

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
17145 MAUMEE AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN ON  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015.**

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

ROLL CALL

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

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, Attorneys Fildew and Kennedy, City Clerk Arthurs, Finance Director Kleinow, Public Safety Director Poloni, and Public Service Director Huvaere.

Motion by Council Member Parthum second by Council Member Stempfle to excuse Council Member Walsh 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 Council Meeting held on August 17, 2015.
2. Invoices
  - a) Arbor Pro
    - Tree Work, 8.26.15, \$5,856
    - Tree Work, 9.10.15, \$5,240
  - b) F.D.M. Contracting
    - Chalfonte Water Main & Pavement Reconstruction, Estimate #5, \$57,797.38
  - c) Pro-Line Asphalt - 2015 Resurfacing Program, Estimate #3, \$35,450.59
  - d) Rizzo - Recycling, September 2015, \$5,768
  - e) McKenna - Planning Services, July 2015, \$6,567
  - f) City of Detroit - Sewage Disposal, July 2015, \$70,391
  - g) Nagle Paving - Parking Lot 6, Estimate #6, \$8,791
  - h) Century Cement - 2015 CDBG Sidewalk Ramp Replacement, Estimate #1, \$73,783.90
  - i) City of Grosse Pointe Farms - Radio, 1/1/15 – 6/30/15, \$7,629.58
  - j) M.L. Schoenherr Construction
    - City Hall Roof Replacement, Payment #1, \$10,440.00
    - City Hall Roof Replacement, Payment #2, \$42,570.00
  - k) MDOT - Kercheval Resurfacing, July 2015, \$31,764.05
  - l) Plante Moran - Annual Audit, 6.30.15, \$34,425
  - m) Grosse Pointes – Clinton Refuse Disposal
    - Rubbish Disposal, June 2015, \$6,082.27
    - Rubbish Disposal, July 2015, \$5,958.34

CONSENT AGENDA UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

MML & PROPERTY POOL – ANNUAL COVERAGE RENEWAL

City Manager Dame made the following report:

Each year, the City submits documentation to the Michigan Municipal Liability and Property Pool for a renewal quote for coverage that expires September 30 annually. The City has been a pool member since October 1, 1985 and this year the premium has increased 3.2% after a 2.85% increase in 2014 and 2.1% in 2013. The insurance and related services in this proposal are being offered to the City for an annual premium of \$118,380. This policy covers all City owned property including vehicles, contractor equipment, and electronic data processing equipment, buildings and liability coverage. A ten year history of premium costs was submitted and reviewed. Discussion took place regarding a dividend the City would receive for renewing coverage.

Judith Thomson-Torosian, MML and Property Pool Service and Sales Manager gave an overview of the City's policy. Ms. Thomson-Torosian discussed various coverage options and deductibles and answered Council questions regarding the City's insurance policy.

It was suggested that a comparison and/or bid process be conducted for this service in 2016.

Motion by Council Member Turnbull second by Council Member Stempfle to approve the proposal from the Michigan Municipal Liability and Property Pool for the 2015/16 premium of \$118,380.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY COST SHARING AGREEMENT

City Manager Dame made the following report:

The City of Grosse Pointe and the City of Grosse Pointe Park are proposing to have the same person serve as each of their separate department's Public Safety Director. Both cities have previously entered into a mutual aid agreement, an automatic aid agreement and a contract for consolidated dispatch services that provide coordinated fire, rescue and emergency medical services dispatching. This single director arrangement will result in the sharing of certain cost types outlined in the proposed agreement. The largest cost saving from having a single director is from vehicle expense sharing but also sharing conference and professional training costs. Council discussion took place regarding the proposed cost sharing agreement.

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Stempfle to authorize the execution of the Public Safety Cost Sharing Agreement, contingent upon approval by the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

#### APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

City Manager Dame made the following report:

Stephen Poloni was hired as Public Safety Director four years ago under an employment agreement. It is now proposed that he become the Public Safety Director for both the City of Grosse Pointe Park and the City of Grosse Pointe. At the end of the year, there will be a vacancy in the Director position in Grosse Pointe Park. In addition to working for the City in his current capacity, Chief Poloni would also serve as the Park's Public Safety Director. This unique combination would not only share the costs of management, but would also benefit the two communities through increased efficiencies and coordination. Serving in both communities, a single Director would be able to operate both departments at higher levels through initiatives such as coordinated training, more uniform procedures and joint equipment purchasing.

