

COUNCIL MEETING – NOVEMBER 13, 2017

A regular meeting of the City of Grosse Pointe Park City Council was held on Monday, November 13, 2017, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

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

OATH OF OFFICE

City Clerk presented the Oath of Office to the newly elected officials including Mayor Denner, and Councilmembers Read, Robson, and Grano.

MAYOR PRO-TEM APPOINTMENT

Mayor Denner recommended that Councilmember Daniel E. Clark be appointed to serve as Mayor Pro-tem for the City of Grosse Pointe Park for a two-year term.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to appoint Councilmember Daniel E. Clark to serve as Mayor Pro-tem for a two-year term.

MINUTES – OCTOBER 23, 2017

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the minutes of the October 23, 2017, meeting for approval.

Motion by Councilmember Robson, supported by Councilmember Clark to approve the minutes of October 23, 2017, for approval as presented.

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

NAYS: None

VARIANCE REQUEST – 1177 CADIEUX

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, a variance from Section 27-100 (b) of the Zoning Ordinance, which prohibits fences in a front yard. The applicant wishes to erect a six-foot high fence within the front yard setback. The property is located on the corner of Cadieux and Kercheval and must maintain front yard setback on both of these streets. The Ordinance prohibits fences in the front yard.

Homeowner of 1177 Cadieux stated they wish to install a six-foot privacy fence due to the proximity of Kercheval and Cadieux, both busy streets with high volumes of vehicles, and for the safety of their future children and current nieces and nephews to have a safe place to play.

Councilmember Read inquired if the public safety department has weighed in on safety issues.

City Manager stated they have not.

Councilmember Clark stated the intent of the Zoning Board of Appeals is to abide by the ordinances unless an undue hardship is presented. With the hardship presented he stated he is not favorable to the variance. Ordinances are established to protect the character of the neighborhood. If this variance was granted, the fence would be protruding in front the neighbors' front yard and it would not be aesthetically pleasing and would be setting a precedent.

Mayor Denner stated the request is two-fold. The first request to the variance is for a six-foot fence to be permitted and the second is for the fence to be permitted in the front yard.

Councilmember Robson inquired how the decision was made to install the fence of wood.

The homeowners stated they would be considerate of the neighbors wishes for the type of fence, if granted.

Councilmember Robson stated arborvitaes which would be most attractive could be planted and a variance would not be required.

Homeowner stated to plant the number of arborvitaes required is not in their budget at this time.

Councilmember Read stated her two concerns are public safety and aesthetics.

Councilmember Detwiler concurred with the statements from Council and recommended the homeowners consider other options for the placement of the fence or plant material instead of a fence.

Councilmember Chouinard stated the area in question is an extremely busy area and visibility is paramount.

Councilmember Grano stated he feels the variance is going to be denied and would the homeowners consider tabling the issue and consider other options. If the variance was withdrawn, a refund of the public hearing fee would be reimbursed to the homeowner.

Homeowners indicated they wish to table the matter at this time.

MACK AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the adoption of a resolution for the maintenance permit for Phase 2 of the Mack Avenue Improvement Project for Wayne County.

The resolution reads as follows:

MAINTENANCE PERMITS WAYNE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the City of Grosse Pointe Park (hereinafter the “Community”) periodically applies to the County of Wayne Department of Public Services, Engineering Division Permit Office (hereinafter the “County”) for permits to conduct emergency repairs, annual maintenance work, and for other purposes including the implementation of phase II sidewalk and water main project upon Mack Avenue on local and County roads located entirely within the boundaries of the Community, as needed from time to time to maintain the roads in a condition reasonably safe and convenient for public travel,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 51 of 1951, being MCL 247.651 *et seq*, the County permits and regulates such activities noted above and related temporary road closures;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in consideration of the County granting such permit (hereinafter the “Permit”), the Community agrees and resolves that the community:

Accepts jurisdiction and maintenance responsibility for construction of the proposed landscaping features (concrete sidewalk, trees, trees beddings, light poles, etc.).

Indemnifies, save harmless and defends Wayne County against all law claims, suits and judgement of every name and description arising during and after the construction of the proposed landscaping features (concrete sidewalk, trees, trees beddings, light poles, etc.) within Mack Avenue right of way.

Shall maintain ownership and responsibility for the abandoned water mains within the Mack Avenue Road rights-of-way (ROW).

Shall fill all abandoned water mains, conduits, and structures with flowable fill material.

Shall maintain detailed records of the abandoned water mains including, but not limited to, the locations, depths, sizes and type of material. A copy of these records shall be submitted to the Wayne County Permit Office.

The City will notify “Miss Dig” to record the abandoned water mains as dead/inactive water mains.

The Resolution stipulates that the requesting Community shall, at no expense to Wayne County, provide necessary police supervision, establish detours and post all necessary signs and other traffic control devices in accordance with the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

This Resolution stipulates that the requesting Community shall assume full responsibility for the cost of repairing damage done to the County road during the period of road closure or partial closure.

