

**VILLAGE OF GROSSE POINTE SHORES, A MICHIGAN CITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 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, March 16, 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, Doug Kucyk, John T. Seago and Matthew Seely

Absent: None

Also present: City Clerk Bruce Nichols
Assistant City Manager Thomas Krolczyk
City Manager Stephen Poloni
City Attorney Brian Renaud
Public Works Director Mike Way
Public Safety Director Ken Werenski

4. SETTING OF AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

On motion by Council Member Barrette, seconded by Council Member Seago, 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 Kucyk, seconded by Council Member Seago, and carried unanimously, it was resolved to receive and file the minutes of the various boards, committees and commissions.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

8. PUBLIC HEARING – Temporary Watercraft Resolution

At the July, 21, 2021 City Council meeting, the Council unanimously passed a motion to adopt a resolution to seek from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources a

temporary local watercraft control in Lake St. Clair in front of designated properties north of Osius Park and South of 956 Lake Shore Rd. As part of the application process, a public hearing is required, along with the adoption of the resolution. Mayor Kedzierski asked for a roll call vote to open a public hearing on the temporary watercraft application process. Council voted in favor of opening the public hearing unanimously (7-0).

Council Member Seely explained how the 200 foot “no anchor zone” would operate along the northern shore of Lake St. Clair during a six-month temporary basis. The zone would extend to the Macomb County line. Council Member Kucyk had questions regarding the location of the zone. Council Member Gehlert had questions regarding the placement, maintenance and expense of the buoys, whether access would be permitted to the lake for those riparian owners owning jet skis, and who will shoulder the cost of enforcement. There was no public comment or questions.

On motion of Council Member Seely, supported by Council Member Kucyk, and carried unanimously (7-0), Council passed a resolution to proceed with the application to seek temporary local watercraft control (“no anchor zone”) from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division.

9. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

A. Budget and Finance –

1. Approval of Bills - Council Members Kucyk and Seago had questions regarding the amount and the number of checks displayed. Council Member Gehlert asked for a breakdown of the financial subcontractor expense required by the absence of a permanent financial officer.

On motion of Council Member Gehlert, with support from Council Member Seago, and carried unanimously, the bills were approved for payment.

2. Review of Financial Statements

The financial statements of the municipality were presented by City Manager Poloni for review by Council.

3. Finance Committee Chairman Report

Finance Committee Chair Sandra Cavataio reported on a Finance Committee meeting held on February 9, 2021. Several candidates for the position of Chief Financial Officer have been interviewed. Discussions were held regarding the replacement of fire vehicles and trash removal equipment. Council will be notified of the next scheduled meeting of the committee.

B. Public Safety –

Chief Ken Werenski presented the *2020 Annual Report of the Department of Public Safety*. The report contains detailed information regarding crime for the 2020 year.

Council Member Kucyk asked questions about enforcement of auto insurance mandates in the city. Mayor Kedzierski commented on the large number of public safety officers who received commendations during the year.

C. Public Works – Director Mike Way reported the prior month as having been very busy. Inclement weather required only two road salt applications, with the street sweeper already having covered the entire city road grid. There was one water main break in the Lake Shore median. A portion of the northern seawall at Osius Park has been repaired by DPW employees. The ice rink has been taken down and stored until next winter. The baseball diamond is being prepared for the season. The municipal park has been made ready for spring events. Director Way appreciates residents informing him of potholes on the municipal roads. Curbside garden rubbish pickup commences on March 29. April 17 is the date of the Grosse Pointe Harper Woods Hazardous Waste Disposal event at the Grosse Pointe Park's Windmill Pointe.

D. Parks Committee – Council Member Seely commended Director Way and his staff for the excellent repairs performed on the park seawall. Mr. Seely also remarked on the extraordinary efforts made by the DPW to allow residents full use of the park in these very difficult times. The July 4th event at Osius Park is moving forward.

Park Director Jen Serra described the March 27th Easter event, commencement of life guard staffing, the continued need for Covid guidelines, and the upcoming review of Michigan guidelines regarding participation in swimming events.

E. Harbor Committee – Council Liaison John Seago stated there were only four empty wells at the marina. He expects 100% occupancy of the marina during the upcoming summer season.

F. Infrastructure Report – Council Liaison Matt Seely stated the monthly HRC reports seem to present the same information every month, with little in-depth detail about testing or analysis of the storm water drainage system. The Lake Shore seawall reconstruction is stuck in a bureaucratic morass which Council Member Seely is very frustrated with. He fears a safety issue resulting in an injury will soon occur.

