because it receives no annual report and has not received one for years. He plans a space on the City website for the Fire Service contract and these annual reports in the future.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting at 9 PM. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 11, 2014 at 7 PM.

Approved:      Respectfully submitted,

Patrick McNew, Mayor       Rosalie Lake, Clerk