

**Lake Linden Village Council
Budget Hearing
Fiscal Year 2009-10**

The budget hearing was called to order by President Fisher. He introduced the drafts of the proposed fund budgets as reviewed by the Executive Committee and the rest of the Trustees. He went over the cash flow chart from the preceding fiscal year comparing actual numbers to the 08-09 budgets for those in attendance. Clerk Poirier then went over the footnotes in the general fund budget and gave a brief overview of the numbers in the other funds as well.

President Fisher concluded the comments by stating that, although the new budgets did not reflect an over-abundance of cash, there were adequate monies to meet expenses and pursue a few possible projects of continuing interest to the Council.

The floor was then opened to the public in attendance. After hearing no comments, a motion was made by Trustee Aittama and supported by trustee Hamlin to adjourn the hearing and to proceed with the regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

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.

**Lake Linden Village Council
Regular Meeting
February 12th, 2009**

The Lake Linden Village Council met on the above date at the Village Hall at 6:40pm. President Fisher presided. The following Trustees responded to roll call: Friendewey, Schuldt, Hamlin, and Aittama. Absence was granted to Trustee Hoffman and Trustee Frohmader.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Approval of Agenda:

A brief discussion of the agenda resulted one addition and a motion from Trustee Hamlin 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 the transfer to the bond fund in the water fund, and that the snow blower repair total

of nearly \$9,000 was in the statements. A motion was then made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Friendewey to approve the bills as presented. Poll Vote: Yes: Hamlin, Friendewey, Aittama, Schuldt and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Correspondence:

Clerk Poirier introduced a resolution from the TLASA that approved a rate increase for the sewer bills. The clerk explained that the rate increase was \$3.44 on the base rate and .86 on the per-thousand rate, which represented a nearly 5% increase over the old rate. Trustee Aittama, the Village representative on the TLASA Board, said the rate increase was necessary to offset the amortization on the new improvement project. President Fisher requested that the TLASA Board draft a written notice of the increase to post so that the brunt of the public complaints could be minimized. Trustee Aittama said he would get that done as soon as possible.

Clerk Poirier read a letter from Traverse Engineering that gave an estimate for installing water and sewer lines in the Sibilsky II plat. President Fisher informed the Council that it was a priority for him to get the lots in that plat developed and to do that utility plans had to be in place. He had solicited estimates from SemCo Energy for natural gas and was looking into electric service as well. A question was asked about the current stimulus bill being debated and if the Village had submitted projects for the list. Fisher said about \$550,000 in Sibilsky Acres plat improvements had been submitted in hopes that many more smaller projects would be funded.

Clerk Poirier pointed out that a resolution for President Obama and the Congress to pass the stimulus bill. A motion was made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Aittama to support the resolution and submit it with the project list. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier read a letter from USDA Rural Development that approved up to \$14,000 in grant money for the purchase of a new police vehicle. He said the initial paperwork had been submitted and that this was the first step in the process. He and Chief Peters were meeting with the USDA representative next week to finalize the numbers. The estimate submitted was for a new Dodge Nitro outfitted with amenities, and the total cost was about \$26,000. After the numbers were finalized with USDA, work would be done on how to sell the current vehicle to close the Village match on the new vehicle. A motion was made by trustee Aittama and supported by Trustee Schuldt to continue the process and finalize costs for an ultimate determination of Village cost-share. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier informed the Council that the current DOT random drug testing was cumbersome and required operators to travel to Houghton for testing several times per year. He said the MML sponsored a program called Choicepoint wherein testing could be done on site and save the operators time during plowing and other maintenance operations. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Aittama and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve enrollment in the new system at a cost of \$70 per driver per year. Poll vote: Yes; Aittama, Hamlin, Schuldt, Friendewey and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier gave a brief background on the furnace issues. He said that after receiving an estimate for repairing the current boiler he sought estimates for replacing the boiler with a gas air furnace. He had received three quotes from different companies and discussed them briefly with the Council. During a discussion it was determined that a more concise bid package would have to be developed because the bids were quite broad and determining which option was the most beneficial was difficult without the narrower definitions. After another brief discussion It was decided to hand the matter over to the Executive committee for the development of specs and soliciting of bids. A motion was then made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Frendewey to set a cap for bid acceptance of \$10,000 and to meet again should the new set of bids be higher than expected. Poll vote: Yes; Hamlin, Frendewey, Aittama, Schuldt and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Committee Reports:

Executive (Chair:Trustee Fisher):

President Fisher re-introduced the budgets from the general, water, major, local municipal streets, and sanitation to the Council. He once again solicited opinion from the public and heard no comment. A motion was then made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Schuldt to approve the budgets as presented and discussed. Poll vote: yes; Hamlin, Schuldt, Frendewey, Aittama and Fisher. No; none. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier also informed the Council that the auditor had requested designation of depositories and signatories as a part of the preparations for the upcoming audit. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Schuldt to designate Range Bank and Superior national Bank as depositories, to designate that the Village Clerk, Village Treasurer, Village President and Village President Pro-tem be approved signatories on all Village accounts. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

President Fisher presented the Council a draft of committee assignments he had come up with. He said that it was not set in stone and that if there was any comment or there was anyone that had a different idea he was open to suggestions. He noted that a new committee had been created – a Sibisky Acres Task Force – that would be looking into the plat there and how to proceed. He said he would rely heavily on Trustee Aittama’s experience and knowledge in that area and hoped that Aittama would take an active role in coming up with ideas. Trustee Aittama said he would do his best in that regard. Hearing no other comments or suggestions a motion was made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Frendewey to approve of the President’s committee recommendations as presented. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Committee Assignments

**Village of Lake Linden
February 2009**

Executive and Finance Committee

Ed Fisher/Jim Frendewey/Glenn
Schuldt

Buildings and Parks Committee

Jim Frendewey/Brett Hamlin/Ed
Fisher

Equipment and Maintenance

Committee: Mark Frohmader/Allan
Hoffman/Jim Aittama

Public Safety Committee
Allan Hoffman/Mark
Frohman/Glenn Schuldt

Streets and Sidewalks Committee
Jim Aittama/Allan
Hoffman/Glenn Schuldt

Utilities and Services Committee
Brett Hamlin/Jim Frendewey/Ed
Fisher

Zoning Task Force (with DDA)
Glenn Schuldt/Brett Hamlin/Ed
Fisher

Downtown Development Authority
Ed Fisher, Council President and
DDA Representative

Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority
Jim Aittama/Allan Hoffman

**Sibilsky Acres/Brownsfield
Development Task Force**
Ed Fisher/Jim Aittama/Jim
Frendewey

Ed Fisher, Village President
Jim Frendewey, President ProTem
Jim Aittama, Council Member
Brett Hamlin, Council Member
Allan Hoffman, Council Member
Glenn Schuldt, Council Member
Mark Frohmader, Council Member

Bob Poirier, Village Clerk
Jill DuMonthier, Village Treasurer
Josh Peters, Village Police Chief
Ron Parker, Village Fire Chief
Jude Kalcich, Public Works Foreman

President Fisher informed the Council that two things needed to be accomplished prior to his meeting at Range Bank on Friday.

First, the existing line of credit that had been established more than a year ago, needed to be extended. He said the principal balance was currently \$12,500. A motion was made by Trustee Frendewey and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve extending the line of credit through the upcoming fiscal year. Poll vote: Yes; Frendewey, Hamlin, Aittama, Schuldt, and Fisher. No; None. Absent: Hoffman, Frohmader. Motion was carried.

Secondly, Fisher indicated that, as per Council resolution in December, the Executive Committee had discussed the best course of action in financing the new John Deere tractor. Fisher said he had spoken to Jamey Markham, a Vice President at Range Bank, about using the existing line of credit for financing \$15,000 of the total cost of \$28,000. Mr. Markham said he would prefer a separate loan be opened for an equipment purchase. It had been tentatively agreed that a new loan would be opened and amortized over two years to pay off the balance of the tractor. A motion was made by Trustee Schuldt and supported by Trustee Aittama to authorize President Fisher to open a new loan to amortize the remaining \$15,000 due on the 2008 John Deere tractor purchase, the amount of which had been previously approved by the Village Council. Poll vote: Yes; Schuldt, Aittama, Hamlin, Frendewey and Fisher. No; None. Absent; Hoffman, Frohmader. Motion was carried.

