

**MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2012 - 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, October 16, 2012 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

Absent: Daniel T. Schulte (excused)

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

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 REGULAR MEETING**

The minutes of the September 18, 2012 Regular Council Meeting were approved on motion by Council Member Felt, seconded by Council Member Barrette and carried by unanimous vote.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Judge Joseph Impastato presented a letter signed by residents objecting to any ordinance which would permit the display of open house signs on Lake Shore Drive.

Mary Ann Impastato expressed her opposition to public safety officers needing to devote attention to remove real estate signs on Lake Shore Drive

Alex Lucidio supported limited use of realtor signs on Lake Shore Drive.

**6. A. DTE REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATION-**

Jennifer Whitteaker as a representative of DTE Energy addressed Council and pointed out that 50% of the outages are caused by falling limbs. Irene Lynch was introduced as regional engineer for the Grosse Pointe Shores area. In the next 12 to 18 months, DTE will be trimming trees, installing smart meters and making improvements in avoidance of outages. Council Member Felt expressed concern of residents over trimming trees in easements which would damage the trees and the value of real estate.

## **B. W.O.W. REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATION –**

This matter was tabled as the appearance by WOW representatives was cancelled by WOW..

## **7. REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

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

1. Approval of Bills - The monthly bills were presented by Finance Officer Ricketts, reviewed, discussed and unanimously approved for immediate payment on motion by Council Member Barrette seconded by Council Member Felt. An extraordinary expense of \$9000 was incurred in the replacement of Motorola Public Safety radios.
2. Review of Financial Statements - Finance Officer Ricketts reported the budget continues on track with 97% of property taxes collected.
3. Finance Committee - Chairman Report - Council Member Bisballe reported the finance committee met and discussed the audit and long term budget matters relating to the city.

### **B. Public Safety – Director John Schulte**

1. Monthly Update - Public Safety Director Schulte reported it was an uneventful month with the exception of one breaking and entering which resulted in an arrest, confession and recovery of stolen items. The Municipal Park Gates will close from dusk to dawn on November 15<sup>th</sup>. A new clerk for the public safety department has been hired. The job descriptions for the public safety officers have been completed.

### **C. Public Works - Director Brett Smith**

1. Monthly Update - Director Smith reported that only minor punch list items remain to be completed on the repaving of Lake Shore Drive. The leaf collection program is underway. The new packer truck should be arriving this week. Larger recycling containers are now available

### **D. Parks and Harbor**

1. Monthly Update - Mark Wollenweber reported that 96% of the boat wells were rented with revenue in the amount of \$211,000.

**E. Legal Report –** City Attorney Mark McInerney reported that the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club issue will be addressed in closed session. The City Clerk has been named as a defendant in a lawsuit with the County Clerk. Mr. McInerney will remain available, but this meeting is his last meeting after 25 years of service with the city. Mr. McInerney wished the city well in the future.

**F. Manager's Report –** City Manager Mark Wollenweber reported that the municipal phone is being

switched to Verizon. Honeywell will be consulted regarding an energy audit. Mr. Wollenweber and Finance Officer Ricketts recommended approval of Abraham and Gaffney as auditors.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Engineering Services** – Mark Wollenweber and Brett Smith want to bring AEW online with HRC to utilize both engineering firms. HRC will be used for street work next year. On motion by Felt, seconded by Ajlouni, a motion passed unanimously to utilize both AEW and HRC as civil engineers at the discretion of either the city manager or public works manager.
- B. **Ambassador Committee** - Council Member Felt addressed the sign ordinance, certificates of occupancy, improvements planned for the municipal website, and the possibility of a book about the municipality of Grosse Pointe Shores. A municipal ceramic tile was also discussed.
- C. **Blue Ribbon Operations Committee** - Mark Wollenbeber indicated that committee recommendations are still under review.
- D. **Sign Ordinance** - Mark McInerney discussed the draft of an ordinance that can be tailored as Council decides. No action was taken

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Abraham & Gaffney - Auditors Contract

**Recommendation:** To approve Auditors contract through 2015

On motion of Council Member Gesell, seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Auditors contract through 2015 being awarded to Abraham & Gaffney.

### B. Board of Review Appointment

Paul A. Thursam was appointed to the Board of Review on motion of Bisballe, seconded by Gesell and carried unanimously. .

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Raymond Rahi endorsed the appointment of Paul A. Thursam to the Board of Review. He also had concerns about DTE and the quality of service. He expressed appreciation to Mark McInerney's long-term service as city attorney.

Helen Bai reported on the efforts of the Beautification Committee. The BooFest is scheduled for October 24. A shredding service will be available on November 8 at the municipal Park.

George McMullen reported that the Grosse Pointe Public School System will conduct an open house concerning the school system on November 11.

Robert Sheehy, a candidate for District 1 Wayne County Commissioner, addressed the Council.

## 11. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Members Barrette, Ajlouni, and Gesell thanked Mark McInerney for his many years of service

to the city.

Council Member Felt expressed gratitude to the Beautification Committee and their concerns about DTE tree trimming.

12. **MAYOR'S COMMENTS** – Mayor Kedzierski indicated there is a vacancy in the Park and Harbor committee which will be filled at the next regular meeting. He expressed gratitude to Mark McInerney as well.

**13. CLOSED SESSION – Written Opinion of Legal Counsel - GPYC LEASE**

Discussion with City Attorney Regarding Grosse Pointe Yacht Legal Opinion –GPYC LEASE.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LEGAL OPINION ABOUT THE GROSSE POINTE YACHT CLUB WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY AS PERMITTED BY SECTION 15.268 (C) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

AYES: Mayor Thaddeus Kedzierski, Council Members Alexander Ajlouni, MD , Robert H. Barrette, Jr., Bruce Bisballe, Kay Felt, Robert E. Gesell,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Daniel T. Schulte

Motion carried 6-0

The City Council went into closed session at 8:57 PM and returned to open session at 9:15pm

**14. NOTE DATE OF FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (Tues, 11/20/12 & 12/18/12 - 7:00pm)**

15. **ADJOURNMENT** - On motion of Council Member Bisballe, and duly seconded by Council Member Barrette, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16pm.

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Bruce R. Nichols  
City Clerk