

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY  
MINUTES OF THE JOINT FINANCE/COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

A meeting of the Joint Finance Committee/City Council of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, A Michigan City was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 in the Council Chambers of the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm, by Acting Chairman Barrette.

Present: Council Member Barrette, Acting Chair  
Council Member Doug Kucyk

Absent: Committee Member Chuck Ruifrok

Also Present: Council Member Matt Seely  
Council Member Danielle Gehlert  
Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts  
DPW Director Brett Smith  
Public Safety Director John Schulte

All items pertinent to this meeting are either attached or placed on file. The Acting Chair did the roll call and all members of the Finance Committee were present with the exception of Committee Member Ruifrok whose absence was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

Motion by Council Member Kucyk to approve, seconded by Council Member Barrette  
Passed 2-0.

ITEM 4 OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS:

A: Budget Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Rhonda Ricketts presented a packet of various information to each member in attendance. Included in the packet was a list of City Council goals which each member agreed upon. These goals will be used in preparing the budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Also included was a spreadsheet with various information comparing Grosse Pointe

Shores with the other Grosse Pointe communities. The 2018 total homestead tax rate, the 2019 total City tax rate, SEV and taxable valuation totals for 2007 and 2019, along with population and housing units were included on this spreadsheet for discussion and comparison.

Rhonda then presented to the committee the budget worksheet for budget preparation that included historical numbers, current amended budget and to date totals for each fund. This worksheet will be continually updated as numbers become available to complete the budget planning process.

One item in the current budget was questioned by Rhonda on the future plans of the City Council – the position of Park Director. Discussion ensued by various members. Mr. Seely and Director Schulte will be meeting yet this week to discuss various duties of the Park Director and whether these duties can be appointed to other employees, etc.

The 2020 inflation rate multiplier that will be applied to all properties within Grosse Pointe Shores and the State of Michigan is 1.9%. Not including any building additions and/or losses for the upcoming taxable year, the City's taxable valuation could easily increase by \$5 million. More accurate numbers will be available after the March Board of Review convenes.

In the fall of 2019, Mark Wollenweber and Rhonda Ricketts requested that our health care consulting firm, Cornerstone Municipal, place a request for proposals regarding the vision insurance for current employees and some retirees. The results of this RFP were received February 10<sup>th</sup>. Several carriers submitted quotes that would reduce the vision insurance premium between 25% and 29%. The Finance Committee requested that this item be placed on the February 18<sup>th</sup> City Council agenda for approval of EyeMed's proposal of a 25% premium reduction that would be guaranteed for four years.

The Finance Committee also discussed the creation of a field usage fee for users of the City's soccer field. This item was also requested to be placed on the City Council's February 18<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Public Safety Director John Schulte presented the Committee with his department's list of needs for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. This list included the purchase of two Ford Explorers, the purchase of four in-car cameras to replace the current technologically outdated cameras and the purchase of two new hand-held mobile radios. The total of this request was \$96,200.

Director Schulte also mentioned the need to look at replacing one of the current two fire trucks. The two fire trucks currently in service were originally purchased in 1978 and 1987. They have both suffered from malfunctions in the past. Fortunately, these malfunctions have not occurred when needed for firefighting purposes. A new fire truck is estimated to cost in excess of \$300,000.

Public Works Director Brett Smith then presented the Committee with his department's

needs for the upcoming year along with unforeseen expenses yet for this fiscal year. Due to some issues with the wading pool and the main swimming pool, repairs to these pools need to be completed yet this year at approximately \$18,500. The park also requires an additional 200 tons of limestone to be added along the park's sea wall due to erosion.

Director Smith provided each member a listing of all Public Works vehicles which includes the age, service life years, in service years along with their original and replacement costs. Four of these vehicles have exceeded their expected life and will need to be replaced.

Discussion then ensued regarding sanitation services. Mr. Seely would like Director Smith to investigate the possibility of outsourcing garbage service such as other communities in the area. Some members raised concerns on the possible change of sanitation services as this service is one of the many premier services that the City offers the residents. It was agreed to gather more information and revisit this possibility as soon as the information is available.

Director Smith also provided the committee with a "PASER Rating and Asset Management Plan" that was prepared by our engineering firm, Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. PASER stands for Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating. The report details the rating of each roadway within the City. This report will be extremely helpful in the planning of roadway repairs/reconstruction due to the need of each roadway.

ITEM 6 OTHER

None

ITEM 7 PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM 8 NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next Finance Meeting date will be scheduled soon and posted accordingly.

Adjourned at 6:35pm.

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Rhonda Ricketts  
Finance Officer/Treasurer