

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY  
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
795 LAKE SHORE RD.  
GROSSE POINTE SHORES, MI 48236**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - The monthly meeting of the City Council of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at the Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kedzierski.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ELECTED OFFICIAL'S OATHS OF OFFICE-** Council Members Donn Schroder, John Dakmak, Robert Barrette & Sandra Cavataio

Mayor Kedzierski administered the Oath of Office to Council Members Donn Schroder, John Dakmak, Robert Barrette & Sandra Cavataio.

**4. ROLL CALL** – Clerk Bruce Nichols

Present: Mayor Thaddeus Kedzierski, Robert H. Barrette, Sandra Cavataio, John Dakmak, Danielle Gehlert, Donn Schroder, and John T. Seago

Absent: None

Also present: City Clerk Bruce Nichols  
Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles  
City Manager Stephen Poloni  
Public Works Director Mike Way  
Public Safety Director Ken Werenski

**5. SETTING OF AGENDA** - No changes

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2021 REGULAR MEETING**

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

**7. RECEIVE AND FILE VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS MINUTES**

On motion by Council Member Cavataio seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the minutes were received and filed.

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

## 9. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

On motion by Council Member Gehlert, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that Mayor Kedzierski's nominations for Advisory Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Council Liaisons were approved with the listing of such appointments, attached hereto and made part of the record of the City Council meeting.

Council Member Gehlert, with support by Council Member Seago, motioned that the elected Council Member with the highest number of votes from the most recent election be acclaimed thereafter as Mayor Pro Tem of City Council.

A point of order was then brought up, and it was determined that the City Charter allows Council to appoint the Mayor Pro Tem as Council deems appropriate. The City Charter would need to be amended to mandate appointment of the highest vote-getter as the Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Gehlert then withdrew the motion.

Council Member Gehlert, with support by Council Member Barrette, motioned that Council Member Schroder be appointed as Mayor Pro Tem. The motion was carried unanimously.

## 10. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

**A. Budget and Finance** – Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles reported that 97% of the current property taxes have been collected. The municipal audit has not been completed due to a shortage of actuarial staff. Various expenditures are under review. There are concerns as to upcoming payroll overhead costs. A grant of \$146,000 will be available from the federal government for expenses associated with Covid. Such grant must be used for Covid expenses only and cannot be used to shore up the municipal finance position. The 2020 Census count reported a reduced population which will consequently reduce Grosse Pointe Shore governmental funding by approximately 10%.

1. Approval of Bills - On motion by Council Member Cavataio, seconded by Council Member Schroder, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the bills were authorized for payment.
2. Review of Financial Statements - the current financial statements of the city were presented for review by Council.
3. Finance Committee Chairman Report - Chair Sandra Cavataio reported a 3% increase in Marina Well rental rates. The committee discussed the possibility of having future meetings in the evening so more residents can attend.

**B. Public Safety** – Chief Ken Werenski informed the Council about new mental health crisis training which has been completed by his department. Officers are now better prepared to evaluate mental health issue situations: and they also have more resources for those in mental crisis. The Grosse Pointes will now have a mutual-aid

crisis intervention officer available. Within the next three weeks, two (2) new public safety officers begin employment. The new hired officers will relieve the overtime associated the public safety officer shortage.

