MINUTES OF THE LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 10, 2012

Present: Mayor, Lee McNew; Councilmembers David Haines, Jon Cabot, Chuck Poploskie, Dan Jenaras; Attorney, Dan Christ; Road Administrator, Karl Storrie; Planning Commission Chair, Bob Bailey; Police Chief, Jim Prosser; Clerk, Rosalie Lake

Absent: Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Building Official, Brian Oppmann

Visitors Jim Howlett, Officer Don McLellan

Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes of the meeting of March 13, 2012 were approved as corrected.

Deputy Assessor, Linda Burton was not present. Mrs. McNew will contact her and request that she keep a monthly log of phone communication to document the City’s response to those requesting information. The Clerk will also maintain such a record.

Comments from Residents: Karl Storrie noted that the Barn needs repair and painting. Chief Prosser requested that the Police Station be painted at the same time. The two small buildings on the Barn property will be checked for safety by Bob Bailey.

A meeting was held with the Waterford Fire Department in March. Attending were Councilmember Haines, Jim Howlett, Dick Lund and Gary Parlove from Lake Angelus and Fire Chief, Ron Spears and others from Waterford. Dr. Haines asked that the Fire Department provide an amount for contracting its services and a justification for the numbers requested. Various other issues were raised including any expectation for capital expenses (truck). There were no such expenses. Dr. Haines felt that the City will get a fair proposal from Waterford within approximately a month.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department report for March. He will be interviewing reserve officer candidates next week and will put together a schedule. He expects to have two officers in the boat at a time. There will be training held on the water. The Chief had met with Mike Matthews of the Waterford Fire Department which has two zodiac boats. They can help in an emergency. The Chief indicated that he has money in his budget to spend on training, a new computer and on the extermination of carpenter ants in the Station. The new police car has been assembled and the Department should have it by the end of the month. Officer Heath has taken a medical leave. Chief Prosser has hired a new officer, Mike Farley, who will work midnights. In April, a generator was stolen from the porch at the Wheelers.

Councilmember Cabot discussed the resignation of Officer Randy Willms. He, Mayor McNew and Attorney Christ met with Mr. Willms to hear his concerns. Mrs. McNew and Dr. Cabot also met with former Lt. Joyce Nelson and reviewed policies of the Department. A third meeting was held with Chief Prosser at the Station. He explained the operations of the Department and provided materials as requested. Mr. Christ indicated that the Chief will make sure new officers read and sign new policies as well as signing that they are familiar with the whole policy manual. Better protocols regarding evidence and weapons have been developed. Dr. Cabot and Mrs. McNew felt comfortable with the way the Department is being managed. Councilmember
Haines suggested that a regular review be conducted. There is oversight from outside organizations such as MCOLES. These evaluations should be provided to the Council. Karl Storrie felt that there is a need to have a grievance procedure of which all officers are aware.

Planning Commission: Chairman, Bob Bailey, reported that the Master Plan has been reviewed. There are updates needed of various data, charts and maps, but it is not a major rewrite of the document. Brian Oppmann estimates that it will cost about $5000 to complete the whole process. Attorney Christ indicated that the Plan does not have to be updated immediately, but the required review has been completed. Any changes have to be made in the way the Planning Act requires. Dr. Haines inquired about the use of the Master Plan. Mr. Christ defined it as a tool to guide zoning changes. State Statute requires a review of the Plan every five years. The Planning Commission needs to hold a Public Hearing and then make a recommendation to the Council about proceeding with changes.

The Minutes of the Planning Commission meeting of March 27th were reviewed. Three ordinances had been discussed. The PC will continue with its examination of two of these, Exterior Lighting and Structures in the Setbacks, with various surveys and observations. The Grading and Excavation ordinance was not recommended for revision.

Clerk’s Report: Fireworks will be held on the 4th of July. A rain date will be determined. The Barn has been reserved for use on September 15 by Heidi Hoyles, and an inquiry has been made for October 6th. Ordinance 414.08, Clearing of Brush on Access Roads, is expected to be published in the spring and fall every year. It was felt that the recent drive-arounds have taken care of it for this spring. The City Information page for the website is complete and will be published on the listserv and with the Angelus as well as on the website. The City has received its copy of the NoHaz Agreement with Oakland County signed by the County Commissioners. It has also received the County Commissioners approval of the Dispatch Contract, but not yet the signature of the Sheriff. A discussion ensued about storage and records retention. The Clerk felt that an effort should be made to create secure, dry storage space in the basement. Councilmember Haines felt that the City’s records should become paperless so that storage is not an issue. This could be done with the aid of an outside company or a person to work with the Clerk to accomplish this. State records retention schedules must be followed.

