A Special meeting of the Grosse Pointe Park City Council and Grosse Pointe City Council was held on Friday, June 14, 2013, at 8:00 a.m. at the Lavins Center at Windmill Pointe Park.

The following Grosse Pointe Park Council were present: Councilmembers Clark, Arora, Denner, Robson, and Grano, and Mayor Heenan

Excused Absence: Councilmember Theokas

The following Grosse Pointe City Council were present: Mayor Scrace, Councilmembers Boettcher, Stempfle, Turnbull, Walk and Weipert

Also present: Grosse Pointe Park

Dale Krajniak, City Manager, Jane M. Blahut, Finance Director/Clerk, David Hiller, Director of Public Safety

Grosse Pointe City

City Manager, Dame, Attorneys Fildew and Kennedy, and City Clerk, Arthurs

Motion by Councilmember Stempfle, supported by Councilmember Weipert to excuse Councilmember Parthum from the meeting.

Unanimously adopted.

ICMA REPORT ON PUBLIC SAFETY CONSOLIDATION PRESENTATION

City Manager Dame introduced Thomas Wieczorek, Director of the ICMA Center for Public Safety who made a PowerPoint presentation of the Public Safety Consolidation Operations and Data Report. Mr. Wieczorek provided background information regarding the ICMA and the ICMA’s Center for Public Safety Management. Mr. Wieczorek explained that the ICMA Center for Public Safety Management provides support to local governments in the areas of police, fire, emergency medical services, emergency management and homeland security. Mr. Wieczorek discussed the methodology used for conducting the analyses of operations and data from both the City of Grosse Pointe and the City of Grosse Pointe Park and how the information collected was developed into observations and recommendations compiled into a formal report.

Mr. Wieczorek summarized the analysis of the formal report highlighting organizational function analysis, both city and department governance, merger considerations, systems integration, comprehensive and strategic planning, prevention, inspection and education, community risk analysis, internal risk management, buildings and equipment, response times, density, technology, staffing, and personnel enhancement and training. Mr. Wieczorek explained steps for consolidation including initial steps to
merge dispatch, amend codes, form a Public Safety Authority and begin initial steps for combined operation under that Authority.

The recommendations listed in the report were discussed including merging existing dispatch operations, forming a joint committee to align and update department rules, regulations policies and procedures, remodel (if necessary) Grosse Pointe public safety facility, update fire equipment in both cities, standardization of decals on uniforms and equipment, amend city codes in both communities to allow for the formation of an authority to provide public safety services, conduct actuarial study of both pension plans, negotiate ability to utilize part-time and temporary employees for filling shift vacancies, focus on staffing efficiencies utilizing a “power shift”, comprehensive review of all Standard Operating Procedures, develop protocol for EMS transport, create current strategic business plan, establish a separate Fire Department Risk Management Plan document, develop and implement a succession planning process that identifies and develops future organizational leadership, track department training and certifications, and increase staffing in fire prevention division. Various charts and graphs provided in the report were reviewed and discussed.

The report was RECEIVED AND FILED.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Appreciation was expressed to the City Manager and Public Safety Director from each community for their efforts in assisting with the development of the consolidation study report.

City of Grosse Pointe

Council Members commented on the following topics:

- What would happen at current stations if consolidation were implemented? It was noted that the City station would not be staffed but would house a rapid response vehicle. Park station would be staffed and precincts or patrol zones would be established.
- Cost and benefits of utilizing less officers and how response to incidents would be supplemented with a “power shift” or use of existing mutual aid agreements.
- Concern over patrol visibility and the resident impression of “less officers, less safety”.
- Concern over future demand of retiree pensions and retiree health care.
- Concern about public perception of the public safety department merger.
- How emergency medical services would be manage and operated in conjunction with hospital.
- Forming an authority to oversee a merged Department of Public Safety and establishing the articles of the authority to determine management of combined operations to increase efficiencies and reduce overtime costs.

City of Grosse Pointe Park

Council Member commented on the following topics:

- Concern over the recommended reduction of staff that would reduce road patrol visibility as well as response to calls and how a power shift would be implemented
- Concern as to the challenges of an Authority verses a contract between cities
• Concern as to the perception residents will have with a reduction in staff and a possible Authority tax, will see it as less service and more taxes

• Concern as to how the medical services would be managed in conjunction with the hospital

• Concern as to the ability to attract qualified part time officers

• Concern over the legacy costs associated with the two pension plans

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jon Hartz, City resident expressed concern regarding the lack of notice for the meeting and requested that the report be provided online for resident review.

Peter Dow suggested the use of cameras to aid in public safety patrols.

Resident expressed that even more public safety efficiencies would be achieved if all five Grosse Pointe communities consolidated.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

It was noted both City Councils will review the plan and any questions be submitted to the City Manager.

It was further noted that a Resolution must be adopted by each City Council in order for the cities to be eligible to utilize the grant funding for the ICMA study. It was suggested that the Councils adopt that Resolution at their next meeting prior to June 30, 2013. The resolution is not a final decision on public safety consolidation.

On Motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.