

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016, IN THE COUNCIL-COURT ROOM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 20025 MACK PLAZA, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mayor Novitke.

Roll Call: Mayor Novitke
Council members: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Shetler
Absent: Ketels

Also Present: City Administrator/Assessor Colombo
City Attorney Don Berschback
Director of Public Works Ahee
Building Official Tutag
Director of Public Safety Smith
Treasurer/Comptroller Irby
Deputy City Clerk Gerhart

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

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

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

The following Commission members were in attendance:

Thomas Vaughn, Planning Commission
Debra McCarthy, Beautification Advisory Commission
Stephen Chan, Community Tree Commission
Wilson Rogers, Community Tree Commission
Robert Greening, Community Tree Commission
Timothy Butler, Community Tree Commission

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Shetler, 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, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

The Mayor appointed Mary Ellen Meyering to the Community Tree Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2016.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, regarding **appointment – Tree Commission**, that the City Council voice no objection to the Mayoral appointment of Mary Ellen Meyering to the Community Tree Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2016.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

The Mayor appointed Mary Casinelli to the Beautification Advisory Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2017.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, regarding **appointment – Beautification Commission**, that the City Council voice no objection to the Mayoral appointment of Mary Casinelli to the Beautification Advisory Commission with a term to expire December 31, 2017.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

The Tree Commission presented the 38th Tree City USA Flag to City Council.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Shetler, that the following minutes be approved as submitted:

1. City Council Minutes dated April 4, 2016.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, that the following minutes be approved as submitted:

1. Committee-of-the-Whole minutes dated April 25, 2016.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

THE MEETING WAS THEREUPON OPENED AT 7:44 P.M. FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 8, BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE IX, FENCES, TO HEAR THE APPLICATION OF FRANK PEETERS, 1625 HAWTHORNE ROAD, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, WHO IS REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ERECT A 6' SHADOW BOX PRIVACY FENCE.

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

1. Letter 04/06/16 – Frank & Sara Peeters
2. Application for Fence Permit 04/05/16
3. Fence Illustration
4. Drawing
5. Memo 04/27/16 – Building Inspector
6. Photos (7)
7. Aerial views (2)

8. Affidavit of Property Owners Notified

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Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

The Building Official provided an overview.

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

Janice Abud
1637 Hawthorne Rd

Frank Peeters
1625 Hawthorne Rd

The Chair asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak in opposition to the proposed request. The following individual was heard:

Alan Moran
1611 Hawthorne Rd

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, that the public hearing BE CLOSED at 7:58 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Shetler, to receive and place on file the two additional photos provided by Mr. Moran.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

Motion by Koester, seconded by Shetler, regarding Public Hearing regarding a fence variance request from Frank Peeters, 1625 Hawthorne, that the Council deny this variance request for Section 8-284(2) which requires the consent of the adjacent property owner.

Motion by Koester, seconded by Shelter, to amend the previous motion by adding, "that the City Council deny the variance pursuant to Section 8-284(4)(a) for the following reason:

- The relative hardship between the property owner and the adjacent property owner."

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler

No: None

Absent: Ketels

THE MEETING WAS THEREUPON OPENED AT 8:14 P.M. FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 8, BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE IX, FENCES, TO HEAR THE APPLICATION OF LAUREN BELLER AND MARK LAQUERE, 1859 LITTLESTONE, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, WHO ARE REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ERECT A 6' PRIVACY FENCE, WHICH IS NON-COMPLIANT WITH SEC. 8-279(1) THAT REQUIRES A FENCE TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITH MINIMUM 2" OPENINGS THROUGHTOUT 50% OF THE LENGTH OR HEIGHT OF THE FENCE, THEREFORE A VARIANCE IS REQUIRED.

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

1. Letter 04/11/16 – Lauren Beller & Mark Laquere
2. Application for Fence Permit 10/26/15
3. Letters from Neighbors (4)
4. Drawing
5. Fence Illustration
6. Memo 04/26/16 – Building Official
7. Photos (11)
8. Aerial views (2)
9. Affidavit of Property Owners Notified

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler

No: None

Absent: Ketels

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The Building Official provided an overview.

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

Lauren Beller
1859 Littlestone

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

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, that the public hearing BE CLOSED at 8:21 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, regarding Public Hearing to defer action on the fence variance request from Lauren Beller and Mark Laquere, 1859 Littlestone, until the May 16, 2016, Council meeting and that the Building Official provide information to the Petitioners that may help them find a vinyl fence that conforms to the City Ordinance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Granger, regarding **Proposed FY 2016/17 Budget**, that the City Council set May 16, 2016, for a Public Hearing on the Proposed 2016/17 budget and to authorize the City Clerk to publish said Public Hearing Notice in the *Grosse Pointe News* for final adoption.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Bryant, regarding **2015/16 budget amendments**, that the City Council approve the budget transfers as indentified in the Proposed Budget Transfers Within General Fund date April 16, 2016.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

Motion by Shetler, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **permit to Solicit/Vend**, that the City Council approve the application of Lori Ann Romanik of C.K. Corporation for a 2016 Permit/License to Solicit/Vend ice cream.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

The Director of Public Safety provided an overview of the 2015 Department of Public Safety Annual Report, and stated that Grosse Pointe Woods was recently ranked 3rd safest City in Michigan by backgroundchecks.org.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, regarding **2015 Department of Public Safety Annual Report**, that the City Council receive and place this report on file.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, regarding **Paving Contract: Lake Front Park Activities Building Parking Lot**, that the City Council approve a purchase order issued to Florence Cement Co. in an amount not to exceed \$16,000.00 to excavate

approximately 450 additional cubic yards of soil, install one additional catch basin, relocate the existing catch basin, and replace the asphalt in the parking lot at Lake

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Front Park Activities Building, funds to be taken from Account No. 401-903-977.120, and to authorize the City Administrator to sign for the additional services.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler

No: None

Absent: Ketels

Motion by Shetler, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **Trolley Repairs**, that the City Council approve a purchase order issued to Superior Diesel & Equipment Repair in an amount not to exceed \$9,978.65 to complete necessary repairs to the trolley engine; and, to approve a transfer in the amount of \$9,978.65 from the General Fund fund balance into the general ledger Account No. 640-851-939.100 for DPW vehicle repairs.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler

No: None

Absent: Ketels

Hearing no objections, the trolley air conditioning repair/funds transfer was taken out of order.

Motion by Shetler, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **trolley air conditioning repair/funds transfer**, that the City Council approve a purchase order issued to Carrier Transicold of Detroit in an amount not to exceed \$5,500.00 to complete the replacement of the air conditioning unit in the trolley; and, to approve a transfer in the amount of \$5,500.00 from the General Fund fund balance into the general ledger Account No. 640-851-939.100 for DPW vehicle repairs.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler

No: None

Absent: Ketels

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, regarding **contract: 2016/17 tree removal**, that the City Council award a contract to Arbor Pro Tree Service, Inc. to provide tree removal services commencing July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, funds to be taken from Account No. 101-465-818.000 contingent

upon this item being approved in the FY 2016/17 budget, and to authorize the City Administrator to sign said contract.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

The Mayor issued a **Proclamation** for National Public Works Week.

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Granger, regarding **City Attorneys**, that the City Council approve the following statement dated April 27, 2016:

1. City Attorney Don R. Berschback - \$4,280.00;
2. City Attorney Charles T. Berschback - \$2,175.00.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Ketels

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

- The Mayor discussed a request for donation to Liberty Freedom Now, it was the consensus of the Council not to make a donation.

The following items were discussed under Public Comment:

- Alan Moran, 1611 Hawthorne Rd, thanked the City Council for their efficiency. He also discussed the number of vehicles speeding along Vernier Road. The City Administrator and Public Safety Director were asked to look into this matter.

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- Alanna Woolley, Congress Liaison for Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence, addressed the Council.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, to adjourn tonight's meeting at 8:44 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Gerhart
Deputy City Clerk

Robert E. Novitke
Mayor