

**Lake Linden Village Council  
Regular Meeting  
March 13th, 2008**

The Lake Linden Village Council met on the above date at the Village Hall at 6:30pm. The following Trustees responded to roll call: Fisher, Hoffman, Frohmader, Friendewey, Hamlin, Schuldt and Aittama.

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

**Public Comments:**

Ken Marshall from the Western U.P. Planning Region was on hand to give a presentation on a new GIS (Global Information System) website he had created. It went through the USGS website and provided public information on regional mapping of roads, trails, property, etc., and would eventually provide a comprehensive source invaluable for community planning and mapping.

He also outlined briefly the Transportation Asset management Program. He said it was an effort to categorize and catalog municipality, county and state roads for the purpose of evaluating needs for projects and maintenance. Lake Linden had categorized the roads but had not yet begun entering this information into the Roadsoft Database.

**Bills and Financial Statement:**

The bills and financials were introduced. Clerk Poirier pointed out that the water bond interest payment was due in the amount of \$12,812.50. Trustee Hamlin pointed out that there would be a review of the fees and charges in the sanitation fund

**Correspondence:**

Clerk Poirier introduced a sheet of rates and charges for various Village goods and services along with a review of items that could be considered for review on an annual basis. He went over the sheet and some of the rates briefly and a brief discussion ensued.

Trustee Hamlin said that what should be done is the text of each ordinance presented along with the proposed change in the wording from the actual rate to the phrase "as determined by the Village Council". The synopsis for publication could also be presented and then those rates that the Council wanted changed could be addressed. It was then decided that the trustees would review the rate sheets between now and the next meeting and the review and approval of all new rates and other items would be done at that time.

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that the Village had been awarded a grant from the Americana Foundation in the amount of \$24,000. He said that the award from 2007 for \$33,000 would be combined with this amount for a total of \$57,000 to spend on the tower restoration this spring. He introduced a proposal from Hitch Engineering for their share of work on the project in the amount of \$6,000.00. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Schuldt and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve the proposal and to pay Hitch the \$6,000 from the grant funds to enable the bids to be let as soon as possible. Poll vote: Yes: Schuldt, Hamlin, Fisher, Hoffman, Frohmader and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier introduced an announcement for an elected officials seminar in Marquette. Poirier said he got a lot of useful information when he had attended and suggested the Council approve sending the treasurer for the seminar. After a brief discussion a motion was made by trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Fisher to approve the expenses to send the treasurer to the seminar. Poll vote: Hamlin, Fisher, Hoffman, Frohmader, Schuldt and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier said the paperwork for the final agreement of the trail easement and the gifting of the trestle and the trolley tunnel to the DNR was ready and, since it had already been approved by the Council, only required the signature of the President.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

Trustee Fisher introduced a summary of results from the community surveys to the Council. He said that a first meeting to discuss the results had been held this past Wednesday and that there would be more to determine how the strategic plan should be developed and outline which priorities should be at the top of the Council's list, according to the residents. President Aittama suggested a work session for the entire Council as the plan was further developed in the coming weeks.

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that, as per the directive of the Council at the preceding meeting, the actuary study requested by Chris Lajimodiere with the matching amount granted by the union, Michigan Council #25 local (\$250) had been submitted. There was still no word on the actuary results.

#### **Utilities/Services (Chair: Trustee Hamlin):**

Trustee Hamlin said the committee would be meeting shortly to discuss possible fee or bag increases to balance the sanitation fund.

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

Clerk Poirier introduced announcements for grant opportunities from the DNR Trust Fund and the DEQ Coastal Management Program. After a brief discussion it was decided that the committee would see if it could develop an application by the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline and bring it back before the Council for final approval.

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

Trustee Frohmader said that the issue of the sander had not been solved. A used unit had been bid on at MTU but the bid did not win and the current unit was out of commission. Frohmader said that the Village had done a good job finding good, used equipment recently to address it's most dire needs but that this time perhaps a new unit was the best solution for the money. It was determined that Jude should price new units and when an amount had been decided to come before the Council at the next meeting for approval.

**Streets(Chair: Schuldt):**

President Aittama explained that the final cost for the 9<sup>th</sup> Street repaving project would be only hundreds of dollars since the Jobs Today program approved a grant for \$12,000 to pay the Village's portion of the project. This amount had been previously approved and so no further action was necessary.

The issue of street signs on M-26 was discussed and the clerk said he would find out why they had not been replaced.

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

Clerk Poirier said there was no police report submitted and it would be part of the next meeting.

Clerk Poirier then introduced the fire department budget for 2008-09. He said the numbers were developed by the department but that he had put them in state-approved categories. After a brief rundown of the entries, a motion was made by Trustee Schuldt and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve the budget as submitted. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Chief Parker was also on hand to give a year-to-date fire report. He outlined the calls so far for the year. He also said that some hose was lost during one of the fires. Clerk Poirier said he would initiate an insurance claim for the loss. Chief Parker also asked for new uniforms for some of the firemen. The Council told him that as long as those costs were covered in the budget that had just been passed then those expenditures were already approved to the budgeted amount.

The Chief then explained that preparations were under way for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. He said that he would like to send a couple of people to Grenn Bay for training to set off the fireworks. He would get together with the clerk to determine the costs and also to see if there was a cost benefit for the insurance.

Clerk Poirier also said that this coming week he would begin planning the layout for the event in the park for the 4<sup>th</sup>. The new pavilion would be the centerpiece for the event and it was hoped that more vendors would be interested in applying.

**Zoning Task Force:** Trustee Hamlin said the priority was in amending the ordinances and taking out the fees therein and also to develop an electronic version of the book to "clean it up" and make it more understandable.

**Downtown Development Authority:**

There was no report from the DDA.

### **Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority**

President Aittama introduced the final version of a letter to the Authority outlining the Village's proposal to share in the restitution from the former treasurer settlement in equal proportions to the amount taken. He said he would present the letter to the Board there at the next meeting.

### **Lake Linden Housing Commission**

Commission President Jason Reese said the Board priority had been to develop an emergency evacuation plan. He said things were moving in the right direction and that there was now a full board that seemed to be like-minded in moving the Housing Commission forward.

### **Late Agenda Items:**

Clerk Poirier said that the water program was in place and operating in conjunction with the old program and soon to be online. Printing options for the new program were discussed and it was thought that purchasing a new copier/printer/scanner for the office would address all the needs, including updating a five-year old copier. He had received bids from two places, Sayens Business Equipment and Office Planning Group. Sayens submitted a bid of \$3,770 for a Kyocera-Mita and OPG \$3,873 for a Canon. A motion was made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Fisher to approve purchasing the Kyocera-Mita from Sayens for \$3,770. Poll vote: Yes; Hamlin, Fisher, Hoffman, Frohmader Shculdt and Aittama. No; None. Motion was carried.

### **New Business:**

None.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **Announcements:**

None.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Hoffman and supported by Trustee Frohmader. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:58. There were 8 members of the public in attendance.

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James M. Aittama, President

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Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk