

City Council MEETING - September 11, 2023
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hodges and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting convened at the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 15115 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, Wayne County, Michigan 48230.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT MEMBERS: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

ALSO PRESENT: Nick Sizeland, City Manager; Morgan McAtamney, City Attorney; James Bostock, Director of Public Safety; Chad Craig, Parks Director; and Warren Rothe, Assistant City Manager.

Mayor Hodges introduced Mayor Marco D'Ambros of Lorenzago di Cadore, Italy, who was welcomed by the Council as a special guest.

Mayor Hodges recognized the anniversary of September 11, 2001 before the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember McMillan, seconded by Councilmember Wiener, to approve the consent agenda that included the following items:

- Approval of August 14, 2023 Minutes
- Committee & Commissions Report
- Resolution to Set Alternative Meeting Dates for the Board of Reviews
- Resolution adopting MERS Defined Contribution Retirement Plan
- Planning Commission and DDA Reappointments
- Resurfacing of Golden Gymnasium Floor

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

MANAGERS' REPORT/PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Bostock introduced this round of Public Safety awards and explained the process in which nominations are made and awards are considered. Chief Bostock presented the following awards:

- Officer Brady Baetens, Department Commendation
- Officer Brady Baetens, Department Unit Commendation
- Lieutenant Terry Hays, Department Unit Commendation
- Detective Paul Pionk, Department Unit Commendation
- Detective Ryan Willmer, Department Unit Commendation
- Ordinance Officer Olga Merametdjian, Department Commendation
- Officer Korrine Farmer, Department Unit Commendation
- Officer Esho Matty, Department Unit Commendation
- Grosse Pointe Farms Officer Michael Ryan, Department Unit Commendation
- Sergeant Robert Ruggero, Department Unit Commendation
- Lieutenant Colin Connaire, Department Unit Commendation

Chief Bostock presented a brief overview of the following items: Kia steering wheel anti-theft devices were received and are available for Park residents; there is one unfilled crossing guard position; the next Public Safety Advisory Committee will be on October 26.

Councilmember Relan commented on the new stop sign installations throughout the City.

City Manager Nick Sizeland presented a brief overview of the following items: Alter Road properties; City attorney contract; TIFA streetscape engagement; Alter & Wayburn properties purchase agreement; pump station windows; water main and lead service line projects; ProNexus audit preparation; City Hall parking lot update; Kercheval road status; DTE community engagement meeting; charter and ordinance amendment; marihuana proposal; zoning ordinance update; union negotiations; EERV; Cadieux road resurfacing project; Department Clerk position; and an update on the Schaap Center.

City Attorney McAtamney provided an overview of the marijuana petitions to amend both the City Charter and City Code to allow for recreational marijuana establishments. The proposal will be on the November 2023 ballot. The Council is in receipt of a letter from the Governor's office stating that the Governor had been unable to review the charter amendment.

Councilmember Relan commented on the presence of stop signs in the Kercheval road project vicinity, the City Clerk hiring process, and occurrences of "rusty" water throughout the City. Discussion occurred on GLWA water pressure issues and main breaks throughout the City.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS)

Mayor Hodges opened the Public Comment portion of the agenda at 7:45 PM.

Thirteen comments were heard on the playscape agenda item.

The Mayor closed the Public Comment portion of the agenda at 8:15 PM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:
APPROVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR FY 23/24

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember Relan, to approve the fee schedule as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS:
DONATION ACCEPTANCE OF NEW PATTERSON PARK PLAYScape

Parks Director Craig and Foundation Trustee Lucas presented an amended proposal to install the new playground equipment at Windmill Pointe Park.

Motion by Councilmember McMillan, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, to accept the donation from the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation for new play structure equipment to be installed at Windmill Pointe Park.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS:
COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember McMillan indicated he was against the marijuana ballot proposals.

Councilmember Wiener reminded the community about the upcoming DTE Town Hall on September 13 at the Tompkins Center.

Councilmember Caulfield commented on a need for better community engagement and information sharing from the City Administration.

Councilmember Relan supported the comments by Councilmember Caulfield and asked about the Communicator.

Councilmember McMillan commented on the professionalism and accomplishments of the Public Safety Department.

Councilmember Gallagher commented on including Council Member ideas and perspectives in the Communicator.

Mayor Hodges complimented the Beautification Commission for their successful recent

projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

At 8:55 PM, the Mayor opened the public comment portion of the agenda.

Two public comments were heard.

At 9:01 PM, the Mayor closed the public comment portion of the agenda.

CLOSED SESSION - PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(C)

Motion by Councilmember Gallagher, seconded by Councilmember Wiener, to enter closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c), MCL 15.268(h), and MCL 243(1)(g).

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

At 9:02 PM, the Council recessed into closed session and resumed regular session at 9:22 PM.

APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember Caulfield, to approve the ratified agreement with the Police Officers Association of Michigan Dispatch as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, Relan and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM