

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011, IN THE COUNCIL-COURT ROOM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 20025 MACK PLAZA, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Mayor Novitke.

Roll Call: Mayor Novitke
Council members: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Sucher
Absent: McConaghy

Also Present: City Administrator Fincham
Public Services Director Ahee
Building Official Tutag
City Attorney C. Berschback
Deputy City Clerk Ryska

Motion by Ketels, seconded by Bryant, that Council Member McConaghy be excused from tonight's meeting.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Council, Administration, and the audience Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The following Commission Members were also in attendance:

Richard Shetler Jr., Senior Citizens Commission
John Vitale, Planning Commission
Chris Briggs, Beautification Advisory Commission

Motion by Howle, seconded by Ketels, that all items on tonight's agenda be received, placed on file, and taken in order of appearance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

COUNCIL
09-19-11 – 115

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, that the City Council approve the Council minutes dated September 12, 2011.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

THE MEETING WAS THEREUPON OPENED AT 7:35 P.M. FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 8, BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE IX, FENCES, TO HEAR THE APPLICATION OF WALTER HAGE, 1000 VERNIER, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ALLOW THE CURRENT WOOD OPEN LATTICEWORK FENCE ATTACHED TO THE EXISTING CYCLONE FENCE TO REMAIN, THE PERMIT APPLICATION HAS BEEN DENIED DUE TO NONCOMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 8-279(4) WHICH STATES A FENCE SHALL NOT BE ATTACHED TO AN EXISTING FENCE.

Mayor Novitke informed the petitioner that the request is being heard by the City Council and not the Zoning Board of Appeals as the documents are addressed.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Howle, that for purposes of the public hearing the following items be received and placed on file:

1. Letter 08/29/11 – Walter Hage
2. Application for Fence Permit 08/30/11
3. Site drawing and photos (2)
4. Letter 08/29/11 – Walter Hage (notarized)
5. Memo 09/13/11 – Building Official, w/attachment
6. Photos (7)
7. Affidavit of Property Owners Notified 09/08/11
8. Aerial View

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

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Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, that the following documents be received and placed on file as presented by the Petitioner prior to tonight's meeting:

1. Four (4) letters from neighbors voicing no objection to the variance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Building Official Tutag provided an overview of the application and recommended denial of the request.

The Chair asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak in favor of the proposed request. The following individuals were heard:

William Rabaut, on behalf of the petitioner

Walter Hage
21351 Van Dyke, Warren

Motion by Granger, seconded by Ketels, that the following documents be received and placed on file as presented by the Petitioner at tonight's meeting:

1. Two (2) additional letters from neighbors voicing no objection to the variance.
2. Two (2) photos of the fence in question.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

The Chair asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak in opposition to the proposed request. No one wished to be heard.

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Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, that the public hearing be closed at 7:56 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Howle, regarding **Public Hearing: Walter Hage, 1000 Vernier**, requesting permission to allow the current wood open latticework fence attached to the existing cyclone fence to remain, that the Council deny this variance request.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Motion by Sucher, seconded by Howle, regarding **Financial Report – August**, that the City Council refer this report to the Finance Committee.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, regarding **Contract: 2011 Water/Sewer Miscellaneous Concrete Pavement Repair Program**, that Council award a contract to:

Duro Construction Co. Inc.
51985 Hayes Rd.
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

in an amount not to exceed \$27,972.00 to be paid from Account Nos. 592-537-975.400 and 592-537-975.401.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

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Motion by Howle, seconded by Granger, regarding **Proclamation – Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month**, that the City Council voice no objection to the issuance of this Mayoral proclamation.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Hearing no objections, the following items were heard under New Business:

- Council Member Bryant requested that Council consider the ~~Beautification Tree~~ Commission's request for \$500.00 to purchase seedlings, this price includes a discount if purchased now.

Comment [MBR1]: Correction by Council at their October 3, 2011 meeting.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Howle, regarding the **purchase of tree seedlings**, that Council approve the purchase of tree seedlings in an amount not to exceed \$500.00.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

- Site plan approval for schools was discussed. Council Member Sucher briefly commented on the Michigan Municipal League's support that site plan approvals of schools should remain with local authority enabling municipalities to enforce local zoning ordinances.
- School of Choice legislation was discussed. Council Member Granger informed the Council that the Senate Education Committee will have a televised meeting next Wednesday. She will relay the information to the Clerk to disperse when details become available.
- Proposed Redistricting was discussed. Council Member Granger informed the Council that the League of Women Voters will be holding a meeting on Wednesday at the War Memorial at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing proposed redistricting.

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- Wayne County Collection of Delinquent Taxes was discussed. Mayor Novitke distributed a correspondence from the Wayne County Treasurers office stating that foreclosed properties purchased for back property taxes will be required to secure, maintain, and keep current with taxes on the property for two years or demolish the property within six months. Should the new owner default on this agreement, the local community would have the right to take the property.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Howle, regarding Wayne County Collection of Delinquent Taxes, that Council direct the City Attorney to:

1. Contact the Wayne County Treasurer's Office to discuss the proposed course of action regarding foreclosed properties that are purchased for back taxes.
2. Check state statutes to see if it is legal for property to revert to local municipality if the owner does not follow the guidelines agreed to at the purchase.
3. What ramifications will the proposed course of action have on the City?

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Ketels, Novitke, Sucher
No: None
Absent: McConaghy

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Ketels, to adjourn tonight's meeting at 8:25 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.