

COUNCIL MEETING – OCTOBER 23, 2006

A regular meeting of the Council was held on Monday, October 23, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following were present: Councilmember Clark, Kennedy, Denner, Robson, Theokas, Grano and Mayor Heenan

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

MINUTES

Mayor Heenan presented to Council for consideration the minutes of September 25, 2006 as presented.

Councilmember Robson indicated there is an error on page 4 regarding the Beaconsfield address, it should be 1438 Beaconsfield.

Motion by Councilmember Kennedy, supported by Councilmember Robson to approve the minutes with the correction noted above.

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

NAYS: None

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Mayor Heenan presented to Council for consideration the appointment of Barb Feldman to the Beautification Commission.

Motion by Mayor Heenan, supported by Councilmember Clark to appoint Barb Feldman to the Beautification Commission.

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

NAYS: None

STREET ADMINISTRATOR RESOLUTION

City Manager indicated the State of Michigan is requesting an updated resolution designating a Street Administrator for the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

Motion by Mayor Heenan, supported by Councilmember Denner to appoint Dale Krajniak as the Street Administrator for the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

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

NAYS: None

15001 KERCHEVAL

Mayor Heenan presented to Council for consideration and discussion the request by Peter Dow, owner of 15001 Kercheval, to allow a restaurant with jazz music in the building also known as 15001 Kercheval.

City Manager indicated a variance would be required due to the lack of parking. They would also have to obtain an entertainment license as well as a liquor license if the Council permits alcohol and dancing.

Building Inspector Carmona indicated there are two ways to determine the parking requirements, either square footage of the premises or occupancy. This building would provide seating for approximately 80 people who would require 40 parking spaces and there are currently 2 available.

Councilmember Clark indicated he is opposed to this request and is absolutely against a dance permit and noted this is not an acceptable proposal as presented. He indicated there are restaurants/bars that offer live entertainment, but none of them offer dancing.

Councilmember Denner inquired with legal counsel if music is permitted without an entertainment license and if you include dancing, would an additional permit be required?

City Attorney indicated the Liquor Control Commission has a dance/entertainment license that must be approved by the local body. If you have a band without patron participation, you do not need a license he believed.

Councilmember Theokas inquired if the current zoning precludes dancing?

City Attorney indicated he would review the current ordinances.

Councilmember Theokas indicated that currently there are no entertainment licenses within the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

Councilmember Clark indicated the hardship provided “no off-street parking” is not an adequate hardship because there is already an existing lack of parking.

Councilmember Denner indicated the majority of the parking provided to businesses with a lack of parking is through municipal lots.

Councilmember Grano inquired if the businesses within the area have been consulted?

Mr. Dow indicated the business owners he spoke to are all very up beat about it.

Councilmember Grano inquired what the timeline would be.

The petitioner indicated he would like to be up and running the first of the New Year.

Councilmember Denner indicated that he would like to hear a little more about the business, hours of operation and the vision of the business.

Petitioner indicated he would like to provide American cuisine, be open until 11: 00 p.m. during the week and 2:00 a.m. on the week-ends.

Mr. Dow indicated the petitioner plans on renovating the façade of the building and spending approximately \$250,000 for improvements.

Councilmember Theokas inquired if the business would utilize the entire building?

Mr. Dow indicated all but 680 square feet.

Councilmember Robson inquired what the maximum capacity would be.

Petitioner indicated between 60 and 80.

Councilmember Robson indicated this may end up a night club and lack of parking is a real concern.

City Manager indicated Building Official, Ron Carmona will provide a parking study and present it at the next meeting.

Councilmember Grano recommended the notices be sent to the tenants as well as the landlords within the 300 foot requirement.

CITIZEN COMMENT

RESIDENT PARKING:

Resident recommended residents be permitted to park in the Lakepointe and Beaconsfield city parking lots free of charge and that it be advertised in the local paper.

HUNGRY HOWIE'S PIZZA:

Resident inquired if the Hungry Howie's Pizzeria complies with the City's Master Plan?

City Manager indicated it's the same type of business that was there prior. He noted it will be a take out and delivery and there will be no seating available.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES:

Resident complained of the commercial trucks that travel down the residential streets. She indicated they go too fast and there are too many of them. She recommended the Council prohibit commercial vehicles from traveling down the residential streets.

Councilmember Theokas indicated signs should be placed on the residential streets prohibiting them from traveling down residential roadways.

City Attorney indicated he would report back at the next regular meeting.

1027-29 LAKEPOINTE:

Resident of 1027-29 Lakepointe expressed concern to the Council of unresolved issues with the Library. She indicated she purchased the property behind the library before the library was built. There is a cement wall between the library and her property and there are kids skateboarding on it all the time. She is concerned that if a child is injured she would become liable. She also noted the air conditioners in the summer months are excessively loud and the Library Board will do nothing to appease her. The lighting that comes from within the library shines brightly into the side of her home which makes renting her property impossible. She urged the Council to do something.

City Council indicated this is a matter between the library and herself. Councilmember Clark indicated he would contact Mr. Klacza, Grosse Pointe Park's Library Representative and share the concerns.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.