

**Lake Linden Village Council
Regular Meeting
January 8th, 2008**

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Approval of Agenda:

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

Public Comments:

None.

Bills and Financial Statement:

The bills and financials were introduced. Clerk Poirier pointed out that the first payment of the year had been transferred into the bond account in the amount of \$9,000. However, in past years there were three payments in by the end of January. It was hoped that the increase rates would make up some of the difference. The bond principal payment is due each year in October so it needed to be carefully watched through the spring and summer.

President Fisher said that the cash flow chart being utilized to keep track of revenue and expenses in the general fund was a good tool for trustees to use to follow the budget progress throughout the year. It would be included with footnotes in the future so that all itemized expenses could be recognized over the course of the year.

Clerk Poirier also said a note was included in the bills to repair the snow blower. Public works supervisor Jude Kalcich explained that the repairs were needed as soon as possible given the severe winter to this point. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Schuldt and supported by Trustee Friendewey to authorize repairs to the blower not to exceed \$10,000. Poll vote: Yes; Schuldt, Friendewey, Frohmader, Hoffman and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

A motion was then made to approve the bills by Trustee Schuldt and supported by Trustee Frohmader. Poll vote: Yes; Schuldt, Frohmader, Hoffman, Friendewey, and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Correspondence:

Clerk Poirier read a letter from the Dept. of History, Arts & Libraries regarding the application for the historic District. It stated that the Board would

review the application at their January 16th meeting and that the Council would hear shortly after that about the status.

Clerk Poirier read an ad solicitation from Lake Superior Magazine. He pointed out that the Village had advertised last year in 4 issues at a cost of \$378. He said that same ad this year would be \$520. After a brief discussion it was determined to forego the ad this year and reconsider again in 2010.

Committee Reports:

Executive (Chair: Trustee Fisher):

President Fisher brought up to the Council the idea of an end-of-the-fiscal-year meeting to conduct important business before the end of the fiscal year. Clerk Poirier stated he thought it would be a good idea to enact an annual meeting separate from the regular February meeting so that the regular business would not be necessary at the Annual meeting. It was generally agreed that this was a good idea and so the clerk was instructed to formulate a resolution adopting this annual meeting at the February regular meeting and that final approval would be given then.

Clerk Poirier informed Council that year-to-date revenue and expense reports were included in the packets for all funds.

The clerk also said that Township supervisor Mo Brooks had mentioned to him that they were considering a blight ordinance. He said the townships problem was the lack of an enforcement agency or mechanism. Poirier said he thought the inference was that they would like to have the Village involved in the process. It was decided that the clerk and Council members from the Zoning committee would set up a meeting with the township to discuss proceeding on this jointly.

Clerk Poirier asked the Council to approve expenses so that he and Treasurer Jill DuMonthier could become Notary Publics. It would be convenient in conducting Village business and a good service for residents. A motion was made by Trustee Frendewey and supported by Trustee Frohmader to approve \$180 for application fees and two bonds required to complete the application process. Poll vote: Yes; Frendewey, Frohmader, Fisher, Hoffman and Schuldt. No; None. Motion was carried.

Utilities/Services (Chair: Trustee Hamlin):

President Fisher informed the Council that he had been talking with Engineer Dick Supina about coming up with costs associated with putting utilities in the Sibilsky Acres II plat so the lots there could be sold. He said that there was considerable interest in those lots and the Village needed to formulate a plan that would break the costs down in increments that were manageable. Dick Supina addressed the Council and explained the issues with the sewer service in that area. He said the initial phases of the work should be done by a sewer contractor as the village did not have the equipment to do the work at that depth. It involved bringing the sewer line into the plat from the 9th Street (south) side so that the rest could be installed in a subsequent phase.

President Fisher said that without a good plan including a solid estimate for the costs involved, the details could not be determined. He said he would inform the Council on how those estimates were going at the next meeting.

Buildings & Parks(Chair: Trustee Friendewey):

President Fisher said that he had submitted a list of ideas for inclusions in the recreation plan to other Council members and had gotten a little feedback. He said the recreation plan was necessary to pursue grant funding for projects in the park and on the lakeshore. He said the request was to solicit ideas which were not yet finalized and were intended to provoke discussion. He mentioned he had thought of pursuing a restocking program in the lake to promote fishing. The merits of ideas like this could be discussed and weighed for inclusion into the recreation plan. He said he would entertain ideas still and would probably be developing a first draft of the plan at the February meeting.

Trustee Friendewey said that he had spoken to the clerk about getting more volunteers for the ice rink since he had not had very much time to devote to it. He said Steve Pummill had been manning the rink for a few nights and that the ice was ready to go.

Equipment(Chair: Trustee Frohmader):

Clerk Poirier said that he had not yet received instructions for the purchase order from LeBlanc Sales but that he would complete the paperwork as soon as possible. The repairs to the snow blower were addressed under the discussion of the bills earlier in the meeting. Chair Frohmader asked Jude about flashers on the top of the loaders because he had heard comments from residents about not being able to see the equipment very well. Jude said each piece of heavy equipment was adequately outfitted with lighting and flashers as per the law but that he could talk with Frohmader further about looking at better lighting.

Streets(Chair: Schuldt):

Clerk Poirier said that the street funds paid the equipment fund almost \$15,000 in rentals just for the month of December. He said that with the heavy winter snowfall thus far and the paving projects completed last summer his recommendation was to tighten the belt on spending for those funds in the upcoming fiscal year.

Trustee Schuldt asked about the progress of speed limit signs and the clerk said he would again contact MDOT regarding the issue.

Public Safety(Chair: Trustee Hoffman):

Trustee Hoffman read the police report for the end of the year into the record. A motion was made by trustee Friendewey and supported by Trustee Schuldt to accept the report as read. All were in favor. Motion was carried. President Fisher said that perhaps it was a good idea for Chief Peters to be at the next meeting to give a summary of the departments operations for the past year.

Chief Parker gave the fire report verbally to the Council. He said that the department had discussed trying to remove the graffiti under the trestle with pressure hoses but was concerned with permitting and operating the trucks on the highway. The Council thought it was a good idea and the clerk said he would look into a permit with MDOT for that purpose.

Zoning Task Force:

President Fisher said that the issues facing the development of the Sibilsky II plat included looking at issues of zoning and deed restrictions for the lots there. Trustee Schuldt, a member of the task force, indicated that the committee was wrapping up work on the proposed park ordinance and that their next focus was that issue. He said they would begin that discussion at their next meeting.

Downtown Development Authority:

Chairman Pummill told the Council that DDA meeting dates were being changed to the first Thursday of each month starting in February, as the first Thursday in January was New Year's Day.

He also said that Lindell's was up and running and they were on a restricted schedule that would be expanding in the near future.

He said that the DDA budget would be worked out by February and would be presented for approval to the Council.

Finally, he said the DDA was looking at continuing the streetscape work through the rest of the Village and that it would be a focus of the Board moving into the new year. Also, new Christmas ornaments would be necessary given that next phase of the work along Calumet Street.

Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority

No report.

Lake Linden Housing Commission

No report.

Late Agenda Items:

None.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

Announcements:

Public Works Supervisor Jude Kalcich said the Council should acknowledge the dozen or so residents that have taken it upon themselves to keep hydrants near their homes clear of snow. President Fisher said that would certainly be done.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Frendewey and supported by Trustee Hoffman. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm. There were 8 members of the public in attendance.

Edward R Fisher, President

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk