

WALLED LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH WALLED LAKE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 11, 2010

A special meeting of the Lake Improvement Board for Walled Lake was held as a joint meeting with the Walled Lake City Council at the Walled Lake Fire Station Training Room at 1499 E. West Maple on May 11, 2010. The meeting was called to order by Walled Lake Mayor William Roberts, at 7:05 p.m.

Present: William Burke, City of Walled Lake
Brian Coburn, Secretary-Treasurer, City of Novi
Dave Galloway, Chairman and Riparian Representative
Jeff Potter, Oakland County Board of Commissioners Representative

Absent: Karen Warren, Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner's Office

Also

Present: William Roberts, Walled Lake Mayor
Linda Ackley, Walled Lake Mayor Pro Tem
Casey Ambrose, Walled Lake City Council Member
John Owsinek, Walled Lake City Council Member
Robert Robertson, Walled Lake City Council Member
Dennis Yezbick, Walled Lake City Council Member

Mayor Roberts opened the meeting and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the lake improvement board. Chairperson Galloway began the presentation by the Board with an overview of the work completed to date and reviewed the engineering study and its recommendations. Coburn discussed the website that has been set up for the Lake Board at www.cityofnovi.org/lakeboard to provide access to documents by the public that also includes a page of Frequently Asked Questions and a link to submit a question to the Board. Potter stated that the dissolution of the Lake Board is a matter for the two cities to decide, requested that the discussion be respectful, and discussed the contribution made by Novi in supporting the financial and administrative functions of the Lake Board to date. Burke discussed some of the history of the lake and referenced the timing of the project in the economic downturn. Galloway reviewed the three recommended items that were removed by the Board from the approved project: goose management, self-help, and lake management fees. Galloway shared his belief that the weed issue cannot be cured, but that it can be controlled. Galloway stated that as the riparian representative he would request the board to consider using weevils for weed control as part the second year treatment. Galloway concluded the presentation with an explanation of the adopted project which includes a budget of \$130,615 for the first year and a budget of \$97,000 for each of the remaining four years.

Following the presentation by the Lake Board, Mayor Roberts opened audience participation and encouraged the Board to interact with the audience and to answers questions as applicable. There were approximately 20 individuals that addressed the Council and the Board regarding the purpose and intent of the lake improvement

project, the need for the project, the petitions that were collected before the formation of the board, petitions to dissolve the board, the proposed interest charge on the previously proposed special assessment roll, the use of chemicals to control weeds, the use of weevils as a biological control for weeds, the data collection dates of the previous aquatic plant studies, the proposed assessment roll, the timeline for the collection of the assessment, the procedure to dissolve the Board, the number of harvestings per year in the project, the inclusion of Wellsboro on the proposed assessment roll, the regulation of chemical treatments by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE), concerns about the effects of the weed control on the fish population, the change in the engineer's recommendation from the draft study to the final approved study, the impact of the project on property values, concerns about odor resulting from harvesting, the exclusion of the tributaries and Shawood Lake from the project, and the speed of the Board in moving forward with the project. There were numerous questions on these topics that were addressed by the Lake Board.

Following the first audience participation, the Mayor and City Council agreed to allow individuals a second opportunity to address the City Council and the Lake Board. During the second audience participation there were seven individuals that spoke regarding the impact of the project given the current economy, the petitions to dissolve the Board, the time of year for the previous aquatic plant studies, impact of the proposed assessment roll in maintaining rights to lake access, the inclusion of parcels of unknown ownership that may serve as a lake access parcel on the roll, the process for board approval of the proposed assessment roll, the ability for the board to deviate from the recommendations in the engineering study, the use of weevils as a biological treatment for weeds, the process to dissolve the Lake Board, and a request for the Lake Board to study weevils as a treatment technique. Several of the issues, questions and concerns were addressed by members of the Lake Board.

There were several questions from City Council members to the board regarding the selection of the engineering consultant that completed the study, the use of weevils as a biological weed control, the types of contractors that would perform the chemical treatment and the qualifications of the contractors, and the permit requirements from MDNRE.

There was a final audience participation in which three individuals spoke and reiterated several of the topics from prior in the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Lake Board or the City Council, the meeting was adjourned by the Walled Lake City Council at 10:11 p.m.


Brian Coburn, Secretary-Treasurer