

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, 17145 MAUMEE AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN ON
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2008.**

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Scrace, Councilmembers Parthum, Pfaehler, Stempfle, Stevens, Walsh

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, Attorneys Fildew and Kennedy, City Clerk Arthurs, Public Service Director Weitzel, 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 Weipert from the meeting for personal reasons.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes from the regular meeting held on June 16, 2008.
- b. Invoices
 - a) Tringali Sanitation - Curbside Recycling, May, 2008, \$5,088.
 - b) City of Detroit, Board of Water Commissioners - Sewage Disposal, May, 2008, \$67,842.07
- c) Inland Waters Pollution Control, Inc. - Sewer Cleaning & TV Inspection, S2 Program, \$19,464.03
- d) Grosse Pointes-Clinton Refuse Disposal - Refuse Disposal, April, 2008, \$9,905.98
- Refuse Disposal, May, 2008, \$8,284.68
- e) Florence Cement Company - 2008 Resurfacing Program, \$36,691.
- 2008 Resurfacing Program, \$169,648.90
- f) Duncan Solutions Enforcement Technology, Inc. - Automated Parking Citation Issuance System, \$21,250.
- g) Bally Total Fitness Corporation - Employee Wellness Program, \$5,783.
- h) Michigan Municipal League - Worker's Compensation Insurance, Quarterly Policy Premium, \$19,569.
- i) City of Grosse Pointe Farms
 - Water Service, April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008, \$82,632.62
 - Engineering Services for Water Plant Expansion Plans and Pilot Study, \$29,260.
- j) Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc.
 - Plans & Specifications, Cadieux Resurfacing – Jefferson to Kercheval, \$8,946.
 - Professional Services, Mack Avenue Handicap Ramps, \$9,367.20

CONSENT AGENDA UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

The City Council now convened as the Planning Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL USE REQUEST – BORDERS INC. – 17141 KERCHEVAL AVENUE

Mayor Scrace indicated that a public hearing has been set for a special use application for outdoor seating at Borders Inc., 17141 Kercheval Avenue.

City Planner John Jackson made the following report:

The special use site plan and application for a proposed outdoor café at 17141 Kercheval Avenue was reviewed and discussed. The applicant is proposing three tables and 10 chairs adjacent to the building along Kercheval Avenue. The proposed outdoor seating is a use permitted after special approval in the C-2 district. The proposed outdoor café is located in the Village and helps to promote pedestrian oriented activity and is generally compatible with the goals and objectives of the Master Plan and the central business district ordinance. The proposed café seating area will be a few feet from the building and a 5 ft. 11 in. clear path will be maintained between the tables and the curb line. There will be no outdoor service and no alcohol for the use area, as the seating is only for patrons who are served within the building therefore the proposed seating area is appropriate without a designated enclosure. It was noted that all furniture will be stored inside the Borders storage space during the off-season and the area will be kept clean and free of debris. Hours of operation for the outdoor seating area would be 10am – 10pm Monday-Saturday and 10 am to 9 pm on Sunday. Council discussion took place regarding the Planner's report. Concern was expressed as to the style, weight and color of the furniture proposed. Discussion took place regarding the proposed outdoor table and chairs. After discussion, it was requested that the City Planner review the Village Design Guidelines with regard to outdoor furniture specifications. City Manager Dame indicated that staff will evaluate the existing outdoor café in the Village and submit a report in the near future.

Mayor Scrace stated that public comment would now be heard by the Planning Commission and opened the floor to public comment. Those persons present made the following comments:

- Concern was expressed regarding the cleanliness of Borders store and how an outdoor seating area could increase the debris in the area. It was requested that Borders maintain minimum maintenance standards for the building and surrounding areas.

After hearing no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Council Member Stempfle second by Council Member Pfaehler to approve the special use application and permit for outdoor seating at Borders Inc., 17141 Kercheval Avenue, subject to Border's execution of the required permit/license.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

SITE PLAN REVIEW – BORDERS INC. – 17141 KERCHEVAL AVENUE

City Planner Jackson reviewed the proposed site plan for outdoor seating along Kercheval at Borders.

Motion by Council Member Walsh second by Parthum to approve the site plan for outdoor seating at 17141 Kercheval Avenue and City staff advise Borders Inc. about maintenance standards in the C-2 district and future outdoor furniture design standard guideline modifications.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

The Planning Commission reconvened as the City Council.

DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

City Manager Dame reviewed the history of Council action regarding establishing a Downtown Development Authority for the Village district. He noted that if the ordinance is approved, the Mayor would appoint, with the concurrence of the Council, a DDA board that would be charged with working with the Council on creating a plan which outlines the goals and projects eligible for DDA expenditures. Council would also need to approve the DDA plan. The approved plan would need to be consistent with the Intergovernmental Agreement adopted by the City and the County of Wayne which provides conditions allowing for the capture of increment from the County, comprising of approximately one-third of the potential revenues. Further discussion took place regarding the proposed ordinance.

RECEIVED AND FILED.

ORDINANCE ADOPTION

MOTION by Councilmember Parthum supported by Councilmember Stempfle, that the following ordinance be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 377

An Ordinance to create a Downtown Development Authority for the City of Grosse Pointe, designate boundaries of the Downtown District and provide for other matters related thereto.

(For complete text of Ordinance No. 377 - see the Ordinance Book of the City of Grosse Pointe)

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD

Mayor Scrace reported that a request for DDA board applications was published in the Grosse Pointe News, on the City website and in a letter to all property owners in the proposed district in June. The City received 20 applications from interest parties for the 10 member board. Per state law, the initial appointments must be of staggered lengths to ensure continuity of DDA Board operations. After the expiration of first terms of the appointments, the terms of the DDA Board would always be four years. It was noted that the Mayor is also a member of the DDA according to State law. The Mayor recommends, and requests, that Council considers the following appointments to the DDA Board for the City of Grosse Pointe:

James V. Bellanca Jr. (Property Owner)	1 year	John Bruce (Non-profit/Institutional org.)	1 year
Amy Hartmann Taylor (Business Owner)	2 years	R. Andrew Martin Jr. (Resident)	4 years
William P. Huntington (Business Owner)	2 years	Jessica Pellegrino (Wayne County)	3 years
Christopher Blake (Property Owner)	3 years	Christopher Walsh (Council)	4 years
Michael Kramer (Business Owner)	4 years		

Motion by Council Member Pfaehler second by Council Member Walsh that pursuant to the adoption of the DDA ordinance in the City of Grosse Pointe, the Council confirms and approves the people listed above to serve on the Downtown Development Board for the term specified from the date of the first DDA meeting, subject to the person’s continued qualification.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE REVISIONS TO SIGN ORDINANCE

City Manager Dame made the following report:

At the request of the Village Association, the City has been working with Village retailers to revisit the portable sign ordinance requirements. Last evaluated as part of an overall sign ordinance rewrite in 2005, portable outdoor signs are currently prohibited in the City commercial districts.

A draft ordinance amendment was reviewed and discussed by the Council. It was noted that the draft includes input of a representative of the Village Association and City Planner McKenna Associates. The intent of the draft ordinance is to allow portable signs in City commercial districts as long as they are of high quality and appearance and meet conditions for safe locations and lengths of placement. The proposed ordinance requires a permit to be issued administratively as long as the proposed sign meets the requirements. There is a fee associated with the permit.

Discussion took place regarding the City purchasing a portable sign, compliant with the ordinance, to allow certain businesses to obtain a portable sign permit, lease the portable sign from the City for a short period, for sales that may occur once or twice a year.

City Planner Jackson reviewed the proposed modifications to the sign ordinance. Mr. Jackson answered questions regarding the administrative approval process proposed, the location of portable signs in the district and the diagram submitted to Council, and styles of portable signs allowed under the proposed ordinance.

It was noted that the Council was generally in favor of the proposed sign ordinance modifications. After further review by City staff, a report on the proposed ordinance amendment will be submitted in the near future with a possible public hearing for ordinance adoption.

RECEIVED AND FILED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anneliese Bajer asked about the status of the parking structure and the repair to the Starbuck's building in the Village.

Roman Hammes representing County Commissioner Tim Killeen passed out Resource Recovery Guides on behalf of the Commissioner.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Safety Director Fox reported that the Health Fair co-sponsored by the City and Beaumont Hospital Grosse Pointe went well with a good turnout. City Manager Dame gave an update regarding the filming of the movie "Gran Torino" in the City.

COUNCIL COMMENT

The Council commented on the following topics:

- Update on Beautification Commission and Grosse Pointe Clinton Refuse Disposal Authority meetings by Council Member Parthum.
- Discussion of Council representative for the swim meet finals.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk
City of Grosse Pointe