

Village Voice

Village of Lake Linden Newsletter

James Aittama, President
Robert A. Poirier, Clerk
Jill DuMonthier, Treasurer

Phone: (906) 296-9911
Fax: (906) 296-1044
E-mail: vll@lakelinden.net
Web: www.lakelinden.net

January 2008

Happy New Year to everyone!! We hope that your holiday season was a joyous one this past year as we all look forward to surviving the rest of the winter. 2008 will bring new and exciting challenges for us at the Village as well. We will be looking for more funding to continue the work on the restoration of the exterior of the Village Hall. The Americana Foundation has already awarded grants for this purpose of over \$110,000 and we hope they will continue to support this effort.

The expansion of services and facilities in the Village Park is a priority for us as well in 2008. In the past, grants from the DNR and the DEQ Coastal Management Division have helped develop the facilities we have and the formulation of our new 5-year recreation plan this spring will help us to seek even more funding for new projects.

Speaking of the park, we are always looking to attract new events. This year, the MTU Mini Baja Challenge will be held on Saturday, February 16th in the park near the pavilion. If you've never seen this event you should come down. Admission is free, concessions are served, and during the Big Air Competition, the buggies are flying! Look for more information at www.doe.mtu.edu/news/m_baja_2007/index.html.

Also, this past year the Park hosted a Renaissance Faire by the Midwest Amateur Renaissance Society on the Saturday preceding Labor Day. This first annual event saw a good turnout and the Society hopes to continue it this year and for years to come.

If you have an event you or your organization would like to hold in the park please contact the Village office as early as possible to arrange the date.

We want your input!: The Village Council is beginning the process of formulating a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the Village. This plan would be a guide for future planning, development, and projects undertaken by the Council in the near and long-term future.

The first and most important step in this process is to ask residents for their input. In the next few weeks we will be distributing a questionnaire to all residents. This survey will ask four major types of questions:

First, rate your satisfaction with the overall condition of the Village and it's services and comment on how to make those services better.

Second, list services you would like to see established or made more accessible in the Village.

Third, tell us what changes you would like to see occur within the Village, and

Fourth, tell us something about yourself (how long you have been a resident, do you plan to stay in the Village, etc.).

Your response to this survey is extremely important and vital to the formulation of this plan. These responses will weigh heavily on decisions facing the Council during this process. Please consider taking some time to fill them out and send them in to us. Thanks for your help!

Garbage Bag change: The last shipment of large blue bags from our supplier was packaged differently than in past orders. The rolls of large blue bags came to us 10/bags per roll instead of the usual 5 per roll. This means that at Louie's Foods and at our office the price of a roll of large blue garbage bags is \$10.50, not \$5.25 as they had been. **This does not represent an increase in the price of the bags.** They are still the same price but the rolls are twice the size.

Ice Rink: The ice rink in the park has been flooded and plowed for several weeks and is ready for action. Hours and days are subject to volunteers' availability so please contact the Village office as soon as possible if you can offer an hour or two per week. When the times and days are determined they will be posted and advertised.

Lake Linden Housing Authority: The Village Council has welcomed Michelle Myers as the new Executive Director of the Housing Authority. She has hit the ground running and is fast becoming familiar with her new position. The Housing Commission Board has a vacancy and is searching for a candidate. If you are interested in finding out more about the position contact the Housing Commission at 296-0713 or the Village Office at 296-9911 or stop by the Village office for an application for the position.

Local Paving projects: This coming summer there will be a couple of major street repair projects that are on tap for the Village. The first is a major MDOT project that will resurface M-26 from Dollar Bay, through Lake Linden, and up past the trestle to the north. This project was delayed a couple of times but is scheduled for this coming July. This resurfacing was considered when the streetscape project was done and will add a completed look to our Calumet Street downtown area by eliminating the patches and holes along the way.

Also, scheduled for August, is a resurface of 9th Street from Calumet Street to Gregory Street and out past the Village limit on the Bootjack Rd. This project is largely funded by Houghton County with the balance being paid by a grant from the Jobs Today program. The Village share of this project is only a few hundred dollars and should improve this street and its shoulders immensely.

Campground openings for the 4th of July: Campground sites were available beginning on January 2nd (the date of this newsletter) and all of the regular sites have been taken. Those that have made reservations have two weeks to pay for their sites so if you still want a site please call the Village office to get placed on the waiting list. Last year we were able to fill all requests from the waiting list so it pays to get your name down even if you are unsure of your plans. Rustic sites are still available so call if you are interested in those.

ORDINANCE AWARENESS

I have received several complaints regarding the pushing or blowing of snow into the right-of-way by residents. The following ordinance is punishable by fines up to \$500.

Ordinance Series 4000; Chapter 4010: Placing of ice, snow or other material in the street.

No person in the village shall remove snow, ice or other material from their property and pile it within the lines of any village right-of-way except as follows.

Snow and ice may be piled on the street, but only parallel with and as a part of the bank formed by the village plowing. Snow may be piled in front of property owned or occupied by the resident adjacent to the path or driveway. Said snow may not extend more than 2 ½ feet into the roadway beyond the existing bank. **Piling and/or hauling snow across the right-of-way is prohibited.**

Snow, ice or other material moved, piled or dumped in violation of this ordinance may be moved by the village with expense of removal charged to the person responsible.

In the event that any citizen of this village shall suffer any undue hardship as a result of the provisions of this ordinance, exception may be obtained with prior approval of the Street Commissioner.

ADOPTED: April 10th, 1975.

Edward R. Fisher, President Pro-tem

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk