

COUNCIL MEETING – MAY 23, 2016

A regular meeting of the City of Grosse Pointe Park was held on Monday, May 23, 2016, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following were present: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner.

Also present: Dale Krajniak, City Manager, Stephen Poloni, Director of Public Safety, Dennis J. Levasseur, City Attorney, and Jane M. Blahut, Finance Director/Clerk.

MINUTES – APRIL 11, 2016 AND BUDGET WORKSHOP MAY 10, 2016

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the minutes of the April 11, 2016 meeting and the budget workshop minutes of May 10, 2016, for approval as presented.

Motion by Councilmember Arora, supported by Mayor Denner to approve the minutes of April 11, 2016, and the budget workshop minutes of May 10, 2016, for approval as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE

MICHAEL MILLER

Mayor Denner presented to Council the promotion of Public Safety Officer Michael Miller to the rank of Sergeant for the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department.

Director Poloni stated there were thirteen officers that took the test and Michael Miller ranked the highest and is deserving of this position.

City Clerk Blahut presented the oath of office to Officer Miller swearing him in at the rank of Sergeant for the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department.

Mayor Denner congratulated Sergeant Miller.

Sergeant Miller expressed his gratitude to his family.

ARBOR WEEK POSTER CONTEST

Mayor Denner and Pat Deck, representing the Beautification Commission, presented the winner and runners up for the annual Arbor Week Poster Contest.

Pat Deck, stated all of the students did a beautiful and very creative job on their posters. The winner, Ema Ellefson was presented with a resolution and a \$75.00 award. The runners up, Marco Cavalierre, Ian Dvonch, Alyssa Flores, and Mason Cole were also presented with a resolution, coffee mug, and pin.

The Council thanked the students for their participation in the contest.

796-98 TROMBLEY

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, a request by Ronald Barrows of 796-98 Trombley for a variance from section 27-31 of the zoning ordinance which prohibits a 3 family dwelling.

The applicant wishes to have a 3 family dwelling for rental purposes.

Mr. Barrows summarized the history of the property dating back to when James Ellison and Herald McC. Deason were employed by the City of Grosse Pointe Park, stating they permitted the use of the third story apartment if it was rented to someone who domestically provided services for the homeowner. He rented the property out for many years, however, has not for the last several years. He decided to rent it out again in 2015 and was informed he was not permitted to rent the third story of his home based on nonconformity with the existing ordinance.

There were several letters received from immediate neighbors opposing the rental and expressed their strong opposition in granting the variance that would allow the third floor of the home to be rented out, and it would add to the traffic and lack of parking. The street was never intended for anything but single family, two-family and should not start a precedence.

Councilmember Clark stated he has served on the Council for almost three decades and there has never been an ordinance that permits a third story apartment to be rented for domestic trade. It has always been a practice to limit density and there is no exception. This request does not meet the hardship variance, and there is no basis for making an exception.

Councilmember Grano concurred with Councilmember Clark's comments. He stated the preamble to the Charter is Grosse Pointe Park is a residential community and it should recognize the interests of all residents. There has been no hardship presented.

Councilmember Arora stated she is interested in Herald McC. Deason approving the third story rental for domestic trade.

Mr. Barrows stated he does not have anything in writing, approvals were done over the phone.

Motion by Councilmember Clark, supported by Councilmember Grano, to deny the request for a variance from Section 27-31 of the zoning ordinance which prohibits a three family dwelling

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

1332 WAYBURN – VARIANCE

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, a request for a variance from Section 27-100, paragraph (b) of the Zoning ordinance which prohibits a fence in the front yard.

The applicant erected a six foot high wooden fence on a 4 x 4 posts. He failed to obtain a permit prior to the erection of the fence.

