

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
17145 MAUMEE AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Boettcher, Council Members Stempfle, Tomkowiak, Turnbull, Walsh, Williams

Absent: Council Member Parthum

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, City Attorney Kennedy, Deputy Public Safety Director Alcorn, Public Service Director Randazzo, Parks and Recreation Director Hardenbrook, and City Planner Jackson.

Motion by Council Member Walsh, Second by Council Member Turnbull, to excuse Council Member Parthum for personal reasons.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

The Mayor then led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Council Member Stempfle, second by Council Member Williams, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

1. Minutes from the regular Council Meeting held on January 14, 2019 and minutes from the closed session Council Meeting held on January 14, 2019.
2. Invoices
  - a) GFL - Recycling, January 2019, \$5,912.00
  - b) I.T. Right - Annual Service Contract, 3/1/19 – 3/1/20, \$8,700
  - c) State of Michigan - Fisher Road Streetscape, December 2018, \$17,181.79
  - d) Duclos Agency - Builders Risk Insurance, January 2019, \$13,876.85
  - e) Compass Minerals - Salt, January 2019, \$6,146.05
  - f) Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. 2019 Resurfacing Program, 12/10/18 – 1/6/19, \$11,960
  - g) Oakland County - Clemis, October – December 2018, \$5,173.25
  - h) Grosse Pointes-Clinton Refuse Disposal - Refuse Disposal, November 2018, \$5,741.37
  - i) City of Grosse Pointe Park - Dispatch Services, October 2018 - December 2018, \$27,751.23
  - j) Oak Construction - Backflow Gate Replacement Project, January 2019, \$43,135
  - k) City of Grosse Pointe Farms - Water Purchased, October – December 2018, \$109,742  
- Radio Maintenance, July – December 2018, \$27,286.07

CONSENT AGENDA UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

**PROCLAMATION**

The Mayor presented Michael and Joann Kramer with a City proclamation honoring them for their many years of service to the community.

**PROCLAMATION**

**Michael and Joann Kramer**

**Kramer's Bed, Bath and Window Fashions**

In appreciation of your thirty-six years as a business owner in The Village of the City of Grosse Pointe. Michael and Joann are long-time residents of the City of Grosse Pointe and together raised their four children while running a successful family run retail business known for its upscale brands and exceptional customer service, and

Kramer's Bed, Bath and Window Fashions benefitted from Joann maintaining the store's accounts and books, while Michael put his knowledge and experience with larger retailers to work in his own store by helping customers select the perfect sheets, luxurious towels, draperies, blinds and home accessories.

Michael and Joan were involved in numerous events in The Village for more than 30 years and volunteered countless hours toward the betterment of The Village and the City of Grosse Pointe.

We therefore do hereby express our appreciation to Michael and Joann Kramer for all that you have done for the City of Grosse Pointe, And. further, wish Michael, Joann and their family good health and continued success as they begin a new chapter in their lives. Congratulations and best wishes on your retirement after thirty-six years in business as Kramer's Bed, Bath and Window Fashions.

#### PUBLIC HEARING – PLANNING COMMISSION – CELL TOWER – 620 ST. CLAIR

The Council convened as the Planning Commission to consider a request from Crown Castle to modify the antennae on the St. Clair cell tower. John Jackson, City Planner, made the following report:

The application by Mr. Michael Gasser of Crown Castle USA on behalf of AT&T Mobility to revise the antenna configuration at the top of an existing wireless tower at 620 St. Clair, on City-owned property zoned P-1 Vehicular Parking District was reviewed. Commercial radio, television, cable TV, cellular and other transmitting, receiving or relay antenna towers or poles housing one or more antennas are permitted under special use permit in the P-1 District. The use, a cellular tower, has been in operation for some time; the original lease agreement was signed in 1996. Amendment of a special land use permit, such as amending approved plans related to equipment on a cellular tower, is proposed.

The pole for the commercial antenna structures already exists and is 100' tall. There are no changes proposed to the overall height of the pole; rather, the bulk of the existing antenna canisters appears to be decreasing with these changes. In replacing equipment on an existing facility, we anticipate no negative effects on the natural environment, nor a significant change in the consumption of natural resources and energy. The equipment modifications will support new generations of wireless transmission. Improvements such as this will ensure citizens of Grosse Pointe will continue to benefit from adequate cellular service. The layout of the parking lot will not be altered and the monopole is separated from the parking lot by a gated wire fence. The modifications proposed are intended to allow for continued service as cellular providers transition to upgraded networking technology. The changes proposed are for AT&T equipment, only.