President Fisher informed the Council that approval was needed for expenses relating to the 2009 application for a grant from the Americana Foundation to continue work on the Village Hall. He said they were very receptive to continuing the work and that the Village Hall was on the home page of their website so they seemed committed to the project. He said typical amount were

around \$30,000 and it was thought that this year the windows on the second floor would be the target of the funds. A motion was made by Trustee Aittama and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve up to \$2,000 for the application of these grant funds in 2009. Poll Vote: Yes; Aittama, Hamlin, Schuldt, Frendewey and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

President Fisher then told the Council he thought the Village web site would be the most visible and useful tool in promoting the community in the coming years. In that vein, he thought a financial commitment to the site creator, Jessica Poirier, was in order to initiate updates and improvements to the site. He said he had spoken with her regarding terms but both sides were hesitant to put a dollar amount to the project. After a brief discussion a motion was made by trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Schuldt to approve a rate of \$12.00 per hour and cap the amount to \$1,000 per quarter for the coming year. Poll vote: Yes; Hamlin, Schuldt, Aittama, Frendewey and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Utilities/Services (Chair: Trustee Hamlin):

No report.

Buildings & Parks(Chair: Trustee Frendewey):

President Fisher said that Trustees should review the text of the park Ordinance for the March meeting so it could be approved and implemented by the spring

Clerk Poirier said that the park pavilion would have water for the Mini-Baja event there even though the line had broken. The water to the rink would be turned off after this coming weekend.

The clerk also said he had received an application for a construction permit for the campground. He said the issue was parking the host at the registration building, which was not a registered site with the health dept. A motion was made by trustee Aittama and supported by Trustee Hamlin to approve the \$244 for the permit and continue to park campers at the registration building. Poll vote: Yes; Aittama, Hamlin, Frendewey, Schuldt and Fisher. No; None. Motion was carried.

Equipment(Chair: Trustee Frohmader):

No report. Tractor financing covered under Executive.

Streets(Chair: Schuldt):

Clerk Poirier said that a resolution had been drafted to change the block of 6th Street between Front and Calumet to a one-way Street, as previously discussed by the Council.

**RESOLUTION TO RESTRICT TRAFFIC ON 6TH STREET
BETWEEN FRONT STREET AND CALUMET STREET**

Whereas, the Lake Linden Village Council has been informed by the administration of the Lake Linden- Hubbell School District of a capital improvement project requiring the redirecting of bus and public traffic around the school, and

Whereas, the plan for redirecting this traffic would create a conflict on the block of 6th Street along the south side of the high school building, and

Whereas, the Village Council has solicited opinion from residents along the affected streets and has received no dissenting opinions or comments, and

Whereas, the Village Council has expressed full support of the proposed project and desires full cooperation to expedite plans for construction,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Lake Linden Village Council approves restricting traffic to one-way on one block of 6th Street, that being from Front Street to Calumet Street, to traffic moving from the southeast to the northwest, or from Front Street toward Calumet Street, and that as a part of the School District's project, appropriate signage and notices of restrictions be posted as required by law.

Motion: Aittama AYES: Aittama, Schuldt, Frendewey, Fisher, Aittama
Support: Schuldt NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Hoffman, Frohmader

I hereby certify that the preceding resolution is duly adopted and enacted as of the date of this meeting, February 12th, 2009.

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk

Public Safety(Chair: Trustee Hoffman):

Clerk Poirier read the police report for January into the record. A motion was made by trustee Schuldt and supported by Trustee Aittama to accept the report as read. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Clerk Poirier introduced the fire report to the Council. He said that the department budget for 2009-10 should be available at the March meeting.

Zoning Task Force:

No report.

Downtown Development Authority:

Clerk Poirier said the DDA still had 2 vacancies on the Board and were actively seeking replacements.

President Fisher introduced the DDA budget for 2009-10. He made a few important points on the obligations and a few questions were asked. A motion was then made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Frendewey to approve the DDA budget as submitted. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Torch Lake Area Sewage Authority

Trustee Aittama said that the new project was essentially complete and that a few more minor things would complete the project in the spring. He said that spring would allow the Board to see how the improvements to reduce inflow had worked.

Lake Linden Housing Commission

President of the Housing Commission Jason Reese was on hand with Housing Director Michelle Myers to ask the Council about how to deal with a

commissioner that had missed three meetings in a row. After a brief discussion the clerk was directed to investigate whether the Council or Housing commission bylaws had any rules regarding this and to get together on enforcement when the proper bylaws had been found.

Late Agenda Items:

None.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Hamlin and supported by Trustee Schuldt. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm. There were 5 members of the public in attendance.

Edward R Fisher, President

Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk