

**Lake Linden Village Council
Public Hearing
May 11th, 2006**

The Lake Linden Village Council met on the above date in the Village Hall at 6:30pm for a public hearing. The purpose was to hear public comment on the Joseph and Tammy Pini property exchange and the pending sale of a parcel of land to Dave Kroenke.

Trustee Fisher explained the process that had led to this point with the Pini property purchase. They originally bid on Lot 24 in Sibilsky Acres I during an open public bidding invitation. It was then discovered that the cost for running utilities to the lot was exorbitant. So, through a process allowed by a new provision in the Village Ordinance pertaining to bidding, they were offered a Lot in the new Sibilsky II plat in exchange for their lot. There were utilities much closer to this lot and it worked out well for all parties.

There were no comments from the public regarding this issue.

The second issue was a piece of village property west of the Village limits. It was about half an acre and adjacent to land owned by Dave Kroenke. However, the parcel was landlocked by the 8th Street ravine that cut across the land owned by the two parties and isolated the parcel on the south side of the gully. A possible exchange of land was discussed but it was eventually determined that the Village would be better served to just sell the parcel to Mr. Kroenke. It was of no value to anyone else since there was no access to the property. Trustee Fisher said that a price of \$750 had been determined and suggested that this was the best course of action.

There were no comments from the public regarding this issue.

Hearing no further discussion, President Aittama adjourned the hearing at 6:35pm.

**Lake Linden Village Council
Regular Meeting
May 11th, 2006**

The Lake Linden Village Council met on the above date in the Village Hall at 6:30pm. President Aittama presided. The following Trustees responded to roll call: Fisher, Hoffman, Frohmader, Frendewey and Pummill. Absence was granted to Trustee Heide.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Trustee Frendewey and supported by Trustee Fisher. All were in favor. Motion was carried

Public Comments:

Joel Michaelson was on hand to address the Council regarding the condition of the basketball court and baskets in the Village park. He requested that the Council give some attention to the positioning and condition of the rims and backboards especially. After a brief discussion it was referred to the parks committee to repair the area to a regulation condition.

Bills and Financial Statement:

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

Correspondence:

Clerk Poirier read a letter from the State Bureau of Elections. It stated that the filing date for running for offices was August 15th. He said that the three seats up for re-election this fall were those currently held by Steve Pummill, James Friendewey and Mark Frohmader. Also, the President's office was up again since that term was only two years.

Clerk Poirier introduced a letter from Dick Supina in which he said that the Legion was going to be repaving a section of 4th Street alongside the new construction next to their building. He said the Village Council had discussed paving that street in the past and was just letting them know that this was happening. After a brief discussion it was determined that the village would not pave the street but would make sure that the signage along the new building for a no parking area was put up and the painting was done to keep that area clear for the fire department.

Clerk Poirier read a letter from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation that officially released the grant funds from them for the Downtown Streetscape Project in the amount of \$361,000. No other action was required.

Clerk Poirier also pointed out that the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks had a ballot for Clerk of the Year and Council members could feel free to write in a clerk they knew personally for their ballots. No further action was taken.

Committee Reports:**Finance (Chair: Trustee Friendewey):**

Trustee Friendewey said that the committee met with the Executive committee to discuss the current cash-flow situation in the Village. He said that special attention had been paid to keeping expenses down and it would be necessary to keep a careful eye on discretionary spending for the immediate future.

President Aittama said that he spoke to Township officials who told him that the taxes could be expedited so that the revenue from the assessment could start coming in sooner than mid-July. He said he would continue to talk to Houghton County Equalization and the Township to make sure things were done as quickly as possible.

Domestic Water(Chair: Trustee Fisher):

No report.

Buildings & Parks(Chair: Trustee Fisher):

Trustee Fisher informed the Council that he had been considering reducing the overnight fee at the Village marina to \$5. He said that the fee could lead to more people willing to stay there overnight. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Pummill and supported by Trustee Frendewey to approve making the overnight fee \$5. Poll vote: Yes; Pummill, Frendewey, Fisher, Frohmader, Hoffman. No; Aittama. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that building improvements pertaining to the Americans with Disabilities Act that were proposed when the Village received the grant money for the fire truck needed to be looked at. Initially the Village was given three years to address the problems which included; buzzer and bell outside the ramp entrance, a change in the exterior door, a support bar in the restroom. A handicap-access toilet, plumbing changes in the restroom and a widening of the door into the office from the meeting room. He said SAIL (Superior Alliance for Independent Living) did the review. He also said there may be restrictions because of the buildings place on the National Historic Register. After a brief discussion it was referred to the building committee to formulate a schedule to address the necessary changes.

Sanitation(Chair: Trustee Pummill):

President Aittama clarified an entry on the agenda that said the sanitation committee chair was vacant. The sanitation chair is actually Trustee Pummill.