City Manager Poloni stated there is an upcoming meeting with HRC on March 17, 2021. All of these concerns will be discussed with HRC at the meeting. In 2022, FEMA funding will be available to municipalities along the Great Lakes shoreline.

Councilman Seely said the estimated \$250 charge from HRC for the Michigan Revolving Fund application was billed to the city for \$3000. Afterwards, the application was withdrawn.

G. GPSIF – Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert informed Council of the March 15, 2021 meeting of the Foundation where there was a great deal of discussion regarding the proposed pickle ball court. The construction of the pickle ball court is being reconsidered by the Foundation before it will be funded. There was also discussion regarding portions of the infrastructure in the city. The Foundation agreed to pay for a new swim team pace/timing clock. The proposed walking path at the park is still under review.

H. Communications Committee –Council Liaison Danielle Gehlert reported on a meeting of the committee which had concerns about the current website, along with the need for changes and updating of the website. An RFP is being prepared for the redesign of the website.

I. Legal Report – City Attorney Brian Renaud reported on having performed the following legal services since the last meeting of City Council:

Revisions of the sign ordinance and technical concerns in anticipation of the April City Council meeting, watercraft control ordinance issues, Federal Title VI disclosures, a Colonial Road Construction compliance issue, the Federal District Court sign case, litigation of a matter that is still pending in the Wayne County Circuit Court concerning a Board of Zoning Appeals decision.

J. Manager’s Report – City Manager Steve Poloni said interviews have been completed with candidates for the position of Finance Director. A proposed employment contract has been presented to one potential candidate for the job of Finance Director. The municipal financial statements and supporting documentation have been brought up to date. The Board of Review concluded this week. Covid stimulus funds might become available. Discussions have been engaged with Wayne County Department of Public Health regarding the possible vaccination process to be conducted in the Grosse Pointes. FEMA grants for high water problems are under review. The city has approximately \$200,000 in uncollected property taxes from the last property tax billing.

10. OLD BUSINESS - None

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. PY 2021 CDBG Funding (The Helm/PAATS)

On motion by Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Gehlert, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that administration is authorized to submit the city’s 2021 CDBG application to Wayne County for inclusion in the Wayne County annual ACTION plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development by the March 19, 2021 deadline.

B. Street Addition Certification Resolution

On motion by Council Member Seago, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the Street Addition Certification Resolution be adopted.

C. Local State of Emergency (COVID-19) Resolution

On motion by Council Member Seely, seconded by Council Member Cavataio, and carried unanimously, it was resolved that the Local State of Emergency (COVID-19) Resolution be adopted.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

GPS retirees Tom Collins, Dave Younk, and Brett Smith had comments regarding retirees benefits and HSA accounts.

Tom Mellos recognized Liz Coleman's passing.

Attorney Charles Berschback addressed Council regarding his candidacy for the Grosse Pointe Farms-Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Judge position. Our current Judge Rumora is unable to run for reelection because of age constraints. Mr. Berschback gave a brief description of his qualifications and experience for the position of municipal court judge.

13. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Member Barrette stated he will be attending the Clean Energy Seminar which should result in a benefit for the city.

Council Member Gehlert thanked City Manager Steve Poloni for his seamless transition into the position of City Manager.

Council Member Seago thanked Park Director Jen Serra for her efforts with the Osius Park program.

Council Member Seely was able to determine buoys for the no anchor zone will cost approximately \$200 each. The Wayne County Sheriff Marine Division will enforce the no anchoring ordinance. Council Member Seely also thanked City Manager Steve Poloni for meeting the challenges in starting the position of City Manager. He also expressed gratitude for the efforts of Mike Way and Chief Werenski in assisting during the transition period.

14. MAYOR'S COMMENTS – Mayor Kedzierski stated he was very encouraged by the addition of Steve Poloni as our new City Manager. The Mayor also announced regret regarding the death of Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Robert Novitke, who had served the City of Grosse Pointe Woods for over 30 years.

15. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues, 4/20/21-7pm & Tues, 5/18/21 -7pm)

16. NOTE DATES OF FUTURE TOWN HALL MEETINGS - TBD

17. ADJOURNMENT - on motion of Council Member Kucyk, with support by Council Member Seago, and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce R. Nichols
City Clerk