

Present: President Peddie; President Pro-Tem Abboud; Members: George, Hrydziuszko, Mooney, Mueller, and Nunez

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager/Clerk, Wilson  
Public Safety Director, Torongeau  
Finance Director, McCarthy  
Planning and Zoning Administrator, LaPere

President Peddie called the special Council meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

#### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Money, second by Mueller, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion passed.

#### **FINANCES**

The Village millage passed in 2010 expires with FYE 06/30/2020 and total operating Millage reverts to 11.0 mills, which would leave roughly 9 mills for Public Safety (PS) and 2 for General Fund (GF), without library. With library (.8 mills) included, it would leave roughly 8.5 mills for PS and 1.7 for GF. Funding at this level could be achieved due to savings to OPEB costs of roughly \$800,000 annually, which are subject to change.

Library millage could be pursued separately. Inclusion of 0.8 mills +/- for Library in operating millage would require ending subsidy to trash operations and ending GF contributions to roads. Trash fee is currently set at \$150 for FY 19/20 but would need to increase to \$175 to be self-supporting. The Council does have the power to vote on a dedicated trash millage that can cover the cost of trash but generates no profit. State increases would cover some, but not all, of previous GF contributions to roads.

There are several renewal options that Council could consider. Seek renewal at current operating levels; 9.1 Public Safety and 2.0 General Fund and 0.85 for Library; for 11.95 mills total. This is higher than the Charter allowance (11 mills) but less than the 12.9184 approved in 2010 and fiscally sustainable based upon best projections. Council could pursue other millage issues independently.

Council could pursue renewal at 2010 level of 12.9184+/-; 9.9 for Public Safety and 2.1 for General Fund and 0.8462 for Library; for 12.8462 mills total. Millage for Public Safety would be higher than current operating level, which would allow for rapid growth of PS Fund Balance. Council could then pursue other millage issues independently.

Council could pursue renewal at current operating levels with specific earmarks; 9.1 Public Safety & 1.9 General Fund & 0.85 Library & 0.25 Parks & 0.75 Roads; for a 12.8500 mills total. This

would generate roughly \$150k annually for parks and \$450k annually for roads. It would sufficiently operate PS and GF at current levels.

Mooney supported the idea of the omnibus approach and believes they should consider asking for 13.9 mills; this would allow for park funding, paying off the water and sewage fees and removing them from the quarterly bills, as well as adding to infrastructure funds. It will be important to specify the amounts allocated for each department. There should be a 10-year cap to guard against Headlee reductions as well.

Peddie and Mueller agreed, believing that the priority will be showing residents what it would cost per household, where costs will be rising, where costs will be reduced, and where costs saving measures have been taken.

Nunez wants to ensure that the park does not continue to take the loss in millage allocations. He asked that administration prepare a one-page comparison of the proposed millage options.

Abboud, George, and Mooney will work with Administration on the options around the millage proposals.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Village has a few blocks of 4" water mains, all over 60 years old. Most of them run through rear yards and some portions are located under garages and trees. Although consideration has been given to replacing these, it is a costly project, and they have not experienced any problems in this area. Administration will follow up on the approximately 150 homes with unknown service pipe line status.

Council will need to work with Administration to determine if the Village will focus on concrete or asphalt this spring. A major road project is scheduled for 13 Mile in 2021.

George would like the Council and Administration to explore grants and funding options for creating a more walkable and bikeable Village; connecting neighborhoods, schools, and parks.

Mueller, Nunez, and Peddie will meet to discuss infrastructure concerns and goals; with a prepared report for the March 5, 2019 meeting.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Department has taken delivery of the smaller pumper truck, and plan to take delivery of the large pumper in May 2019. The officers are extremely happy with the new trucks. Upcoming expenses include 2 new vehicles, and replacement of the boiler. The replacement of the boiler will be a big project, and will need to be done in the spring. The current generator is over 20 years old and will need replacing.

The Department does not use body cams; they currently use cameras in the vehicles as well as body mikes, and have had no issues. There was discussion around opening up the reception desk in the entrance of the public safety building, however the main reason it is not open at all times is the safety of the officers and staff in the building. It was suggested that all of the glass in the lobby

be replaced with bulletproof glass. More lighting is needed around the exteriors of the Southfield Township office and the Public Safety building.

