

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.**

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

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, August 17, 2021, by remote video/audio participation. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Kedzierski.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL – City Manager Stephen Poloni

Present: Mayor Thaddeus Kedzierski, Robert H. Barrette, Danielle Gehlert,
Donn Schroder, John T. Seago and Matthew Seely

Absent: None

Excused: Sandra Cavataio

Also present: City Manager Stephen Poloni
City Attorney Brian Renaud
Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles
Public Safety Director Kenneth Werenski
Public Works Director Mike Way

4. SETTING OF THE AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2021, REGULAR MEETING

On motion by Council Member Seago, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the minutes were approved.

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

On motion by Council Member Seago, seconded by Council Member Schroder, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the various minutes were approved for receipt and filing.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

8. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

A. **Budget and Finance** – Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles

1. *Approval of Bills* - Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles reported there was nothing unusual in the monthly expenses other than normal supplies and services.

On motion of Council Member Schroder, seconded by Council Member Seago, the bills were unanimously (6-0) approved for payment.

2. *Review of Financial Statements* - Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles presented the Financial Statements for review by Council. She informed Council that she has spoken with auditors and that they are scheduled in early October, and she will begin on the actuarial reporting numbers next week.
3. *Finance Committee Chair Report* – City Manager Stephen Poloni reported on the August 10 Finance Committee Meeting. He stated that they reviewed the water rate study, finances related to the 16.3 million dollars infrastructure bond, and reviewed the ending 20-21 budget numbers.

B. **Public Safety** – Chief Ken Werenski reported that things have been very quiet in his department. He also reported that the two new hires for Public Safety have begun their Police Academy training and the department has several training sessions planned, which include SRT, Crisis Intervention, and fire training at the new GP City Training Tower. He also reported that they have a new intern starting with the department who will spend 150 hours learning about public safety and our departments operation. Councilwoman Gehlert also requested that the Director provide some statistics on violations, OUIL, etc., at upcoming meetings to see a comparison from the previous year.

C. **Public Works** – Director Mike Way reported that the new streetsweeper has cleaned the entire village and did spot cleaning after last week's storm. He also reported that the department is doing daily pickups of food spoils in the affected areas of the power outage that lasted up to six days for some residents. Mike also reported that the department is having some staffing issues due to seasonal help leaving and his full-time staff also being down due to vacations and medical related issues.

There was also a discussion about the recent power outage and how the city could get DTE to upgrade the equipment infrastructure to reduce outages in Grosse Pointe Shores. The mayor suggested that a letter or petition to the MPSC, might be an effective way of getting some attention to this matter. The mayor suggested that the petition be available for residents to sign at the Public Safety desk.

D. **Parks Committee** – Municipal Park Pool Director Jen Serra reported that our "Sharks" swimming team placed 2nd in the Lakefront Association Finals, which was their highest finish ever. She wanted to thank all the coaches, volunteers, and parents for making this season a success. She also reported that Tai Chi classes are going on

and that there is possibility of adding an additional class. She also reported that the following are upcoming events: Aug. 28 Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament, Sept. 7 Pool Doggie Day, Sept. 26 Chess Tournament. Jen also reminded residents that the pool hours will be noon–7pm through Labor Day. Jen also wanted to thank all the employees who have helped make this summer season a success.

Councilman Seely wanted to thank Jen for her leadership at the park and wanted to remind the council and residents that there would be the annual wrap-up Park Committee meeting in September to update the Master Plan and to make plans for future upgrades.

- E. Harbor Committee** –Harbor Committee Chairman Donn Schroder stated there would be an outdoor Harbor Committee meeting held in the park pavilion on Tuesday, September 14th. Donn reported that goose deterrent was applied on the grass and along with the reflective tape, it should help reduce or hinder the geese for occupying the park. He also reported that the seaweed cleanup of the marina is being conducted twice a week by the GPYC. Donn reported that the marina deck replacement of about 65% complete. He also reported that Tom Krolczyk will be looking at placing some new signage for the Jet Ski's after some instances of Jet Ski's being in the wrong locations. Dan Ritter, Auxiliary Coast Guard Officer will conduct boat inspections in the Spring 2022. Residents can request the service at that time. He thanked John Seago for leadership and assistance as the council liaison to the Harbor Committee.

Councilman Seely commented on the placing of the reflective tape and the goose deterrent product, which he was involved with last year and made some suggestions for next season.

- F. Infrastructure Report** – Council Liaison Bob Barrette stated the Committee is waiting to receive updates from Wayne County regarding the funding of the sea wall project. He also stated that Hubble Roth and Clark has completed smoke testing of the system and we are awaiting their testing results.
- G. GPSIF** – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported the next meeting of the Foundation will be September 13 at 7pm. She also reported that the pickleball courts are moving along and that we are waiting on fencing. She reported that we are awaiting bids for the renovation of the outlooks and when we receive them, we will forward to the Improvement Foundation for their consideration. She wanted to thank the foundation for their generous donation for the Treasure Chest of Toys for the children of the community to use in the pool. Danielle also reported that Jen, our pool director had requested the purchase of some safety equipment and that would be brought up at the next meeting. There was also a discussion concerning the need to repair and update the record boards and Jen stated she would get some pricing and include that with her request for safety equipment. Danielle also reported that the Improvement Foundation will be holding their annual fundraiser on October 7, from 6-10 pm at the Ford Estate, more details to come.
- H. Communications Committee** – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported that she was pleased so far with the city's Facebook page and that the next meeting of the committee will be on Sept. 13 at 6pm.

