

Village of Lake Isabella

Village Council Minutes

Regular Meeting – October 20, 2009

1010 Clubhouse Drive
Lake Isabella, MI, 48893

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Village President David Torgerson and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Lacca, Grey, Kiel, Griffin, Pattison & Torgerson

Members Excused: Miller

A motion was made by Pattison, seconded by Lacca, to accept the agenda as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE; YEAS: Lacca, Grey, Kiel, Griffin, Pattison & Torgerson; NAYS: None; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0-0).

A motion was made by Kiel, which was seconded by Griffin, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which included the following items: Bills to be Paid, the Balance Sheet, the Income/Expense Report, minutes of the September 22, 2009 Village Council meeting, minutes of the October 13, 2009 Planning Commission meeting; ROLL CALL VOTE; YEAS: Lacca, Grey, Kiel, Griffin, Pattison & Torgerson; NAYS: None; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0-0).

Reports

- The Village manager submitted his report to the Council. He discussed the progress on the Village's salt barn project.
- The LIPOA report was presented by Hiither. He discussed the planned hay-ride and bon fire.

Public Hearings:

- None

Public Comments

- Larry Stephens of SCS Systems introduced himself to the Council.
- Mike Scherba of Lincoln Drive: Discussed the report from Savin Lake & Stream that was presented at the LIPOA meeting, including the pros and cons of lowering the lake.

Existing Business

1. Proposed Ordinance 2009-04 Fences

Proposed Ordinance 2009-04, tabled at the September meeting, was returned to Existing Business.

The Council conducted a "mark up" of the proposed ordinance to generate comments to submit to the Planning Commission.

There was discussion over the 3' threshold for regulation in the ordinance, with a possible alternative being that the ordinance covers anything over two feet in height.

There was discussion over the practice of fences in the right-of-way. A possible alternative suggestion was to allow limited types of fences at limited locations, only after the property owner submits a liability waiver to the Village.

The Council expressed concerns over the readability of regulations in 1227.07. Wolff suggested making it into a table.

Torgerson questioned whether or not the term “Dumpster” was defined in the zoning ordinance.

Griffin questioned the height allowances and why walls around dumpsters were exempt.

Lacca asked how the privacy panels regulations were put in place, and whether or not 16’ sections were too long.

Kiel expressed concerns over the ability to enforce the section on garden fences. Grey stated his belief that the section was enforceable and would not be a burden to the residents or Village staff trying to enforce it.

There was discussion over the location of a fence with respect to the property line. Wolff suggested a possible alternative of requiring a large setback (10 to 15 feet) unless certain provisions are met, then the fence could be put within that setback, but only on the property line.

Pattison stated that he feels there should be one set of regulations between the Village and LIPOA. He stated he would not support anything that did not unify the regulations, and that the Village should not adopt the current LIPOA fence regulations.

Griffin stated his belief that the matter of fences is best left up to the LIPOA to administer.

With no further comment, Ordinance 2009-04 was returned to the Planning Commission without objection.

2. Unbuildable Lots: Peer Review

The Village received sealed proposals from 5 pre-qualified firms to conduct a peer review of the feasibility study done by Rowe. After discussion, about the proposals, a motion was made by Pattison, seconded by Griffin, to award the peer review project to SCS Systems of Haslett, MI in the amount of \$7,630. ROLL CALL VOTE; YEAS: Lacca, Grey, Kiel, Griffin, Pattison & Torgerson; NAYS: None; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0-0).

3. Unbuildable Lots: Lake Isabella North Lots

The Council reviewed the lots owned by the Village in Lake Isabella North. The Village Manager was directed to try and make contact with the owners of lots 293 and 335 about trading or selling them to the Village.

4. Master Plan Focus Groups

The Council reviewed the feedback from the Master Plan Focus Groups. There was discussion over further action. Wolff suggested that the Village pursue an on-line survey and mail a notice to all property owners inviting them to participate in the survey. Kiel questioned whether a newsletter was the best means to do this. After discussion the Council directed the Manager to use postcards to notify the property owners.

New Business

1. Trick-or-Treating Hours

A motion was made by Pattison, seconded by Lacca, to set the Village’s trick-or-treating hours as 5-7 PM. VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

Public Comments

- Mike Scherba of Lincoln Drive: commented on the selection of SCS Systems to review the study done by Rowe, and stated he felt the Village was working in the right direction with the issue of the unbuildable lots.

Due to the planned absence of 4 Council members, the November 17th meeting was canceled.

With no further business, the Village Council stood in adjournment at 9:07 PM.

x\ _____
Jeffrey P. Grey, Village Clerk

x\ _____
David Torgerson, Village President