

COUNCIL MEETING – MARCH 14, 2016

7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the City of Grosse Pointe Park was held on Monday, March 14, 2016, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following were present: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner.

Also present: Dale Krajniak, City Manager, Jane M. Blahut, Finance Director/Clerk, Stephen Poloni, Director of Public Safety, and R. Craig Hupp, Assistant City Attorney.

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 8, 2016

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the minutes of the February 8, 2016 meeting for approval as presented.

Motion by Councilmember Arora, supported by Councilmember Detwiler, to approve the minutes of February 8, 2016, for approval as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

1359 WAYBURN – FENCE VARIANCE

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, a request for a variance from Section 27-100 paragraph (b) of the Zoning Ordinance which prohibits a fence in a front yard for the property located at 1359 Wayburn.

Mayor Denner stated the fence was erected without prior approval.

Petitioner stated she has two large dogs and a special needs child. She put the fence up to provide privacy and to protect her son from other children bullying her son.

Councilmember Robson inquired when the home was purchased.

Petitioner stated she purchased the home in February of 2015.

Councilmember Robson indicated on the condition the variance is approved, several issues must be addressed. The fence must be stained, capped off to a consistent level and landscaping to be provided in front of the fence.

Petitioner stated she would complete the requirements if the Council elects to grant the variance.

Councilmember Detwiler expressed empathy for the situation with her son, however, stated she wishes she had required proper approval prior to installing the fence. The City has an ordinance that prevents fences in the front yard setback. If approved, the fence must be stained, capped to an even level and landscaping provided for in front of the fence.

Petitioner stated she would reduce the overall height to five feet.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to approve the variance request for a fence in the front yard setback at the property located at 1359 Wayburn, with the conditions the fence be stained, capped off to a level of five feet and landscaping be provided in front of the fence be completed by June 15, 2016.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration a proclamation recognizing the Soroptimist International which is a volunteer organization that works to improve the lives of women and young girls. The resolution reads as follows:

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization that works to improve the lives of women and young girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment;

WHEREAS, Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe (SIGP) provides annual education awards to women in need;

WHEREAS, SIGP supports Positive Images, Inc., a residential recovery center in Detroit;

WHEREAS, SIGP works to stop human trafficking;

WHEREAS, SIGP finances the high school education of several girls in Ghana;

WHEREAS, SIGP supports other local projects that better the lives of women and girls;

WHEREAS, SIGP has over 50 members from the Grosse Pointes and surrounding communities;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe (SIGP) is formally recognized for their 60th Anniversary.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Arora, to adopt the Proclamation for the Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

COMMUNITY LIBRARY BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the re-appointment of Robert Klacza to the Grosse Pointe Library Board for a four year term. He noted Mr. Klacza has served on various committees in Grosse Pointe Park for over twenty years.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to appoint Robert Klacza to the serve on the Grosse Pointe Library Board for a four year term.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

AFTER 6 ON KERCHEVAL

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration a resolution approving the Special License Application from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for the sale of beer, wine, and spirits for consumption at the "After 6 on Kercheval" event scheduled for June 18, July 16, and August 20, 2016.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Arora, to approve the Special License Application from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for the sale of beer, wine, and spirits for consumption at the "After 6 on Kercheval" event scheduled for June 18, July 16, and August 20, 2016.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

City of Grosse Pointe Park Proclamation In

Recognition of Arbor Week

WHEREAS, Mayor Denner, City Council and Members of the Beautification Commission have established the day of April 29, 2016 as Arbor Day, and

WHEREAS, the Beautification Commission in recognition of Arbor Day has established an Arbor Day Poster Contest for area fourth grade students, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the awards is to promote community awareness and involvement in Arbor Day by the students as well as an appreciation of the many benefits of trees, now, therefore, be it so

RESOLVED, that Mayor Denner, City Council, and Members of the Beautification Commission hereby recognize the day of April 29, 2016 as Arbor Day.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Detwiler, to approve the Proclamation recognizing Arbor Week and April 29, 2016 as Arbor Day.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

Mayor Denner indicated the winner and runners up will be recognized at the May meeting.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mayor Denner presented a brief update of the Beautification Committee meeting. He noted the Spring Perennial Exchange Event date is May 14, 2016 at the Tompkins Community Center. The Fall Perennial Exchange proposed date is scheduled for September 24, 2016, at the Westpark Market. He indicated Brian Colter, the City Forester reported that the Annual Tree Sale will be promoted in the communication complete with order forms.

FINANCE REPORT – FEBRUARY, 2016

Councilmember for Finance Detwiler presented to Mayor and Council for consideration the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of February, 2016, for approval as presented.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Payment</u>
Rizzo Service Refuse	Refuse – January	\$	25,139
Rizzo Service Recycling	Recycling – January		11,298
PMI Inspection Svc	January Building Inspections		12,927
Stantec	Engineering Services		21,181
Bodman, PLC	Prosecutor-misc. attorney fees		13,519
Water Commissioners Water	December water		94,858

Councilmember Detwiler indicated the Stantec bill was for services performed last fall and includes work on the water plant and various other engineering jobs throughout the City.

Motion by Councilmember Detwiler, supported by Councilmember Robson, to approve the invoices exceeding \$5,000 for the month of February, 2016, for approval as presented in accordance with Section 2.249 of the Charter.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

CLOSED DOOR SESSION

Mayor Denner requested that a closed door session be held immediately following the regular meeting to discuss contracts.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, that a closed door session be held immediately following the regular meeting to discuss contracts.

AYES: Councilmembers Arora, Robson, and Detwiler, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

Excused Absence: Councilmembers Clark, Chouinard, and Grano

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Backyard Community Garden:

Several members of the Grosse Pointe Park Community Garden presented a request for the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation to provide funding in the amount of \$14,245 to improve the quality of the current garden. The representative stated the funding would allow for planter boxes to be built and the garden would be more manageable along with soil and black diamond edging for containers including raspberries and mint.

Several residents of the 1400 block of Wayburn expressed concern of the condition of the garden. She stated there is a rat issue, rubbish as well as people there all weekend long. She indicated speaking on behalf of the residents within that block not to continue the garden. They need to be held accountable.

Mayor Denner encouraged the residents of the 1400 block of Wayburn to call the City if a problem arises.

DETROIT APARTMENT COMPLEX:

Resident of Wayburn speaking on behalf of the other residents of Wayburn indicated they attended a public hearing by the City of Detroit. She noted a developer is proposing to build an 8 unit housing apartment complex on Alter and Charlevoix. She indicated opposition to an 8 unit housing apartment complex.

DETROIT BORDER:

Resident inquired of the status of the demolition for the buildings along the Detroit border.

City Manager stated there were 21 buildings slated for removal and the majority of those buildings have been removed.

WATER PLANT:

Resident inquired as to the status of the proposed water plant study.

City Manager indicated a test pilot study must be performed and the earliest that such a study could be considered would be October and it takes approximately nine months to undertake such a study if the City was to elect to do so.

ROADS:

City Manager stated Phase I and II of the road resurfacing program was undertaken in one year. Phase III will begin in July. The survey of the streets that will be under construction will be provided on the website.

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

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