

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE
CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD REMOTELY (ZOOM) ON MONDAY,
JUNE 8, 2020.

PRESENT: Mayor Novitke
Council Members Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy
ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Smith
City Attorney Berschback
Treasurer/Comptroller Behrens
City Clerk Hathaway
Director of Public Services
Recreation Supervisor Gerhart
Deputy City Clerk/Facilitator Antolin

The Facilitator's Statement was presented.

Mayor Novitke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Granger, 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, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke
No: None
Absent: None

The first item discussed was regarding **Non-Union Increases**. The Mayor reviewed documents provided and the unpaid five (5) furlough days as identified in the TPOAM contract.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Gafa, regarding non-union increases, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend that City Council, effective July 1, 2020, approve a 2.5% wage increase, excluding appointed officials, for full-time and permanent part-time non-union employees who have been in their positions for twelve (12) or more months with a continuation of five (5) unpaid furlough days.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Novitke
No: None
Absent: None

The next item discussed was regarding **fire truck financing**. The Mayor asked if action for financing can be rescinded if the fire truck is not delivered or delayed, and to identify

the risk. The Treasurer/Comptroller stated the only interest would be to pay interest and there would be no penalty for pre-payment. She also stated the interest rates have changed since the information was provided with the agenda. The interest rate from REV Financial Services was originally at 2.514% but she was notified today that it is down to 2.33%; there is a penalty for early payoff. Comerica offered an interest rate of 1.93% today with no penalty for early payoff. The City Administrator stated the anticipated delivery date of the truck is the end of August. This item is to be on the Council agenda for June 15, 2020.

The topic of the **pool closure** was then discussed. The Mayor placed this item on tonight's agenda due to a number of emails received and Council concerns. Although administration does not recommend opening of the pool, the Mayor asked that administration provide measures and restrictions that should be implemented if Council directs the pool to be opened. The City Administrator reviewed a list of measures and restrictions, including signage and risk warnings. Following discussion, there was a majority consensus of the Council to open the pool.

This item is to be placed on the June 15, 2020, Council agenda for review and adoption of the measures and restrictions to be employed for the opening of the pool. The Mayor stated that the website and posted signage should advise that by the restricted opening of the pool, Grosse Pointe Woods is not representing that it is safe or that there is not a risk of contracting COVID-19 by the use of the Lake Front Park pool, the showers or adjacent areas. Discussion included risk, time needed to employ and certify lifeguards, preparing and opening the pool, safety of the lifeguards in the event of a rescue, sanitization, social distancing, and wearing of masks. The Director of Public Services stated most saves happen in the diving well and water slide; the water slide will be closed.

The Mayor reminded the Committee that action was taken on March 16, 2020, when the City Council authorized the opening of the pool, and for the City Administrator to sign the contract. The Governor could issue new rules, there could be a spike in those contracting the virus, and many things could happen. The City would do what needs to be done to accomplish the objective.

Discussion ensued regarding the timeline to open the pool, and the Recreation Supervisor stated that it should be able to open by July 1, 2020.

Nobody wished to be heard under New Business or Public Comment.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Koester, that the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole be adjourned at 7:45 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kay Hathaway
City Clerk

Robert E. Novitke
Mayor