

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.**

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - A monthly meeting of the City Council of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City was held on Tuesday, May 21, 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, Robert E. Gesell, Daniel T. Schulte

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

All correspondence and reports relating to this meeting are either attached or placed on file.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2013 REGULAR MEETING** - The minutes of the April 16, 2013 Regular Council Meeting were approved on motion by Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Bisballe and carried by unanimous vote.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2013 CLOSED SESSION** - The minutes of the April 16, 2013 Closed Council Meeting were approved on motion by Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Bisballe and carried by unanimous vote.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 30, 2013 SPECIAL MEETING** - The minutes of the April 30, 2013 Special Council Meeting were approved on motion by Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Bisballe and carried by unanimous vote.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 30, 2013 CLOSED SESSION** - The minutes of the April 30, 2013 Closed Council Meeting were approved on motion by Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Bisballe and carried by unanimous vote.

8. **RECEIVE AND FILE VARIOUS COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MINUTES** - Motion by Council Member Gesell to accept and receive the minutes of various municipal committees was offered and seconded by Council Member Bisballe. Discussion followed and the motion carried. (6-1 with Barrette voting nay).

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** – none

10. HONEYWELL- Placement Agent Agreement, Authorizing Resolution & Escrow Agreement –

Special bond counsel for the city, Patrick McGowan of Miller Canfield, addressed Council concerning the utilization of Hutchinson Shockley Erley and Company as placement agent for financing of the 2013 installment purchase contract with Honeywell. Mr. McGowan recommended approval of the placement agreement with Hutchinson Shockley Erley and Company.

On motion by Council Member Gesell seconded by Council Member Bisballe, and carried by unanimous vote (7-0), council approved the acceptance of the Placement Agent Agreement with Hutchinson Shockley Erley and Company in accordance with their offer of services dated May 13, 2013.

On motion by Council Member Gesell seconded by Council Member Bisballe, and carried by unanimous vote (7-0), council approved the recommendation of Hutchinson Shockley Erley and Company to accept the bid of Pinnacle Public Finance for the Honeywell Installment Purchase Contract; and approve the sale of the 2013 Installment Purchase Contract to Pinnacle Public Finance at an interest rate of 2.05%.

11. PUBLIC HEARING – FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGET, TAX RATE, WATER RATE

Council Member Bisballe presented two (2) plans for next year's fiscal budget. Discussion ensued regarding both plans. Plan A included the \$2.9 million Honeywell contract, with no reduction in personnel or services, initiation of a tree trimming program, replacing of Marina decking, and a paving program. Plan A required no tax increase.

Budget Plan B implemented public safety enhancements, such as re-staffing Public Safety headquarters 24 hours a day and installing security cameras in selected locations in the city. Plan B included all aspects of Plan A. A one (1) mill tax increase is included in Plan B.

Council Member Bisballe reminded those present that the Council and Budget Committee held numerous meetings and invited the public to participate. Council Member Felt indicated the committee examined the return of Public Safety dispatch to the municipal building; however, the cost was prohibitive due to required building alterations.

The budget and finance committee recommended the approval of Plan B.

Mayor Kedzierski mentioned that two town hall meetings were conducted to ask for residents input on the budget and public safety issues.

Both options balance the budget with Plan A providing more surplus funds.

Resident Gloria Anton asked about closed circuit television in the community, and its effect on promises made last year about holding the line on tax increases.

Resident Vito Cuzenza expressed his favorable opinion on the 24/7 security staffing of the municipal building. He also had questions about both water revenue and marina revenue.

Council Member Bisballe reported the municipality has received a 6.25% increase in water and sewage rates by DWSD. In spite of the increase, Grosse Pointe Shores experiences the lowest water rates in all of the Grosse Pointes. He also reported that the city should return to an AAA bond rating by the end of next year.

Council Member Bisballe reported the Marina will require a subsidy from the general fund if alternative bond funding is not placed. Principal payment increases on the bond will result in a negative cash flow for the Marina.

A. ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGET, TAX RATE, PROPOSED WATER RATE

Council Member Schulte moved for adoption of the Plan A budget and the motion failed for lack of support.

Motion by Council Member Bisballe for adoption of the Plan B budget was offered and seconded by Council Member Gesell. Discussion followed and the motion carried. (6-1 with Council Member Schulte voting nay).

12. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

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

1. Approval of Bills - The bills were approved on motion by Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Barrette and carried by unanimous vote. (7-0).
2. Review of Financial Statements - Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts reviewed and presented same to Council
3. Finance Committee - Chairman Report - none as the matter was covered under item 11.

