

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2014, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 20025 MACK AVENUE, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

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

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Fincham
Treasurer/Comptroller Irby
City Clerk Hathaway
Labor Attorney DuBay

Mayor Pro-Tem Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, 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, Shetler
No: None
Absent: Novitke

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, that Mayor Novitke be excused from tonight's meeting.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Motion by Granger, seconded by Ketels, that the Committee recess the regularly scheduled Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 7:32 p.m. and convene in Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations at which time the Committee will reconvene in regular session to address additional items as necessary, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act 1976 PA 267.

Motion carried by the following ROLL CALL vote:

Shetler	Yes
Bryant	Yes
Granger	Yes
Ketels	Yes
Koester	Yes
McConaghy	Yes
Novitke	Absent

The Committee-of-the-Whole reconvened in regular session at 7:51 p.m.

The next item discussed was regarding **Fireworks**. The Chair stated he spoke to Mayor Novitke this evening and told the Mayor that if there was not a firm majority at tonight's meeting regarding whether to proceed with the City's fireworks display, a recommendation to Council would wait until the next meeting when he could be in attendance.

The City Administrator provided an overview of past discussions and his memo dated November 18, 2014, whereby he provided responses to questions posed at earlier meetings pertaining to the feasibility of moving the fireworks display to Lake Front Park. He discussed partnering with the Ford Estate, parking availability, permitting and application requirements of St. Clair Shores and the Coast Guard, St. Clair Shores Fire and Police Department requirements and services, pyrotechnic cost including barge and permitting, and total cost associated with the event being held at Lake Front Park.

Based on his findings, the City Administrator stated that moving the fireworks to Lake Front Park is feasible. He stated one difference from his memo is that Sigma Gamma, which holds an annual fireworks display at the Ford Estate, telephoned today with the possibility they may not be holding their fireworks this year, but may be changing to every other year. He further stated that he watched three fireworks displays held in St. Clair Shores and it is feasible, although it is a process. Permitting has to be done 135 days prior to the actual event, which is February 2015. There is an adequate number of parking spaces; 782 at the park and 900-1,000 at the Ford Estate. He stated that residents parking at the Ford Estate could enter the far gate set-up for scanning passes. In speaking with the St. Clair Shores Police Department, only sworn officers could be utilized outside of Lake Front Park due to parameters of their union; Grosse Pointe Woods auxiliaries can be used inside the park.

The City Administrator stated 95 officers were needed last year. Auxiliaries will be used inside the park, with sworn officers outside of the park. Total costs to hold the fireworks display at Lake Front Park will be approximately \$29,421-\$39,546, plus the cost of additional miscellaneous park staff. Last year's cost was \$37,000 plus \$15,000 miscellaneous, \$52,000 total. He stated that Chris Fenton said it will be okay to continue hanging sponsor banners on Parcels' fence.

Member Koester suggested posting banners at Parcels' then move them to Lake Front Park or hang two sets of banners. The City Administrator was asked to check with St. Clair Shores regarding the banners.

Member Shetler stated that moving to Lake Front Park would be a family fun day, and total cost would be less than last year. He is in favor of moving to the park.

Member McConaghy stated he agreed with Member Shetler.

The City Administrator reiterated Mayor Novitke's previous comments; that the Mayor continues to be opposed to moving to Lake Front Park.

Member Bryant originally thought the fireworks display should wait a year, but he is willing to move to Lake Front Park if it is the consensus.

Member Ketels stated the fireworks display can become a totally new event with different traditions, and family-friendly. He is in favor of moving to Lake Front Park.

The City Administrator stated he believed that incorporating all of the green space between the park and the Ford Estate would be comparable to Parcels field.

Member Granger stated she is not crazy about getting everyone into Lake Front Park, and she is concerned about per capita cost. She would like to see a one-year break but has had a lot of requests to try this. She asked the City Administrator to ask the Ford Estate if the City could use their green space near the back gate to walk through, sit and view the fireworks with a potential to go with a lower cost display by shooting the fireworks lower.

Member McConaghy voiced concern about liability insurance and the need to confirm coverage with Bob Bucko. He also suggested that moving the location may pick up new vendors/sponsors from Nautical Mile.

Motion by Shetler, seconded by McConaghy, regarding the 2015 Fireworks Display, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to City Council that the 2015 fireworks display be held at Lake Front Park with provisions to be decided at a later date.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

Council Member Ketels requested to be excused from tonight's meeting because a tree had fallen in his yard caused by this evening's high winds.

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Shetler, that Council Member Ketels be excused from the remainder of tonight's meeting due to an emergency.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

The Chair declared a recess at 8:21 p.m., and reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

Discussion then ensued regarding **lease/purchase vehicles**; new or used. The Director of Public Services stated that after performing the additional research requested by the Council, it was found that the City would pay the same amount of money or higher to purchase used vehicles then to buy new vehicles from the Oakland County bid.

The Director reviewed the information provided in the packet. Used vehicle mileage varied greatly and the cost was \$15,000-16,000. Certified pre-owned warranties only cover vehicles about 5 years old, or 12,000 miles/12 month warranty. An extended, aftermarket warranty costs \$1,000-\$3,000 depending upon the age of the vehicle, and only certain components and electrical are covered, which is not worth while. The Director of Public Services recommends purchasing new vehicles.

Administration was previously asked to provide mileage accrued from use on the various department vehicles. The Director provided the following yearly mileage:

- Scout cars - 26,000 miles per year not including idol time;
- Park vehicle - 75,000 per year;
- Building Department:
 - Code enforcement 12,000 miles per year;
 - Pick-up truck 6,500 miles per year.

The Director is recommending eliminating one Building Department vehicle. Originally he asked for a total four vehicles and is now asking for three; one each for the Building Department (pick-up truck), Lake Front Park (Terrain), and Administration (Terrain.)

Motion by Granger, seconded by Shetler, regarding lease/purchase of City vehicles, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend that City Council authorize administration to move forward with the lease/purchase of three new vehicles through the Oakland County bid from Red Holman; one Terrain for Lake Front Park, one Terrain for Administration, one Pick-Up Truck for Building Department.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Shetler

No: None

Absent: Ketels, Novitke

New Business:

- The City Administrator stated there were no power outages today but several trees are down caused by the 50+ mile an hour winds.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, that the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole be adjourned at 8:41 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kay Hathaway
City Clerk