

**Lake Linden Village Council
Regular Meeting
December 6th, 2007**

President Aittama called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The following Trustees responded to roll call: Fisher, Friendewey, Hoffman, Hamlin, Frohmader and Schuldt.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve the November regular meeting minutes as presented. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Approval of Agenda:

A brief discussion of the agenda resulted in a motion from Trustee Fisher and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve the agenda. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Public Comments:

None.

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 Hamlin to approve the bills as presented. Poll vote: Yes; Fisher, Hamlin, Schuldt, Friendewey, Hoffman, Frohmader and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Correspondence:

Clerk Poirier introduced materials relating to the proposed plan change for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Trustee Fisher explained the research done into the Flexible Blue plans and outlined the cost savings for each plan. There was extensive discussion regarding the Health Savings accounts and the funding options for those accounts. It was explained that each account was to be funded for the full deductible amount each year and that any remaining money after the coverage year ended could be used for allowable medical expenses not covered by the plan. The balance would be carried forward and Blue Cross would track the covered expenses to determine when the deductible amount was depleted.

The two plans being considered were the BCBS Flexible Blue Plan 2 and Plan 3. The first had a \$2,500 family deductible and the second had a \$4,000 deductible. After some discussion about the fairness of offering the plan to employees who opt out, it was determined that saving approximately \$13,500 in premiums and co-pays with Plan 3 was the way to go. A motion was made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Friendewey to switch the coverage to plan 3. Poll vote: Yes; Hamlin, Friendewey, Fisher, Frohmader, Hoffman, Schuldt and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

A motion was then made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Schuldt to approve setting up and funding the Health Savings Account required

by the plan change. Poll vote: Yes; Friendewey, Schuldt, Frohmader, Hoffman, Hamlin, Fisher, and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Committee Reports:

Executive (Chair:Trustee Fisher):

Trustee Fisher introduced the final draft of the union contract. He explained that there were only a few changes with the contract renewal. First, the pay reflected an increase of 4% for the 1st year followed by increases of 3% and 2% in succeeding years. Second, the document reflected the plan change from the PPO plan to the flexible blue. He said that the guys had reviewed and approved the changes and were waiting for approval from the Council. A motion was then made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Frohmader to approve renewing the union contract under the terms as explained for the next three years. Poll vote: Yes; Friendewey, Frohmader, Fisher, Hoffman, Schuldt, Hamlin and Aittama. The Council thanked Trustee Fisher for his work on the contract over the past few months.

Trustee Fisher then introduced copies of at-will agreements for the administrative personnel, namely the Clerk, Treasurer and police chief. He said in completing the union contract it seemed logical to formalize agreements for the other employees as well.

He said he also thought it prudent to switch over to a salary structure for the clerk and police chief to simplify the terms of those positions with regard to compensation for extra hours required. He said the salary numbers in the agreements included the current wage plus a 4% increase to mirror the increase of the union employees plus a number that covered additional compensation for extra hours required. He said the purpose was not to penalize or increase pay but to simplify these numbers. He also said that the PTO accrual for those positions amounted to ½ day per week as well.

Finally, Trustee Fisher introduced a draft of the introduction for the 2008 Americana grant application. He said it was due in early January and asked for Council approval to continue the steps necessary to proceed. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Schuldt to approve the completion and submission of the grant application to the Americana Foundation. Poll vote: Yes; Friendewey, Schuldt, Frohmader, Hoffman, Hamlin, Fisher and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Utilities/Services (Chair: Trustee Friendewey):

No report.

Buildings & Parks(Chair: Trustee Hamlin):

Trustee Friendewey said that he had been approached by volunteers and said that weather permitting the ice rink would be opened this year.

Equipment(Chair: Trustee Frohmader):

No report.

Streets(Chair: Schuldt):

No report.

Public Safety(Chair: Trustee Hoffman):

Trustee Hoffman read the police report for November. A motion was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Schuldt to accept the report. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Trustee Hoffman said he had spoken to Chief Parker regarding some options for dealing with the auditor recommendations to formalize the administration of the department. He said they would meet some time during the holidays.

Chief Parker was on hand to give a fire report. He said the brush truck was a great addition to the dept. He said after receiving the truck it was repaired and outfitted with a skid kit for fighting brush fires. He thanked the Council for their help during the 4th of July celebration. He said that two members of the dept. had completed first responder training – Ron Williamson and Joe Pini. They were trained and would be working in conjunction with the Bootjack Dept. He said that the School fire prevention program went on this year and would continue. He also said that talks had begun about forming a mutual response agreement with Bootjack. It would save response time for the depts. And improve time. He said the department had cooperated with this past years audit, but expressed reluctance in changing the structure of the dept. He was assured that formalizing the process was the goal and how that was best accomplished would be determined in the coming months.

Zoning Task Force: Trustee Hamlin said the committee would meet again soon to discuss issues relating to the creation of a community plan..

Downtown Development Authority:

Chairman Steve Pummill informed the Council that the trail sign done and ready to be put up at the trail. He said that the DDA had sent a letter to Cellular One to ask for consideration in improving cell phone service in town. He said pressure would be continuing in pressing the issue with them.

Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority

No report.

Lake Linden Housing Commission

Alyce Hoffman from the Commission said that things were getting better there as the Commission has been working on some issues to clean up some lingering problems. She said that there would be one commission vacancy at the end of the year and names were being sought to fill the spot.

Late Agenda Items:

None

New Business:

Clerk Poirier said that he would try to get a time for a social to meet with new members of the DDA and Housing Commission for the holidays.

Old Business:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Hamlin to close the public meeting and go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

After returning from the executive session, a motion was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Frohmader to reluctantly accept a figure of \$40,000 in total restitution as recommended by the attorney of Ms. Stevens and the Assistant Prosecutor. Poll vote: Yes; Friendewey, Frohmader, Fisher, Hoffman, Schuldt, Hamlin and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Hamlin. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:48. There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

James M. Aittama, President

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk