MINUTES OF THE LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 12, 2010

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


Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge was recited. Mrs. McNew called forth Forrest Milzow to be honored by the City for his many years of service to the residents of Lake Angelus. Mr. Milzow was a charter member of the Planning Commission, formed in 1992, and served with distinction as its chair for many years. He was thanked with numerous complements and a standing ovation. Mr. Milzow spoke about the early years of his service and those with whom he worked. He reminisced about some of the extraordinary homes he had worked on over the years. He concluded with his feeling that Lake Angelus is the best place to live.

The Minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2010 were approved as corrected. Clerk Lake reported on the preparation leading up to the Election on November 2nd. She indicated that she had had communication from the Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, and subsequently from the State Elections Bureau, regarding access for the handicapped to the City Hall for voting purposes. She has responded to both groups that access is provided. The Advocacy Service is not yet satisfied and will be invited to visit City Hall to offer suggestions, as they have been and done in the past. The file reorganization project has begun. The Mayor and Clerk have done a cursory inventory. Work will continue after the Election. The Clerk noted that the Planning Commission has changed its meeting time to 7 pm so that all City meetings are held at the same hour. Deputy Clerk, Linda Daniels, will respond to requests of the Clerk while Rosalie Lake is away from November 12 to the 30th.

Resident Comments: Dick Lund reported that the dry hydrant has been moved at a cost of $3220. The Waterford Fire Department will hold a training at the new site soon to familiarize fire personnel with its use. Mr. Lund felt that the City has not reacted to issues of access or signage without prodding from the Fire Department. As a starting point, he has produced a packet of materials that the City/Police Department might use to take care of these issues. The LAPD may identify issues as they move about the City, but someone needs to take care of the problems with authority to enforce the ordinances. A big problem is signage lost in the bushes. Chief Prosser indicated that the Officers can take care of observing these things. Councilmember Haines will send out letters to those in non-conformance. The notice to residents contained in the ordinance (414.08) will be published in the ‘Angelus’ in November.

Chief Prosser gave the monthly Department report. A resident has given a copy of an email to the LAPD, which was sent anonymously to the resident, complaining about numerous things. The Chief provided a copy for the Council’s information. The boat launch use was discussed, leaving the gate closed but unlocked during daylight hours in the fall. Walter Jaeger asked that...
the LAPD try to schedule boat owners, or their companies, so that they are not parking on his lawn or blocking the road. Mr. Jaeger was advised to contact the LAPD when these situations occur as they do try to schedule the traffic.

The Police Department’s Strategic Plan had been reviewed by Councilmembers. Councilmember Cabot noted that prices included in the Plan are not firm, but are estimates. Residents may be able to help with some items. The present Police boat was acquired in May of 2005. With the kind of use it gets and with good maintenance and the fact that it is now kept inside in the winter, it should last longer than predicted. Councilmember Haines described the Plan as a living document which needs to be reviewed each year to prioritize. Consideration of the budget and the possibility of deferral may have to be part of the conversation. Julie Frakes questioned the use of police bicycles. The Chief thought they might be used by reserves, in areas where traffic would not be a safety concern, to bring the officers closer to the people in the City.

The Reserve Officers have given 621 unpaid hours of service to the City this summer. By April, Chief Prosser anticipated their service will pass 800 hours. The Chief wished to take them to dinner and requested $200 for this purpose. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the $200. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission: Councilmember Poploskie announced the election of Bob Bailey as Chair of the Commission. The goal is to hold at least four meetings per year. The next meeting is scheduled for November 23rd. A meeting was held on October 6th with Code Enforcement with Mayor McNew, Councilmember Poploskie and Commission Chair Bailey. Building Official, Brian Oppmann indicated that Code Enforcement will be moving its offices to Davisburg in Springfield Twp. He did not see any changes for Lake Angelus except a new phone number.

Mr. Oppmann discussed Zoning Board of Appeals training and it was determined that a joint Council and Planning Commission meeting would be held for this purpose on October 27 at 7 pm. It will be posted as a workshop and as an open meeting.

Plans for the renovations at the former Follis home on Private Drive will be presented probably after the first of the year.

Code Enforcement will break out fees in their report. There will be a letter from Brian with a new proposal from Code Enforcement regarding future fees.

Treasurer Frakes will release the bond for the Lynch’s shed project.

City Property: Aspects of a City facility policy were discussed. The City has coverage for such use, but the user is not insured. The City’s insurer would not defend a user under the present policy. Some kind of a hold-harmless document would be needed. Councilmember Haines hoped to see the facilities used by residents and wondered whether the City’s insurance could cover all issues, making use easier for residents. Councilmember Cabot will research this.

Jim Howlett’s letter referring to the acquisition of City property was very interesting. The Council thanked him for his work on putting together it together.

Walter Jaeger spoke about the work that was necessary to move the dry hydrant and requested that the City reconstitute the planting in the area. He had invited three companies to look at the area. To supply bushes, ground cover and top soil, estimates ranged from $1200 to $1600. Mr. Jaeger was willing to provide top soil and rake and do some planting. The opinions generally were to let the area naturalize with native plants. Mr. Jaeger suggested duplicating planting on his side of the boat launch and getting it started with Baltic ivy. He will rake the area and get
planting started. Most felt an estimate of $1200 was high for the project. Councilmember Storrie moved to approve not to exceed $1000 for the project. Councilmember Cabot seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Jaeger will work together with Bob Bailey and also check with Treasurer Frakes on the $350 in the contract for this work at the site of the dry hydrant. Regarding the 20’ Strip, Bob Bailey reported that the wooden stakes were still in place and the steam roller and cement blocks are still there. Mr. Rosado says that the materials are not his. The shed and other items have been removed from the Strip, but Mr. Rosado’s fence still encroaches by one foot. Councilmember Haines moved to require Mr. Rosado to move his fence out of the 20’ Strip. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Another neighbor has built a berm with pavers and sprinklers on the City’s 20’ Strip. These must be removed.

Councilmember Storrie presented photos of the work done on the Barn. At the lower level, there is mud leaking at joints between the Barn and the silo. No plan exists for work on it at this time.

Treasurer Frakes presented the financial reports. She reviewed the warrants and the Profit and Loss and Balance Sheets for the City’s accounts. The budget target for this month is 25%. It is at 28.3%. Nine properties have unpaid summer taxes.

Councilmember Cabot moved to extend the meeting to cover the balance of business. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Frakes continued her review of the financial reports. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants over $500. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Frakes is beginning to work on the Winter taxes and has completed the audit for the Waterford School District. Billington Services will be hired for snow removal at the same rate as last year.

Environmental Board: The phragmites area has been staked, caution signs are up, and a GPS system is in place to monitor spreading. $191 was spent on the phragmites containment program. Linda Daniels plans a meeting with Leon Pedell to discuss weed growth in the Lake. Ten residents met with Dan Anfinson of the 350 Organization on 10/10/10, which sponsored meetings globally to reduce the human footprint. The group cleaned the Berm and behind it as well as Gallogly Road.

Councilmember Cabot reported that the tennis court defects will be corrected in the spring.

Roads: Councilmember Storrie reported that the tri-party graveling had not yet been done although Treasurer Frakes had received a bill for the City’s share of the work.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05.
Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on November 9, 2010 at 7 pm.

Approved:华
Lee McNew, Mayor

Respectfully submitted,
Rosalie Lake, Clerk