

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS
Electronic Special City Council Meeting Agenda
Monday, March 29, 2021
7:00 p.m.

The City Council will be conducting a meeting of the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council by video (Zoom) and telephone conference in accordance with the City of Grosse Pointe Woods City Council resolution adopted November 16, 2020, establishing rules for remote attendance pursuant to the Open Meetings Act as amended. This notice is being provided to ensure that those wishing to participate in the meeting have an opportunity to do so. Additional instructions are listed below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94837507499?pwd=RTl0Um9mRGNaMS9YUG81SjlneiZvUT09>

Meeting ID: 948 3750 7499

Passcode: 098230

Join by phone:

Dial by your location

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 948 3750 7499

Passcode: 098230

Facilitator's Statement

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA
4. APPOINTMENTS
 - A. Mayor
 1. Committee-of-the-Whole Excerpt 03/22/21
 - B. Mayor Pro-Tem
 1. Committee-of-the-Whole Excerpt 03/22/21
5. COMMUNICATIONS
 - A. Milk River Drainage District – Joint Escrow Agreement
 1. Memo 03/22/21 – City Administrator
 2. Committee-of-the-Whole Excerpt 03/22/21
 3. Joint Directive To Terminate Escrow Agreement and Disburse Funds
6. NEW BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT
7. ADJOURNMENT

**Lisa Kay Hathaway, MiPMC-3/MMC
City Clerk**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC ACT 267 (OPEN MEETINGS ACT)
POSTED AND COPIES GIVEN TO NEWSPAPERS**

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities. Closed captioning and audio will be provided for all electronic meetings. All additional requests must be made in advance of a meeting.

Instructions for meeting participation

1. **To join through Zoom:** The meeting may be joined by clicking on the link provided on the agenda at the start time posted on the agenda, enter the meeting identification number, and password. Zoom may provide a couple of additional instructions for first time use. As an alternative to using the link, accessibility to the meeting may be obtained by using the browser at join.zoom.us. If having trouble logging in, try a different browser e.g. Chrome.

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2. **Join by telephone:** Dial the toll-free conferencing number provided and enter the meeting identification number, and password. Dial *9 to be heard under Public Comment.

Dial by your location

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

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In an effort to alleviate feedback and disruption of the meeting, choose one of the media options, either phone or Zoom, not both.

Meeting notices are posted on the City of Grosse Pointe Woods website home page at www.gpwmi.us and the on-line calendar, both containing a link to the agenda. The agenda contains all pertinent information including business to be conducted at the meeting, a hyperlink to participate using Zoom, and call-in telephone number with necessary meeting identification, and a password. Agendas will also be posted on six (6) City bulletin boards along Mack Avenue.

The following are procedures by which persons may contact members of the public body to provide input or ask questions:

1. To assist with meeting flow and organization, all public comment will be taken at the end of the meeting unless it is moved to a different location on the agenda upon a consensus of the City Council;
2. The phone-in audience, when making public comment please state your name (optional) when called upon;

3. Audience participants will be muted upon entry and will have a chance to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting at the end of the agenda, at which time the microphones will be unmuted.
4. Those joining by Zoom will also be muted and may use the virtual raised “hand” to request to be heard under Public Comment.
5. Those joining by telephone need to dial in using the phone number provided on the agenda. When prompted, enter the meeting number and the password also located on the agenda. Dial *9 to be heard under Public Comment.
6. The published agenda invites participants from the community to provide written questions, comments, and concerns in advance of the meeting to any Elected Official or the City Clerk regarding relevant City business and may be read under Public Comment. Emails may be sent to:

Art Bryant, Mayor Pro-Tem	arthurwbryant@gmail.com	313 885-2174
Ken Gafa, Council Member	kgafa@comcast.net	313 580-0027
Vicki Granger, Council Member	grangergpw@aol.com	313 640-5250
Mike Koester, Council Member	koester.gpw@gmail.com	313 655-4190
Todd McConaghy, Council Member	todd.mcconaghygpw@yahoo.com	248 765-0628
Lisa Hathaway, City Clerk	lhathaway@gpwmj.us	313 343-2447

You may contact Lisa Hathaway, City Clerk, at lhathaway@gpwmj.us should you have any questions prior to the meeting starting.

