

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 17145 MAUMEE AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN ON
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2009.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Scrace, Council Members Parthum, Stempfle, Stevens, Walsh and Weipert

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, Attorneys Fildew and Kennedy, City Clerk Arthurs, Assistant City Manager Fincham, Finance Director Johnson, Public Safety Director Fox and City Planner Jackson.

Motion by Council Member Stempfle second by Council Member Stevens to excuse Council Member Pfaehler from the meeting for personal reasons.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Parthum to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

1. Minutes from the regular City Council meeting held July 20, 2009 and the special meeting held August 3, 2009.
2. Invoices
 - a) Traffic & Safety Control Systems, Inc.
 - Annual Maintenance Contract, Village Parking Structure, \$10,830
 - b) Michigan Municipal League Worker's Compensation Fund - Quarterly Premium, \$22,261
 - c) CARE's Youth Assistance - Annual Fee for Youth Assistance Services, \$8,102.63
 - d) Tringali Sanitation - Curbside Recycling, July 2009, \$6,720
 - e) Plante Moran - Professional Auditing Services, \$10,500
 - f) Michigan Department of Transportation
 - Progress Payment, Cadieux Resurfacing Project, \$30,483.71
 - g) B S & A Software - Utility Billing Software, \$ 5,670
 - h) Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc.
 - Professional Services, Cadieux Resurfacing Project, \$21,439.95
 - i) Arbor Pro Tree Service, Inc. - Tree Removal, \$7,000
 - j) Grosse Pointes-Clinton Refuse Disposal - Refuse Disposal, June, 2009, \$8,854.14
3. Approval of resolution approving the street closure for Grosse Pointe's Greatest Block Party as follows:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe does hereby approve the closure of Kercheval Avenue between St. Clair and Cadieux Road, on September 12 and September 13, 2009 for the Grosse Pointe's Greatest Block Party sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Village Association.

CONSENT AGENDA UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

APPOINTMENT OF CITIZEN MEMBER – EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM BOARD

Finance Director Johnson made the following report:

On August 1st, the citizen member appointment to the Board of trustees expired for Michael Bernard. Mr. Bernard also currently serves as the Chairman of the Board and he has expressed an interest in remaining on the Board. This appointment is subject to the consent of the City Council.

Motion by Council Member Stevens second by Council Member Walsh to re-appoint Michael Bernard as Citizen Member of the Board of Trustees of the Employee's Retirement System, with a term ending August 1, 2012.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE – MML

City Manager Dame made the following report:

The annual meeting of the members of the Michigan Municipal League will be held in the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo, September 22-25, 2009. The business session is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 23 at the Radisson Hotel. Each year the City Council designates a representative and an alternate to attend this business meeting. Attached is the notice from the MML requesting the designation. This year, so far, the Mayor and City Manager are scheduled to attend the convention.

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Stevens to appoint Mayor Dale Scrace as Delegate/Representative and Peter Dame as alternate Delegate/Representative to attend the annual business meeting at the Michigan Municipal League Convention on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT – PARKING LOT SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

City Manager Dame made the following report:

The City's three-year contract for snow removal in various City parking lots has been canceled by Gene's Landscape services after two years due to Gene's Landscape going out of business. Gene's recommended Berns Landscape services to complete the last year of the contract and Berns Landscape is willing to extend the contract for two additional years at the same rate. City staff has reviewed the equipment list and checked with references and received positive feedback. The following is the cost of the contract, up to and including ten cleanings:

Berns Landscape Service (same as Gene's Landscape)	\$7,960
Cost for each additional clean (same as Gene's Landscape)	\$ 760

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Parthum to authorize the execution of an agreement with Berns Landscape Service for a one-year snow removal contract and authorize the City Manager or designee to execute an additional two-year contract with Berns at the same seasonal price after the review of their performance for the 2009-10 season.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

DISCUSSION – DRAFT VILLAGE ZONING CHANGES

City Planner Jackson made the following report:

As one of the key goals the City Council established this year, a preliminary review of the Village zoning code was conducted to ensure the downtown maintains its competitiveness. The City Planner and City Staff prepared a concept for changing the Village zoning code that was presented earlier this year. Council directed that input be obtained from property owners and retailers. Presentations, meetings and outreach to the business community did occur. Staff has been drafting language to rework the Village zoning code in accordance with the input received.