Equipment(Chair: Trustee Frohmader) :

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that the 1972 GMC fire truck had been sold and picked up as last. The total, as previously agreed to by the Council, was \$1,500.

Streets(Chair: Trustee Heide):

Clerk Poirier said Jude had informed him of a retaining wall on Osceola Street that was collapsing. He said there were two possible options. One was a cosylt survey of the wall to determine ownership. The other was proposing a compromise solution to the Goels by sharing in the expense of repairing the wall. After a brief discussion it was decided to send a letter to the Goels with the proposed compromise details.

Executive(Chair: Trustee Fisher):

The committees first order of business was to take action on the two property issues discussed in the public hearing.

With respect to the Pini issue, a motion was made by Trustee Frohmader and supported by Trustee Hoffman to approve the transfer of Lot 24 in Sibilsky Acres I, as bid and sold to Joseph and Tammy Pini, for Lot #5 (to be renumbered upon final plat approval) in the Sibilsky Acres II plat. Poll vote: Yes; Frohmader, Hoffman, Fisher, Pummill, Frendewey and Aittama. NO; None. Motion carried.

With respect to the Kroenke property issue a motion was made by Trustee Hoffman and supported by Trustee Frohmader to approve the sale of the

identified parcel to Dave Kroenke for \$750. Poll vote: Yes; Hoffman, Frohmader, Frendewey, Fisher, Pummill and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier introduced a draft resolution approving the change of name for the American Legion Post 90 liquor license to the Lakes Lounge, Inc. He said this was the fourth time it had been changed and hopefully this was the last. After reading the resolution a motion was made by Trustee Fisher and supported by Trustee Frohmader to recommend the approval of the name change on the liquor license to the Lakes Lounge, Inc. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier Introduced a letter to the union representative requesting a cost-sharing arrangement for an actuarial study for a retirement plan option. He said he was told by the Union employees that their union would share in the cost of a study to determine if switching to a point system for retirement eligibility was beneficial. After a brief explanation it was decided that the Executive committee would meet with union representatives to discuss which options to look into. No further action was necessary.

Clerk Poirier said he had been told that a collapsed trailer on 12th Street could pose an attractive nuisance to young children and create an unsafe situation. Jude Kalcich was on hand and said that he had been told by the owner of the trailer that he was trying to make arrangements to have it cleaned up. No further action was deemed necessary.

Public Safety(Chair: Trustee Hoffman):

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

Chief Parker was on hand to introduce a fire report. He said that there were two new members ready for full-time status, Greg Meneguzzo and Jeff Colombe. A motion was made by Trustee Fisher and supported by Trustee Frohmader to approve their addition to the fire department roster. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Chief Parker then said there were 18 calls in 2005 and 5 calls so far in 2006. Plans for the Independence Day celebration were progressing. He also said that the department had applied for a FEMA grant for about \$90,000 of equipment. He said the village share would be about \$4,500 which the department could possibly cost-share.

Downtown Development Authority:

Clerk Poirier stated that the DDA Board had spoken to Linda Fontaine about being a member of the DDA and she said she was interested. She was a resident of the district and seemed eager to work on issues that were currently on the table. President Aittama then recommended to the Council that she be appointed to the DDA Board. A motion was made by Trustee Pummill and supported by Trustee Fisher to approve the President's recommendation for Linda Fontaine. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Trustee Pummill also introduced samples of the signs on the historic walking trail as designed by the HCHS. He said the DDA had approved a \$3,300 amount to help with the cost of the signs and they would be a very nice addition to the new downtown streetscape appearance.

Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority

Trustee Hoffman stated that the televising of the system was uncovering far fewer problems than were originally thought. He said this appeared to be a good sign because they would be more likely to find a major problem that would concentrate the necessary repairs making them far less costly. He said it was definitely paying for itself.

Lake Linden Housing Commission

Clerk Poirier said that he had been informed by Sandy Goodell at LLV Housing that the addition of Robert Lang to the Housing Commission Board represented a conflict of interest. A brief discussion regarding the conflict ensued. It was decided that HUD would be contacted directly to determine the reason the conflict existed.

Houghton County Historical Museum:

Clerk Poirier said that the Trains, Tractors and More event was on May 20-21. He also requested, as a member of the HCHS Board, that the village supply a crossing guard for the event. He said he had spoken to the village insurance agent and that it did not represent a problem. After a brief discussion the Council agreed to let the crossing guard work for the event for those two days.

Torch Lake Area Fire Protection Authority:

Clerk Poirier said that a meeting of the Authority members was to be held in the next few weeks and that he was not aware of any other pending business.

Late Agenda Items:

None.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

Announcements:

Clerk Poirier said the last spring clean-up was this coming Monday and the Museum's Trains, Tractors & More event was May 20, 21st.

Adjournment:

Trustee Frohmader supported by Trustee Fisher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 pm. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

There were 3 members of the public in attendance.

James M. Aittama, President

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk