

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 17145 MAUMEE AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN ON
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010.**

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

ROLL CALL

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

In Attendance: Attorneys Fildew and Kennedy, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Arthurs, Public Service Director Weitzel, Finance Director Johnson, and Public Safety Director Fox.

SETTING AGENDA

City Clerk Arthurs recommended that due to the City Manager's absence, that the preliminary FY 2010-2011 budget discussion be postponed. It was suggested that the budget discussion be rescheduled to either March 23 or March 25. The City Council tentatively set the meeting date for Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. with final confirmation of the meeting to be made by the City Manager upon his return.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting held on February 22, 2010.
2. Invoices
 - a) Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc.
 - Mack Avenue Water Main – Cadieux to Washington, \$5,226
 - Mack Avenue Water Main – Cadieux to Washington, \$8,710
 - b) City of Detroit, Board of Water Commissioners
 - Sewage Disposal Services, \$70,058.59
 - c) Grosse Pointes-Clinton Refuse Disposal
 - Refuse Disposal, January, 2010, \$5,400.63
 - d) Michigan Municipal League Workers' Compensation Fund
 - Quarterly Insurance Premium, \$22,260
 - e) Rizzo Services - Curbside Recycling, February, 2010, \$5,616
 - f) North American Salt Company - Purchase of Road Salt, \$5,359.35
3. Public Hearing date set for single lot assessments for Monday, April 19, 2010.

CONSENT AGENDA UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

PRESENTATION – STRATEGIC PLAN – GROSSE POINTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mayor Scrace introduced Butch Wardwell, a member of the Public Affairs Committee of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce who provided a background overview of the Futuring Project undertaken by the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods 17 years ago. Mr. Wardwell explained the strategic planning process currently being undertaken by the Public Affairs Committee of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wardwell noted that the process began with the Mayors and Managers discussing the possibility of updating the study and determining the next steps. It was determined that a multi-municipal strategic planning process, with the cooperation of the chamber of commerce, would be developed. The cross boundary strategic plan would focus on only the Grosse Pointes and have a shared mission, vision, core values, goals and aspirations. As part of the planning process, a survey of all Grosse Pointe residents has been developed. The survey seeks resident input on various issues affecting all the Grosse Pointes similar to the City's fiscal priorities survey. The strategic planning will serve to focus the Grosse Pointes on working cooperatively on those issues we have in common while keeping distinct the personality and operation of each individual Grosse Pointe community. Mr. Wardwell answered various Council questions regarding the survey and how its results will be captured and tabulated. Mayor Scrace thanked Mr. Wardell for his presentation.

SITE PLAN REVIEW – GROSSE POINTE VILLAGE DENTISTRY – 16842 KERCHEVAL AVENUE

Public Service Director Weitzel made the following report:

The City Planner has reviewed the proposed projecting sign for Village Dentistry, 16842 Kercheval Avenue. The applicant is proposing to install one 5 sq. ft. projecting sign with colors and design details to match the existing building. The sign will be located on the Kercheval Avenue façade projecting from the stone wall. The proposed signs meet all of the dimensional requirements for a projecting sign and will compliment the architectural character of the unique façade.

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Stevens to approve the site plan for signage for Grosse Pointe Village Dentistry, 16842 Kercheval Avenue.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

SITE PLAN REVIEW – HYDRANGEA BOUTIQUE – 369 FISHER ROAD

Public Service Director Weitzel made the following report:

The City Planner has reviewed the proposed wall sign for Hydrangea, 369 Fisher Road. The applicant is proposing to install one 15 sq. ft. wall sign to replace the existing wall sign. The proposed wall sign meets all of the dimensional requirements for a wall sign based on the size of the building. The applicant is proposing to reuse the existing sign frame from the former tenant. The applicant is not proposing lighting for the proposed sign. The business is set to open on May 1, 2010.

Motion by Council Member Stempfle second by Council Member Parthum to approve the site plan for signage for Hydrangea, 369 Fisher Road.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

VILLAGE PARKING LOT #1 – EASEMENT AGREEMENT

City Attorney Kennedy made the following report:

In January 2010, the Council approved a site plan for Kroger's new facility on Kercheval and Notre Dame. This plan no longer called for a privately operated parking structure to be built on the surface parking lot behind Kroger. That lot, known as Village parking lot #1, is owned by Kroger but is operated as a public lot through a license agreement with the City of Grosse Pointe. There is a small unbuildable piece of property at the entrance to the parking lot off Notre Dame that the City owns even though it is largely contained within the Kroger owned lot. When Kroger was planning to building a structure, the City Council authorized transferring ownership of that small parcel to Kroger at no cost given its negligible value. Now that the lot will remain a surface parking lot that is publicly operated, there is no need to transfer the title. Kroger has requested a permanent easement from the City to use this small piece of land for parking, the use is has been for decades. Discussion took place regarding granting a permanent easement and its allowances.

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Parthum to approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to grant a permanent easement to The Kroger Co. for use of the City owned portion of Village Lot #1 for parking.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

WINDOW TREATMENT/DISPLAY – KROGER CO.

A Council subcommittee was formed last month to review plans for window treatments for the new Kroger store in the Village. The subcommittee unanimously approved a plan for the Kroger ground floor windows where the view into the store would have been blocked by the backs of shelving. A window display elevation dated March 8, 2010 was submitted to the Council for review.

Motion by Council Member Parthum second by Council Member Stevens to approve the final issue of site plan approval for The Kroger Co., 16919 Kercheval Avenue, and approve the subcommittee's recommendation for windows displays, elevation dated March 8, 2010.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anneliese Bajer, Tire Systems Engineering asked about Village zoning issues compared to the Hill shopping district in Grosse Pointe Farms. Mrs. Bajer asked about when the free parking for businesses along the Kroger alley would begin. She also asked if a business owner survey was planned.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Safety Director Fox reported on a recent house fire on St. Clair and a theft of a purse at Kroger over the weekend. Mr. Fox also reported the City had applied for a FEMA grant on several occasions for a generator for the public safety building. He reported that the \$40,000 FEMA grant was recently approved.

COUNCIL COMMENT

The City Council commented on the following issues:

- Condolences were expressed on the passing of Grosse Pointe Farms Council Member Doug Roby. He will be missed.
- Appreciation of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce's initiative and involvement in the strategic plan and survey for all the Grosse Pointes.
- Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, May 6 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Tickets will be available at city hall soon.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk
City of Grosse Pointe