LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

DECEMBER 8, 2015

Present: Mayor, Patrick McNew; Councilmembers Dennis Mitchell, Dan Jenaras, Joe Hilger, Rich Altherr; Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Attorney, Gerald Fisher; Police Chief, Jim Prosser; Building Official, Brian Oppmann; Environmental Board Chair, Jim Hibbard; Planning Commission Chair, Bob Bailey; Clerk, Rosalie Lake

Visitors: Forrest Milzow,

Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Minutes of the meeting of November 10, 2015 were approved as corrected. The Mayor requested adjournment of the City Council meeting to open the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting.

Building Official, Brian Oppmann, introduced Forrest Milzow’s project at 2380 Lake Angelus Lane. The Planning Commission did not wish to approve the plan without ZBA approval because the roof is considered new construction. It does not conform to the roof height of the original house and sits in the sideyard setback. Planning Commission approval will be subject to ZBA approval.

Mr. Milzow presented his plans to the ZBA stating that the original plan was approved by the PC. It was discovered that the walls intended to remain as part of the house were destroyed by carpenter ants and were not usable or safe. Mr. Milzow referred to the detail of the Minutes of the November 24th PC meeting. Discussion centered around interpretation of Ordinance 1260.04 (a) and (b). Attorney Fisher indicated that the ZBA could consider the issue under ‘hardship’ or it could base its consideration on the roof height over the non-conforming area. There was discussion regarding what constitutes ‘hardship’ and what is the intent of sections (a) and (b) of ordinance 1260.04. Dr. Jenaras questioned the need for a variance and moved to allow construction based on the original plan including the revision to bring the roof height down to the original height in the non-conforming area. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hilger. The motion carried with Hilger, Jenaras and Altherr voting aye and McNew and Mitchell voting nay.

Mayor McNew closed the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting and reopened the City Council meeting.

Resident Comments: The Mayor spoke for many residents complementing Sharon Lashier for a successful, well attended Thanksgiving Turkey Trot. A new tradition has been born. The Little Free Library withstood the early snowstorm and appears to have regular use. Chief Prosser, Gerry Compagnoni, Bob Bailey and Jim and Chris Cortez and their builder were thanked for their roles in getting the large load of construction debris that was dumped on Newark Road removed. Two citizen complaints will be looked into, the blowing of leaves across the Shores Road and dry stone cutting at 525 Gray Woods Lane causing excessive dust and noise.
Gretchen Hurlbert gave a review of the 2015 NoHaz program and projections for the 2016 program. The number of collections and administrative fees will depend upon the number of communities participating. Several communities that dropped out of the program or limited participation may return in 2016. It is not expected that costs will exceed those of 2015. The Council will be presented with a Resolution to approve the program in January. Mrs. Hurlbert also advised residents of Best Buy’s program to recycle electronic waste.

Karl Storrie presented his services to interested residents to assist them with the process of selecting, acquiring, and properly using a personal firearm.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department report for November. The Chief, Steve Case, Bob Bailey Rich Altherr and Joe Hilger have been alert to prevent illegal hunting activity and cutting of trees on City property by non-residents trying to access the area from North Lake Angelus Road. The Mayor indicated that the visibility of the Police car in areas around the City continues to be appreciated by many residents. The Lake level was at 949.7.

Building Official, Brian Oppmann, indicated that he expects the Prokopp building project to be ready for review in January. The Tierneys will return to the Planning Commission on December 22nd with revised plans prior to the ZBA meeting in January. The Cortez project is moving along well.

Clerk, Rosalie Lake, noted that the Calendar of Council meeting dates in 2016 needs to be revised due to the March and November election dates falling on 2nd Tuesdays. It was agreed to hold those two council meetings on the 3rd Tuesdays. Ms. Lake will prepare a formal calendar for the January meeting. A Terms of Service list was provided with dates of those terms expiring on December 31st. The Planning Commission, Environmental Board and Board of Review need appointments at the January meeting. Ms. Lake alerted the Council to several potential changes in election law that are being considered by the legislature. Retiring member of the City Council, Chuck Poploskie, was appointed to the Planning Commission to fill the term of Joe Hilger who has become the Council liaison to the PC. Jim Cortez and Rich Altherr have been working to update the City’s website. Mr. Altherr met with personnel from IGD and will continue to work with this company to upgrade and make the website reliable and easy to use.

Sinking Bridge Drain: Activity has begun at the corner of Collier and Baldwin Roads on the building of an apartment complex. The City will continue to carefully monitor the wetlands on the East side of Baldwin and the drainage from City property on the West side.

Planning Commission: Chair, Bob Bailey, reviewed the November 24th meeting at which Mike and Beth Tierney’s plans were presented. Hubble Roth and Clark had reviewed the plans, as well, and issues a report. The Tierneys plan to make some revisions to the plans and return to the PC in December. A ZBA hearing will still be required.
Property Management: City Property Manager, Rich Altherr, reported on his meeting with an arborist to determine appropriate plantings for the Berm. Mr. Altherr has taken over management of City property from Chuck Poploskie.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, presented the financial reports for November, reviewing each briefly as well as indicating any notable warrants. The income statement target was 41.7%. The Actual was 41.1%. The financial reports were approved as presented noting those warrants over $500.

- #20470 to Code Enforcement for $1385
- #20471 to Code Enforcement for $1000
- #20472 to Code Enforcement for $4630
- #20483 to Hubble, Roth, Clark for $521.36
- #20484 to Hafeli, Staran for $1766.87
- #20485 to Code Enforcement for $1385
- #20500 to Billington services for $610
- #20501 to OC Sheriff for $1968.67
- #20506 to Gerald Fisher for $640
- #20508 to MMRMA for $5613.75

There are still 4 unpaid Summer Tax parcels. Winter Tax payments are 18% complete. There were 33 gift cards purchased for the LAPD Officers at a total of $1650. Chief Prosser’s holiday bonus of $250 will be paid with the December 18th payroll. The Snow Maintenance contract with Billington was approved at the same rate as last year. All information from Linda Burton regarding the McMath assessment issue has been forwarded to the Hibbard family so that they are aware of the options available to them if they choose to pursue the matter. Mrs. Frakes received information on a March of Dimes event sponsored by Oakland County to be held on May 1st at Oakland University. The LGIP rate is .92444 this month. It was not yet available when Mrs. Frakes submitted her reports. The State has approved MDOT funding. Nine bills were signed into law to raise $1.2 M for roads. This starts in 2017 and goes through 2021. The Lake Angelus portion currently is $12,469. In 2021, it will be $20,886, a 67% increase. This is Linda Burton’s last month as Assessor. Kim Harper will take over in January.

Road Commissioner, Karl Storrie, reported that roads are in better shape so far this winter due to mild weather. He remains in close contact with the Road Commission.

Environmental Quality Board: The Board met in November to review the detailed report from Restorative Lake Sciences which concluded that the Lake is in very healthy condition. The report will help to determine future decisions on weed treatment. Dennis Mitchell and Jim Hibbard will be making recommendations to the Council from the Board. The Lake quality report can be found on the website.

Dan Jenaras is the liaison to the Waterford Fire Department. He hopes to set up a meeting with the Chief in the near future.

Attorney, Gerald Fisher, is reviewing the City Ordinances and will make recommendations as needed. He has been asked to plan a joint session of the Council and Planning Commission for the purpose of ordinance and Zoning Board of Appeals procedures review.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council will occur on January 12, 2016.
Approved: Patrick McNew, Mayor

Respectfully submitted, Rosalie Lake, Clerk