

**COUNCIL MEETING/WORKSHOP
FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2006
8:30 A.M.**

A meeting/workshop was held on Friday, June 23, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. to review and discuss topics of interest that are facing Grosse Pointe Park, primarily within the northwest sector of the City.

Present: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Theokas and Mayor Heenan

Excused: Councilmember Grano

Also present: Dale Krajniak, City Manager, Jane M. Blahut, Finance Director/Clerk and Herold McC. Deason, City Attorney

LIBRARY RESOLUTION

Mayor Heenan presented to Council for consideration a resolution for the Grosse Pointe Library that would continue its practice to observe the recommendation of the respective City Councils or Village Trustees in appointment of residents of the municipalities within the territory of the Grosse Pointe Public Library to the Board of such Library.

The resolution reads as follows:

Motion by Mayor Heenan, supported by Councilmember Theokas, that the following statement and resolution be adopted and transmitted forthwith to the Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System:

Statement and Resolution of Concern to the Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Regarding Appointment of Members of The Board of the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Park notes that the Grosse Pointe Public Library has been established pursuant the Michigan District Library Establishment Act and that pursuant to the governing documents establishing it the Board of the Library is appointed by the Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe School System and at least one such appointee is required at all times to be a resident of the City of Grosse Pointe Park. The Council also notes that traditionally the Board of Education has appointed an individual resident of Grosse Pointe Park recommended by the City Council and that the Board of Education has consistently followed such practice with respect to all six municipalities lying within the territory of the Library except with a recent appointment respecting a resident of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Accordingly the City Council resolves that its strongest expression of concern be transmitted to the Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe School System to the effect that the Board of Education continue its practice to observe the recommendation of the

respective City Councils or Village Trustees in appointments of residents of the municipalities within the territory of the Grosse Pointe Public Library to the Board of such Library.

AYES: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Theokas and Mayor Heenan

NAYS: None

Absent: Councilmember Grano

MACK/ALTER IMPROVEMENTS

City Manager indicated he has been meeting with Mr. John Cotzias and Chris Cotzias regarding the re-development of Mack Avenue property.

Mr. Chris Cotzias indicated they have secured 12 parcels along Mack & Alter and are interested in developing either an ice rink or possibly a retail outlet. He noted that particular area is the gateway into Grosse Pointe Park and any improvement would be beneficial to the City.

Mr. Cotzias indicated the deal with the City would be a partnership, whereby the City would be the financier of the funding.

Councilmember Theokas inquired who would take title of the properties.

Mr. Cotzias indicated they would and the City would be first lien on such titles.

Councilmember Theokas inquired how the City benefits from contributing the land owned by the City to the project.

Mr. John Cotzias indicated the City benefits by improving the gateway into the community.

Councilmember Denner indicated 4 of the 12 parcels Mr. Cotzias has secured is owned by the City of Grosse Pointe Park and as previously discussed could be contributed to the project.

Councilmember Theokas indicated the only funding available are within the TIFA funds and all other funds would have to be borrowed.

Mr. Cotzias indicated they have purchased property in the amount of \$300,000. He noted they have property in Detroit secured; however require the funding to finalize the acquisitions.

Councilmember Clark expressed concern that in the past, the City has always maintained full control of the project. In this situation, the City doesn't have control of what will ultimately be implemented.

Motion by Councilmember Clark, supported by Councilmember Denner to pursue the proposed project on Mack Avenue and authorize the City Attorney to provide documents for the same.

Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Theokas and Mayor Heenan

NAYS: None

Absent: Councilmember Grano

Councilmember Robson inquired what the probability would be for a hockey rink?

Mr. Cotzias indicated the Hockey Association would be required to raise a significant amount of funding and in the last couple of years participation has been reduced.

Mr. Cotzias indicated regardless of what is constructed there would be a significant improvement of the current status.

Councilmember Robson expressed concern of the northwest sector. It will be too late and it will ultimately affect the entire city's property values and quality of life if it's not further improved.

Councilmember Clark indicated that particular area of the City is depressed and economics has a lot to do with it. The City needs to invest programs that allow people to improve their properties.

Councilmember Clark indicated the City did not promote the millage request last year very positively. Noting it may be in the City's best interest to request millage again this year and invest a significant amount of money into the northwest sector of the City.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.