### **PERSONNEL**

Mooney reported there were five candidates being interviewed for the Village Clerk/Assistant Manager position, and an amended Village Manager contact was being drafted.

Comeau continues to provide all Public Works for the Village. Marty Collins will be retiring in August 2019, and work in a part time supervisory role. He is training his replacement over the course of the year. Council and Administration should begin to consider a long-term contingency plan; they would be hard pressed to find another company that provides the level and quality of services that Comeau does.

George requested the McCarthy provide the Council with a full breakdown of provided services to explore potential comparisons with other options.

Council and Administration are happy with the services provided by the Village Attorney. He has been serving the Village for over 30 years; the personnel committee will discuss his long-term retirement plans with him and develop next steps.

Administration was instructed to evaluate the current level of service being provided by the Village Planner and Village IT services and place bids for service out.

Wilson reported that SAFEBuilt; the current contracted company for Planning and for Building Inspections; was drafting a bid for a 20 hour a week code enforcement patrol. This would not replace the Village employed Code Enforcement officer, but would enable stricter patrol for violations.

There was extensive conversation about the concerns related to habitual offenders, ticket follow up, enforcement, record keeping, and reporting to Council.

Peddle, Abboud, and Administration will meet to establish guidelines for Code Enforcement reporting, tracking, and follow up procedures.

### **CHARTER AND ORDINANCES**

Hrydziuszko, Nunez, and George will review and report on potential additions to the Municipal Code including the addition of definitions where needed, removal of language that no longer applies. They will also consider a simplified Tier approach to the Village Code; icons and color coordinated Visuals to simplify Rules and Codes.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Hrydziuszko, Mueller, and Peddle will meet with Administration to discuss better use of the website and social media. They will also discuss additional ways to proactively communicate with residents about issues before the Council.

### **VILLAGE BOARDS**

The Council agreed that there is value in having long standing members of the Boards and Committees, however it can be discouraging to residents who are interested in applying or becoming involved.

Hrydziuszko, George, and Abboud will discuss potential changes to Boards and Commissions related to term limits and by-laws.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Administration will work with the Village Attorney to draft ordinances related to car and wood storage. It was agreed that if there were a change to allow chickens in Beverly Hills, there would need to be clear guidelines and repercussions in the ordinance. Enforcing the ordinance would fall under not just Code Enforcement but also Public Safety and Animal Control.

Discussion was had about the need for traffic calming on the residential streets; particularly ones being used as reroutes during construction. Unfortunately, speed bumps do not deter drivers, and are not permitted on public streets. Solar powered radar signs were discussed; however, they average \$3,000 - \$5,000 per sign.

Hrydziuszko would like to see a tree census of the trees along the right of way. She believes it is important to begin establishing new trees before the mature trees begin to die. She is the new Planning Commission liaison and looks forward to bringing these discussion points to them at the joint meeting in February.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Mooney reported on the continuation of the Park Ranger Program. The 2019 duties and projects include spreading woodchips on the disc golf course, repainting the dugouts, repainting fence on the hill, and assistance with the reforestation project.

Mueller reported there are no major projects outside of the buckthorn removal and reforestation project in the next two years.

Nunez encouraged the Council to consider things like holiday lighting/Village Christmas tree in public areas and ice skating in the park.

George, Nunez, and Mueller will work on developing plans for Park growth.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Council discussed the need to generate more Village brand awareness: re-visit welcome signage, re-visit village hall, create a mission statement for our community, and would like to see the pavilion at Beverly Park expanded to be a useable year-round space.

George and Abboud will review and develop an Emergency Preparedness Plan, potentially creating a handbook for Council, Administration and Employees outlining what protocol for emergencies.

Abboud reported there are SEMCOG and MML funds available for many different projects.

Administration continues to work on efforts to allow on-line payments for water bills and taxes.

Motion by George, second by Mueller, to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Motion passed.

**Lee Peddie**  
**Council President**

**Chris Wilson**  
**Village Clerk**

**Elizabeth Lyons**  
**Recording Secretary**