MINUTES OF THE LAKE ANGELUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 9, 2011

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

Visitors: Gary Baum and Don Clapham representing the Shores Road Association

Mayor McNew called the meeting to order at 7pm and the Pledge was recited. The Minutes of the Meeting of July 12, 2011 were approved as corrected.

Ray Siwiec has made a thorough review of the City’s assessing services, but was unable to attend the meeting. He will report at the September Council meeting.

The Council is required to set a fee between $10 and $50 for the performance of a marriage by the Mayor. Councilmember Haines moved to set the fee at $10. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Lake reported that three residents had submitted petitions to run for election to the City Council in November, Jon Cabot, Chuck Poploskie and Dan Jenaras. The materials will be submitted to the County to have the names placed on the ballot.

The Clerk presented an ordinance to approve the numbering and inclusion of two new ordinances to the City’s set of codified ordinances. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Pridmores were the first family to make use of City facilities under the new Facilities Use Policy. They held a family reunion event at City Hall and all went very well.

Resident Comments: Gary Baum, President of the Shores Road Association, described a project to repair the bridge to the Island on the Shores Road. The cost is estimated to be between $43,000-$48,000. It is urgent that the project get underway. Although the Association has funds for the project, it does not have enough to meet the full cost. Mr. Baum wondered whether the Association could acquire a loan from the City of $20,000-$25,000. Treasurer Frakes indicated that the City is not allowed to make a loan to a private entity. Attorney Staran felt that there may be a way to do it with a special assessment, which would act like a loan. An interest rate would have to be structured. Mr. Staran felt that it could probably be done, but not as a loan. Mr. Baum said that if the amount was for $20,000, it could be repaid in four years. Councilmember Storrie felt that the City should be able to help outright with funds for the project. Mr. Staran replied that projects of a private nature limit the options that the City has. Councilmember Haines supported a special assessment that residents would repay. Councilmember Cabot suggested giving Mr. Baum access to Attorney, Dan Christ, and his office to work out a plan. Mr. Baum hoped to keep the negotiations simple to avoid legal fees. Dr. Haines indicated that the details have to be worked out. The City would require a legal agreement with the Shores Road Association and payments would be received from the Association. Mr. Clapham indicated that the Association has funds now to begin the project. Councilmember Cabot moved to have the Shores Road Association meet with the City’s legal advisor to draft a document which will provide funds for the bridge construction on the Shores Road. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
Mr. Baum also conveyed the Association’s concern with speeding on the Shores Road, citing near accidents, and wished to have the help of the Police Department in a campaign of warnings followed by ticketing of persistent offenders. It was suggested that a flashing speed indicator sign be employed during the warning period to raise awareness of speed. Chief Prosser will contact the County about the indicator and also will have repairs made to the Department’s radar unit. Mr. Baum and the Association will work directly with the Chief and the Police Department to enforce speed limits on the Shores Road.

Councilmember Haines indicated that the follow-up to his letter regarding brush removal for Fire Department access to roads and driveways will be a drive-around in September with members of the Fire Department. Enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance pertaining to brush removal will then need to proceed.

Councilmember Cabot indicated that there were two choices for liability insurance coverage for the City’s cleaning person; either she needs to provide her own insurance or she needs to become an employee of the City, which would involve payroll taxes. Councilmember Poploskie felt that the insurance costs would not be high and the City might be able to absorb the cost in some way. He will look into getting a quote for the insurance.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, reviewed the Department’s monthly report. Unsafe boating and speeds beyond no-wake after 8 pm were discussed. Residents who notice these conditions are encouraged to contact the Police Department and aid police officers by identifying boats or the docks to which they return as best they can.

Building Official, Brian Oppmann, indicated that the Planning Commission approved the site plan for landscaping for the Incarnati property on Gray Woods Lane. Work has begun there. The Planning Commission is continuing work on three potential ordinance revisions, one related to exterior lighting, another regarding the front yard set-back, and the third an interpretation of the grading ordinance. Mr. Oppmann has received several calls for information from realtors about potential purchases of property. It seems as though there may be renewed interest.

City Property: Councilmember Poploskie indicated that the gate in the City fence on Baldwin south of City Hall will be installed in two weeks to accommodate the management of the Sinking Bridge Drain. Councilmember Poploskie will contact Chief Prosser to see whether a workforce, such as WWAM (Weekend Work Alternative for Misdemeants), might be available to do Berm clean-up. He will also relocate a winter salt container to be kept inside the doorway of City Hall.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, reviewed the financial reports. The budget is at 14.2% because of several big payments in July, those for insurance and to the Waterford Fire Department. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants over $500. Councilmember Haines seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#17236 to MMRMA for $12,864       #17237 to Linda Burton for $1061
#17238 to Valerie Pement for $500   #17252 to State of MI for $941.42
#17260 to OC Sheriff for $1762.67   #17261 to Billington for $1515
#17272 to Voyager Fleet for $1029.22 #17274 to Hafeli, Staran for $2061.93
#17275 to Code Enforcement for $1170 #17278 to Jo Ann Mitchell for $534
The opportunity exists to pay taxes by wire to the County and to the School Districts. It would cost $300 for this service. It was agreed not to use wire service and pay these amounts by check.

The costs for the Venetian Boat Parade were $782.07, much below anticipated costs. Many thanks were given to the sponsoring committee for a very fine City event.

A CD held at Flagstar Bank will mature next week. Mrs. Frakes has obtained rates from Flagstar and was waiting to hear from PNC. There is a need to split the CD as it is only insured for $250,000. It was determined to purchase a CD at Flagstar with $200,000 and put the balance of the funds into the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) where the City has an account.

Jim Cortez has agreed to assume the LAGIS project that Dick Lund has long been supervising.

Environmental Board: The weed survey following the eradication project is very favorable. Chair, Linda Daniels, will attend the next meeting with the results of the water quality survey.

Roads: Councilmember Storrie presented a project for use of tri-party funding, the repaving of Old Baldwin Road. The Road would have to be torn up between Baldwin and Gallogly. Mr. Storrie indicated that it was Tom Nochel who suggested the Old Baldwin project. He said that it was possible that the money might be lost to the State if it was not used. The City’s share of the tri-party agreement would be the money that the City has been using for supergravel. Mr. Storrie felt that the project was needed even though it would deplete the supergravel funds. Dr. Haines questioned the necessity for a $135,000 job as opposed to holding onto the money for other projects. Dr. Cabot expressed concern that N. Lake Angelus Road is going to be an on-going concern and the City would be depleting funds it has for that. Dr. Haines wondered whether there was an application that may be more expensive but that may be more effective on N. Lake Angelus Road. Mr. Storrie thought there was not. He will talk to the Road Commission about what they will still be able to do for the City if the City uses its resources for other projects. Dr. Haines wondered whether the City could budget the money for projects now, so that funds would not be lost. Mrs. Frakes indicated that she, as Treasurer, is being encouraged to prepare a three year budget. Mr. Storrie will continue discussions with the Road Commission to aid in making decisions. Dr. Cabot complemented the job Mr. Storrie has done on the roads and thanked him for his generous offer to continue his work in this area for the City although he is not running for reelection. The needs will be determined after the election.

Councilmember Haines indicated that a private party wished to acquire a permit from the City for a fireworks display. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the permitting of the fireworks noting that, if there was any expense to the City, the party would reimburse the City. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting setting the date for the next regularly scheduled meeting for September 13, 2011. Councilmember Storrie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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