LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

OCTOBER 9, 2012

Present: Mayor Lee McNew; Councilmembers Chuck Poploskie, Dan Jenaras, Jon Cabot, and David Haines; Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Attorney, Dan Christ; Police Chief, Jim Prosser; Building Official, Brian Oppmann; Environmental Board Chair, Linda Daniels; Clerk, Rosalie Lake

Visitors: Tony Mitchell, Hugh Miller, Officer Don McLellan, Don Clapham, Bruce Kresge

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes of the September 11, 2012 were approved as amended.

Attorney, Dan Christ, opened a discussion on older files held by Beier Howlett in off-site storage that would be eligible for destruction. A notice identifying these files will be forwarded to Jim Howlett and Clerk Lake for review.

Clerk’s Report: A search for a new Deputy Clerk is underway, hopefully someone who will be interested in assuming the Clerk’s position in the future. Linda Daniels serves presently in the Deputy’s position, but is also the Chair of the Environmental Board. She is not able to serve in both capacities under the City’s Charter. Plans for the November 6th Election are substantially underway at this point. A new feature for transmitting election results to Oakland County will be used for the first time in this election. Results will be transmitted by cell phone directly from the tabulator at the close of the poll at City Hall to Oakland County for inclusion on the Countywide elections website. The City’s printer and fax machine must be replaced as confirmed by Gretchen Hurlbert and Egghead Computer technicians in Gingelville. The new machine selected has a price of $159 with one new set of inks totaling $207. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve $210 for the purchase of a new printer/fax machine for the City. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Haines recapped events in negotiations with the Waterford Fire Department regarding a new contract. The two sides have come closer together with a potential end result of between $200,000 - $210,000 in sight, with an escalator tied to a range of 0 – 5%. The Council agreed in concept to accept terms subject to legal review of a contract. Waterford should draft an initial contract and Attorney Christ will review it.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department report. Treasurer Frakes has emailed the list of homeowners to Don McLellan. It will be used for damage assessment in the case of an emergency. Officer McLellan explained “windshield” damage assessment and the training of reserve officers and citizens.

The McDowell family was interviewed regarding a trespassing issue. They asked for a meeting with the Chief, Mayor McNew and a Council member. Dr. Cabot volunteered.

Officer LeVasseur has finished her training in the property room. Officers have trained at the OCC firing range. Chief Prosser is attending a MMRMA presentation on the legal issues on the use of the taser.

Officer McLellan provided a list of ways Reserve Officers should operate on the Lake which was produced by the Boating Safety Committee.
Planning Commission/Building and Permits:
No Planning Commission meeting has been held in the past month. Building Official, Brian Oppmann, said a meeting will be needed soon to review work at the Anselmis. Renovations at the Bess home are being finalized.
A draft of an ordinance regarding the DEQ audit has been prepared by Attorney Christ and Mr. Oppmann. A copy was given to Council. Adoption will come later.
A discussion was held regarding deed restrictions on the former Fisher property. Mayor McNew reviewed the division of the property and thought that there had been deed restrictions. Dr. Haines questioned whether the City should be active or passive on the issue of deed restrictions. It was agreed that no official investigation will be done by the City.

City Property: Councilmember Poploskie indicated that the snow removal contract will be the same as last year. Councilmember Cabot moved to provide $1800 for snow removal. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
The work on the tunnel between the Barn and the silo has been finished.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, reviewed warrants for September over $500 and all Funds at the end of the quarter. The Profit and Loss target was 25%. The actual was 35% due to weed harvesting. Building and licensing increased considerably. Mrs. Frakes has made the City History Book deposit. Five parcels have unpaid Summer Taxes. The new tax for the Detroit Institute of Arts will appear on the Winter tax bills for the first time. Councilmember Haines moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants over $500. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#18084 to Hafeli Staran for $2745.84  #18085 to Billington Services for $1090
#18086 to Voyager Fleet for $1105.81  #18090 to MMRMA for $6036.50
#18091 to Huron Lakes Weed for $26,400 #18095 to Code Enforcement for $2530
#18096 to Code Enforcement for $1105  #18115 to OC Sherff for $1803
Janz and Knight has approved the Clerk/Treasurer proposal for check handling.
The City has spent $98,000 for chemicals for weed treatment since 2004, including permits. The Accident Fund is asking for a Workers’ Compensation audit.
Mayor McNew wondered whether her review of bank statements is adequate. She will discuss this with John Foster.

Environmental Board:
Chair, Linda Daniels, reported that the Board had met and had heard Jennifer Jones talk about Lake aeration. The technology has promise, but the system is in its infancy. A vote of all those in attendance showed that most Board members wished to continue harvesting. The vote was split among those residents present. Mrs. Daniels explained that milfoil is a hybrid plant. Higher doses of treatment are required, some over the limit allowed by the DEQ. The Board felt that harvesting improved the recreational use of the Lake, not completely, but by 90%. Side effects may be more minimal than expected. Harvesters were very responsive to clean up from those who called for clean-up. The Lake is unusual because there are quite shallow and quite deep areas. Harvesting will need to be done more than once a year. Harvesting and herbiciding are approximately the same expense. The Environmental Fund is approaching the end of its life.
Don Clapham chairs a subcommittee to study the feasibility of designing and constructing a city-wide sewer system. Doug Chartrand had reported to the subcommittee on the system designed for the Shores Road. Mr. Clapham contacted Kieft Engineering to get an initial cost estimate. Kieft used the proposal for the Shores Road system and projected a cost of $2,400,000 for the entire project, approximately $20,000 per household including a grinder system. Kieft recommended a feasibility study which they could do for $15,000. They would determine the most efficient routes, legal and zoning issues, and could then determine costs. The subcommittee recommends having a feasibility study done and will seek additional bids. The possibility of creating a special assessment district exists, but the committee has not looked at these issues yet. Dr. Cabot agreed with having the feasibility study done. Mr. Christ indicated that three bids are not required for professional services. Dr. Haines asked how the sewer system will benefit water quality. He felt it may not be a good time to ask residents for a large payment. Residents will need hard evidence of benefits to the community and the Lake. Mrs. Daniels indicated that septic field failures are the number one concern as regards to nutrients in the Lake. Bruce Kresge noted that weeds absorb nutrients. Therefore, when water quality is measured, nutrients do not necessarily appear. Dr. Haines said that the City must be mindful of justification and provide education about what it proposes to do and why. Mrs. Frakes indicated that the funds for the study were not in the budget and that the budget is already 10% over its limit. She indicated that there are 190 parcels, not all with houses on them. The proposal will be on the agenda for the next meeting in hopes that additional bids are received.

Councilmember Jenaras indicated that the Sinking Bridge Drain has been cleared and some trees hanging over the fence in the area have been cut.

Attorney Christ had been contacted by Hugh Miller regarding an accessory structure on his property.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on November 13, 2012 at 7 pm.

Approved: Respectfully submitted,

Lee McNew, Mayor Rosalie Lake, Clerk