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

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

In Attendance: City Manager Dame, Attorney Kennedy, City Clerk Arthurs, Public Safety Director Alcorn, Assistant to the City Manager Hardenbrook.

Motion by Council Member Williams, second by Council Member Thomas, to excuse Council Member Parthum from the meeting for personal reasons.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

The Mayor then led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Williams, second by Council Member Thomas, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

1. Minutes from the regular Council Meeting held on June 21, 2021 and closed session Council Meeting held on June 21, 2021.
2. Invoices
   a) Grosse Pointes Clinton Refuse Disposal - Refuse Disposal, April - May 2021, $7,711.69
   b) Medstar - Ambulance Services, 7/1/20 – 6/30/21, $23,750
   c) City of Grosse Pointe Park
      - Dispatch Services, 4/1/21 – 6/30/21, $28,215
      - Swat Fee, 2021-2022, $3,000
   d) Great Lakes Water Authority - Sewage, June 2021, $75,400.00
   e) Anderson, Eckstein, & Westrick, Inc.
      - 2021 Street Improvement Program, 5/10/21 – 6/6/21, $25,017.00
   f) City of Grosse Pointe Farms - Water, 4/1/21 – 6/30/21, $190,047.34
   g) GFL - Recycling, July 2021, $9,550
   h) State of Michigan - Fisher Streetscape, June 2021, $7,566.36
   i) Art Tucker - Water Main Repair, June 2021, $5,100
   j) Partners in Architecture - New Facilities, Payment 20, $298,798.08

CONSENT AGENDA UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

REVISED INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT – FORESTRY SERVICES

City Manager Dame made the following report:

The City does not have a certified arborist on staff to oversee its tree replacement, maintenance and urban forestry programs. The City of Grosse Pointe Park does have a full time Forestry Supervisor with many years of municipal experience, education, training and certifications. Since 2017, the City has had an intergovernmental agreement that allows the City of Grosse Pointe to utilize the services of Grosse Pointe Park’s Forester on an hourly basis.
Under the proposed agreement update, the Forester would oversee the day-to-day urban forestry activities of the City including the identification of dead or diseased trees, removal, purchase and replacement of trees; and oversight work of contract tree maintenance companies and the pruning performed by City staff. The cost per hour and agreement details were discussed.

Motion by Council Member Thomas, second by Council Member Williams, to approve the revised intergovernmental agreement with the City of Grosse Pointe Park for urban forestry supervisory services.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Cottingham, 814 Lakeland, asked about the schedule of catch basin cleaning and that water flow is being impeded by debris. She expressed concern regarding recent flooding in her basement which caused significant damage and flooding at the intersection of Rivard and Kercheval.

Pete Jerabek, 859 Neff Rd., asked about connectivity of storm and sanitary drains. He feels that drains exceeded capacity during the rain event and the situation can be prevented.

Matt Hindelang, 900 Lincoln, asked that emergency response to rain events include shutting down roads with deep water to avoid water pushing into yards and vehicles getting damaged. He also suggested that Council meetings be recorded and available to view on the internet.

Greg Smith, 421 Rivard, asked about the how the city pumps were handling the second rain event. He asked about potential blockages in the sewer system and what is the cleaning schedule of the system.

STAFF REPORTS

City Manager Dame stated that flood claims to the City and GLWA are due by August 9, 2021, 45 days after the June 26 rain event. Mr. Dame summarized federal aid available to residents and noted that assistance will be provided locally by FEMA in the near future. He asked residents to continue to monitor the alerts on the City website for updated information.

COUNCIL COMMENT

The City Council commented on the following topics:

- An overview was given of the City Council Statement dated July 11, 2021 regarding flooding and basement backups. Copies of the statement were available at the meeting or on the City website.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Public Works Department staff, especially Pete Randazzo, for their exceptional work and long hours picking up debris from flooded homes. It was an exhaustive process and the Public Works Department did an incredible job.
- City staff demonstrated great team work in response to the flooding crisis. The Council will continue to work through complicated regional issues and toward getting answers to why the basement backups occurred. Developing solutions to protect resident’s homes is a top priority.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Julie E. Arthurs, City Clerk
City of Grosse Pointe