

Present: President Mercer; President Pro-Tem Briggs; Members: Burry, Mooney and Oen

Absent: Kelly and LaFerriere

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

President Mercer called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Burry, second by Mooney, to amend the agenda to move the report on the Joint Senior Services Committee from Community Announcements to the first Business Agenda item.

Motion passed.

Motion by Oen, second by Mooney, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elaine McLain, Birmingham Area Cable Board chairperson, and vice-chair Ken McFadden presented an overview of the 2013/14 Cable Board budget. It was indicated that there will be a report presented at tomorrow's Cable Board meeting on a subscriber survey conducted to gain information regarding television viewing, cable provider satisfaction, and PEG program awareness and viewing habits.

Council members thanked the members of the Cable Board for their efforts.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Oen, second by Mooney, to approve the consent agenda as published.

- a. Consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held July 2, 2013.
- b. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, July 15, 2013.
- c. Review and consider resolution for West Nile Virus Fund expense reimbursement.

Motion passed.

BUSINESS AGENDA

BIRMINGHAM AREA SENIORS COORDINATING COUNCIL (BASCC) – REPORT ON JOINT SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

Before Council for consideration is the Joint Senior Services Committee's Final Recommendation to the Municipalities. This report is available for public review in its entirety at the Beverly Hills Village office.

Committee member Greg Burry introduced the individuals who will present the report. Bob Borgon is a member of the JSSC and of the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC); Renee Cortright is the Executive Director of BASCC and the executive secretary for the Committee. Other members of the BASCC Board in the audience were recognized.

Borgon stated that the Joint Senior Services Committee was established in June of 2012 and consists of representatives from Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin, Southfield Township, the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC), and the Birmingham School District. The charge of the JSSC was to study what other area communities are doing with regard to funding and managing senior programs and services; gather public input to create a consensus about what senior programs and services are needed, and; prepare policy recommendations regarding a combination of programs, services, and potential revenue sources and government models.

Cortright provided history on the establishment of the Birmingham Area Senior Center in 1978 and outlined how the services provided have grown over the years to meet the needs of seniors in the community. The Center has been located in the former Midvale school since the mid 1990s. Cortright touched on the increasing senior population and unique needs of seniors. She affirmed that this initiative is about our communities being livable for all age groups. By 2015, the age 50 plus population in our area is going to be over 14,000 people.

Borgon related that the Detroit Executive Service Corp was engaged to conduct focus groups throughout the area including care givers and people who do and do not use BASCC services. The observations were:

- People view a senior center as an activity center providing a broad range of things to do including intellectual stimulation, physical activities, games, trips and social interaction.
- Accessibility, transportation and mobility are important;
- Many felt that the current facility is outdated. It does not provide gym equipment, or a swimming/therapy pool.

After studying other senior centers in the area and collecting data, the current services provided by BASCC were viewed as marginally meeting the needs of area seniors. The JSSC has prepared a short-term and long-range vision and related budgeting that will more adequately serve seniors. In addition, the Committee engaged Mitchell Research to conduct a general population telephone survey. The Mitchell Benchmark Survey results showed that two-thirds of the people contacted said that they would like to have low cost fitness programs and adult day care. They support the growth of senior programs and would support a millage to expand programs and services in this area.

Cortright commented on visits to four senior centers in the area that provide extensive senior services. While other nearby communities generally fund senior services through the local government general fund or a millage, the cost of providing senior services through the BASCC organization has been borne largely by the Birmingham Public School district through in-kind support estimated at \$300,000 (imputed rent on the Midvale facility) and other direct funding amounting to \$36,000. Municipal funding accounts for only 7% of BASCC total funding.

Additional sources of funding for the senior center are transportation grants, fundraising, operating grants, membership dues, programs and donations.

From a financial and facility perspective, BASCC faces an uncertain future. The organization's use of endowment funds to balance its inadequate annual operating budget is not sustainable. Use of the outdated Midvale facility is in question due to the possible expansion of the BPS Early Childhood Center, which shares the facility with BASCC. Cortright reviewed specifics of the BASCC financial situation.

Michigan law allows the levy of up to one mill for a senior millage, if approved by the voters. The following communities have taken advantage of this: Bloomfield Township, Madison Heights, Oakland Township, Pontiac, Rochester and Rochester Hills. It was noted that the Rochester OPC and the Bloomfield Senior Services have received support from their communities for a 0.25 mils for operations and a bond issue to build a senior center.

