

**WALLED LAKE
LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

The meeting of the Lake Improvement Board for Walled Lake was held in the Council Conference Room at the Novi Civic Center at 45175 10 Mile Road on September 9, 2019. The meeting was called to order by Dave Galloway, Chairperson, at 2:09 PM.

Present:

Dave Galloway, Riparian Owner Representative (Chairperson)
Megan Mikus, City of Novi Representative (Secretary-Treasurer)
Karen Warren, Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner's Representative
Casey Ambrose, City of Walled Lake Representative
Gwen Markham, Oakland County Board of Commissioner's Representative

Also, Present:

Pete Auger, City of Novi, City Manager
Mark Roberts, Attorney, Secrest Wardle
Angela Maynard, City of Novi, DPW Customer Service Representative

Public comment:

Five residents were present.

Bill Halvangis, 202 Austin, Novi, commented he was attending the meeting because he was curious to see how it ran.

Public comment ended.

Secretary/Member Megan Mikus presented the minutes from the June 11, 2019 meeting.

**Moved by Mikus, Supported by Ambrose;
CARRIED 5-0: To approve the Minutes of June 11, 2019 meeting.**

Treasurer/ Member Mikus presented the Q2 2019 and Q3 2019 year-to-date Treasurer's Reports. The balance on hand as of September 5, 2019 is \$165,394.59.

**Moved by Mikus, Supported by Markham;
CARRIED 5-0: To accept the Q2 2019 and Q3 2019 year-to-date Treasurer's Reports.**

The City of Walled Lake reported no delinquent assessments as the assessment was paid in full on June 3, 2019. The City of Novi reported 23 parcels delinquent.

**Moved by Mikus, Supported by Ambrose;
CARRIED 5-0; To certify the 2018 delinquent assessments received from the City of Novi of \$1,997.53, plus penalty of \$59.98.**

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Discussion of Project Renewal

Board Attorney Roberts provided the Board clarification on the project renewal timeline and parameters. The current project is through 2020 as there is one more assessment installment on the winter 2019 tax bill. If a renewal were to occur, the project renewal and assessment roll should be finalized in early 2020.

Member Mikus asked the other Board members if they wanted to continue the current project or revise the project with other types of improvements. A decision on the type of improvements would be needed in order for gather information for budgeting considerations. Member Mikus pointed out the last engineering study was completed in 2009. She asked if would the Board want the study updated.

Member Markham asked if a decision had to be made today. Board Attorney Roberts said it does not need to be today, but needs to be done in the near future because of the length of the process. Board Attorney Roberts explained the Board's project was approved for controlling invasive plants. If other improvements wanted to be explored, a new engineering study would have to be done only after a new 2/3 petition of the property owners is received along with a resolution from both Cities. To continue as-is, no engineering study would have to be done.

Member Casey asked if there were any concerns with the current treatment. Chairperson Galloway said the Lake had improved greatly since treatment began and now regular treatment is needed to manage the invasive species.

Chairperson Galloway noted there is a canal that connects Shawood Lake and Walled Lake, and he is concerned about the impact of Shawood Lake on Walled Lake.

Novi City Manager Pete Auger said the City has had discussions with DEQ/ EGLGE about Shawood Lake and there are limitations on what can be done in order to not disrupt the lake's natural environment.

Member Warren stated the lake level is determined by EGLE. They do a hydraulic study. They have the final say on how it is controlled.

Board Attorney Roberts reminded the Board that Walled Lake and Shawood Lake are two separate bodies of water would require two separate boards. The state statue limits improvements to those that can demonstrate an increase to property values around the Lake.

**Moved by Ambrose, Supported by Galloway;
CARRIED 5-0: To approve the renewal of existing project for another 5-year term, project years 2021-2025.**

Member Mikus brought up the question on how to proceed with the preparation of the renewal's five-year assessment roll and what information the Board would need to determine the project's five-year costs.

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Member Markham stated she felt a proposal is necessary. For the next meeting, Member Mikus said she could ask the current contractor for five-year treatment recommendations as was done in the past and will preparing parameters for a bid request. It could then be decided at the next meeting if the Board would like to renew with the current contractor or go out to bid.

Moved by Mikus, Supported by Galloway;

CARRIED 5-0: To approve the development of parameters to prepare a bid request for the next renewed 5-year term.

Member Markham commented there has been purchase of a boat washer by the County. It would be available in the future for use. She also commented the boat launch on Endwell was not safe and will not get better. She questioned how do we want boats to access the lake in the future.

Public comment:

Michael Duchesneau of 1191 South Lake Drive, Novi, asked what he would he need to do to add 500 baby walleyes to the lake. Member Warren stated special approval was needed from DNR Fisheries.

Dorothy Duchesneau of 125 Henning Street, Novi, stated there were 23 parcels that are delinquent on their taxes. She wondered if these property owners had not paid their winter taxes in a whole, or were they just not paying the special assessments? Novi City Manager Auger stated you cannot pick and choose what you want to pay on your tax bill.

Jerry Anderson of 127 S. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, stated he appreciates the Board renewing the current project scope and not expanding. Also, in regards to the current vendor, the lake is as good as it has ever been. In regards to the boat wash, he feels there should be an attempt to coordinate with the City of Walled Lake to designate an area to wash boats once per year. A permanent station is not needed. Increasing public awareness is good to control invasive species.

Tina Miller of 1957 W Lake Drive, Novi, asked the Board look into and consider rain gardens on the lake to reduce runoff and filter water as she has two locations in mind. Member Markham stated there are grants available for placemaking and that she could share information about them with her later. Chairperson Galloway pointed out residents are building new sea walls and they are not being properly built. Tina Miller also wanted on record she would support the Board staying with Savin due to their history of the Lake and to provide continuity of treatment. She would oppose to public access to the lake.

Other Business

Chairperson Galloway informed the Board he plans to step down in his role as the Riparian Representative in 2020.

Jerry Anderson, Lake Area Homeowners' Association President, said at the February

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2020 HOA meeting, three individuals will be selected as the recommended replacement for the Riparian Representative on the Board.

ADJOURNMENT: There being was no further business to come before the Lake Improvement Board; the meeting was adjourned at 3:23 PM.

The Board next meeting was tentatively scheduled for November 19, 2019 at 2:00 PM.



Megan Mikus
Secretary/ Treasurer