LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 13, 2011

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

Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge was recited. The Minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2011 were approved as corrected.

The amounts of coverage that are acceptable to the City for those who contract to do work for the City was discussed. Councilmember Cabot will review this with the City’s insurance carrier and provide information for potential City contractors.

Councilmember Haines has been away from the City on three Council meeting dates in the recent calendar year and, as required by the Charter, has provided information about those absences. Councilmember Cabot moved to excuse the absences. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Christ spoke about records retention with cautionary instructions to all who work and keep records at home. Back-up copies are made in different ways by various City officials.

The Clerk had provided a copy of the NoHaz Interlocal Agreement with Oakland County for the review of the Council prior to the meeting. The 2011 costs had been well within projections and it was anticipated that the projected costs for 2012 would also be acceptable. The program has been valued by residents in increasing numbers. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the Agreement and the Resolution authorizing Mayor McNew to sign the Agreement, which also authorizes Gretchen Hurlbert to serve as the representative to the Advisory Board. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A meeting was held with City Assessor, Linda Burton, to review job performance. Mayor McNew, Councilmember Cabot, and Board of Review Chair, Ray Siwiec attended. Ms. Burton was asked to submit a job description and a list of contacts, as all Councilmembers and Council appointees are expected to do, by January 10, 2012. Issues of timeliness were discussed and plans for optimal response to City inquiries were recommended. Ms. Burton will inform the Clerk about new residents as soon as she has information so that they may be welcomed into the community.

Newly elected Councilmember Dan Jenaras’ job description was considered. Councilmember Cabot suggested that he participate with Karl Storrie in managing the various road issues so that a member of the Council is aware of these issues should there be a change in management in the future. Mr. Storrie indicated that he would provide his job description and contacts to the Council so that those would be available if need be and did not feel that a Councilmember need be involved with road management. Mr. Storrie also indicated that he could deal with the...
Oakland/Macomb Interceptor Drain bond issues and the Clinton River Spillway Drain concerns. Treasurer Frakes indicated that the Oakland/Macomb Interceptor Drain authority has approved another bond issue. The City’s liability is $15,000 over twenty years and there may be another bond issue next year. There is a meeting scheduled for the Clinton River Spillway Drain regarding apportionment. The amount of the apportionment for the City has been set as Mrs. Frakes expected.

Clerk Lake asked for an amount of $30 for attendance at the quarterly Oakland County Clerks meeting. These quarterly meetings which include lunch are business meetings which involve legislators, the elections bureau, and the OC Clerks office and are the source of much information and discussion. Councilmember Cabot moved to provide up to $120 annually for attendance at the Clerk’s meetings. Motion seconded by Councilmembers Jenaras and Poploskie. Motion carried unanimously. Later in the meeting, during the Treasurers report, a similar schedule of meetings for OC Treasurers was reviewed with compensation made applicable to both Clerk and Treasure by the above motion.

Comments from Residents:
Karl Storrie reported trees down over roads in several parts of the city due to an unusual storm. He helped to clear some areas and complemented Lt. Nelson on her efforts to get roads open for residents. Residents on private driveway accesses are ultimately responsible for clearing the roads and need to have a plan for doing so.

Fire Access: Councilmember Haines has talked with Mike Matthews of the Waterford Fire Department about access to properties around the Lake. The next round of observations to determine adequate tree and brush trimming will result in certified letters to property owners who are in violation. Perhaps in March, the City will have to get the work done where obstructions have not been cleared.

The Waterford Fire Department is taking over only part of Pontiac coverage and in some ways it may be advantageous to the City of Lake Angelus as Waterford will be covering the surrounding areas of Lake Angelus and will inhabit the station on Walton Blvd. near Baldwin.

Dr. Haines indicated that Waterford is well aware of the terms of the City’s contract with the its Department and he has asked for a proposal from them for a future contract. He has advised them that there is a general impression that the City is overpaying for its services. He expected that to be reviewed. Dr. Haines has acknowledged that the size of houses and the access to them are particular to our community. Negotiations are ahead and the hope is to keep discussions as amicable as possible. Councilmember Poploskie indicated the need to get the process moving as, if the City had to, or chose to, make a change, there would be little time to do it. Dr. Haines responded to questions about new equipment. There had been no indication of a need for new equipment (truck!).

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department Report. The Dispatch Contract with the Oakland County Sheriffs Department is still in draft form. Councilmember Cabot noted that having Oakland County perform dispatch services may have wider benefits than just dispatch services. The Chief will email the work schedule when it is established. Chief Prosser reviewed the monthly Department report noting the particulars of the b&e at the Chartrand’s residence. The dinner given for the Reserve Officers was a fine event. Councilmember Cabot moved that the
City assume the overage of $38 from the original estimate of the cost of the event. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Chief Prosser thanked the Council on behalf of the Officers for the Holiday gift certificates.
The Chief indicated that the Durango police vehicle is falling apart. He is looking at leasing a vehicle as it looks like a better way to provide service to the Department and the City. The Chief favors a Tahoe. He is checking with Auburn Hills regarding their leasing arrangement with the help of Sgt. McDaniel.

Planning Commission and Building Officials Report: The Lashires, who have purchased the former Oles home, had read that there was a Planning Commission meeting planned for December and had hoped to attend. Building Official, Brian Oppmann, had met with them and, although they are not ready to present plans, they may wish to attend a meeting in January. There was a discussion of fees. The City is still losing money even though fees for trade permits had increased in the spring. Mr. Oppmann indicated that it is difficult to estimate how fees will accumulate in a particular job. He will look at the present fee schedule again.
Mayor McNew commented that communication with Code Enforcement had been much improved with the details that were provided as requested.
The Chase family is redesigning their house. They will need site plan approval before excavation. They wish to do excavation on the hill between their property and the Kresge property, which may need planning with the Kresge family. The Incarnatis have been given a temporary Certificate of Occupancy.

City Property: Leaking gutters on City Hall were identified and repairs will be planned. Trash on the Berm is an ongoing problem. Waiting until spring to do something about it is likely the option unless a consortium of volunteers wants to take it on. Councilmember Poploskie will contact George Frisch about a recurring leak on the Barn roof. There have been concerns from neighbors about power lines strung low in some areas.

Roads: Karl Storrie spoke with MDOT to try to get 90% of Major Road Funds transferred to the Local Road Fund. In order to get this to happen, it appears that an extensive asset management plan must be developed and filed which involves a training requirement. Mr. Storrie will ask for a waiver of the asset plan and report back to the Council.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, presented the financial reports for the month of November. She reviewed the warrants and indicated that the only account that is over budget is the Police Department auto repair, which stands at 98%. The Balance sheet shows a total of approximately $1.4 million, which is up $33,000 from last year. Profit and Loss shows a target of 41.7% with actual expenditures at 39.6%.
Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants over $500. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#17463 to Linda Burton for $1061  #17488 to Voyager Fleet for $744.68
#17489 to Billington Services for $900  #17490 to Jim Prosser for $852.50
#17491 to Code Enforcement for $1170  #17492 to Code Enforce for $570
#17498 to OC Sheriff for $1762.69  #17501 to Mich DEQ for $800
#17502 to Hafeli, Staran for $2434.74  #17503 to Code Enforce for $595
#17515 to Soft Line Auto Wash for $600
There remain seven unpaid summer tax parcels. Winter tax payments are being received. The final Audit was provided to Councilmembers. It incorporated the changes suggested by Attorney Christ.

Environmental Board Chair, Linda Daniels, provided the Board’s report. A meeting was held last week with Bureau Veritas, the company that does the annual water quality testing. The representative from the Bureau was posed questions to discuss before the meeting. Mrs. Daniels was disappointed that the questions were not answered, although others found the meeting informative. The Board discussed the use of fertilizers. Liquid fertilizer use is against the ordinance. It must be granular. Often people are not at home when work is done on their lawns and they are not aware of what is being applied. A natural shoreline buffer zone is needed to help keep fertilizers from reaching the lake. The Board also discussed the possibility of a sewer system for the City. It had been thoroughly studied a couple of decades ago. Technology may have changed to make it more possible now. The Board will continue this discussion and research the work previously done on this idea.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Councilmember Haines seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting was set for January 10, 2012 at 7pm.

Approved,                           Respectfully submitted,

Lee McNew, Mayor                   RosalieLake, Clerk