

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - A monthly meeting of the City Council of Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building, 795 Lake Shore Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kedzierski.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL** – Clerk Bruce Nichols

Present: Mayor Thaddeus Kedzierski, Council Members Robert H. Barrette, Bruce Bisballe, Tina Ellis, Robert E. Gesell, Doug Kucyk and Matthew Seely

Absent: None

Also present: City Clerk Bruce Nichols  
City Attorney Brian Renaud  
Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts  
Public Safety Director John Schulte  
Public Works Director Brett Smith  
City Manager Mark Wollenweber

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2019 REGULAR MEETING**

On Motion of Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Seely, the minutes of the meeting were approved unanimously.

**5. RECEIVE AND FILE VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS MINUTES**

On Motion of Council Member Barrette, seconded by Council Member Kucyk, the various committee and commission minutes were approved unanimously to be received and filed.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Gloria Anton had comments and questions regarding the recycling program.

**7. PROCLAMATION-** Vicki Granger

Mayor Kedzierski presented a proclamation recognizing Vicki Granger, who has served the community with outstanding and distinguished conduct as a member of Grosse Pointe Woods City Council numerous other boards and commissions.

**8. RECOGNITION-** Unit Commendation/Life Saving Award/2018 Director's Award – PSO Tony Spina

Chief Schulte presented PSO Tony Spina, a Unit Commendation and Life Saving Award for his December 27, 2018 rescue of the driver of a vehicle who lost control and drove over the break wall into Lake St. Clair. PSO Spina rescued the driver from 37° water during a 14 mile an hour wind and 12 inch waves at great risk to the officers safety.

Chief Schulte then presented the 19 year veteran PSO Tony Spina with the *2018 Director's Award* for exceptional service. Chief Schulte informed Council that PSO Spina is an outstanding Public Safety officer who has accumulated an enormous amount of training.

**9. PROCLAMATION-** Arbor Day Sunday May 5, 2019

Mayor Kedzierski presented a proclamation declaring Sunday, May 5, 2019 as Arbor Day; and urged our residents to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect the trees and woodlands of our community.

**10. PUBLIC HEARING-** City Council Sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, 31 Renaud Variance Request.

On motion of Council Member Kucyk, supported by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously (7-0), City Council adjourned and reconvened as the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Planning Commission Chairperson Mary Matuja described the 3.5' setback variance requested for 31 Renaud. The need for the variance was not required by any act of the property owner, the requested variance and the circumstances surrounding the request for the variance were unique. The variance requested is of a minor nature; and there would be no deleterious effect on the surrounding properties. No neighboring property owners have objected. The Planning Commission approved the variance request unanimously.

Robert Ertzbischoff of 31 Colonial Court expressed his support of the variance request.

The Zoning Board of Appeals, having reviewed and concurred with the findings of the Planning Commission on Motion of Council Member Seely, supported by Council Member Ellis, City Council Sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously (7-0).approved the 3.5' setback variance as requested.

Council then reconvened immediately thereafter.

**11. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

**A. Budget and Finance – Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts**

1. Approval of Bills -The monthly bills were presented by Finance Officer Ricketts, reviewed, discussed and unanimously approved for immediate payment on motion of Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Ellis, and carried unanimously by council.

2. Review of Financial Statements - Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts presented the financial statements of the municipality for review by Council. She also reported the budget is still on track with a positive balance going forward.
  3. Finance Committee Chairman Bruce Bisballe reported the Finance Committee met last week for a final draft of the budget in anticipation of a joint meeting with counsel to discuss the draft. At the joint meeting to be held on April 18, 2019 and the regular Finance meeting to be held on May 1, 2019, the final draft of the budget will be formulated for presentation at the May City Council meeting.
- B. Public Safety** – Chief John Schulte reported the city lost four (4) light poles in the last several months. The cost to replace the polls range from \$6000 to \$7000 each. Unfortunately, there is no information as to the vehicles involved in two (2) of the pole damage incidents. The city experienced one stolen auto on Sunningdale in which it is believed the vehicle key codes were hacked. The amended fireworks ordinance will be explained in the next municipal email publication. Fraudulent telephone schemes continue to plague homeowners.
- C. Public Works** – Director Brett Smith reported the spring cleanup is underway. The city experienced several water main breaks. The municipal gatehouse is almost completed. The Belle Meade paving project will be underway soon. DTE will pave Colonial Road. The municipal pool opening is on schedule, with park flowerbeds having been prepared. Garbage truck repairs have required the city to borrow a truck to cover the pickup routes. The police workout room and gun range was updated by DPW staff. The street sweeper was able to get one pass through the city last month. The elevator in City Hall was repaired after a breakdown. The cold patch crew is performing as necessary. The Lake Shore/Vernier corner has DTE removing an abandoned gas vault.
- D. Parks Committee**- Council Liaison Doug Kucyk reported a Parks Committee meeting will be held on May 7 at 9 AM. Residents are invited to attend. Council Member Kucyk explained a problem regarding dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs while in the park.
- E. Harbor Committee**- Chairman John Seago reported that too few of the pilings have popped up from winter freezing to warrant bringing a barge into the harbor to reset the pilings. Boat well rental is nearing capacity. Grosse Pointe Shores is a recipient of the *Clean Marina Foundation Award*. Council Liaison Matt Seely remarked on a discussion with the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club regarding harbor management.
- F. Infrastructure Report**- Council Member Bob Barrette had comments regarding the Department of Public Works and their adept skills at repairing our fire truck. Council Member Seely reported the joint resolution with Grosse Pointe Farms regarding the seawall spurred some response from Wayne County.
- G. Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation**- President Brett Marshall reported an anticipated Memorial Day completion of the Tot Lot. The foundation is now at full strength and has 42 trustees. The Tree Board met and discussed 15 years of *Tree*

*City USA* designation. Helen Bai discussed the May 5th Arbor Day Event, poster contest, and the diversity of trees at Osius Park. Shredding Day is scheduled for May 11 at 9 AM. Helen Bai also expressed a need for more sponsors for the Sponsor-a-Garden project. There is now a Downy Mildew resistant impatient flower which is available at additional cost.

**H. Legal Report** – City Attorney Brian Renaud reported on providing the following legal services since the last meeting of City Council:

The review of physical improvements of Osius Park, draft of a Dispatch and Lockup agreement, review of the 55 S. Deeplands project, review of Finance Committee matters, a review of the issue of tax forfeiture proceeds as they relate to 57 Michaux Ct. , review of a consent agreement between the owners of 866 Lakeshore and 870 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club boat well leases, and review of a pension plan report.

**I. Manager's Report** – City Manager Mark Wollenweber reported that staff is developing a list of veterans in our city. The city was listed in the *100 Safest Small Towns in America for 2019*. The process of selecting a new Park Director is still under way. Representatives from the Full Circle Foundation will be at the next Council meeting. The City Manager has asked the Grosse Pointe War Memorial to justify the PEG fees. The Ford House has a new *Director of Operations*. *United States Government Financial Office* awarded Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts for her exceptional capabilities in municipal finance.

**12. OLD BUSINESS – None**

**13. NEW BUSINESS –**

**A. Transportation Economic Improvement Fund Grant Resolution-Oxford Road**

On motion of Council Member Gesell, supported by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously (7-0), City Council approved and adopted a resolution authorizing Brett Smith, Director of Public Works to act as agent on behalf of the city to request TEDF Category B funding, to act as the applicant's agent during the project development, and to sign a project agreement upon receipt of a funding award.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Richard Russell had complaints regarding Carlisle Wortman and a 120 day lack of action on his Deeplands subdivision plan. He also had comments regarding a storm water retention plan review by Hubbell, Roth and Clark. City Attorney Brian Renaud responded to the causes of the extended time periods involved in the subdivision process and the need for the Planning Commission review. Discussion ensued between the Council Members, the City Manager, the City Attorney, and Mr. Russell regarding the causes of the delays and how to expedite the approval process. It was agreed that administration will seek to meet with Mr. Russell before the next Council meeting.

**15. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Councilmember Seely had comments regarding the Fourth of July Concert which has already garnered 18 sponsors at \$1000 each for the event.

**16. MAYOR'S COMMENTS** – Mayor Kedzierski commented on the upcoming Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, the Grosse Pointe Woods Shores Little League Opening Day Parade, and the scheduled May 11<sup>th</sup> Town Hall Meeting

**17. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS** (Tues, 5/21/19-7 pm & Tues, 6/18/19 -7pm)

**18. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE TOWN HALL MEETINGS** (Sat, 5/11/19 & 9/14/19-10am)

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Council Member Gesell, supported by Council Member Ellis, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bruce R Nichols  
City Clerk