

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2006, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 20025 MACK PLAZA, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

PRESENT: Mayor Novitke
Council Members Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Reynolds, Spicher,
Waldmeir

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Wollenweber
City Attorney Charles Berschback
Director of Public Safety Makowski
Recreation Supervisor Sharp
Recording Clerk St. Peter

Also in attendance was Fred Petz, Community Enhancement Fund Ad

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

The Chair opened discussion regarding **Employee's Holiday Dinner/Employee Holiday Gift Cards**. The Chair provided an overview: A holiday dinner had been given for City employees for 32 years. Since the holiday tradition has been discontinued with retirees not being invited since 2003, should the holiday dinner be resumed or should enhanced holiday gift cards be sent in lieu of the holiday dinner. An employee holiday dinner was approved in the budget for \$14,000.00. For 2006, the cost of gift cards would be approximately \$8,000.00. Two years ago, retirees were removed from the invitation list. Last year, the City Administrator cancelled the event and increased the value of holiday cards given to employees in lieu of the holiday dinner.

Motion by Howle, seconded by Waldmeir, regarding Employee's Holiday Dinner/Employee Holiday Gift Cards, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend Council authorize administration to proceed with the purchase of holiday gift cards in lieu of an employee holiday dinner at a cost not to exceed \$8,000.00.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: None

Motion by Reynolds, seconded by Howle, regarding Employee's Holiday Dinner/Employee Holiday Gift Cards, that this item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: None

The next agenda item discussed was **Open Burning**. Director of Public Safety Makowski does not recommend any changes to the current open burning ordinance. The City Attorney indicated the ordinance is written to allow the burning of clean firewood, and not trash. The current ordinance also prohibits the burning of anything that has objectionable smoke or odor emissions. Citizen complaints regarding burning of trash could be enforced by contacting Public Safety.

City Administrator Wollenweber was directed to send a letter to Ann Bentson from the Council, sitting as the Committee-of-the-Whole, indicating that there are suitable provisions in the existing Open Burning Ordinance and any violations should be directed to Public Safety for enforcement.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Howle, regarding Open Burning, that this item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: None

The next agenda item discussed was **Transfer of On-Premises Liquor License**. This issue is regarding Salvatore Scaloppini's transfer of a Wayne County Liquor License to the City of Grosse Pointe Woods. The City Attorney provided an overview. The City is not giving away one of the two remaining liquor licenses that exist per quota. The business owners have purchased their own liquor license subject to LLC approval. This is a license transferred from another City in Wayne County. However, the ordinance must still be followed to approve the transfer request.

The procedure to approve transfer of a liquor license is as follows: The City Administrator will review the request and give it to department heads. Once the department heads have made a recommendation, it is scheduled for a public hearing with notice to residents and property owners within 300 feet, plus all existing LCC liquor license holders in the City. Council may then review the same criteria they have developed for deciding whether to approve or deny a liquor license.

The question was raised, would the granting of this license transfer open up the door to numerous liquor licenses transfers from outside the City. The Assistant City Attorney stated that one of the criteria City Council may use to deny a liquor license is the total number of similar licenses. This would help to protect the City from an influx of other transferred licenses.

Motion by Reynolds, seconded by Spicher, regarding Transfer of On-Premises Liquor License, that this item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes:	Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir
No:	None
Absent:	None

The Chair declared a recess at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

The next agenda item discussed was the request by Wayne County for a **Wayne County Food Location** in Grosse Pointe Woods. The Chair stated that he had spoken with Mary Rose Nelson, Sharon Maier, and County Executive Robert Ficano, and SOC was willing to be the distribution center, which is located at the Wayne County Senior Center in Westland. The Chair requested the City Administrator to contact the City

Managers of the other Grosse Pointes to determine if they are in agreement for the distribution center for all the Grosse Pointes. If they agree, this will be the distribution site.

Motion by Waldmeir, seconded by Dickinson, regarding Wayne County Food Location, that this item be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: None

The next agenda item discussed was **Memorial Benches at Lake Front Park**. Park Supervisor Sharp stated this item arose because the Lions Club wanted to donate a bench in memory of Red Arnold. Discussion ensued regarding the City's need to control the size and placement of memorial benches.

There was discussion that similar rules to the memorial tree program need to be drafted for memorial benches. Recreation Supervisor Sharp indicated the cost for a memorial bench is approximately \$1,000.00, plus the cost of the plaque.

The Committee-of-the-Whole discussed the following: Location of memorial benches should be restricted to City parks (Lake Front Park, Ghesquiere); Memorial Tree program should be distinct from the Memorial Bench program; price should cover cost of bench and plaque; standard bench size and style should be offered. This item will remain on the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Waldmeir, regarding Memorial Benches, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to Council that the Lions Club's application for a memorial bench in memory of Red Arnold be APPROVED.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir
No: None
Absent: None

Motion by Granger, support by Reynolds, regarding Memorial Benches at Lake Front Park, that the Committee-of-the-Whole REFER to the Parks and Recreation Commission to work in conjunction with Administration for the development of policies and procedures for a Memorial Bench program, for review by Committee-of-the-Whole.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Dickinson, Granger, Howle, Novitke, Reynolds, Spicher, Waldmeir

No: None

Absent: None

The next agenda item discussed was **Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation**. Council Member Granger provided an overview. The City has a Community Enhancement Fund. An ad hoc committee drew up a proposal for a foundation, which was not approved by Council. The current Community Enhancement Advisory Board was a compromise.

Council Member Granger stated there needs to be a fund for donations made to the City. Establishing a foundation is the vehicle to have donations administered to the City. If a foundation is established, the City Comptroller would be the agent in charge of the money. The Community Enhancement Advisory Board would be eliminated and the Foundation would replace it.

Fred Petz stated there is currently \$15,123.00 in the Community Enhancement Fund. This is a sub-part of the City budget. Mr. Petz stated that because the City has no foundation, this has been a hindrance to donations being made to the City and events being held that would generate donations for the City.

The Committee-of-the-Whole directed the City Administrator and the City Attorney to look into establishing the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation. This item will remain on the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda.

Upon proper motion, meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.