

COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 11, 2016
7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the City of Grosse Pointe Park was held on Monday, July 11, 2016, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chouinard

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

ROBERT BUHL RESOLUTION

Mayor Denner requested this issue be tabled until August 8th, 2016, to allow his family to attend.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Clark, to table this issue until August 8th, 2016, to allow his family to attend.

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

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chouinard

F.O.I.A. APPEAL

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration of a FOIA received from the former owner of 15324 E. Jefferson.

City Attorney Levasseur indicated the former owner lost his property through the county tax foreclosure process in 2009. He has filed repetitive F.O.I.A. requests relative to this parcel. The law stipulates that documentation can be obtained through a F.O.I.A. request, however, if such documents do not exist, we are not required to compile such information as it is not available. The individual is asking questions outside the scope of the FOIA law.

Motion by Councilmember Clark, supported by Councilmember Robson, to deny the F.O.I.A. appeal.

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

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chouinard

RE-APPOINTMENT OF CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration approval of the contract for Bodman, LLP as presented.

Councilmember Grano stated Bodman, LLP is a large firm and has expertise in all areas.

Councilmember Robson concurred and stated Dennis Levasseur is an excellent attorney.

Councilmember Clark concurred with Councilmember Robson.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Detwiler, to approve the re-appointment of the City Attorney to Dennis Levasseur of Bodman, LLP.

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

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chouinard

COMMITTEE REPORT

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Councilmember Robson stated the Planning Commission reviewed modifications to the zoning code as it pertains to medical establishments and establishments serving alcohol within our community in the office service district.

Mayor Denner indicated Councilmember Clark will receive a final copy of the Ordinance for review. The City Attorney is in the process of preparing the notice to be published in the Grosse Pointe News and will be presented at the August 8th meeting for consideration by the Council for approval.

FINANCE REPORT – JUNE, 2016

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

The invoices are as follows:

Vendor	Description	Payment
Bodman, LLP	Retainer fees/prosecutor attorney	\$ 26,668
PMI Inspections	May building inspections	12,852
Rizzo Services	Refuse collection-May	33,883
Rizzo Services	Recycling-May	11,298
Dean Marine & Excavating	Marina repairs and concrete replacement	17,573

Motion by Councilmember Detwiler, supported by Councilmember Arora, to approve the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of June, 2016, for approval as presented in accordance with Section 2.249 of the Charter.

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

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chouinard

CLOSED DOOR SESSION

Mayor Denner requested that a closed door session be held immediately following the regular meeting pursuant to labor negotiations.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Clark, that a closed door session be held immediately following the regular meeting pursuant to labor negotiations.

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

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chouinard

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

SEWER BACK-UP

Mayor Denner indicated the city is currently investigating the storm even on Friday, July 15th and related back up complaints.

City Manager Krajniak indicated the engineers are reviewing the matter and the reasons for the surcharging of area storm line interceptor maintained by GLWA.

The pressure in the system was significant which caused man hole covers to be blown out of the ground along with curbs on Bedford that were damaged from the significant pressure.

Resident of 1100 block of Bedford, representing the neighborhood recommended back flow preventers be considered. He indicated a resident who flooded in the 2014 storm installed a back flow preventer and did not experience any backflow in his basement. It would not solve the problem as the surcharge lines affected all the homes in the neighborhood, but it would go a long way in satisfying residents on multiple occasions.

City Manager Krajniak indicated he will be working with Grosse Pointe Park's engineer along with Great Lakes Water Authority engineers to determine the reason for the flooding and has contacted the neighboring city engineers.

Councilmember Grano stated he serves on the Public Service Committee as Chairman and noted consideration should be given to back flow preventers.

Mayor Denner invited two Bedford residents of the impacted area to serve as point persons to provide input and assist the Public Service Committee in resolving the matter.

With no further business, the meeting recessed to closed door session.

The meeting reconvened to open door session.

With no further business, the meeting recessed.