

To: Mr. Michael Gingell
Mr. Matthew Gibb
Mr. Paul Zelenak
Major Robert Smith

12/12/2009

cc: Chief Jerry Narsh
Sergeant Matthew Snyder
Mr. Neal Porter

Thank you all for attending and showing your support at the November 19th town hall meeting to address the Lake Orion marine patrol for 2010.

The large turnout showed that the people are in favor of continuing the needed marine patrol to ensure the safety of all those who enjoy the lake. The 900 homes and additional off-lake residents of the village and township make Lake Orion the second busiest lake in Oakland County.

The current plan with only three jump boats to manage the 400+ lakes in Oakland County is purely reactive and does nothing to provide proactive enforcement. Additionally, the volume of calls could seriously impact the response time with only three boats. The lack of a patrol presence could also contribute to the deterioration in the level of compliance to boating safety. While there are many important reasons to continue the marine patrol, these key reasons highlight why the service is so important.

During the town hall meeting, some viable suggestions and some non-feasible suggestions were offered from the audience. The suggestions focused on the patrol method and the funding method. After consideration of the patrol suggestions, the best choice is to utilize professionally trained officers with the proper legal jurisdiction. There were some creative suggestions for funding that will need further consideration. We are looking for your team to find the best solution or combination of solutions drawing from your various resources, ability and experience.

One suggestion, which came from Major Smith, was to target 2/3 of the prior years patrol hours to provide adequate safety. This suggestion would equate to approximately 414 patrol hours at a cost of \$35/hour totaling \$14,490. The board supports this suggested target.

We as a board feel that it is the responsibility of our local government to provide public safety as a priority over other non-critical spending. It is for this reason we think that the best solution is for the costs to be allocated between the Village, Township, and County.

We would like to provide an update to the meeting attendees and the 160 members of the LOLA organization. We are looking for your next steps, and preferably any proposals that you will pursue to fund the needed lake patrol. We hope to have this update from you by our next board meeting on January 12th.

We are contacting the other key lake associations and will forward any relevant information. If there is any other help we can provide please let us know.

We have attached the meeting presentation and meeting notes for your information.

Sincerely,

John Strand
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