

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 17145 MAUMEE AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN ON
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010.**

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

ROLL CALL

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

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, Attorneys Fildew and Kennedy, City Clerk Arthurs, Public Service Director Weitzel, Finance Director Johnson, Public Safety Director Fox, Recreation Director Hardenbrook, Water & Parking Director Huvaere and Court Clerk Tyburski.

Motion by Council Member Parthum second by Council Member Stempfle that Council Member Stevens be excused from the meeting for personal reasons.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2010-2011 BUDGET

Mayor Scrace announced that this was the time set for a public hearing by the City Council on the proposed budget and proposed property tax levy, for fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

Finance Director Johnson gave an overview of the budget. She reported that the proposed budget is balanced and the general operations levy of 11.8391 mills remains the same. Mrs. Johnson reviewed a PowerPoint presentation that addressed decreases in property tax revenue and residential assessments. Further, State Revenue Sharing has decreased 25% since 2002 and is expected to continue to decline. It was noted that a reduction in overall budgeted expenses for all departments was implemented. The general fund has an overall decrease in total expenditures of 14.2%.

Discussion took place regarding general fund revenues and expenditures, the general debt fund, water & sewer fund, solid waste fund, parking fund, highway fund, marina fund and the drug forfeiture fund. It was noted that a multi-year capital improvement plan has been established for all major funds. No vehicle or major building improvements are planned in 2010-11. It was noted that a new fund was established to track all expenses and revenues related to solid waste. Rear yard pickup is retained but a Cushman purchase is deferred. City Council discussion took place regarding the budget. It was noted that the proposed budget offers the same high level of services in a fiscally responsible manner. The City Council thanked the City Manager, Finance Director and Department Heads for their hard work on preparing the budget and recognized the difficult economic sacrifices that were made to balance the budget.

Mayor Scrace opened the public comment portion of the public hearing. He asked for comments from those persons present. The following comments were made:

- Chris Lee – 595 Lakeland expressed concern about public safety presence and proposed consolidation. He stated that he felt a strong presence is a deterrent to crime and helps to keep the community safe.
- Gail Lee – 831 Loraine submitted a letter to the Council about public safety and the longer response times if the local public safety departments were consolidated. Ms. Lee stated she is not averse to paying more taxes to keep Police and Fire at their current and local levels.
- Tom Griffith – 515 Washington asked about the millage and what the total millage would be to makeup the shortfall. It was noted that it was $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mill.
- Suzanne Clem expressed that proposed changes to the public safety department would affect school safety. The current coverage in the City is valued.
- Aurelie Saigh – 581 University Pl. stated she was a victim of a violent crime on University Pl. and the public safety department was very helpful during her difficult time. Mrs. Saigh requested that the department be kept the way it is.
- A comment was raised about vacation and sick time pay out policies for employees.

Hearing no further comments, public comment was declared closed.

The City Council commented on the Capital Improvement Plan transfer in the Major Local Street fund, The Council further discussed the solid waste fund, parking fund and water and sewer fund.

It was noted that the City Council understands the significance of a strong public safety presence in the community. It was further stated that the Council has a fiduciary responsibility to examine consolidating, if consolidation will work, to determine what works best for the community and keep planning for the future to keep Grosse Pointe viable. The functionality and all personnel will remain the same in the Public Safety department for the 2010-2011 budget.

It was noted that the proposed 2010-11 budget and 2010 City tax rate will be acted on at the regular Council meeting on May 17, 2010.

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PRESENTATION - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

City Manager Dame introduced Stephen Pangori from Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, the City's engineer, who made a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and proposed system improvements to streets, sidewalks and sewers. Mr. Pangori reviewed street facts, the pavement condition survey and its results, mileage rating summary 2006-10, and estimated street repair needs. He further discussed the street summary and concluded that funding levels will need to increase in order to maintain streets in good condition.

Mr. Pangori also covered the Enterprise Fund as part of the CIP which discusses water mains and sanitary/combined sewers. He reviewed water system components, the basis for system improvements and projects completed. The projects yet to be completed, according to the McNamee Study, were also discussed. Discussion took place regarding the sanitary/combined sewer needs determined as critical and important and the needs designated as low (needed over long term). City Council discussion took place regarding the report. The City Council thanked Mr. Pangori for his presentation.

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On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk
City of Grosse Pointe