

**Lake Linden Village Council
Regular Meeting
April 14th, 2005**

The Lake Linden Village Council met on the above date in the Village Hall at 6:30pm. President Pro-tem Fisher presided. The following Trustees responded to roll call: Hoffman, Heide, Frohmader and Frendewey. Absences were granted to Aittama, Hamlin.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Trustee Hoffman and supported by Trustee Frendewey to approve the March regular meeting minutes as presented. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Approval of Agenda:

After two additions under correspondence, a motion was made to approve the agenda as amended by Trustee Hoffman and supported by Trustee Heide. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Bills and Financial Statement:

The bills and financials were introduced. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Frohmader and supported by Trustee Frendewey to approve the bills as presented. Poll vote; Yes; Frohmader, Frendewey, Hoffman, Heide and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Correspondence:

Clerk Poirier updated the Council on a workshop he attended regarding the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the Community Development Block Grant funding for the streetscape project. He was told that there were no additional rounds of funding scheduled for this year but that there was usually additional rounds announced and that the village streetscape project was "in the cue" if those additional rounds occurred.

Clerk Poirier read a letter from the DNR regarding red pine seedling giveaway. After a brief discussion it was determined that no additional trees would be needed this year.

Clerk Poirier read the notice from the Houghton County DPW regarding the timetable for the Torch Lake Sewage Auth. Rate increase. It was scheduled for the first billing after June 1st, which meant the July billing for the village.

Tanya Couvion wrote a letter regarding her senior seminar tree planting project at the school, saying that she was ready to begin and would probably be concentrating on the area around the playground at the elementary school.

Spring clean-up dates were determined to be on Monday, April 25th, Monday May 9th, and Monday May 23rd. Notices would be placed in the Gazette and on the local radio stations.

A notice from the Western U. P. Michigan Works was read. After a brief discussion it was decided to ask for three summer youth employees under the program.

Clerk Poirier read a letter from Hitch Engineering stating that they were ready to begin the document preparation for the Americana grant to rehab the exterior of the village hall. Construction was still on track for June with the project being completed this summer.

The Liquor Control Commission submitted a resolution to the Village Council, as the local governing body, to approve the transfer of the Post 90 Class C liquor license to their new facility. The text of the resolution is on file at the village office. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Hoffman and supported by Trustee Friendewey to approve the transfer of the license to the new facility when it was ready and to support the change by the Legion. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier said that Fred Johnson thought a resolution to complete the transaction with the Legion would be a good idea since the Council stopped just short of that in previous meetings.

The following resolution was offered for consideration.

RESOLUTION

Moved by Trustee Hoffman;

Supported by Trustee Heide

Whereas, Post 90 and the Lake Linden Village Council have agreed to exchange parcels of land for the benefit of both parties, and

Whereas, the values of those parcels have been determined, agreed to and accepted by both parties, and the additional compensation of water hook-ups and snow removal for the new Post has been agreed to by the Council and Post 90 and written into the agreement, and

Whereas, the deed to the village-owned parcel has been corrected by an affidavit to allow for the exchange to the Legion, and

Whereas, the Keweenaw Title Company is ready to go forward with the recording of this arrangement,

Be it resolved that the Lake Linden Village Council gives it's final approval for the completion of this transaction as prepared by attorney Fred Johnson of the Keweenaw Title Company.

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

Committee Reports:

Finance(Chair:Trustee Hamlin):

No report.

Domestic Water(Chair: Trustee Fisher):

Trustee Fisher introduced the final signed draft of the new amended water rate ordinance. The rates, agreed to at a previous meeting, were briefly discussed as the document was reread and submitted to the attorney for publication

Buildings & Parks(Chair: Trustee Fisher):

Trustee Fisher introduced a prospectus for private investment on the Linden Dunes project to the council for their review. He offered a brief explanation and said this represented another phase in the search for funding for the project. No further action was necessary at this time.

A campground rate increase was discussed briefly but was deferred for future discussion.

Sanitation(Chair: Trustee Hamlin):

No report.

Equipment(Chair: Trustee Frohmader) :

Trustee Frohmader said the next issue for equipment was new pick-up trucks, but that was still not being actively pursued.

Streets(Chair: Trustee Heide):

Clerk Poirier introduced a MDOT Performance and Indemnification resolution that was submitted to the village. The clerk said he had spoken with MDOT and the resolution was one that was on file with MDOT already but was almost ten years old and needed to be renewed. It states that contractors hired by the Village for work on the trunkline would not be the responsibility of MDOT. It also states that the village cannot name MDOT in any form of judgment against it, and will repair any physical damage caused to the trunkline that is caused by any unlawful or unpermitted work on the trunkline. After a brief discussion and the determination that it was probably fruitless to bargain with the state in the event the terms were not acceptable, a motion was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Heide to accept the terms and sign the resolution.

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that MDOT said the non-motorized transportation plan would not have to be amended to change the list of projects. The details of each project could just be included in with the annual Act 51 report with an explanation of each change and the amount spent.

Executive(Chair: Trustee Fisher):

Trustee Fisher introduced a draft of the ordinance to change the clerk and treasurer positions from elected to appointed. He explained that two previous drafts had been considered but that this one finally contained the provisions he thought necessary. He said that the Village was going through a lot of major changes and a continuity in these positions was essential in moving forward with them smoothly and efficiently. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Heide and supported by Trustee Friendewey to approve the adoption of the new ordinance. Poll vote: Yes; Heide, Friendewey, Hoffman, Frohmader and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried. Ordinance adopted.

Trustee Fisher introduced a draft of a second administrative ordinance to create a village manager position that encompasses the Village Clerk and office manager areas. He went over the sections of the draft and explained that he discussed it with Fred on several occasions and that both he and Fred were comfortable with the newest draft and changes from the original draft. He explained that following the passage of this ordinance, other things would need to be considered such as job description, compensation, fringe benefits and other terms of employment. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Heide and supported by Trustee Frendewey to approve the administrative ordinance creating a village manager position. Poll vote: Yes; Heide, Frendewey, Hoffman, Frohmader and Fisher. No; None. Motion carried. Ordinance adopted.

Trustee Fisher explained that he had also discussed with Fred an ordinance to outline rates and fees, specifically, to make changes to those rates and fees easier than amending several ordinances. But he also said no one way has yet proven to be more cost effective so he would continue to look into options.

The idea of having liaisons to other local boards was briefly discussed and it was decided to have Clerk Poirier come up with the dates of other area meetings to determine the feasibility of doing this. More would be discussed after the dates were determined.

Public Safety(Chair: Trustee Hoffman):

Trustee Hoffman introduced the police report. A motion was made by Trustee Frendewey and supported by Trustee Frohmader to approve the police report as read. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chief Chandonais also said that she intended to look into hiring a part-time officer for the fall when she left for maternity leave. Further discussion was deferred for a later meeting.

Downtown Development Authority:

Streetscape updates were previously covered under correspondence.

Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority

No report.

Houghton County Historical Museum:

No report.

Torch Lake Area Fire Protection Authority:

Trustee Heide said that the Authority had met to pay some bills and make 2005 assessments. He said they were meeting again in April to elect new officers and continue catching up on some of the items that have been put off for some time.

Late Agenda Items:

None.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

Trustee Hoffman supported by Trustee Frohmader made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

Edward Fisher, President Pro-tem

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk