LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 13, 2015

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

Visitors: Jim Howlett, Rich Altherr, Sharon Mitchell, Gretchen Adler, Michele Drake, Officer Don McLellan

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Minutes of the meeting of September 8, 2015 were approved as submitted.

Mayor McNew acknowledged the service of Jon Cabot and Chuck Poploskie, as this meeting was the last in their terms of office. Both were applauded for service for the benefit of the City well beyond attendance at Council meetings.

Comments from Residents: Mayor McNew noted that the response to the letter ‘Land Values at Lake Angelus’ from both long-term and new residents has been interesting. The Little Free Library opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Many thanks go to Debbie and Paul McDowell for their work to bring the Library to Lake Angelus. Donna Beaudet has suggested a specially constructed letter to introduce new residents to Lake Angelus. Mr. McNew read a proposed letter written by Mrs. Beaudet. The new Council will work on this idea perhaps forming a committee to pull together all communication that new residents receive. Dr. Jenaras felt that realtors need information, as well. Mr. McNew believed that the website is not often consulted by residents and may not be the best way to disseminate information. Attorney Christ cautioned that there may be challenges to stated provisions of how people can use their property.

The final NoHaz collection will be held on Saturday, October 24.

Jim Howlett spoke about the paving of North Lake Angelus Road, noting that there were numerous inhibitors to paving other than financing; widening the road, a wider right of way requiring land acquisition from property owners on either side, substantial tree removal, surface water drainage and hazardous material requiring storm water drainage, traffic increase, pollutants increase, increased drainage into the Lake, traffic diversion into the Lake Angelus environment, speed, many concerns beyond finances. Michele Drake inquired, on behalf of the Women’s Club, whether ping pong tables could be stored in the Barn for various events. Residents might donate them. Dr. Cabot noted that lighting is a problem in the Barn for ping pong, but no one objected to storing tables in the Barn.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department report for September. The lake level is 949.8. The officers have parked the police vehicles at various places around the City. Not many boat stickers have been issued. Dr. Cabot felt that every boat should be approached and inspected. Deer hunters are not reporting to the Station and it is not
known how many are hunting or how many deer taken. Tree trimming needs to be done at the Station. Tip Top Tree Care has been consulted. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve $400 for the trimming. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Prosser indicated that the department’s tasers are so old they cannot be used. He got a quote of $3700.08 for two new ones. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve up to $3800 for two new tasers. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. A FOIA request was received regarding 355 Gray Woods Lane. The investigation has been closed. Gerry Compagnoni assisted the Police with a boat rescue using Dr. Knysz’s boat to do it. In the process, the prop was damaged on the Knysz boat. Dr. Knysz said not to worry, but it was felt that the City should offer to get a price and get it fixed.

Building and Permits: Building Official, Brian Oppmann, reported that a builder was trying to survey the Prokopp property, but was denied access to a neighboring property. He wondered if there was a legal opportunity for a surveyor to go onto a property in such a situation.

Mr. Oppmann reported that building activity is slowing down. There have been no updates on the Greenlee property. Dr. Cabot indicated that he had held a friendly conversation with Mr. Greenlee and hopes for a peaceful, cooperative resolution, and, hopefully one that meets the ordinances. There are issues of what can be done with the boathouse that will comply with the ordinances. There was no activity at the Leeve residence that required a permit. Mayor McNew asked Mr. Christ to draft a letter to Tom Gitter to inform him that his variance has expired.

The dam has been repaired, backfilled with gravel, and vegetation has been removed to provide access. It is the first time the dam has been worked on since 2009. The cost of the work was $2600. Councilmember Cabot moved to reconfirm approval of funds. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk, Rosalie Lake, indicated that plans for the November 3rd election were moving along. Applications for absentee ballots have been mailed. Ballots will be mailed as applications are received. The final NoHaz collection will be on October 24th. The City’s representatives will be John Soave and Ms. Lake. Jim Cortez was away so the discussion of the website was postponed.

Mayor McNew, Dennis Mitchell, Jim Howlett and Dan Christ will meet with representatives of the Water Resources Commission on Friday regarding the Sinking Bridge Drain.

City Property: Mr. Poploskie reported that the Barn and the Berm have both been cleaned. Mr. Billington cut the grass at the driving range. It will cost $70 every two weeks to maintain the range. There are 16 dead trees on the Berm. They will be replaced with 16 new 7 to 8 foot white pine trees. Major Road Funds can be used for this purpose.
Treasurer, Julie Frakes, presented the financial reports for the first quarter of the fiscal year. The Balance Sheet shows $119,000 more than last year due to less cost for weed treatment. All budgets are in line. The target was 25% and the actual was 24.3%. The Police Department is the only budget slightly over. Mrs. Frakes reviewed the warrants and each of the Funds at the quarter. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants above $500. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#20355 to Voyager Fleet for $593.14  #20356 to Billington Services for $1595
#20357 to Sterling Development for $735  #20359 to Belle Tire for $624
#20360 to Hafeli, Staran, Christ for $3381.10  #20361 to Code Enforcement for $1385
#20377 to MMRMA for $5613.75  #20378 to Restore Lk Sciences for $4400
#20379 to Linda Burton for $1125  #20383 to OC Sheriff $1968.67

Summer taxes have been paid on all but five parcels.

The City has been noted as delinquent in not joining the Miss Dig Association. However, the City does not own any underground utilities. There are numerous fees for numerous things for association members. Mrs. Frakes will relay the City’s information in hopes that the City does not have to become a member.

Mrs. Frakes discussed the McMath assessment question. The original assessment was not correct. The Board of Review revised the assessment for subsequent years. Assessor, Linda Burton, has no authority to change the assessment for prior years. The family now owning the property would have to go to the Tax Tribunal for relief, which would go back for three years.

The total expense for weed control this year is $25,152.40.

A preliminary audit report has been received by Mrs. Frakes and Mr. McNew.

In the future, Councilmember Dennis Mitchell will be the second signer on City checks.
The PortaPotty will be moved near the Barn for the Halloween party.

Environmental Board: Mr. Mitchell noted the curly weed coming to the surface of the Lake. Jennifer of Restorative Lake Sciences has taken further samples. Her forthcoming report will prompt the next meeting of the Environmental Board. There is one more year on the treatment program with Aqua Weed.

Fire Protection: Layoffs are occurring in the Waterford Fire Department. 39 firefighters will be laid off and the Waterford #4 station will be closing. A grant application is in process that may be able to help this situation.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved: Respectfully submitted,

Patrick McNew, Mayor  Rosalie Lake, Clerk