

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE, OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2008, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 20025 MACK PLAZA, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

PRESENT: Mayor Novitke
Council Members Bryant, Granger, Howle, Sucher, Waldmeir
ABSENT: Dickinson

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Wollenweber
City Attorney D. Berschback
Director of Public Works Ahee
City Engineer Lockwood
Treasurer/Comptroller Irby
Recording Clerk St. Peter

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Novitke at 7:30 p.m.

The first agenda item discussed was regarding the **Investment Policy Update**. The Chair opened discussion and Treasurer/Comptroller Irby provided the status of invested City funds and advised more information will be available after the audit report is released.

The Chair requested Treasurer/Comptroller Irby to advise the Committee-of-the-Whole whether the Federal Home Loan and FNMA Funds are fully backed by the U.S. Government. This agenda item will remain on the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda and will be reviewed again after the audit or as circumstances change.

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

Motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Sucher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: Dickinson

The next agenda item discussed was regarding the **Health Insurance Opt-Out Provision**. The Chair opened discussion in reference to all employees.

Motion by Sucher, seconded by Bryant, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to the City Council to offer a Health Insurance Opt-Out Provision for all employees, to be set at \$3,500.00.

Motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Sucher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: Dickinson

Motion by Sucher, seconded by Bryant, regarding Health Insurance Opt-Out Provision, that this agenda item be Immediately Certified.

Motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Sucher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: Dickinson

Motion by Waldmeir, seconded by Bryant, regarding Health Insurance Opt-Out Provision, that this agenda item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Sucher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: Dickinson

The Chair declared a recess at 7:59 p.m. and reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

The next agenda item discussed was **Water Study Update**. The City Administrator provided an overview regarding the anticipated peak rate reduction from the City of Detroit of \$2.93, effective July 1, 2010, dependent upon the City's construction of a 500,000 gallon water holding tank. The Chair then opened discussion regarding payment options for construction of the water tank.

City Attorney Berschback will review the impact and concerns regarding Grosse Point Shores' partial ownership of the City's water mains in the event of either community going with Grosse Pointe Farms.

This item will remain on the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda. Administration is to schedule a meeting within thirty days with Treasurer/Comptroller Irby, Mike Gormely, Don Keim, and the City's Engineer, if necessary, for the purpose of discussing financing options and bond rates for construction of the water holding tank.

The next agenda item discussed as **Grosse Pointe Village Association – Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade**. The Chair opened discussion regarding a donation to the 2008 parade, to be taken from the City's contingency fund.

The Committee-of-the-Whole directed Administration to donate \$1,000 to the 2008 Grosse Pointe Santa Clause Parade to be taken from the contingency fund.

Motion by Waldmeir, seconded by Howle, regarding Grosse Pointe Village Association – Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, that this agenda item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Sucher, Waldmeir

No: None

Absent: Dickinson

The next agenda item discussed was the **Finance Department Update**. Treasurer/Comptroller Irby provided an overview and advised she will be posting a job listing with the Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association for the position of "Assistant to the Treasurer/Comptroller".

Motion by Waldmeir, seconded by Bryant, regarding Finance Department Update, that this agenda item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Sucher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: Dickinson

The next agenda item discussed was **New Business**. The Chair informed the Committee-of-the-Whole of the National League of Cities Prescription Drug Program. This program is voluntary and will entitle enrollees to receive a 20% rate reduction on prescription drugs at participating drug stores. The Chair directed Administration to gather more information on this program to present to the Committee-of-the-Whole at a future meeting.

The Chair next discussed the Millennium Mayors Congress' request for Mayor Novitke to sign an agreement to mentor a youth for purposes of sharing views and discussing important issues from different perspectives. The Committee-of-the-Whole had no objections to the Chair signing this Agreement.

The Chair advised that the Finance Committee will start meeting on the budget process in January and requested Council Members to bring suggestions for cost containment to the next meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole.

The Chair next discussed the problem of the temperature in the City offices. Director of Public Works Ahee advised that a recommendation will be brought to the City Council during the budget process to update the boiler room at a cost of approximately \$40,000. The turn-around time on this project is 30-45 days. This is already a budgeted item.

Council Member Granger praised the DPW for the attractive harvest display at Mack and Vernier. Director of Public Works Ahee advised that the Circle of Honor is complete. Council Member Bryant praised the DPW for the attractive entrance signs at the north and south ends of the City. Council Member Waldmeir requested the DPW to investigate the removal of the "Do Not Block Intersection" sign at the corner of Country Club and Mack.

Motion by Waldmeir, seconded by Howle, that the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole be adjourned at 9:32 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.