An audit of soil erosion practices by an environmental quality analyst for the MDEQ will be conducted. The analyst will meet with Brian Oppmann for half a day to review the City’s ordinance and files, and the forms and applications that are used. Based on this audit, some changes may need to be made.

City Property: Billington Services has raised its rate for cutting the Berm because of trash pick-up which they are willing to do as they are doing the grass cutting. Councilmember Cabot and Mayor McNew met with Randy Carter, Pontiac Councilmember for the district including Newark Rd, and with Jerry Compagnoni to discuss the possibility of moving the City’s boundary to include the property owned by the City which is presently within the City of Pontiac. Mr. Carter did not feel it would be a difficult issue. He will contact his constituents and bring the matter to the Pontiac City Council.
Treasurer, Julie Frakes, provided a written report in her absence. She included end of 3rd quarter reports for all funds. The General Fund Profit and Loss sheet showed a target of 75% and an actual at 63.7% or, if funds from prior years are not included, at 68.7%. The General Fund Balance sheet reflects $1,252,866, which is down slightly from last month but is higher than last year. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports, noting those warrants over $500. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

# 17679 to Linda Burton for $1061  #17700 to Voyager Fleet for $1677.14
# 17719 reissue to Janz & Knight for $7545  #17722 to Hafeli Staran for $1982.37
# 17726 to Code Enforcement for $2415  #17748 to OC Sheriff for $1762.67
# 17698 reissue to Linda Burton for $1061

The 2011 tax year has been settled with Oakland County. Mrs. Frakes needs budget sheets from everyone so that she can prepare revised budget numbers for this year and proposed budget numbers for next year in time for the budget subcommittee to meet before the May 8th Council meeting. The City’s overall taxable value is up slightly from last year, which is good for the budget after two years of declining taxable value.

The Drainage Board approved a Special Assessment Roll on 2/21/12 for the operating costs of the Clinton River Spillway. The City’s apportionment is $762, payable in three installments of $254 due May 1st 2012, 2013, and 2014. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the current installment. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Due to very low interest rates (.02%), the City’s accounts had a deficit in January and February and banking fees were assessed. The bank advised that there is an option to offset banking fees by choosing to forgo interest payments for “credit earnings” that are applied to banking fees. Balances earn credit to offset the banking fees at a rate of .25% as opposed to earning interest at .02%. For the fee analysis, PNC would group the accounts together, but each of the accounts would remain independent with its own existing account number. The approach can be tried for a few months and re-evaluated if interest rates increase. Janz and Knight saw no problem with this approach. Councilmember Haines moved to authorize Mrs. Frakes to make this change with PNC. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Environmental Board: Council Liaison to the Environmental Board, Jon Cabot, reported that the Board has decided not to use Bureau Veritas for the water quality testing this year. It will, instead, become involved with the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. A number of residents have volunteered to be trained to help with this program.

The Board discussed a sewer system for the City. It would have a great impact on the quality of the Lake. David Powell, a new member on the Board, has had some experience with developing such a system and the Board hopes to learn from his experience.

The Board unanimously decided not to apply chemical weed control to the Lake this year. Mapping and monitoring weed growth will continue as previously. Chemical destruction of weeds seems to fertilize future growth. Many of the same arguments exist, pro and con, about harvesting weeds. Deterring runoff and limiting fertilizing can help to deter weed growth. A buffer zone at the shoreline also helps to keep nutrients out of the water.

Canadian Goose egg destruction will be done again this year. Swans will not be included.

Roads: Karl Storrie informed the Council that chloride applications will occur in April and monthly through September. Each application will cost $755. Councilmember Cabot moved to
approve the schedule and the costs. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
Mr. Storrie and Mayor McNew met with representatives from the Road Commission. The Tri-party funds for 2012 were discussed and, also, the chloride applications. The drainage on Gallogly Road at the Baks property prompted Mr. Storrie and a representative from the RCOC to visit the site. A “curb” was identified that prevented natural drainage. Mrs. Baks was very helpful and drainage at that area will be improved.
Mr. Storrie noted that N. Lake Angelus Road was not eligible for federal funding. He felt that the road needed to be eligible for such funding if it were ever to be paved. He will explore the issue further.

Insurance: The issue of acquiring liability insurance for the person who cleans the Police Station and City Hall was referred to the City’s insurer who informed the Council that she was covered under the City’s liability policy. The Clerk will inform the cleaning person.

Bob Bailey and Jim Hibbard have offered to monitor the Dam. Ken Zemke presently does this service for the City, but he is away for some/most of the winter. Mr. Bailey will call Mr. Zemke and offer to help as needed.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on May 8, 2012 at 7 pm.

Approved: Respectfully submitted,

Lee McNew, Mayor Rosalie Lake, Clerk