

COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 24, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Council was held on Monday, July 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Grano and Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

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

Excused Absence: Mayor Heenan

**15710 E. JEFFERSON – VARIANCE**

Mayor Pro-tem Theokas presented to Council for consideration a request by Mary Markus of 15710 E. Jefferson a variance from Section 27-100, paragraph (b) of the Zoning Ordinance which prohibits fences in a front yard.

Ms. Markus indicated she wishes to erect a six-foot high fence along the northerly, westerly and southerly property lines. She stated she would like to install this fence to detour people and animals from walking across her lawn. She also indicated the fence would provide security.

City Manager indicated this property is located on the corner of Berkshire and East Jefferson and must maintain front yards on both of these streets.

Councilmember Denner expressed understanding of the security along Jefferson, however indicated he would prefer shrubbery along Berkshire.

Councilmember Clark indicated the ordinance prohibits fences within the front yard. He agrees with Councilmember Denner of the fence along Jefferson, however, indicated he doesn't feel it would be appropriate for a 6 foot fence along Berkshire, because that would be Berkshire residents front yards. Jefferson is unique in that it's a rather busy street.

Councilmember Theokas indicated he would be willing to compromise and permit a 5 foot fence.

Councilmember Clark indicated a 4 foot fence would be more acceptable than a 5 or 6 foot fence.

Councilmember Robson inquired if the immediate neighbors expressed concern.

Building Official Carmona indicated he did not receive any complaints or concerns.

Petitioner indicated she talked to several neighbors and they were not opposed.

Motion by Mayor Pro-tem Theokas, supported by Councilmember Denner to approve a 6 foot fence along Jefferson and Berkshire.

AYES: Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

NAYS: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson and Grano

Absent: Mayor Heenan

Motion by Councilmember Clark, supported by Councilmember Kennedy that the Council sitting as Board of Zoning Appeals grant the variance allowing the construction of fencing no higher than five feet as described in plans and specifications filed with the department of public service subject to the condition that such fencing be installed promptly and landscaping maintained on the basis that the Council sitting as Board of Zoning Appeals finds that because of location of property and exposure to public the strict application of zoning regulations would result in peculiar or exception practical difficulties to, or exceptional undue hardship upon the owner of such property in that such property in a vicinity of high vehicle and pedestrian traffic and that the variance sought by Petitioner can be granted in form and subject to the conditions as determined by the Council sitting as Board of Zoning Appeals without substantial detriment to the public good and without substantially impairing the intent and purpose of the Grosse Pointe Park zoning ordinance.

AYES: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Grano and Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

NAYS: None

Absent: Mayor Heenan

### **VEHICLE REPLACEMENT**

Mayor Pro-tem Theokas presented to Council for consideration the bids received for a vehicle replacement of a 1995 Chevy.

The bids are as follows:

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Red Holmen     | \$25,220 |
| Buff Whelan    | 24,114   |
| Jorgenson Ford | 22,746   |

The Administration recommends the bid be award to the low bidder Jorgenson Ford in the amount of \$22,746.

Funds are available within the current budget.

Councilmember Robson inquired as to the type of vehicle.

Director of Public Service indicated the vehicle is a 4 wheel drive.

Motion by Councilmember Denner, supported by Councilmember Kennedy to approve of the vehicle acquisition for a replacement vehicle from Jorgenson Ford in the amount of \$22,746.

AYES: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Grano and Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

NAYS: None

Absent: Mayor Heenan

### **MARGE'S BAR – 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Mayor Pro-tem Theokas presented to Council for consideration a request by James DePuys, owner of Marge's Bar, to erect a tent (20 x 40) on the Beaconsfield side of the bar in the partially enclosed parking area on September 16, 2006.

Director Hiller indicated the tent will be self supporting with no damage caused to the street. The tent will be open to guests from noon until 11:00 p.m. Necessary permits will be obtained from the LCC.

Councilmember Robson indicated music until 11:00 p.m. is too late and recommended all music stop by 10:00 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Robson, supported by Councilmember Clark to approve of the tent placement for Marge's Bar 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on September 16, 2006 from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and that they provided insurance holding the City harmless of all liability.

AYES: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Grano and Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

NAYS: None

Absent: Mayor Heenan

### **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

## **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

City Manager presented to Council for consideration the appointment of an employer delegate to attend the annual conference in Grand Rapids on September 19, 20 and 21, 2006.

He recommended Jane Blahut be appointed employer delegate to attend the annual conference.

Motion by Councilmember Clark, supported by Councilmember Kennedy to appoint Jane Blahut, employer delegate to attend the annual conference in Grand Rapids on September 19, 20 and 21, 2006.

AYES: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Grano and Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

NAYS: None

Absent: Mayor Heenan

## **MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING**

City Manager informed the Council of the upcoming MML meeting to be held in September in northern Michigan. He recommended those interested in attending should call Jane Blahut so she may make arrangements.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION**

Mayor Pro-tem Theokas requested that an Executive Committee Session be held immediately following the regular meeting for the purpose of acquisition of real estate.

Motion by Mayor Pro-tem Theokas, supported by Councilmember Clark that an Executive Committee Session be held immediately following the regular meeting for the purpose of acquisition of real estate.

AYES: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Grano and Mayor Pro-tem Theokas

NAYS: None

Absent: Mayor Heenan

## **CITIZEN COMMENT**

Councilmember Robson requested that specific properties be on the next meetings agenda so the Council may review their inspection history. The properties are 1015-17 Wayburn, 1067 Wayburn and 1061 Maryland.

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

The meeting reconvened to open door session and with no further business, the meeting adjourned.