

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.**

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER - A virtual monthly meeting of the City Council of the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City was held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, by remote video/audio participation. 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, Robert H. Barrette, Sandra Cavataio, Danielle Gehlert, Donn Schroder, John T. Seago, and Matthew Seely

Absent: None

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

4. SETTING OF AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

On motion by Council Member Barrette, seconded by Council Member Seely, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the minutes were approved with the correction that the marina annual revenue was \$300,000 in the Harbor Committee Report.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 30, 2021 SPECIAL 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 - None

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

9. PRESENTATION- Grosse Pointe Public Library Board Update. Library Trustee Prudence Cole gave an overview of the 2020-2021 Library including the new MYLibrary App, virtual

programs, capital improvement projects and the financial records.

10. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

A. Budget and Finance – Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles reported the process of closing the financial books for the fiscal year is almost complete.

1. Approval of Bills - On motion by Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Schroder, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the bills were approved for payment.
2. Review of Financial Statements - Finance Officer/Treasurer Giles presented the Financial Statements for review by Council Members.
3. Finance Committee Chairman Report - Chair Sandra Cavataio reported there was no meeting held during the month of July; and the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for August 16, 2021.

B. Public Safety – Chief Ken Werenski reported the July 4th celebration at Osius Park had 1800 attendees; and was a safe and secure event without incident. The Public Safety Departments of Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Woods assisted with the 4th of July event. Ofc. Jim Tassie has retired as of June 30th. Sgt. Jim Wardowski has also retired. Two candidates have been presented with offers of employment as public safety officers. External bulletproof vest carriers were donated by John and Marlene Boll.

C. Public Works – Director Mike Way reported the new street sweeper is now in service. The weeds on the Stratton island have been removed. We received 12 inches of rain in three storms during the last month. The DPW provided services to Grosse Pointe City, Grosse Pointe Woods and Grosse Pointe Farms for trash pickup occasioned by flooding. Our DPW crews loaded and hauled three times their normal load during the storm period. The Department of Public Works did everything possible to minimize flooding to the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores. Mayor Kedzierski thanked Director Way and his staff for all their spectacular and successful efforts during the recent flooding events.

D. Parks Committee – Council Liaison Matt Seely thanked City Manager Poloni and the department heads for leading the city through the successful Fourth of July event.

On motion by Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Seago, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the City Manager was directed to proceed with plans for the 2022 Fourth of July event at Osius Park.

Park Dir. Jen Serra reported the pool hours will be maximized to the extent staffing allow. Youth programs, including the swim team are fully underway. She thanked the Department of Public Safety, park rangers, pool staff, and the Department of Public Works for all their help during the very successful Fourth of July celebration. The matter of overflow parking during large swimming events was discussed with Council.

- E. Harbor Committee** – Chairman Donn Schroder reported that the north and east walls of the seawall are being repaired at a cost of \$28,170. The \$34,000 re-decking project for the marina docks is about 50% complete. Only one well is still available. Non-residents occupy 14 wells. The seawall cleanup has been completed. Reserve Coast Guard Officer Dan Ritter may now certify and issue United States Coast Guard boat inspection certificates at our Marina. The Marina is self-supporting financially. Council Liaison John Seago encouraged boat owners to utilize Reserve Coast Guard Officer Dan Ritter for boat inspections.
- F. Infrastructure Report** – Council Liaison Robert Barrette reported that a meeting of the committee was not held during the month of July.
- G. GPSIF** – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported that a meeting of the Foundation was held on July 12. The ground is still too wet to pour concrete footings for the pickle ball court. The Foundation will be contributing pool toys. The deterioration of the water front outlooks was discussed at the July meeting of the Foundation. The high lake levels have exacerbated the deterioration of the outlooks.
- H. Communications Committee** – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported on the very high approval received of the municipal Facebook page.
- I. Legal Report** – City Attorney Brian Renaud was unable to provide a report as he experienced a power outage during the remote meeting.
- J. Manager’s Report** – City Manager Steve Poloni reported that requests for bids for recycling have been received and are now being reviewed. An increase is anticipated in recycling costs. The pickle ball court construction is delayed by weather conditions.

