

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2015, 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, Shetler

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Fincham
City Attorney Chip Berschback
City Clerk Hathaway
Assessor Colombo
Director of Public Services Ahee
Recreation Supervisor Byron

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

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, 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, Shetler

No: None

Absent: None

The first item on tonight's agenda was regarding the **dog ordinance amendment**. The Mayor provided an overview regarding the necessity to review the City's dog ordinance with regard to types of breeds prohibited. He stated the City Attorney's recommendation is to hold off making any changes to the City's ordinance until there has been a determination on pending legislation at the State. Discussion ensued regarding whether there should be a ban on a specific breeds of dogs.

Jennifer Miller was present and spoke in favor of permitting pit bull breeds. Discussion ensued and comments included adding companion dogs as an exemption to the ordinance, amending the ordinance to eliminate specific breeds and only include any vicious dog, wait to see what happens with State legislation, and to leave the ordinance as is. The City Attorney was asked to gather additional information regarding ADA requirements for companion dogs. There was a consensus of the committee to wait three to four months (April) to allow time for the State to make a decision on pending legislation. This item is to remain on the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda and be readdressed in April.

Next, the Committee discussed **Lake Front Park Entrance Procedures**. The City Administrator provided an overview stating David Mattaliano had voiced concerns

regarding procedures for park entry, as well as other concerns. He stated corrections have been made. Scanners were down for a month therefore passes could not be scanned. Scanners were repaired and spot checking identification was performed. Subsequently an email was received from Mr. Mattaliano praising the work of the Gate Guards for checking passes. Also, new procedures have been implemented including park pass suspension procedures (revoking passes.) The Recreation Supervisor also stated the new implementation of reduced guest punches will help alleviate problems at the park. The Mayor asked whether there is anything else the City should be doing to prevent problems at the park.

Discussion ensued regarding eventually eliminating the benefit of permitting one free guest to enter with a park pass holder without requiring a punch. Guest park privileges is to be added to the Committee-of-the-Whole and to be readdressed the end of July or early August 2016.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, that park pass entry procedures be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

The Chair declared a recess at 8:29 p.m., and reconvened at 8:36 p.m.

The next item discussed was a **request for a part-time City Forester**. The Mayor stated that the Director of Public Services and other staff are splitting the duties of the previous Forester and that this is a budgeted position. The Director provided an overview and requested to fill a part-time Supervisor/Forester that will be responsible for island and grounds maintenance, trees, and to oversee rubbish routes. The wage is at a rate of \$40,000 for 1,350 hours per year, non-union, and no benefits. The Mayor asked administration to find out if certification is needed. There was a consensus of the Committee to authorize the hiring of a Supervisor/Forester in accordance with the Director of Public Service's memo dated November 18, 2015.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Shetler, that request for a part-time City Forester be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Commission expenditures were then discussed. The Mayor provided an overview and stated the City Administrator currently has the authority to approve up to \$250.00 for a commission expenditure if budgeted and not changing policy. The City Administrator

stated this policy is working fine. There was a consensus of the Committee to continue with a limit of up to \$250.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Bryant, to remove commission expenditures from the Committee-of-the-Whole.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: None

Absent: None

The next item discussed was regarding **Appointed Officials compensation/evaluation**. The Mayor stated there are two recommendations from the Compensation and Evaluation Committee regarding the City Clerk and City Attorneys. Following discussion, administration was asked to confirm the date of the last pay increases/wages for all non-union employees.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Granger, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to City Council that the salary of the City Clerk be increased to \$72,500.00 per year retroactive to July 1, 2015.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Granger, to amend the previous motion by inserting, "and that her contract be renewed and remain the same including tuition reimbursement."

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: None

Absent: None

The Mayor stated the next discussion was regarding the City Attorneys' compensation. The Compensation and Evaluation Committee recommended Don Berschback's hourly rate be increased from \$155 to \$160, and Chip Berschback's rate increased from \$140 to \$145 per hour.

The Mayor also discussed making these rates effective retroactive to July 1st; for Don at 72.75 hours will cost \$363.75, and Chip at 147.75 hours will cost \$738.75.

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Shetler, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to City Council that the hourly rate of Don Berschback be increased \$5.00 per hour to \$160.00, and the hourly rate of Chip Berschback be increased \$5 per hour to \$145.00, both retroactive to July 1, 2015.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Shetler, that appointed officials compensation be removed from the Committee-of-the-Whole.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Under New Business/Public Comment:

- The Mayor discussed the trolley being utilized in the parade and arrangements for City Council.
- The City Administrator discussed Judith Burkhardt's request to hold a one-hour vigil in recognition of the loss due to the recent massacre in Paris. The vigil is to be held on November 29, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.
- Council Member Granger received a call from Bill Babcock who said Little League wants to host little league tournaments but national regulations require the fence-line to be raised to prevent baseballs from hitting people in the stands. Mr. Babcock was referred to the Director of Public Services.
- Council Member Granger discussed NG911 (Next Generation).

Motion by Ketels, seconded by Shetler, that the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole be adjourned at 9:59 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kay Hathaway
City Clerk