City Planner Jackson presented and discussed the following proposed text amendments to the Village zoning ordinance:

1. Update the C-2 district to allow beauty shops and barber shops and allows certain other uses that were previously special uses as permitted uses such as residential above the first floor and outdoor cafes.
2. Allow office uses in the rear 40% or 40 feet of buildings that have frontage on Kercheval whichever is greater.
3. Prohibit uses that would detract from the character of the Village such as pawnshops, check cashing facilities, etc.
4. Create a T-1 district to allow a range of lower intensity public, residential and office uses at the edge of the Village along Waterloo with a maximum height of 35 feet.
5. Create a T-2 district to allow moderate intensity uses between the core of the Village and the edge that allows a wide range of uses at a maximum height of 42 feet or four stories.
6. Change the parking exempt district to the "Village Parking District" which will exempt existing non-residential uses/buildings in the Village from parking requirements and allows future development to pay a fee in lieu of providing private parking facilities. Expand the boundaries of the district to include the entire Village.

Mr. Jackson displayed and discussed a draft zoning map showing the proposed zoning changes. He discussed the building height map, and the office/retail distribution map. Mr. Jackson answered various Council questions regarding first floor office entrances, and specific tenant comments received. It was requested that the City's parking consultant provide an opinion on the proposed zoning changes relating to parking in the district and that educational session be planned if the ordinance is approved to advise tenants and landlords of the changes. It was further requested that a draft ordinance be sent to the stakeholders for review in September and a public hearing be tentatively planned for October.

RECEIVED AND FILED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lev Wood of the Clinton River Watershed Council distributed flyers regarding and awareness seminar planned at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Ewald Branch in Grosse Pointe Park regarding protecting water quality. He answered various Council questions.

Sue Stieger of Grosse Pointe Park addressed Council regarding a parking ticket she recently received. She expressed concern regarding the strict enforcement policy in the current economy. She expressed that she is discouraged about shopping in the Village. The City Council discussed the parking enforcement policy and various parking options. The Council encouraged Ms. Stieger to continue to shop in the Village.

Anneliese Bajer asked about the new water ordinance and how water consumption will be calculated. It was requested that Ms. Bajer make an appointment at City Hall to discuss her water bill.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

The Council commented on the following issue:

- Parking concerns in the Village were discussed and various options such as free parking on Sunday in the parking structure were suggested to encourage shopping in the Village.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Council Member Stempfle second by Council Member Stevens that the Council go into closed session as requested by a public officer for a performance evaluation.

ROLL CALL

Aye: Parthum, Stempfle, Stevens, Walsh, Weipert, Mayor Scrace

Nay: None.

Absent: Pfaehler

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

The Council met in closed session from 8:00 p.m. to 8:40 p.m.

Motion by Council Member Stempfle second by Council Member Parthum that the City continues an employment agreement with Peter Dame to act as City Manager for the 2009-2010 fiscal year under the following terms:

In light of the difficult economic situation:

1. No increase in base pay.
2. Reduction of bonus from \$7,500 to \$2,700.
3. Elimination of \$550 monthly car allowance.

In light of excellent performance:

1. Involuntary severance if no position is found; expanded from 26 to 52 weeks.
2. If involuntary severance, COBRA coverage and car allowance for lesser of hiring in new position or 52 weeks.

The City Attorney is instructed to draft an agreement in accordance with the above based on the prior year's employment contract.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

There being no further business conducted, the meeting was adjourned on Motion at 8:50 p.m.

Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk
City of Grosse Pointe