

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager, Wilson
Village Clerk / Assistant Manager, Rutkowski
Public Safety Director, Torongeau
Village Attorney, Ryan

Peddie called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building located at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road and virtually via Zoom per Executive Order 2020-154. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mooney, second by Mueller, be it resolved, the agenda is approved as published.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (7-0)

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mooney, second by Nunez, be it resolved, the consent agenda is approved as published.

1. Review and consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held August 4, 2020.
2. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, August 17, 2020.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (7-0)

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION WITH THE OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SWAT TEAM

Public Safety Officer James Balagna has been respectfully selected to become a member of the Oakland County SWAT (Special Weapons And Tactics) team. As a member of the team he will be representing the Village of Beverly Hills throughout his tenure and will be part of a Mutual aid agreement with the Oakland County Sheriff's office. PSO Balagna will be trained and will be responding to emergency's and critical incidents in the county and when if needed. PSO Balagna will be the point person for all our serious and critical incidents here in the Village. PSO Balagna was only selected after a thorough background was conducted. An oral interview by the Sheriff's office and agility test with a weeklong training had been successfully completed. PSO Balagna has

been an outstanding professional Public Safety Officer and his training will be a plus for the Village of Beverly Hills if approved the Council.

Motion by Mooney, second by Abboud, be it resolved, the Beverly Hills Village Council authorizes Administration to enter into the Agreement for Participation with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team between the County of Oakland, the Oakland County Sheriff, and the Village of Beverly Hills. Be it further resolved; the Village Council authorizes the annual payment of \$2,500.00 to the County for participation on the SWAT Team. Funds for this expense are available in account 205-345-958.00.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (7-0)

DISCUSS CHAPTER 14 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS

Peddie recognized that many people would like to discuss this item but are unable to due to the COVID-19 group gathering limitations.

Motion by Peddie, second by Mueller, to table this discussion item.

Roll Call Vote:
Abboud: Yes
George: No
Hrydziusko: No
Mooney: Yes
Mueller: Yes
Nunez: Yes
Peddie: Yes

Motion passed (5-2)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

MANAGER'S REPORT

13 Mile Road Update – The paving and construction work on the south lanes of 13 Mile has been completed. On Saturday, August 15th we will shift traffic from the north lanes to the south lanes to allow for the rebuilding of the north lanes. Westbound only traffic will be maintained. There will be some final restoration work on the south lanes that can be completed while those lanes are used for traffic. The additional sections of sidewalk on the Southfield side of 13 Mile have been installed. The project remains on schedule.

SOCWA and SOCRRA Annual Reports – I have included for your review the Summary of Operations for both SOCWA and SOCRRA for the 2019/20 Fiscal Year. For SOCWA, water sales were 5.8% lower than budgeted, and this number was buoyed by heavy water sales in June or it would have been even worse. Lower sales resulted in an equal reduction in revenues of 5.8%. However, expenses were also down by 3.1% and SOCWA still reported an annual profit of almost

\$700,000. For the current FY, water sales have been very strong in July and look strong for the first part of August.

SOCRRA processed over 220,000 tons of material in 2019/20, an increase of more than 9% from the previous year. Revenues were also up but not enough to offset the increases in expenses. Ultimately, revenues were hurt because of less non-member materials being brought into the transfer station and lower than anticipated commodity process for raw recycling commodities. It should be noted that even with drop off recycling services being limited, SOCRRA still processed more recyclables in 2019/20 than in 2018/19. Yard waste volumes were also up over 8% over the previous year. Overall, expenses outpaced revenues by about \$94,000, or 0.4%.

Water and Sewer Rate Survey – SOCWA has produced their annual water and sewer rate survey for the year beginning July 1. I have included a copy of the analysis for your review. There are two different sets of figures. One analyses an average quarterly water bill based upon 4,000 cubic feet of water usage. For this analysis, the Village was the second lowest bill of all SOCWA communities at \$433.87, but somewhat close to the average amount of \$459.79. The second analysis is for the use of 1000 cubic feet based upon different overall rates of consumption. In this analysis the Village was either the second or third lowest across all consumption levels and always below the average of all other communities.

Coronavirus Grant Funding – The Village applied for \$26,553.70 in funding through the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) program administered by the Michigan State Police. This program is designed to provide reimbursement for local Public Safety Agencies for costs related to coronavirus manpower and supplies.

Beverly Hills Club – A letter has been sent to the Beverly Hills Club for being open during the Governor's Executive Order requiring indoor gyms to close. The County Prosecutor's Office will follow up with the complaint.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

George reported that Birmingham Public Schools will be beginning their school year virtually and that they are working diligently to get students back into the schools whenever it is safe. He would have liked to have the discussion that was on this agenda and noted the ways that other bodies have been receiving public feedback throughout the pandemic, so he would like to see the Council do the same.

Hrydziuszko stated that she was looking forward to having a conversation about a pilot program for backyard chickens. She thinks it is important for residents to be involved in every meeting. She emphasized that we are living in a new normal and meetings need to be accessible for all residents. She would like to see a SOCRRA special collection event in Beverly Hills, possibly at Beverly Elementary. She said she was happy that a radar speed sign was placed on Evergreen Road, shared her observations on its location, and said she is still concerned about speeding. She would like to see the Safe Routes to School grant program as an agenda item in the future.

Mueller congratulated PSO Balagna for being named to the Oakland County SWAT team. He thanked Mr. Mooney for spearheading park clean up events to clean up the buckthorn debris at Beverly Park. He reminded everyone that there will be a Parks & Recreation Board meeting on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Beverly Park Pavilion.

Mooney thanked Park Attendant, Luke Mercer, for his outstanding work and dedication to the Village parks over the last several years. He also thanked Nick and India Zammit, Steve Drinkert and his daughters, and Kyle Callahan for volunteering their time to help with the park clean up efforts. He was proud of the work of the Park Rangers, Steve Orth and Sam Mercer. He agreed with Hrydziuszko's traffic concerns. He concurred with Hrydziuszko and George that we are having difficulty with participation in meetings and suggested alternate ways to hold public meetings. He discussed his priorities which included the millage renewal, high traffic on Evergreen and Beverly Roads, sidewalks, disinfecting park equipment, body cameras for the Public Safety Department, and repairing roads. He did not think a discussion around backyard chickens was a priority during COVID-19, but recognized that it may be a priority for others.

Mooney yielded his time to Hrydziuszko and George to offer responses.

Abboud congratulated PSO Balagna for being selected for the SWAT team. He reminded everyone that there are about 100 days left before the general election. He stated that he would be willing to reach out to SEMCOG about the Safe Routes grant.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Lee Peddie
Council President

Kristin Rutkowski
Village Clerk