Present: Mayor Lee McNew; Councilmembers Bill Lembke, Jon Cabot, Karl Storrie, Gail Haines; Attorney, Dan Christ; Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Police Chief, John Roehrig; Environmental Board Chair, Leon Pedell; Building Official, Leon Genre; Clerk, Rosalie Lake

Visitors: John Hammond, Ginny Leever, John Hovey, Linda Daniels, Brad Rachwal, Jim Howlett, Michelle Drake, Dick Lund, Bob Bailey

Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mrs. McNew asked for consideration of the Minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2008. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Councilmember Cabot moved to change the agenda to allow the Building and Permits and the Planning Commission reports to follow the Police Department report. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Clerk reported on election preparations. The final collection of hazardous wastes for this year has been held. There were seven cars attending from Lake Angelus. The ‘Angelus’ copies from 1976 through 2007 have been scanned for archiving on the website. A letter of thanks from the community will be sent to Ray Siwiec who spearheaded the project and to Katie Vick who scanned the copies provided by Anne and Jim Howlett.

Police Chief, John Roehrig, gave the Department report. Mr. Roehrig is working on getting the water safety rules onto the website. One or two new officers will be hired – one younger officer and one experienced retired officer, both with excellent resumes. In the monthly report, Mr. Roehrig thanked Gerry Campagnoni and Alexander Beebe for help in urgent situations. A new phone answering system is in place to give prompt attention to Lake Angelus calls and forward calls to other departments that belong under their jurisdiction.

Leon Pedell, Chair of the Environmental Board, indicated that the Board voted unanimously to recommend bow hunting on the City property as was done last year. Hunters must be a resident or be accompanied by a resident and can only hunt on the designated City property. Councilmember Storrie moved to approve bow hunting by licensed hunters on the City property adjacent to the Police Station. Hunters must be residents or be accompanied by a resident. Councilmember Cabot seconded. Motion carried unanimously. There was not enough interest in posting the area with signage. The next group of 18 pages of the Police Manual, “tasers” through “workplace violence” had been reviewed by the Councilmembers. Mr. Roehrig is working on a use of force report. Additionally, a section providing for complaints against the Chief will be presented to the Council. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the eighteen pages of the Manual that were reviewed for this meeting. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The last 18 pages will be reviewed for the next meeting.
Dick Lund read his prepared report on a proposed surveillance system in an effort to determine whether there is sufficient interest to continue to pursue the project. The system employs 13 cameras to observe every vehicle entering the City twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. It can be absolutely dark and a vehicle can be traveling at 60mph and a license number can still be recorded and compared to search lists. When a license number match is made, information can be broadcast to officers. Video data is stored for 30 days or it can be downloaded for longer storage. Videos cannot be doctored and are stamped with the time and date and are watermarked. One or two cameras could be installed at first with others installed later. Two cameras properly placed could cover 50% of the City. Since the cost will be borne by the City, Mr. Lund suggested that the whole City be covered. The cost for the whole system – 13 cameras, equipment at the Police Department, all poles and wiring – is $410,000. The monthly maintenance fee would be $1600. A cell phone provider has to provide the secure virtual network so that photographs are able to be transmitted. Other places using this system are the New York Port Authority, Pittsburg, a city on Long Island, the University of Maryland among others. Comments were invited. Ginny Leever felt that it seemed like overkill. Mr. Cabot, speaking as a citizen, felt that the costs were worrisome. He felt that the City could get more bang by adding police patrols and technology will get cheaper in the future. The Chief indicated that, if the City could afford it, it would be a wonderful tool. Mr. Lund would like to hold a public information meeting on the subject, but only if the City is willing to continue to consider it. Jim Howlett suggested not doing anything now and waiting for a less expensive technology. Mr. Lund indicated that the equipment could be leased to reduce costs. Mr. Pedell noted that the City is looking at a shrinking tax base. Mr. Storrie estimated the cost per family would be over $3000. It appeared clear that no one in attendance recommended going forward at this time.

Councilmember Lembke reported from the Planning Commission that the members will continue to consider size and location of play structures. The Glantz revised site plan will be reviewed. There was no consensus on clear-cutting. It appears to be a dead issue unless something that speaks only to clear-cutting can be formulated.

Building and Permits: Building Official, Leon Genre gave his report. Work at the Shea residence is complete. The Biggers were issued a temporary Certificate of Occupancy a week ago. They are not yet occupying the house. There is still site work to complete. Two small retaining walls will be removed at the Greenlea residence. An excelsior blanket with seed will be put down. Mr. Genre has delivered packets of information on the Glantz residence for the Planning Commission to review. Mr. Genre has written to John Hovey giving him 10 days to comply with the ordinance and move his play structure out of the 15 foot side yard setback. He has not yet complied. Mr. Genre was told to forgo enforcement until after the Planning Commission meets to consider whether play structures are accessory structures. John Hammond agreed that it was important to wait for this determination. Mayor McNew indicated that there will be a public hearing on the issue at the next Planning Commission meeting. Play structures are not addressed in the ordinances at all at the present time. Mr. Genre may receive a site plan from Dr. Knysz to be reviewed by the Planning Commission at its next meeting.
The Pyykonens, 1310 Lake Angelus Shores, will submit plans for seawall repair. They are also doing interior remodeling. The Mitchells, on Gallogly Road, have been given a Certificate of Occupancy, but some final inspections are still needed. Hal Doremus has contacted Kieft Engineering to survey the property line in order to move the fence.

Mr. Genre will determine how to get numbers for the administrative retainer included in the financial report from Code Enforcement. The City should not subsidize these expenses from the General Fund.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, presented the monthly financial reports. She reviewed the warrants and all of the balance sheets. The Profit and Loss is in line for this time of the fiscal year. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting warrants over $500. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#15299 to Code Enforcement for $2040
#15301 to Linda Burton for $1030
#15305 to Bureau Veritas for $2700
#15316 to Voyager Fleet for $1137.27
#15317 to Tri-City Aggregates for $4676.84
#15319 to RCOC for $1232.50
#15320 to Hinkson Const for $1000
#15335 to Oak Cty Sheriff for $783.67
#15338 to Code Enforcement for $1960
#15341 to Hafeli, Staran for $1352.52
#15342 to RCOC for $1732.50
#15343 to MMRMA for $7009
#15344 to Voyager Fleet for $1137.27
#15345 to Tri-City Aggregates for $4676.84
#15346 to RCOC for $1232.50
#15347 to Hinkson Const for $1000
#15348 to Oak Cty Sheriff for $783.67
#15349 to Code Enforcement for $1960
#15350 to Hafeli, Staran for $1352.52
#15351 to RCOC for $1732.50
#15352 to MMRMA for $7009

Seven parcels have not yet paid summer taxes. The audit by Janz and Knight is in progress. Linda Burton’s issue on the Workmans Comp audit is being worked through. The DTE Consent Judgment payment is due. Zambelli’s fees for fireworks will go up next year. Councilmember Haines will get a bid from another company.

Environmental Quality Board: The water quality testing report has been received and shows low e-coli, good water quality, but slightly higher nitrogen and phosphorous. The Fertilizing Ordinance should be put in the ‘Angelus’ again. Jim Howlett has agreed to allow Leon Pedell to test water on his property. Dave Plautz, longtime fisherman at Lake Angelus, spoke to the Board about the excess of carp and the decrease of small fish in the lake. Cormorants have been seen on the lake. They eat enormous amounts of small fish. It may be advisable to get Goosebusters to shake the eggs of these birds. Fishermen from off the lake have been observed taking out large quantities of fish. It was suggested to pass a catch-and-release and barbless hook ordinance/rule to last for five years, with the exception of carp. Jim Howlett was dismayed that residents allow non-residents to come onto the lake to fish. He felt that no one should fish on the lake unless they are a resident or accompanied by a resident. Attorney Christ will research whether the State may preempt the City in creating a rule regarding this. Brad Rachwal felt that no fishermen will want to use barbless hooks. Dr. Pedell and Bob Bailey noted that barbless hooks allow fish to live after being released. It is not the City’s own citizenry that is taking quantities of fish out of the lake. The Board voted to replace member, Janette Kolodge, with Dennis Mitchell. One more space will need to be filled on the Board next year. So far, Brad Rachwal and Leslie Embrey have expressed interest.

The study of the weed population in the lake was very encouraging. Future weed studies will be done by residents with advice from Jeff Knox of Aquatic Services. Weed issues will be discussed at the Environmental Board’s open meeting on February 4, 2009.
A high phosphorous count was found in Stefani’s stream. Dr. Pedell and Mr. Howlett are looking at storm water inputs into the Lake. Ammonia is high due to lawn fertilizer and a lack of rain gardens at the lakefront.

Starr Foster spoke about buckthorn in the Staff Wildlife Preserve.

Linda Daniels is concerned about the shoreline at the Island and improper use of fire on the Island. She will draw up some guidelines for use of the Island to protect the Island. She suggested signage, designated fire rings to be used with java or similar logs, and permits for overnight camping. Dr. Pedell will investigate fire rings and barbeque equipment. Erosion is clearly evident especially on the south side of the Island. An environmental engineering company could evaluate the shoreline and provide direction.

Roads: Councilmember Storrie contacted RCOC regarding clearing brush from the sides of Gallogly Road from the Knysz drive to Newark. RCOC will not do this. Pontiac will be contacted.

City Property: Bill Lembke reported that damage in the Silver Lake School area has been repaired. There is a new drain between the Police Department and the tennis courts. Gravel is needed for completion. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve $250 for the gravel. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

There is considerable erosion at the dam site. The area will need to be clear-cut and have gravel put in from the end of the Lane to the Zemkes. It is going to be a substantial expense. Mr. Lembke estimated $3600 for clear-cutting to get a bobcat in to bring in gravel and $1700 for the gravel. Dr. Pedell thought that the company that did the Kresge drain project could do it.

The blacktop at the City Hall and Police Department needs to have sealcoating. Councilmember Cabot moved to extend the meeting for 2 minutes past the 9pm deadline for adjournment. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Two bids for $6000 have been received for renovation of the City Hall ceiling. Forrest Milzow has offered to take on the project for $3500 putting in insulation, painting and installing lights. Councilmember Haines moved to accept Mr. Milzow’s bid for the ceiling renovation. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Cabot reported that the City is covered by insurance for a party at the Barn if the City does not serve alcohol. People may bring their own alcohol, however.

Attorney Christ had submitted a letter outlining the functioning of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mayor McNew felt that the application for a ZBA hearing is obtuse. She will discuss this further with Attorney Christ. Two ordinance amendments will be discussed at the Planning Commission meeting.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on November 11, 2008 at 7 pm.

Approved,             Respectfully submitted,
Lee McNew, Mayor       Rosalie Lake, Clerk