Michael Gasser of Crown Castle stated that the aesthetics would be improved, noise from the equipment shed would be reduced, and customers would get better service.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Council Member Williams, second by Council Member Stempfle, to approve the amendment to the Special Land Use Request for 620 St. Clair, subject to an amended Special Land Use Permit being drafted by and approved by the City Attorney.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

The Planning Commission re-convened as the City Council.

#### SIGN SITE PLAN REVIEW

The City Planner presented his report regarding a sign request from Benoit Real Estate Company.

Benoit Real Estate Company has submitted an application for front wall signage at 17712 Mack Avenue. The applicant proposes wall signage by the front entry door facing Mack Avenue. The sign will be 36" in height and 48" in length, for a total square footage of 12 square feet. Letters will be aluminum and will be attached to a Dibond panel and will be 3" tall. The text will read "Benoit Real Estate Company" along with the company logo.

The logo is proposed to be backlit with LED. Section 58-8(e) of the ordinance permits backlit signage subject to City Council review and approval. The applicant has provided the following example of LED backlighting; this type of lighting for signage has been utilized in the Village – the Whiskey Six sign, for example.

The City Planner discussed the sign overview details listed in his report dated February 5, 2019. The City Planner recommended conditional approval of the proposed front signage for Benoit Real Estate Company, located at 17712 Mack Avenue. It is in compliance with the standards of the Zoning Ordinance and is appropriate in character and scale for signage along Mack Avenue.

Motion by Council Member Stempfle, second by Council Member Turnbull, to approve the sign request subject to administrative approval of the backlighting.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

#### PLAY FEATURES – NEFF BABY POOL

Parks and Recreation Director Hardenbrook made the following report:

The Neff Park baby pool will soon be in its eighteenth season. In 2016, it received a newly re-pebbled pool surface. And, in October, City Council approved the purchase of the central Star Burst feature. The replacement of the smaller surrounding play features remains. This will complete the baby pool renovations and the extension of its life expectancy.

The various features were described to Council, including the wear from use and exposure to the elements. It was noted that like the Star Burst, these features are sole source manufactured pieces from Rain Drop Products, LLC and Vortex USA Inc. The replacement of these features must be replaced with similar features with the exact same gasket and bolting patterns in order to have proper alignment connecting to the surface of the pool.

The proposals from Rain Drop Products and Vortex were discussed, including details about two enhanced water cannons and tumble buckets with sails feature that will surround the center Star Burst in the baby pool. The enhanced play features will be made possible with financial assistance from the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation in the amount of \$13,000. With proper maintenance, the life expectancy of these replacements will be another 15-20 years.

Motion by Council Member Tomkowiak, second by Council Member Williams, to purchase the play features from Rain Drop Products in the amount of \$15,176 and Vortex USA in the amount of \$11,780 and that the formal bidding requirement be waived due to the sole source availability of these products.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION REGARDING 2019 PLANNING

City Planner Jackson gave his Annual Report of Planning Activities as follows:

1. Attendance at five Council meetings in 2018
2. Summary of Planning and Zoning reviews.
3. Provide assistance with the Redevelopment Ready Communities Certification.
4. Review of Grosse Pointe Master Plan proposed in 2020.

The City Manager stated that Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Farms and Detroit were all working on joint development plans for Mack Avenue.

The Mayor asked the Planner to consider possible uses for the School Board property on St. Clair.

#### FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PROJECTION

The City Manager presented 5-year financial projections.

There will be a balancing of revenue and expenses for the next two years, but there may be operating deficits thereafter. Active employee healthcare plans will need to be adjusted in upcoming years. The City may need to make pension plan contributions in the next 2 to 5 years.

#### 2019-20 BUDGET PRIORITIES

City Manager Dame presented his update on Major 2018 City Priorities as follows:

Implementation planning in 2018 for Public Facilities Bond Projects, the timeline, temporary relocations, and the current status were discussed. Mack Avenue Rezoning, the City website redesign, the Fisher Road streetscape were also discussed. Other issues such as property values, taxable values, property tax revenue and business vacancies in The Village were also discussed.

Manager Dame discussed the possibility of the City implementing a matching grant for façade developments in the Village.

Council commented (1) updating equipment in the parking structure should be a priority, (2) parking meters need to be replaced, and (3) the City's web site needs to be updated.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Fries invited everyone to attend the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Respect for Law Program sponsored by the Lakeshore Optimist Club.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Deputy Public Safety Director Alcorn reported that Lt. Mehl had passed away.

Public Service Director Randazzo reported that Algiers had been demolished.

Manager Dame reported that the Council Chambers would be demolished in March.

#### COUNCIL COMMENT

Complements to Department of Public Works for snow clearance.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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Charles S. Kennedy, III  
Acting Secretary of the Meeting