NOTE TO PETITIONERS: YOU, OR A REPRESENTATIVE, ARE REQUESTED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING SHOULD COUNCIL HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR REQUEST

Discussion then ensued regarding **Vacancy – Office of the Mayor and Council**. The Chair provided an overview regarding the Inside Grosse Pointe Magazine, which covers and includes information on the Grosse Pointe area City Councils, provides a statement from each of the Mayors, includes information on the parks and amenities in each of the cities, as well as Board of Education information. He believes it is important to meet the publication deadline and provide complete up to date information, which has a tentative deadline of April 5, 2021. He suggested moving forward at this time to meet the deadline and to identify the Mayor and a full City Council. He requested the Committee provide proposals for Council to vote on including appointment of the Mayor and appointment of a Mayor Pro-Tem.

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Granger, regarding **Vacancy and Appointment – Mayor**, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to City Council declaring a vacancy in the Office of the Mayor and to appoint Arthur W. Bryant to fill the vacancy until the next regular election on November 2, 2021.

The question was raised whether anyone else wished to be considered for the appointment of Mayor. Nobody voiced an interest.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

4B

COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE EXCERPT
03-22-21

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Gafa, regarding **Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem**, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to City Council the nomination of Vicki Granger to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem until the first Council meeting following the November 2, 2021, election.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy

No: None

Absent: None



5A

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 22, 2021

To: City Council

From: Bruce Smith, City Administrator

Subject: Joint Escrow Agreement – The City of Grosse Pointe Woods and the Milk River Drainage District

The city requested an escrow agreement between the parties to cover any damages to Lake Front Park due to the construction project undertaken by the Milk River Drainage District in 2019. That work in the park is finished and the District has made a request to have the funds released. Public Services Director Frank Schulte has completed his inspection of the park where the work was performed. This inspection included reviewing the preconstruction video film created before the project began. Director Schulte is satisfied that any damage to the park pursuant to the project was mitigated and recommends releasing the funds in escrow. I am requesting the council for permission to sign the agreement authorizing release of those funds.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce Smith", is located below the main text.

Hearing no objections, the following items were heard under New Business:

- The City Administrator provided an update regarding the **Milk River Drainage District** and return of \$150,000.00 held in escrow. He explained the work is complete and advised that following an inspection performed by the Director of Public Services, the funds held in escrow would be released and he would be signing the appropriate agreement.

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Gafa, regarding return of Milk River Drainage District escrow, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend City Council approve return of the escrow bond for the Milk River Drainage District project and authorize the City Administrator to sign the Agreement.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy

No: None

Absent: None

**JOINT DIRECTIVE TO TERMINATE ESCROW AGREEMENT
AND DISBURSE FUNDS**

**TO: U.S. Bank National Association, as Escrow Agent
ATTN: Global Corporate Trust Services
535 Griswold Street, Suite 550
Detroit, MI 48226**

**Cc: U.S. Bank National Association
ATTN: Melissa Loskota
Trust Finance Management
West Side Flats – South 3rd
60 Livingston Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55107**

WHEREAS a certain Escrow Agreement (“Agreement”) was entered into by the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan (“Recipient”), the Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District (“Depositor”), and U.S. Bank National Association, national banking association (“Escrow Agent”); said Agreement being attached hereto; and

WHEREAS funds in the amount of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) are currently on deposit and being held by Escrow Agent pursuant to the Agreement; and

WHEREAS the purpose for the establishment of the Escrow Agreement and deposit of funds have been fully satisfied and are hereby acknowledged as fully satisfied by Depositor and Recipient; and

WHEREAS Paragraph 4(d) provides that the Agreement may be terminated by means of a joint written direction from Recipient and Depositor and that disbursement of the funds and interest thereon will be made to Depositor thereupon;

Recipient and Depositor hereby terminate the Agreement and jointly direct the Escrow Agent to disburse the funds, inclusive of interest, being held by said Escrow Agent by wire transfer to Depositor.

Recipient
CITY OF GROSSE POINT WOODS

Depositor
MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN
DRAINAGE DISTRICT

By: _____
Bruce J. Smith,
Authorized Recipient Representative

By: Elmeka Steele
Elmeka Steele
Authorized Depositor Representative