The Community stipulates that it agrees to the terms of the County of Wayne permit at the time a permit is signed by the Community’s authorized representative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following individual(s) is/are authorized in their official capacity as the Community's authorized representative to sign and so bind the Community to the provisions of any and all permits applied for the County of Wayne, Department of Public Services Engineering Division Permit Office for the necessary permits from time to time to work within County road right-of-way or local roads on behalf of the Community.

Dale M. Krajniak
Nicholas Sizeland

City Manager
Assistant to the City Manager

City Manager stated the permit application was submitted in May and the approval was granted by Wayne County.

Motion by Councilmember Robson, supported by Councilmember Grano to adopt the Maintenance Permit Resolution for Wayne County for Phase 2 Mack Avenue Improvement Project.

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

NAYS: None

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
RE-APPOINTMENTS – TWO YEAR TERM**

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the re-appointments to the Beautification Commission for a two-year term.

The members are as follows:

Lisa Kyle
Matthew Chunn
Dan Convery
Trevor Dinka
Armen Gulian
Janet Peplin

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Clark, to re-appoint the members to the Beautification Commission for a two-year term.

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

NAYS: None

RECREATION COMMISSION
RE-APPOINTMENTS – TWO YEAR TERM

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the re-appointments to the Recreation Commission for a two-year term.

The members are as follows:

Robert Klacza
Roy Edmunds
Larry Haggart
Stacey Jarvis
Matthew S. LaBeau
Martin McMillian
Carla Palffy
Gerry Schilling

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Chouinard to re-appoint the members to the Recreation Commission for a two-year term.

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

NAYS: None

RECREATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the appointment of Michael Hindelang to the Recreation Commission for a two-year term.

Mayor Denner stated Mr. Hindelang has been a resident of Grosse Pointe Park for eleven years and has four young sons who utilize the park system and will be an added asset to the Commission.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Chouinard to appoint Michael P. Hindelang to the Recreation Commission for a two-year term.

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

NAYS: None

COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Pro-Tem
Daniel Clark

Beautification Commission

Lauri Read

Recreation Commission

John Chouinard

Planning Commission

Mayor Denner

Daniel Clark

Communications Committee

Barbara Detwiler, Chairman

Daniel Grano

Lauri Read

Councilmember for Finance

Barbara Detwiler

Ordinance Review Committee

Daniel Clark, Chairman

Barbara Detwiler

Daniel Grano

Personnel Committee

Daniel Clark, Chairman

Mayor Denner

James Robson

Public Safety Committee

James Robson, Chairman

Mayor Denner

Lauri Read

Public Service Committee

Daniel Grano, Chairman

Mayor Denner

John Chouinard

Real Estate Development Committee

Barbara Detwiler, Chairman

Mayor Denner

Daniel Grano

Michigan Municipal league Representative

John Chouinard

SEMCOG Representative
John Chouinard

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beautification Commission:

Councilmember Chouinard presented a brief overview of the Beautification Commission activities noting the annual Beautification awards were held on November 9th and it was a lovely evening. Awards were given to 30 residential homeowners, 2 business, Flowers by Gabriel and Fairfax Market, and 1 civic award given to Grosse Pointe Art Rocks. Mama Rosa's donated the food and it was an enjoyable evening for all those in attendance.

Councilmember Chouinard noted Lisa Kyle, who has done a terrific job, will be stepping down in her position and will be replaced by Janet Peplin as Chairman, Pat Deck as Vice-Chairman, and Shelly Hanson as secretary.

FINANCE REPORT – OCTOBER, 2017

Councilmember for Finance Detwiler presented to Mayor and Council the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of October, 2017, for approval as presented.

The invoices are as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Payment</u>
Great Lakes Water Authority-waste water	August waste water fee	\$ 145,000
Caniff Electric	10 light poles – Mack Avenue	28,950
Bodman, PLC	Pros. Attorney fee and retainer	10,000
Ford Motor Credit	(2) 2017 Ford inceptors	19,991
Green for Life – Recycle	Recycling fees	22,862
Green for Life – Refuse	Refuse fee	33,683
Great Lakes Water Authority	Water fee – July & August	282,457
Grosse Pointe Clinton Refuse	Refuse disposal July, Aug. & Sept.	25,955

Motion by Councilmember Detwiler, supported by Councilmember Robson, to approve the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of October, 2017 as presented in accordance with Section 2.249 of the Charter.

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

NAYS: None

2018 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Mayor Denner presented to Council a schedule of the 2018 Council Meeting dates.

They are as follows:

January 8, 2018
February 12, 2018
March 12, 2018
April 9, 2018
May 7, 2018
June 11, 2018
July 9, 2018
August 27, 2018
September 24, 2018
October 22, 2018
November 12, 2018
December 10, 2018

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Detwiler, to approve the proposed Council Meeting dates for 2018.

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

NAYS: None

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Robson stated he has received several traffic light concerns and recommended the Public Safety Director review the matter and place signs where needed.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.