Mike Vertregt of 1332 Wayburn apologized for not obtaining a permit prior to building the fence. He misunderstood the ordinance stating he believed if the fence did not extend out in front of the house, a six foot fence would be acceptable. He stated he would like to maintain the six foot fence and construct a gate in the front of the fence so he can park his work truck in the yard that would be protected. He stated there have been several items taken out of his yard. He also stated he has a large german shephard that he would like to keep in the yard and a six foot fence would prevent him from jumping over. The existing driveway is narrow and is difficult to open your door without banging it against the house. He stated he would provide arborvitae in front of the fence alongside the gate, if permitted.

Councilmember Robson expressed his appreciation for the investment Mr. Vertregt is making in his home.

Councilmember Detwiler inquired if Mr. Vertregt has a German Shepherd, why does he need a six foot fence at all.

Mr. Vertregt indicated the dog stays in the house at night.

Councilmember Clark indicated the permit was pulled after the fact and is inclined to deny the request.

Resident in opposition stated there is no valid reason to construct a six foot fence around your home and stated it is unsightly.

Councilmember Grano stated we want owner occupied residents investing in their property.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Grano, to approve the six foot fence along with a possible gate to provide access to the yard provided that Arborvitae landscaping must be installed as soon as possible to improve the appearance for the property located at 1332 Wayburn.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: Councilmembers Clark and Chouinard

2016/17 BUDGET HEARING/APPROVAL

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the 2016/17 budgets along with accompanying rates as follows:

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK
RESOLUTION NO. 1**

RESOLVED, that in accordance with P.A. 5 of 1982, requiring the governing body to establish the millage rate required to balance the 2016-17 fiscal year budget and in accordance with Section 8.4 of the City of Grosse Pointe Park Charter, it is hereby determined that the millage rate for general operating purposes for the fiscal year 2016-17 be \$15.81 or \$15.81 per \$1,000 of Taxable Value (11.36 general operating; 1.69 rubbish disposal; .0882 communication fees; .93 bond issue; 1.75 roads).

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to adopt Resolution No. 1 establishing City tax rates

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL
RESOLUTION NO. 2**

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 20.12 of the City of Grosse Pointe Park City Code whereby when any expense shall have been incurred by the City in respect to any single premise and subsequently such expense remain unpaid, and

WHEREAS, such premises have been advised that such unpaid bills will be placed as a lien against such property, plus fifteen percent (15%) service charge if not paid by a certain date.

BE IT RESOLVED, that a Special Assessment Roll for delinquent bills for water and miscellaneous items be placed upon the property described in the Exhibits as presented, copies of which are on file in the City Clerk's office and are a part of these minutes, in the respective amounts set forth opposite said properties in said Exhibits, including a service charge of fifteen percent (15%) for placing the

bills for water and miscellaneous items on the Special Assessment Roll, and that Special Assessment shall be due and payable at the time 2016 City taxes are next due and payable with respect to such property.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Chouinard, to adopt Resolution No. 2 – Special Assessments.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK
RESOLUTION NO. 3**

WHEREAS, that having published and mailed all proper notices the DDA and NWTIFA Budgets are approved as presented and,

FURTHERMORE, the amended TIFA tax capture and capital improvement plan finance plan be accepted and approved for the continuation of the plan as presented through the period ending 2035.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Grano, to adopt Resolution No. 3, for the amendment to the Northwest TIFA Capital Improvement Plans.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK
RESOLUTION NO. 4**

RESOLVED, that having published proper notices and held a public hearing for the budgets of the following funds for the fiscal year 2016-17, such budgets are hereby adopted in the amounts set forth and purpose intended along with increases in related revenue sources:

GENERAL FUNDS

Estimated Revenue

Property Taxes	\$6,132,000
Licenses	8,000
State Shared Revenues	1,019,427
Charges for Services	678,530
Fines & Forfeits	461,120
Interest & Rents	293,400
Other Revenue	2,038,339

Total Estimated Revenues \$ 10,630,816

Appropriations

City Council	\$ 48,780
Judicial	309,375
City Manager	161,930
Public Service	262,772
Elections	108,612
Financial Administration	318,024
City Clerk	175,798
Public Safety	5,946,832
Justice Training Fund	6,500
Public Works	636,998
Tree Maintenance	230,703
Parks	560,025
Recreation	587,502
Fitness/Activity Center	586,325
Planning & Beautification	11,940
Transfer to Other Funds	678,700

Total Appropriations \$ 10,630,816

Major Street Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 574,978
Total Appropriations	490,365

Local Street

Total Estimated Revenues & Reserves	\$ 295,159
Total Appropriations	280,627

Garbage & Rubbish Collection

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 1,126,920
Total Appropriations	1,126,920

Building Department

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 406,369
Total Appropriations	338,000

Downtown Development Authority Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 110,120
Total Appropriations	110,120

Tax Increment Financing Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 734,000
Total Appropriations	521,353

Drug Law Enforcement Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 9,225
Total Appropriations	9,225

Block Grant Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 54,975
Total Appropriations	54,975

Debt Service Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 214,000
Total Appropriations	214,000

Road Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 992,181
Total Appropriations	992,181

Bond Debt

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 524,000
Total Appropriations	523,000

Capital Improvement Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 678,700
Total Appropriations	678,312

Water & Sewer Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 6,447,807
Total Appropriations	5,474,626

Marina Fund

Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 323,841
Total Appropriations	323,841

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to adopt Resolution No. 4 – city budget.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK
RESOLUTION NO. 5**

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Water Authority has raised rates and with having published proper notices and held a Public Hearing for water/sewer rate increases,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following flat rate GLWA (Great Lakes Water Authority) charge of \$42.61 be increased to \$50.52,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the following flat rate SS (Sewer Services) charge of \$59.00 be increased to \$66.90,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the water flow rate charge of \$3.35 be increased to \$3.59.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Clark, to adopt Resolution No. 5 – Water and Sewer Rates

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Hearing no comments, the Public Hearing closed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beautification Commission – Councilmember Chouinard

The awards for the annual Arbor Week poster contest

Facebook page has been updated to include all events within the c

Spring Perennial Exchange was May 21, 2016

Annual Beautification Home Awards are under consideration and will be selected by the Commission in early fall.

Annual tree sale was April 29, 2016

Parks & Recreation Commission – Councilmember Arora

Windmill Pointe Park re-marcing is underway and will be completed by opening of the pool

Tompkins Center flat roof has been replaced

The movie schedule will begin its seven day showing for the summer months

Lavins Memberships up to 2014 levels

Pier 1 at the Marina currently has 8 open wells for rent

Under consideration is a Wi-Fi upgrade for Pier 3

June 4, Patterson Park will be hosting the community art unveiling

Farmers Market to open June 4

Kercheval after 6 events scheduled for June 18, July 16, and August 20.

Public Service Committee – Councilmember Grano

Discussed replacing lead pipes going into the homes at homeowner expense.

Discussed having lead water tests available for homeowners to purchase

Personnel Committee – Councilmember Clark

Municipal Judge compensation is set by city charter and to modify must be voted on by the electorate. Language must be submitted to the County by August 2.

Mayor Denner expressed his gratitude to the Council for attending the Committee Meetings and reporting back.

RE-APPOINT CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor Denner requested this issue be tabled until June 13.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to table this issue until June 13, 2016.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

FINANCE REPORT – APRIL, 2016

Councilmember for Finance Detwiler presented to Mayor and Council for consideration the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of April, 2016, for approval as presented.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Payment</u>
Rizzo Service	March Recycling	\$ 25,139
Rizzo Service	March Refuse	11,298
Bodman, PLC	Prosecuting /legal fees	18,276
PMI Inspection	March building inspections	12,927
Great Lakes Water	February water usage	92,850

Motion by Councilmember Detwiler, supported by Councilmember Robson, to approve the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of April, 2016, as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

CLOSED DOOR SESSION

Mayor Denner requested that a closed door session be held immediately following the regular meeting pursuant to Real Estate and Contracts.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Clark, that a closed door session be held immediately following the regular meeting pursuant to Real Estate and Contracts.

AYES: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Chouinard, Robson, Detwiler, and Grano, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None