- I. **Legal Report** – City Attorney Brian Renaud reported on having provided the following legal services for June and July:

A review of the MS4 Ordinance and reported back comments to our city engineers and DPW Superintendent Mike Way. He reported working with the city on a lot line issue, swimming pool ordinance, and equipment lease agreement. Our attorney also responded to a FOIA request related to a lawsuit filed that was related to the recent flooding issues, due to severe storms in June. He also reviewed and is continuing to work on the revised MOU with the Southeast Macomb Sanitary District. City Attorney also reported that they came to a settlement agreement at the Michigan Tax Tribunal with a tax appeal by a resident.

Mayor Kedzierski asked about a recent water discharge and the reporting requirements to EGLE.

- J. **Manager's Report** – City Manager Poloni reported that the infrastructure bond topic was discussed at the finance meeting. City Manager reported that a meeting was held with bond counsel and the City Engineers Hubble Roth and Clark concerning the timing of the sales of bonds and that there was a possibility that council would be asked to reconsider splitting the bond into two bond processes. He explained that the reason for this was the requirement to complete all projects within 3 years from the sales of the bonds and there is a possibility that this could become an issue as it relates to the renovation of the pump station. There will be another meeting of the parties in October, and he will report back to council at that time. The City Manager also reported on the progress of the pickle ball courts. He also reported that he authorized a \$1500 payment to 3C's Landscape Company for the plans/drawings related to the three outlooks at the Osius Park and that he would be forwarding the information to the GPSIF for their consideration participation of the project.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A. In-Person / Zoom Meetings

City Manager Poloni gave the background of the current Zoom meeting process and how long it is authorized for. He also discussed the recent increase in COVID concerns. Following that a motion was made by Councilman Seely and seconded by Gehlert to resume in-person meetings beginning with the September City Council meeting. Discussion followed with Councilman Schroder sharing COVID data and procedures for prevention of spread. After further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. GFL Recycling Contract Approval

City Manager Poloni reported that the contract for recycling with GFL was expiring in September 2021 and that the four cities (GPS, GPF, GPC, GPP) contracted with Resource Recycling Systems consulting to create an RFP for recycling services. Matthew Naud from RRS then spoke to the RFP and bid process. He informed

council that an RFP was created and delivered to three firms for bid proposals. At the bid opening, only one bid was received from the current contractor GFL. The bid was for \$5.60 per unit, which is a 31% increase. He also explained that there were a few new features to this contract, which included an extra hazardous pickup date, an enhanced education piece, and a recycling incentive process. He also explained that the contract would be for 2 years with a 3-year option of the cities.

Council asked several questions concerning the recycling market and options the cities might have going forward. A motion was made by Seely, seconded by Barrette to approve the contract with GFL for a 2-year period, with an option for 3 years. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Redistricting Resolution

City Manager Poloni brought forth a resolution to be forwarded to the Michigan Redistricting Commission that has been adopted by other of the Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods. The resolution is in support of combining the Grosse Pointe's and Harper Woods into the same legislative district, with the goal of having a more unified voice in the state legislative process. There was discussion about the pros and cons of the resolution and the uncertainty of how the district would be configured. After discussion a roll call vote was taken with the following results: 5 Yeas (Barrette, Gehlert, Seago, Schroder, Kedzierski) to approve the resolution and 1 Nay vote (Seely).

C. Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution

City Manager Poloni brought forth a resolution to adopt the Wayne County Mitigation Plan, which is submitted to FEMA, which is a requirement for cities to receive federal disaster aid. Motion was made by Schroder, seconded by Barrette to approve the resolution. The motion carried unanimously: 6 Yeas (Barrette, Gehlert, Seago, Schroder, Seely, Kedzierski)

11. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

12. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Member Gehlert wanted to thank the city leadership and support staff for creating a wonderful normal summer at the park.

Council Member Schroder wanted to express his appreciation to the GPSIF for their past and continued support of the city functions and facilities. He also expressed his thanks to the council, mayor, and employees for the spirit of cooperation he has seen since being appointed to the council

Council Member Seago expressed that he feels the city is a pleasure to live in and agreed with comments made by the other council members.

Council Member Seely reminded everyone of upcoming events: Mixed Double Tennis Tournament Aug. 28, Chess Tournament Sept. 26, and Pool Dog Day Sept. 7. He also wanted to thank the City Manager and staff for making things run smoothly.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – Mayor Kedzierski reported on the Fishing Derby held last month. There were over 20 participants, and many families attended the event. Julia Barr, 10 years old caught the most fish and Alex Steiger caught the largest fish. The mayor also reported that Council Members Seago and Schroder have volunteered to review the Ethics Ordinance and report back to council.

13. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues, 9/21/21-7 pm & Tues, 10/19/20 -7pm)

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Kedzierski at 9:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Poloni
City Manager