- C. Public Works** – Director Mike Way informed Council that leaves are still falling. Efforts continue with our street sweeper to keep up with the load. Road signage updates have been completed. Holiday decorations are being installed. Leaf pickup is scheduled to end in early December; however, the leaf collection process will be extended into December as needed.
- D. Parks Committee** – Council Liaison Donn Schroder reported the ventilation system in the pool house has been updated to avoid mold infiltration. The pickle ball courts are up and operational. Quotes are being obtained for repairs to the waterfront outlooks. Joe Cipriano has resigned from the Committee. A new Committee Chairman will need to be appointed. Council Member Schroder recommended that Mayor Kedzierski appoint Clyde Sutton to the Park Committee. Thereafter, Mayor Kedzierski immediately appointed Clyde Sutton to the Park Committee.
- E. Harbor Committee** – Incoming Chairman Dan Ritter introduced himself to Council. Council Liaison Donn Schroder reported that 80% of the marina deck replacement has been completed. The harbor closed on November 15th. The annual Marina bond fund premiums will increase by \$50,000 next year. Boat well reservation fees will be sent out to boat owners next week. The next meeting of the committee is set for December 7th. Only two well vacancies existed during the summer of 2021. February 15th is the cutoff date for resident to confirm their well space for next summer. Council Member Gehlert, and Council Member Seago asked questions regarding possible expansion of the jet ski pads
- F. Infrastructure Report** – Council Liaison Robert Barrette stated the committee met on November 15th and still awaits the engineering reports from Hubble Roth and Clark. More issues are arising with Wayne County and their refusal to accept responsibility for seawall maintenance.
- G. GPSIF** – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported the November 15th Foundation fundraiser netted \$25,000. The Foundation has agreed to give \$50,000 as a grant for fencing around Osius Park. The matter of repairing at the waterfront lookouts has been tabled while waiting for construction bids. The next meeting of the Foundation is scheduled for January 10, 2022.
- H. Communications Committee** – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported the committee held a lengthy meeting last month. Budget constraints are not going to allow much forward movement by the committee. Proofs of the new calendar appear very well. Council Member Gehlert asked residents to post to the municipal Facebook page to keep it updated. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for January 13, 2022 at 7 PM.
- I. Legal Report** – City Attorney Brian Renaud reported on providing the following legal services during the previous month: Finalization of the floodplain management ordinance and necessary follow-up with state officials, review of the SEMSD

amendment memorandum, review of the annual Storm Drain Management Resolution and its upcoming approval by Council, and preparation of the resolution and Notice of Enactment.

- J. Manager's Report** – City Manager Steve Poloni commented on chested prepayment for underground pipe, and that the savings is not worth the problems that came with its storage and the logistics involved with moving it. The GPS Foundation meeting discussed Osius Park as the centerpiece of the community. The Foundation also discussed nine possible projects for the Foundation to consider. Fence repairs will be delayed as aluminum fence costs are presently too exorbitant. Calendars will be delivered by December 15th. The municipal tree lighting ceremony is set for November 28<sup>th</sup>.

A potential "Soft Shore" enhanced restoration of the Lake Shore seawall through various grants is being reviewed. This is a unique treatment of the seashore that can be completely paid with federal grants. Instead of a hard seawall, it would bring about a wave breaking action caused by the dredging of a 9 foot underwater depression. The underwater depression will also enhance the fish habitat. A feasibility study will be done as soon as possible. A joint meeting with Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Shores will be held to research the matter.

## **11. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Storm Water Ordinance Amendment #274**

On motion by Council Member Barrette, seconded by Council Member Gehlert, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that Chapter 16, Article III, Development Design Standards of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Code of Ordinances, commonly referred to as the *Zoning Ordinance*, be amended to comply with the final revision to the current Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Plan as required by EGLE and, as attached hereto as Ordinance Amendment #274.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Street Administrator Designation Resolution**

On motion by Council Member Gehlert, seconded by Council Member Seago, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that Michael Way, DPW Director, be designated as "Street Administrator" as required by Act 51, PA 1951, Michigan Department of Transportation.

## **13. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mary Matuja congratulated new Council Members on their election to office.

Mayor Kedzierski read an email from Mr. Rapp concerning the flooding elevation of lots on Renaud Road. City Manager Poloni reported on his discussions with our City Planner regarding the flooding on these parcels. Discussion thereafter ensued with

Department of Public Works Director Mike Way and Planning Commission Chair Mary Matuja. Dan Ritter asked questions regarding grade changes within the city limits.

#### **14. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Council Member Seago thanked City Manager Poloni, Directors Werenski, Candice Giles for leading by example in their respective departments.

Council Member Gehlert looked forward to working with the new Council Members.

Council Member Cavataio welcomed the new Council Members.

Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem Schroder was honored to be named as Mayor Pro Tem. He expressed his thankfulness for all those great associates on Council and administrative staff.

Council Member Barrette welcomed the new members of Council.

**15. MAYOR'S COMMENTS** – Mayor Kedzierski expressed sorrow on the passing of resident Marie Brady. He expressed appreciation to all the members of staff and the residents who made the *Boo Fest* such a success. The Mayor would like to schedule a Town Hall Meeting in February. Next summer, the Mayor hopes the park will return to a full schedule of activities.

**16. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS** (Tues, 12/14/21-12pm, Volunteer Luncheon immediately following & Tues, 1/18/22 -7pm)

#### **17. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Council Member Seago, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce R. Nichols  
City Clerk