Mr. Poloni reported that Donn Schroder is running unopposed for a two-year term on City Council. Three other candidates, Robert Barrette, Sandra Cavataio, and John Dakmak are running for three open Council seats.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. HRC Proposal for Engineering Services, Cook Road Pump Station

Hubble Roth and Clark representatives Jennifer Morreale, Aaron Urange and Jesse VanDeCreek presented their proposal to provide engineering services to assist with the corrective action plan related to the Cook Road Pump Station, Lake Shore Interceptor and Cook Road Sewer.

On motion by Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously (7-0), it was resolved that the HRC fees for engineering services proposal was approved in amount not to exceed \$497,000.

B. Water Rate/Sewer Discussion

Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles described a new proposed rate structure for future water bills. Under the proposed billing system, residents will see their water bills

broken down into four line items including an operational fee, a water charge per unit of water, a sewer charge per unit of sewage, and a debt service charge. She said her goal was to inform the residents of the various elements of providing water and sewer cost. There is some inherent difficulty in comparing water and sewage costs between communities because of variables such as the size of the customer base, age of the water and sewer system, regulatory requirements, and location.

On motion by Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Cavataio, and carried unanimously (7-0), it was resolved that the new water and sewage billing structure as proposed by Finance Officer/Treasurer Candice Giles was authorized and would be implemented as soon as possible.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Storm Water Ordinance Revisions

On motion by Council Member Barrette, seconded by Council Member Seago, and carried unanimously (7-0), it was resolved that the amendments to the current Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) plan as required by EGLE, which includes the adoption of the Wayne County "Post-Construction Storm Water Runoff Program", which will apply new standards to the development and redevelopment in projects of one or more acres, with such amendments having been revised by HRC and our City Attorney, were approved.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

14. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Member Gehlert asked that City Council consider ceasing remote Council Meetings and reconvene in person. She also expressed appreciation for the recent bonding decision regarding infrastructure.

Council Member Schroder discussed concerns about recent power outages.

Council Members Seago and Seely expressed their appreciation to staff and support for the successful Fourth of July event at Osius Park.

Council Member Seely expressed appreciation to the Department of Public Works for their competent management recent rainstorms. He also expressed great appreciation to Lynn Michaux for all her efforts through the transition of personnel and administrative staff within the municipality.

15. MAYOR'S COMMENTS – Mayor Kedzierski discussed the draft of the proposed ethics ordinance. He then requested that Council members consider serving as a liaison to review the proposed draft of the ethics ordinance. No action was taken on the suggestion.

The Mayor also suggested residents attend the last swim meet of the season, which will be held on July 21. The 2021 Fishing Derby will be held next weekend. The Chess Tournament will be reinstated. Mayor Kedzierski reported that Council Member Matthew

Seely decided not to run for reelection. He expressed appreciation for all the efforts of Council Member Seely during his tenure as a Council Member; and said Council Member Seely will be greatly missed.

16. MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION UNDER SECTION 8 (h) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

On a unanimous roll call vote (7-0) to enter closed session at 8:55 pm to discuss pending litigation and a possible Settlement Agreement and Release with the City Special Counsel.

17. MOTION TO ENTER INTO OPEN SESSION

On a unanimous roll call vote (7-0) City Council re-entered open session at 9:23 pm.

17.1 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

On motion by Council Member Cavatiao, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously (7-0), it was resolved that the proposed Settlement Agreement and Release regarding the sign ordinance which is pending in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan was approved; and the City Attorney was authorized to sign the Settlement Agreement and Release on behalf of the city.

18. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues, 8/17/21-7pm & Tues, 9/21/21 -7pm)

19. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE TOWN HALL MEETINGS – TBD

20. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Council Member Seago, with support by Council Member Seely, and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce R. Nichols
City Clerk