The proposed amendment would extend his current agreement by two years, until 2019 and would decrease his pay from the City by \$30,000. The City and Park would also agree that this new single director arrangement would be for two years, but that either party could opt out of their agreement with Mr. Poloni after two years or at the end of each calendar year after that. Council discussion took place regarding the proposed amendment and the opt out option.

Motion by Council Member Weipert second by Council Member Parthum to approve the amendment to the Public Safety Director employment agreement as presented, contingent upon approval by the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

#### PURCHASE OF PUBLIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATIVE VEHICLE

Public Safety Director Poloni made the following report:

A proposal was obtained for one new Public Safety administrative vehicle, a 2015 Taurus. The new vehicle will be assigned to the Director of Public Safety and his current vehicle, a 2013 Taurus will be assigned to the

Detective Bureau which replaces a 2004 Crown Victoria currently assigned to the Detective Bureau and in need of replacement. The proposal is from Gorno Ford, which was competitively awarded the State Joint Purchasing Program for this type of vehicle. The State of Michigan program satisfies the City's competitive bid requirements.

Motion by Council Member Boettcher second by Council Member Weipert to accept the bid from Gorno Ford for the amount of \$25,225 under the State of Michigan joint purchasing program for one 2015 Ford Taurus.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

#### AUTHORIZE FUND BALANCE TRANSFER

Finance Director Kleinow made the following report:

Approximately eight years ago, after policy discussion with the City Council, the City established a policy goal of maintaining an unrestricted General Fund balance of 20 percent of the succeeding year's expenditures. Until three years ago, the amount that exceeded the 20 percent unrestricted fund balance goal had been transferred to the Capital Projects Fund. Three years ago, in response to the unfunded nature of the retiree healthcare liability, the City Council directed staff to transfer the excess to the retiree healthcare fund in the previous year. City Council asked to be advised each year prior to staff making the transfer in future years.

After preliminary year end calculations of the year just completed June 30, 2015, it is expected that there will be a surplus of approximately \$875,000 in excess of the 20 percent unrestricted fund balance requirement. This year, the City budgeted the entire annual cost of the current retiree health care payouts and the City expects to do the same next year. Therefore, staff recommends transferring \$750,000 into the Capital Projects Fund and retaining \$125,000 in the General Fund. This results in a slightly higher than 20% fund balance. More than a 20% as a General Fund surplus retention is fiscally better and also may offset any unanticipated expenses in the current fiscal year. City Manager Dame and Finance Director Kleinow answered various Council questions regarding how the surplus occurred and its retention.

Motion by Council Member Stempfle second by Council Member Parthum to authorize the transfer of \$750,000 of the June 30, 2015 year end surplus to the Capital Projects Fund.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

#### STAFF REPORTS

City Clerk Arthurs announced that the Beautification Commission has selected the 2015 Beautification Award winners and a list of the winners would be posted on the City website. The awards ceremony will be on October 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. City Manager Dame provided Council with an update on VillageFest.

#### COUNCIL COMMENT

The City Council commented on the following topics:

- Congratulations was expressed the Public Safety Director Poloni on his new position.
- Appreciation was expressed to the City Manager and staff for their fiscal responsibility in having a year-end budget surplus.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Council Member Turnbull second by Council Member Stempfle to go into closed session for ongoing collective bargaining.

#### ROLL CALL

Ayes: Boettcher, Parthum, Stempfle, Turnbull, Weipert, Scrace  
Nays: None  
Absent: Walsh

The Council met in closed session from 7:46 p.m. to 7:55 p.m. The City Council reconvened in open session at 7:55 p.m.

COMMAND OFFICER VOLUNTARY EXIT INCENTIVE AGREEMENT

City Manager Dame made the following report:

The City has developed an early retirement incentive program for qualifying Command Officers in the Public Safety Department. To be eligible, a Command Officer must have at least 25 years of experience as a sworn officer of the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Department and must have been promoted to Sergeant prior to January 1, 2000. The early incentive is a lump sum payment totaling \$7,500 and also provides for no retiree cost sharing of the premium for the retiree health care insurance (which current command officers would otherwise be entitled to after 30 years of service).

Motion by Council Member Boettcher second by Council Member Turnbull to authorize that the City Manager executes the agreement with any interested and qualified Public Safety Officer.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

---

Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk  
City of Grosse Pointe