

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 20025 MACK AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

PRESENT: Mayor Novitke  
Council Members Bryant, Granger, Ketels, Koester, McConaghy  
ABSENT: Shetler

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Fincham  
City Attorney Chip Berschback  
Treasurer/Comptroller Irby  
City Clerk Hathaway  
Director of Public Works Ahee

Also in attendance: Plante Moran Representatives Mark Hurst and Carl Johnson

Mayor Novitke called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Granger, to excuse Council Member Shetler from tonight's agenda.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

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

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Plant Moran's representative Carl Johnson provided an overview regarding **Headlee**. Mr. Johnson stated the City has done a great job and applauded the City for the work done on the budget, and he discussed methods for providing the same level of service given declining revenues. He explained that the override reinstates the millage back to where charter originally provided.

The Mayor asked if the law allows for a Headlee Override. Mr. Johnson responded by stating ballot language must be reviewed and approved by the Attorney General.

Mr. Johnson then outlined cost containment methods used by other municipalities including operating with minimum staffing, level of benefits, union contracts, recreation programs, special millages for libraries, sharing services, and reduction of services. Mr.

Hurst stated that another containment includes elimination of road construction. Mr. Hurst suggested monitoring the budget's OPEB line item.

The Chair declared a recess at 8:48 p.m., and reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

The Mayor provided an overview regarding the recent Finance Committee Meeting suggesting City Council consider levying 0.41 mills in July 2013. He suggested City Council consider a minimum 4.0 mills (2.0 mills for roads; 1.5 mills operations; 0.5 mills capital equipment.) 4.0 mills includes .4 mills on July 13 bill and 3.6 mills on November 12 ballot for headlee override.

The Treasurer/Comptroller concurs with the need for 4.0 mills. There was a general consensus of the Committee to charge 0.4 mills on July 13 tax bill. Council Member Koester has concerns and said Council should hold off and ask for all mills on the November ballot.

Discussion ensued regarding the current Headlee millage (15.2397), with maximum allowable at 20.0. Therefore, the maximum allowable Headlee request is 4.7603 mills.

Following discussion regarding a Headlee ballot proposal, there was a consensus of the Committee to place 3.6 mills on the ballot for November 2012. Administration was directed to prepare draft headlee language and fact sheet for a future Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

The next item discussed was regarding **Road Construction**. The Mayor discussed debt schedules and suggested that the Committee consider road repairs on a pay as you go, anticipated to be approximately \$1.1 million per year.

There was Committee consensus regarding road repairs to pay as you go at approximately \$1.2 million per year, to not borrow money/bond at this time.

The next item discussed was regarding **Medical Marijuana**. The City Attorney provided an overview of the moratorium and discussed the proposed land use ordinance.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, regarding **ordinance – Medical Marijuana**, that the Committee-of-the-Whole make a recommendation to City Council to approve this ordinance forward the proposed ordinance to the Planning Commission for scheduling a public hearing.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Administration was directed to place the ordinance – Medical Marijuana on the City Council Meeting for February 27, 2012, then on the Planning Commission agenda for February 29, 2012.

Discussion then ensued regarding **NLC Service Line Warranty Program**. An overview was provided regarding the program, and it was stated that 10% discount will be passed on to the resident, not the City.

There was Committee consensus not to allow use of the City's letterhead and logo. This item was removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

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

- The City Attorney provided an update on the Matouk FOIA litigation.
- The City Administrator discussed the **dog park**, and reviewed action of the Committee-of-the-Whole at their meeting on December 12, 2012, regarding replacement of the fencing at the dog park. Bids were received: the lowest was \$5,100.00, but the preferred bid was \$5,400.00 because it is a known contractor and includes additional gates. Administration was directed to place this item on the next Council agenda for approval and a budget transfer in the amount of \$5,554.00.
- The Mayor discussed the **Conference of Mayor's Membership**. This item was removed from the 2011/12 budget. There was a consensus of the Committee to add this item back into the 2012/13 budget.

Upon proper motion, the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.  
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kay Hathaway  
City Clerk