

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 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, September 19, 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, and Matthew Seely

Absent: Doug Kucyk (Excused on carried motion of Barrette/Ellis)

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 AUGUST 20, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

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

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

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Ellis had comments regarding unleashed dogs at Osius Park.

7. HARBOR COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

On Motion of Council Member Ellis, seconded by Council Member Barrette, the Mayor's nomination of Dan Bracciano, Michele Ramsdell, Dan Ritter, and Donn Schroder to the Harbor Committee were approved unanimously.

8. PRESENTATION-Manquen Vance Health Care Consortium Advisor, Mark Manquen made

a presentation to Council regarding Medicare retiree drug plans. It was a recommendation of administrative staff to approve the city's participation in replacing Navitus as the Retiree Medicare Mail Order Provider with Humana Group Medical Advantage and become part of the consortium with Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe City, and Grosse Pointe Woods. This change would save Grosse Pointe Shores over \$40,000 annually. The matter was taken under consideration by Council.

9. PUBLIC HEARING-Variance Request, 707 Lake Shore Rd., Hawasli

The petitioner submitted a landscape plan for review. Review of the plan shows the properties as a corner lot which also has two front yards. The side yard facing Lochmoor Boulevard is considered an external side yard but must follow setback restrictions imposed in the front yard under the city ordinances. The petitioner seeks approval of a variance of the ordinance regarding external side yard requirements for landscape hedge and fence design.

The Council, having reviewed the findings and recommendation of Carlisle/Wortman, and based on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, the ZBA finding that the setback requirements in the ordinance present a practical difficulty for the property owner, and that the strict enforcement of the requirements of the setback standard would unreasonably deprive the owner of rights enjoyed by all other owners owning property within the same district, and compliance would be unnecessarily burdensome, and the required variance will not cause an adverse impact on surrounding property or property values, or the use and enjoyment of property the neighborhood, and it will not materially impair the intent and purpose of the zoning ordinance, and such condition and circumstances are unique to the subject property, and were not created by the owner nor can they convey special privileges for the owner, and the required variance being minimal, therefore;

On motion of Council Member Ellis, seconded by Council Member Barrette, Council unanimously (6-0) approved the variance as asked for by the petitioner.

10. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Prior to the hearing the various reports, Mayor Kedzierski presented a proclamation to City Manager Mark Wollenweber recognizing his distinguished service, dedication, and guidance to the city during his tenure as City Manager. Mayor Kedzierski declared the acts of City Manager Wollenweber to have been a major factor in the enhanced financial condition and improved operation of the city.

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

1. Approval of Bills - On motion of Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Barrette, the approval of the bills passed unanimously (6-0).
2. Finance Committee Chairman Bruce Bisballe reported the Finance Committee met last week and discussed retiree health care. The committee presented a report regarding \$3.4 million in road repairs, with only \$1.38 million financed by the city. A list of road repairs was included in the report which indicated the numerous road

repairs completed since 2011. The road repairs were paid for without any property tax increase.

B. Public Safety – Chief John Schulte reported the Grosse Pointe Mutual Aid for the various public safety departments is functioning well. The municipal fire pumper is being examined by Apollo Repairs for serious mechanical problems. The Ford House has been reviewed by the department for a Class C liquor license. Chief Schulte confirmed the public safety investigation recommended approval of the Class C license for the Ford House.

C. Public Works – Director Brett Smith reported that Hutch Construction began the Roslyn and Hawthorne Road repairs. Unfortunately, the asphalt operations at the Cadillac Asphalt plant were halted by an unexpected breakdown. Bob Heckman has retired after 24 years of service with the city. He has been replaced by Fred Lees. The *Boo Fest* is upcoming and expected to proceed smoothly.

Council Member Ellis asked about annual maintenance of the splash pad and the durability of last year's repairs.

Mayor Kedzierski asked about the condition of the porch and the stamped concrete at the entrance.

D. Parks Committee- Park Manager Alison Scarfone reported the ceiling in the men's and women's bathhouse has been completed. The *Annual Doggie Day in the Pool* had 40 dogs swimming in the pool. The Annual Classic Car Show had 88 cars and over 200 visitors. A proposed list of events for 2020, including programs for children, was presented to Council.

E. Harbor Committee- Chairman John Seago reported on current well occupancy and projected water levels. The Harbor Committee recently held a quarterly meeting. Excessive high water has necessitated a credit to kayak well occupants due to inaccessibility. Minutes of the Harbor Committee meeting are being prepared.

F. Infrastructure Report- Bob Barrette and City Attorney Brian Renaud reported on discussions with Grosse Pointe Farms and a Wayne County FOIA request having been made for 1928 documents regarding seawall maintenance. Discussion also ensued regarding safety warning signage along the seawall. Council Member Barrette expressed his frustration with Wayne County in their failure to address the deteriorating seawall.

G. Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation- President Brett Marshall reported a meeting of the foundation was held last week. Membership in the foundation is increasing. The *Tot Lot* will be under construction soon. A pickle ball court is under review and consideration.

H. Legal Report – City Attorney Brian Renaud reported on providing the following legal services during the previous month: a FOIA request and the response, dispatch and lockup facility discussions between Grosse Pointe Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods, city charter and the Open Meeting Act, retiree drug plans, Ford House Class C liquor

license application, the 707 Lake Shore Rd. zoning appeal, Deeplands litigation review, contract performance bond review, and discussion regarding seawall construction.

- I. **Manager's Report** – City Manager Mark Wollenweber discussed the application process with Wayne County in applying for our \$18,000 grant. There are problems with the *Grosse Pointe War Memorial* arrangement on our cable TV channel. Mr. Wollenweber revealed the Ford House was a donor of the Osius Park gatehouse

11. OLD BUSINESS – None

12. NEW BUSINESS –

- A. **Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Class C Liquor License** - the Ford House requested reclassification of its current MLCC Tavern license (which permits the sale of beer and wine only) to a full Class C liquor license.

On motion of Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously (6-0), the City Council approved the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House reclassification of their MLCC license to a full Class C liquor license.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Susan Wolfe expressed dissatisfaction with an online media posting by a city Council member. The city attorney explained the city is not involved with activities of Council Members outside of the scope of their municipal duties as Council Members.

Beautification Chairperson Helen Bai reported on two perennial beds along the boardwalk having been removed due to high water. Wednesday, September 25th, the perennials will be removed from the park. The *Boo Fest* is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16th.

Grosse Pointe Shores resident Rose Flaherty voiced her dissatisfaction with a Council Member's posting in online public media.

14. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Member Seely remarked on the tennis tournament scheduled for September 29th.

- 15. MAYOR'S COMMENTS** – Mayor Kedzierski commented on a Mayor/Managers meeting, which discussed water levels. PEG fees were also discussed at the meeting. The *Town Hall* was held with discussions regarding a multitude of topics. The Mayor remarked about the managed assets of the city. The Classic Car Show was a success with award winning cars being owned by Grosse Pointe Shores residents. A Veterans Day event is planned.

16. REQUEST TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION- At 8:55 PM, Mayor Kedzierski called

for a roll call vote to go into Closed Session to discuss benefit plan issues with labor attorney Ryan Fantuzzi. The roll call vote was unanimous (6-0) to go into closed session.

On motion of Council Member Bisballe, seconded by Council Member Gesell, a motion to reconvene into open meeting carried unanimously at 9:27 PM.

17. ENTER INTO OPEN SESSION - At 9:29 PM, City Council reconvened into open session.

18. REQUEST TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION- At 9:34 PM, Mayor Kedzierski called for a roll call vote to go into Closed Session to discuss a City Attorney Legal Opinion Regarding Employment Matters. The roll call vote was unanimous (6-0) to go into closed session.

On motion of Council Member Bisballe, seconded by Council Member Barrette, a motion to reconvene into open meeting carried unanimously at 10:20 PM.

19. ENTER INTO OPEN SESSION At 10:21PM, City Council reconvened into open session.

20. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues,10/15/19-7 pm & Tues, 11/19/19 -7pm)

21. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE TOWN HALL MEETINGS (2020-TBD)

22. ADJOURNMENT On motion of Council Member Gesell, with support by Council Member Seely, and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce R. Nichols
City Clerk