

**MINUTES OF THE GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY VIA THE ZOOM VIDEO AND PHONE CONFERENCE PROGRAM ON MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020.**

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Tomkowiak, Council Members Juip, Parthum, Stempfle, Thomas, Walsh, Williams

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, Attorney Kennedy, City Clerk Arthurs, Finance Director Kleinow, Public Safety Director Poloni, and City Engineer Pangori.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2020-2021 BUDGET

Mayor Tomkowiak 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, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Finance Director Kleinow gave an overview of the budget. She reported that the proposed budget is balanced without a general operating property tax rate increase or using fund balance. Mrs. Kleinow reviewed a PowerPoint presentation that addressed City levies of 17.4716 mills for the current year compared to 18.2219 mills in the prior year, a decrease of .7503 mills. This is a budget that takes steps to adjust to the dramatic change of economic conditions caused by the efforts to save lives and prevent the spread of COVID19. The General Fund, providing the bulk of City services under the Public Safety, Public Works, and Parks Departments is a zero-growth budget with no net increase over last year's budget. Reduced sales taxes, gas taxes, building permits, and parking fees due to lack of commercial activity during the COVID-19 pandemic are already impacting the City in the current fiscal year. This will likely extend into the fiscal year starting July 1.

Ms. Kleinow further stated that State Shared Revenue is budgeted at \$447,947, a reduction of \$89,042 from 2019 and additional reductions in State Shared Revenue are possible due to COVID-19 impacts on the State budget. The City recorded losses of \$2.5 million of State Revenue Sharing between 2003 and 2017. It was also noted that a full year of retiree healthcare cost in the amount of \$536,000 has been budgeted for 2020-21.

Discussion took place regarding property taxes and assessments, general fund revenues and expenditures, the capital projects fund, the general debt fund, water & sewer fund, solid waste fund, parking fund, highway fund, marina fund and the drug forfeiture fund. Further discussion took place regarding the increases in Public Safety over time, replacement of parking system equipment, increase in personal property tax, and Act 51 funding. It was noted that the budget incorporates costs related to both the Public Safety Command and Patrol Officers contract expiring July 1, 2022.

Mayor Tomkowiak opened the public comment portion of the public hearing. She asked for comments from those persons attending the electronic meeting. Hearing no comments, public comment was declared closed.

City Council discussion took place regarding the budget, capital expenditures and the required Retirement Pension System contribution of \$130,602.

It was noted that the proposed budget offers a 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. It was noted that the proposed 2020-21 budget and 2020 City tax rate will be acted on at the regular Council meeting on May 18, 2020.

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## PRESENTATION – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Stephen Pangori from Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, the City's engineer, presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Utility and Road Improvement Funds and proposed system improvements to water distribution, sanitary/combined sewers and streets. Mr. Pangori reviewed water system facts and the basis for system improvements. Mr. Pangori discussed the proposed improvements in the sanitary/combined sewers on Loraine from Waterloo to Mack Avenue.

City Council discussion took place regarding the report.

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## CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Council Member Stempfle, second by Council Member Thomas, to go into closed session to review an attorney memorandum subject to attorney client privilege.

## ROLL CALL

Ayes: Juip, Parthum, Stempfle, Thomas, Walsh, Williams, Mayor Tomkowiak

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIES.

The Council met in closed session from 8:06 p.m. to 8:40 p.m. The Council reconvened in open session at 8:41 p.m.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

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Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk  
City of Grosse Pointe