B. Public Safety – Director John Schulte

1. Statistical and Various Other Reports - The month was a routine month for the Department of Public Safety. The Fun Run was successful with the recommendation that Director Schulte fix his starting pistol. Code violations are becoming the focus of the department. The first realtor sign ordinance violation was issued with confiscation of the offending sign. Chief Schulte expressed the new 24/7 operation at the municipal building will enhance public safety operations by freeing up a public safety officer for patrol services.

C. Public Works -

1. Monthly Update - Public Works Director Brett Smith was unable to attend the meeting. Council Member Barrette reported the road improvement program is moving ahead. Completion of the project will be in the near future. The pool is ready for the season opening. The park is cleaned up and ready to go. The Lakeshore Drive tree mulching has been completed. Discussion ensued regarding the color temperature and the color cast of the new LED streetlights.

Rhonda Ricketts emphasized the importance of outdoor watering after 11 PM and before 6 AM to keep municipal water rates down.

D. Parks and Harbor

1. Harbor Committee Chairman Report -Council Member Schulte reported a committee meeting was held on May 15, 2013. The committee unanimously recommended the delaying of the installation of the replacement Marina decking until after Labor Day to avoid interference with resident use of the park. The committee also recommends obtaining a qualified inspector to monitor the installation of the replacement decking. The committee is obtaining prices for a miniature golf installation and splash pad for review by City Council.

E. Legal Report – City Attorney Brian Renaud

The city attorney reported the Marina deck settlement was finalized with 50,000 linear feet of material on order. The payment of \$10,000 from a contractor is expected.

During the month, the city attorney reviewed questions regarding the fence ordinance, Public Safety policy for high-speed pursuit and the use of lethal force, the Honeywell agreement, FOIA requests, and the review of the PAATS – SOC contract.

F. Manager's Report – City Manager Mark Wollenweber reported the Fun Run ran at a slight loss.

The Auto Call system has a cost of \$990 a year at 11 cents per call. The city has a fence issue which has arisen that will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for their review. The "opt out" fee for the DTE Smart Meter has been reviewed.

13. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ambassador Committee** – Council Member Felt reported that she has been on the PAATS committee for the last 12 months. As a result of the committee's efforts, costs have been reduced without a reduction in service. The operation of PAATS is being migrated from Harper Woods to the SOC organization.

Council Member Felt also reported the municipal bookmarks with the 2013 calendars have been printed. The committee is interviewing a potential author for the Grosse Pointe Shores history publication.

The number of homes in Grosse Pointe Shores listed for sale has declined.

- B. Blue Ribbon Operations Committee** – Council Member Schulte reported the committee will be having a meeting tomorrow, Wednesday May 21, 2013. A report will be provided to Council at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resident Notification of Non-Regularly Scheduled City Council Meetings Via Autocall**

Council Member Schulte, supported by Council Member Ajlouni moved for resident notification of non-regularly scheduled city Council meetings via telephonic autocal. Discussion ensued regarding the use and expense of “robo-call” outreach to the residents. Questions arose regarding costs associated with the use of the auto call method. Council Member Schulte withdrew his motion.

Council Member Schulte, supported by Council Member Ajlouni moved for resident notification of non-regularly scheduled city Council meetings via telephonic autocal, during business hours, on a “soon as possible” basis, if requested by at least two (2) Council Members. The motion failed with Council Member Schulte and Council Member Ajlouni voting for the motion, and the balance of the Council Members voting against the resolution. (2-5)

15. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Vito Cuzenza had questions regarding the Marina decking and material storage. His questions were addressed by City Attorney Renaud.

Harry Kurtz commented on the transparency of municipal operations; however, he expressed his concern regarding the failure to post committee meeting minutes on the website. He also inquired as to why the city attorney was involved in FOIA requests.

16. COUNCIL MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

Council Member Barrette commented on the uncertainty of fish fly attraction and the use of LED streetlights.

Council Member Ajlouni expressed great satisfaction with the Budget Committee success. He also expressed gratitude for Public Safety Department assistance during his absence from his residence.

Council Member Felt expressed pleasure for the great assistance received from staff and residents in formulating the work product of the Budget Committee.

Council Member Bisballe informed the Council that municipal gardens are still available for sponsorship by residents.

Council Member Gesell congratulated the municipal staff for their assistance in preparing the budget.

Council Member Schulte thanked the Budget Committee for their great efforts.

17. MAYOR’S COMMENTS – Mayor Kedzierski stated that the municipal pool was open; and volunteers are needed to help with swim meets. He also thanked the Budget and Finance committee for their extraordinary efforts. He also expressed appreciation for Council Member Barrette for his able assistance with the public lighting project.

18. NOTE DATE OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues, 6/18/13 & 7/16/13 - 7:00pm)

19. ADJOURNMENT - On motion of Council Member Schulte, supported by Council Member Gesell, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 PM

Respectfully submitted
Bruce R Nichols
City Clerk