Rehab proceeding well on Land Bank home

BY MARIAN MCMAHON
Gazette Newspapers

PAINESVILLE – The Lake County Board of Commissioners approved an agreement with the Lake County Land Reutilitzation Corporation (Land Bank) for prior year's Home Investment Partnership Program funds at the March 17 commissioners meeting.

The agreement allows an increase of $8,550 in construction costs for the rehab work being done by Western Reserve Community Development Corporation on the property at 668 North St. Clair St. in Painesville.

"The progress on 668 North St. Clair is going wonderfully and this is just kind of the details to make it marketable, and hopefully we get it sold by September," said Marian Norman, HOME program manager.

In a later interview, John Rodgers, executive director of the Land Bank, stated the home on North St. Clair was acquired by the Land Bank through a tax foreclosure. Since an inspection showed the structure to be sound, it was determined it would be rehabbed rather than demolished.

"It is not our intent to demolish all the homes we acquire," he said, adding if the rehab is financially feasible, then they will do it.

The home in Painesville is the first to be rehabbed for sale. A home in Willowick will be done next.

"It's a collaborative effort with the Western Reserve Community Development Corporation and funding is a combination of HOME funds, CDBG funds and Land Bank funds," Rogers said.

At this time he is unsure how the property will be marketed for sale when the rehabbing is done.

Resolutions passed March 17:

ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

• Authorizing a municipal tax exempt lease-purchase agreement for the purchase of three cab and chassis with snow and ice packages for the Lake County Engineer's Office.

The lease will be for seven years and cost a total of $543,657.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

• Authorizing execution of an agreement with Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.

The agreement is for provision of surveying and hydrogeological support for the Lake County Solid Waste Facility for a total of $295,750.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES DEPT

• Approving vouchers date of warrant March 28, in the amount of $490,265.29.

The breakdown of charges is: Public Assistance, $159,501.58; Workforce Investment, $13,441.01; Child Support Enforcement, $634.10; and Child Welfare, $316,688.60.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

• Awarding a bid contract to Woodford Excavating, LLC for the Meadow Wood Drive Phase 2 Storm Sewer Improvement Project in Madison Township in the amount of $184,885.50.

The project is to replace an old undersized storm sewer system. The engineer's estimate was $200,000.

• Authorizing advertising for bids for Lake County General Fleet Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance with a bid opening date of April 27.

"We went on that route a few years ago of contracting out our vehicle maintenance," said Commissioner Dan Troy, concerning this resolution and the next. "Now we have to go out for bids again and we're asking for a three-year bid."

• Authorizing advertising for bids for Lake County Sheriff's Office Fleet Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance with a bid opening date of April 27.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

• Approving payment of bills in the amount of $901,818.68.

• Approving purchase orders in the amount of $256,244.70.

• Increasing appropriations for various non-general fund accounts.

• Transferring cash and appropriations within various general and non-general fund accounts.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

UTILITIES

• Director Rick Martin said the Ohio EPA has approved the LCDU's permit to build more area at the County's Solid Waste Landfill with a public information meeting and final approval later in the year.

"We are actually going to fill between some of the cells that are existing and up more into the air," Martin said.

They will still need to deal with lining and drainage, but it will not cost as much as starting a brand new cell.

Troy verified bid specifications will need to be prepared for the work to be done.

NEW BUSINESS

• Troy reported the County was awarded a $50,000 Powering Our Communities Grant for energy efficiency projects to be determined.

PUBLIC COMMENT

• A second hearing was held concerning the new regulations required for the renewal of the county's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit prior to the start of the meeting. The first hearing was held March 10.

There were no comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

• The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel-compensation and real estate.

MEETINGS

• Meetings are held in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville. All meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the government board may be made at any board meeting or presented to the Commissioners' Office by calling (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting March 24. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 29 at 10 a.m.