

**Lake Linden Village Council  
Regular Meeting  
March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

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, Hamlin, and Frohmader. Absences were granted to Trustees Hoffman and Friendewey. One council seat is vacant.

**Approval of Minutes:**

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

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

**Public Comments:**

Two representatives from the MTU Mini-Baja rally were on hand to give a recap of the 2007 event. They said advertising was stepped up this year on radio, television and newspaper, 13 universities sent teams and there were several hundred spectators for the races. They thanked the council for it's help and especially Jude Kalcich for his help in preparing the track. The council said that they hoped next year they would be given a little more lead time for preparations but overall it was very well received.

**Bills and Financial Statement:**

The bills and financials were introduced. Clerk Poirier explained a few entries on the report. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Fisher and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve the bills as presented. Poll vote; Yes; Fisher, Hamlin, Frohmader and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

**Correspondence:**

Clerk Poirier said there was no response to an ad placed in the *Gazette* for the open village council seat. Trustee Fisher said he had had someone express interest and hoped to hear from them in the very near future.

Clerk Poirier read a letter from the MEDC regarding the audit of paperwork on the CDBG Block grant for the streetscape project. The letter said that the paperwork was essentially okay but reminded the Village that all expenses incurred in future projects needed to be approved in writing prior to incurring them.

Clerk Poirier informed the council that the resolutions for the V-6 vesting period for the MERS retirement plan needed to be separated into police and DPW. He said that a separate resolution was not needed but they would be submitted again to MERS.

Clerk Poirier indicated that grant applications for the DEQ Coastal Management program, the DNR Trust Fund grant program and the Michigan Housing Development Authority were available at the office and that discussions regarding projects for these grants should be done quickly.

Clerk Poirier read a notice of a grant-seeking and writing seminar in Marquette sponsored by the Northern Michigan Public Service Academy. After a brief discussion it was decided to send the clerk to attend the seminar on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

WUPPDR sent a Notice of intent for a grant project for a Copper Country Trail National Byway on U.S. 41 from Hancock to Copper Harbor. Input from council members was solicited by WUPPDR during the next 30 days.

Clerk Poirier introduced a spreadsheet outlining costs for a change in the Blue Cross Blue Shield plan currently carried by the Village. He said a meeting with the agent was necessary to get all the details of the proposed plan and that it should be done as soon as possible.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Finance(Chair:Trustee Frendewey):**

Trustee Fisher, reporting for Trustee Frendewey, said that the budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year was better than what was anticipated but the 2007-08 was still slightly in deficit. The Truth in Taxation Hearing was to be scheduled in the near future to discuss tax rates. He was currently investigating a discrepancy in the books uncovered by the Torch Lake Sewage Authority audit. He said in the near future the committee would look at perhaps getting bids for auditors this year.

#### **Domestic Water(Chair: Trustee Fisher):**

A brief discussion with a member of the public regarding the base charge for Village water and sewer took place. No further action was taken.

#### **Buildings & Parks(Chair: Trustee Fisher):**

Trustee Fisher explained that a discussion regarding the marina was needed by the committee. Signage, pump-out facilities and a possible expansion of one of the docks by a private party all needed to be discussed. He said further information regarding this matter would be presented at the April meeting.

#### **Sanitation(Chair: Trustee Hamlin):**

No report.

#### **Equipment(Chair: Trustee Frohmader):**

No report.

#### **Streets(Chair: Vacant):**

Jude Kalcich said the committee should meet to discuss possible projects to be done before the repaving project, including storm sewer replacement, curb installation, and a possible hydrant replacement before the road is resurfaced.

**Executive(Chair: Trustee Fisher):**

As previously discussed, the date for a Truth in Taxation Hearing would soon be set. The 2007-08 budget was still slightly in deficit and a close eye would be kept on expenditures in the near future.

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that the application deadline for the Americana Foundation and the third phase of the Village Hall renovation project was April 10<sup>th</sup>. After a brief discussion it was decided to have a special meeting later in the month to approve costs relating to the application well before the deadline.

Trustee Fisher informed the Council that the collective bargaining agreement had been signed and that new talks regarding the agreement would begin again in May or June for the next contract.

**Public Safety(Chair: Trustee Hoffman):**

Clerk Poirier introduced the police report for January and February. A motion was made by Trustee Fisher and supported by Trustee Hamlin to accept the police report as presented. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

**Downtown Development Authority:**

Steve Pummill gave an update on the Zoning and planning seminar he attended on behalf of the DDA. An overview of that seminar is on file in the Village office.

He also presented the DDA budget for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

**Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority**

President Aittama introduced a resolution from the TLASA drafted by their attorney. It stated that upon the final bond payment due in May of 2007, Houghton County would transfer it's interest in Houghton County Sewage Disposal #1 System to the Authority instead of back to the Authority's constituent units and that they make this conveyance by appropriate documents, including a quit-claim deed and bill of transfer. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Frohmader and supported by Trustee Fisher to accept and approve the provisions of the resolution as presented. Poll vote: Yes; Frohmader, Fisher, Hamlin and Aittama. No; None. Absent: Frendewey and Hoffman. Motion was carried.

**Lake Linden Housing Commission**

No report.

**Torch Lake Area Fire Protection Authority:**

Clerk Poirier said that the Authority had not met since the last meeting. Trustee Hamlin asked if the clarification of the Village's role in the Authority had been determined. Poirier said that Village attorney Freed Johnson had not yet reported his findings on that matter but that he would inquire as soon as possible.

**Late Agenda Items:**

None

**New Business:**

Trustee Frohmader reported that the LLH Sportsmen's club held their meeting and discussed repairs to the roof of their building. He said they would be

approaching the Village in the near future regarding some sort of compensation arrangement for this update.

**Old Business:**

None.

**Announcements:**

Trustee Fisher said there was a presentation on the Lake Linden Downtown Historic District on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Lake Linden Hubbell High School.

Trustee Frohmader announced that a Muscular Dystrophy fundraiser was scheduled for the Legion Hall.

Trustee Hamlin again thanked the Council for its cooperation during the Mini Baja week. He said the event seems to be growing and perhaps other activities could be added to the day to make it an even larger celebration.

**Adjournment:**

Trustee Hamlin supported by Trustee Frohmader made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned. There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

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James M. Aittama, President

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Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk