

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013 - 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, March 19, 2013 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 Alexander Ajlouni, MD, Robert H. Barrette, Jr., Bruce Bisballe, Kay Felt, Daniel T. Schulte

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

Absent: Robert E. Gesell (Excused by motion of Felt, supported by Barrette, passed 6-0)

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 19, 2013 REGULAR MEETING**

The minutes of the February 19, 2013 Regular Council Meeting were approved, with corrections, on motion of Felt, duly seconded and carried by unanimous vote of those in attendance (6-0) (Gesell absent).

5. **RECEIVE AND FILE VARIOUS COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MINUTES**

Motion by Bisballe to accept and receive the minutes of various municipal committees was offered and seconded by Ajlouni. Discussion followed and the motion carried unanimously by those in attendance (6-0). (Gesell absent)

6. **SWEARING IN – PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER JUSTIN CHILDREY**

Public Safety Officer Justin Childrey was sworn in by Mayor Kedzierski.

7. **PROCLAMATION – KATHLEEN MULLINS**

Mayor Kedzierski presented Ford House President Cathleen Mullins with a Proclamation in her honor for enhancing the offerings at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House; and further, in recognition of her selection by the Michigan Business and Professional Association as an honoree at its 2013 Women and Leadership Conference for her leadership in civic and community affairs in the work place.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** – None

9. PUBLIC HEARING—PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SIGN ORDINANCE #259 & POSSIBLE ADOPTION BY COUNCIL

Chase Wakefield, Vice President of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors, endorsed a revision to the proposed sign ordinance allowing for realtor signs from 1:30 to 4:30 PM on Sundays, and not allowing the placement of signs on the Lake Shore median. Council Member Bisballe pointed out that the proposed draft would allow signs on the lakeside of Lake Shore Drive. Council Member Ajlouni questioned the 5 foot setback requirement as being unclear. Council Member Schulte asked what distinguished the realtor signs from signs that advertised garage sales. City Attorney Brian Renaud suggested the existing sign ordinance may need to be reviewed so as to integrate with the realtor sign provision. Vito Cusenza voiced his support of the ordinance allowing such signs.

Motion by Felt to adopt a revised realtor sign resolution, amended to prohibit signage on the lakeside of Lake Shore Drive south of Vernier Road, seconded by Ajlouni. Discussion followed and the motion carried (5-1-0). (Schulte voting against and Gesell absent)

10. 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 by those in attendance (6-0) for immediate payment on motion by Council Member Schulte seconded by Council Member Bisballe. (Gesell absent)
2. Review of Financial Statements - The financial statements were reviewed and placed on file. Finance Officer Ricketts advised council there were 24 property tax appeals to the Board of Review. Approximately 2% of the property taxes were returned to Wayne County as delinquent, in accordance with the customary delinquent percentage of previous years. Revenue still exceeds expenditures and remains on target for the year.
3. Finance Committee - Chairman Bisballe reported the committee meeting was scheduled for March 20, 2013 and will begin preparation of next year's budget.

Public Safety – Director John Schulte

1. Monthly Update - Director John Schulte reported extremely low crime activity in his Annual Public Safety Report. This low crime rate being the result of aggressive patrolling, quick emergency response, extensive training, fire damage control, enhanced crime prevention, and cost recovery emphasis. The matter of joint dispatch is still being examined. The director emphasized the reporting of vacant homes to the public safety department "watch list". Average response time for public safety calls remains under three minutes. Director Schulte thanked council for allowing fulfillment of the vacant public safety officer position with an officer of the caliber of Justin Childrey.

C. Public Works - Director Brett Smith

1. Monthly Update - Director Brett Smith reported normal snow removal amounts this year. The city experienced two water main breaks which were repaired without incident. The 2013 repavement program for Lochmoor, Sunningdale, Oxford, Willow Tree, and Hampton is being placed out for bid

soon. Six tons of cold patch have been placed on municipal roads so far this Spring.

D. Parks and Harbor

1. Monthly Update - Council Member Schulte indicated the marina well numbers are on track for the 2013 season. The matter involving the defective materials on the marina decking is moving toward a favorable resolution.

E. Legal Report – City Attorney Brian Renaud indicated that significant progress had been made toward resolution of the marina deck issue. During the month he reviewed the signage ordinance, the fencing ordinance as it pertains to shrubs, and resolution of the construction matter at 529 Lake Shore Road.

F. Manager's Report – City Manager Mark Wollenweber reported the DTE post cards regarding gas leaks and meter inspections distributed to residents are legitimate. A \$100 home energy audit is available for residents. Wayne County has provided assessor services to the city with marked success. Public Works Director Brett Smith was helpful in acquiring funds for Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe City to resurface a portion of Mack Avenue south of Moross.

11. OLD BUSINESS

- A. 2013 Road Rehabilitation** - The 2013 repavement program for Lochmoor, Sunningdale, Oxford, Willow Tree, and Hampton is being placed for bid soon.
- B. Poverty Exemption Resolution – Revised** Finance Officer Ricketts explained to Council that Wayne County revised the poverty levels in accordance with federal guidelines. Although no poverty applications have been made this year, it was recommended that the poverty level standards for property tax exemption be amended. Pursuant to such recommendation, the revised poverty levels were reviewed, discussed and unanimously approved by those in attendance (6-0) for immediate revision on motion by Council Member Bisballe, seconded by Council Member Felt (Gesell absent)
- C. Ambassador Committee** – Committee Member, D.J. Boehm thanked City Council for approval of the sign realtor ordinance.
- D. Blue Ribbon Operations Committee** – Council Member Schulte presented the Blue Ribbon Committee report to City Council for their review. The next meeting of the Blue Ribbon Committee is set for March 27, 2013
- E. DTE Smart Meter** - Resident Dominic Cusumano and his wife addressed Council with reasons to avoid smart meters. They addressed health concerns from electromagnetic frequency emissions

12. NEW BUSINESS - None

13. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - George McMullen reported on an upcoming SOC Walk to Support Meals on Wheels. Vito Cusenza requested information whether the municipality exceeding peak water flow limits and the regionalization of DWSD.

14. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Member Schulte urged will research about smart meters to determine if there is any merit to health concerns.

15. MAYOR'S COMMENTS – Mayor Kedzierski remarked on the increasing property tax valuation assessments as being indicative of a stronger real estate market. Our new public safety officer, upcoming road servicing, and tennis court repairs were also indicators of improvement in the municipality.

16. NOTE DATE OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues, 4/16/13 & 5/21/13 - 7:00pm)

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Schulte seconded by Barrette (6-0), carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:55 PM

Bruce R. Nichols
City Clerk