Borgon outlined the recommendations of the Joint Senior Services Committee regarding operation of the BASCC facility, which includes expanded hours and services that will result in increasing senior participation. The additional cost of the short-term plan for expanded programming could be covered through increased municipal contributions from their general fund or by a millage placed on the ballot of the next general election. In the long term, a major facility upgrade is necessary. When the status of Midvale is resolved, the plan is to rebuild the facility, build a new facility, or upgrade an existing facility. Additional services would be provided at that time.

The JSSC concluded that serving seniors could no longer be considered an added education service provided by Birmingham Public Schools. It is a municipal responsibility. The benefits to the communities of being senior friendly are well documented and undisputed. The Joint Senior Services Committee through the combined efforts of representatives from the governing bodies as well as BASCC and Birmingham Public Schools is recommending:

- The municipalities support the Phase 1 plan and reach agreement as to how it is to be funded by June 1, 2014.
- A small group of JSSC members be appointed as an official communication channel with Birmingham Public Schools. This group would also keep the communities updated as decisions regarding the Midvale facility unfold.

Motion by Burry, second by Mooney, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council receive the final recommendation from the Joint Senior Services Committee.

Motion passed.

Council discussed the final recommendations to municipalities. Questions and comments were addressed by JSSC members Bob Borgon and Birmingham Commissioner Tom McDaniel. All members of Council voiced their support of the proposals presented in the report to expand and improve services provided to area seniors. There was interest in implementation of the two phases and agreement that the communities should consolidate their resources to make this

happen. Members were committed to increasing the Village's contribution to the senior center if Council could find the money. Council thanked everyone who participated in this study.

In response to an inquiry, Birmingham City Commissioner Tom McDaniel stated that the Birmingham Commission was very positive and gave their city manager direction to fund Birmingham's share of this initiative.

Motion by Mooney, second by Briggs, that the Beverly Hills Village Council authorize the Village Manager to move ahead in an effort to implement the recommendations from the Joint Senior Services Committee.

A number of individuals in the audience commented on the presentation. The majority of remarks focused on positive aspects of the BASCC organization and senior center and affirmed an interest in continuing to address the needs of seniors and expanding services. Those who spoke were: Beverly Hills resident Kathleen Berwick on Kennoway Court, BASCC focus group members Mathew Mason on Sheridan Drive and Edna Freier of Woodhaven Lane, Ed Pugh on East Bellvine, Brent Garback on Beechwood, Robert Deneweth on Arlington, Jim Osmer on Riverside Drive, and David Underdown of Birmingham.

Briggs left the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Motion passed.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD

A subcommittee chaired by Burry met at 7:06 pm to review an application to fill a vacancy on the Birmingham Area Cable Board. The subcommittee voted unanimously to recommend the appointment of Bob Borgon to fill a vacancy expiring June 30, 2016.

Motion by Burry, second by Oen, to appoint Robert Borgon to fill a vacancy on the Birmingham Area Cable Board for a term expiring June 30, 2016.

Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES ON THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Clerk Marshall announced two vacancies on the Communications Committee. The Communications Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Council chamber. The term of one of the Communications Committee positions expires on June 30, 2015 and the other expires on June 30, 2016.

The application deadline for these positions is Friday, July 26, 2013 at 4:30 pm. Applications are available on the Beverly Hills website or at the Village office. The Communications subcommittee with Briggs as chair, Burry and Kelly will meet on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 7:15 pm to consider candidates.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPOINTING DELEGATES TO THE MICHIGAN EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council appoint Robert Wiszowaty as the officer delegate and Ellen Marshall as the officer alternate representing Beverly Hills and Robert Fisher as the employee delegate with Howard Shock as the alternate employee delegate to attend the Annual Meeting of the Michigan Employees' Retirement System to be held October 1 – 3, 2013 in Acme, Michigan.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion passed (4 – 0).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR PAVING BEVERLY ROAD

The Village of Beverly Hills received six bids for the 2013 Bituminous Resurfacing Program, which ranged from high of \$362,854 to low of \$263,607.39. This program will repair and resurface Beverly Road from Southfield to Evergreen and the parking lot at Beverly Park. The low bidder, Pavex Corporation, has submitted all required background information supporting their capability to perform the work. They plan to start the project the first week in August and will be completed before school begins.

Motion by Oen, second by Burry, to award the bid for the 2013 Bituminous Resurfacing Program to the low bidder, Pavex Corporation, in the amount of \$263,607.39. The funds for this project are in accounts 202-451-810.10 and 203-451-810.03 with a combined balance of \$294,666.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion passed (4 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathleen Berwick of 31381 Kennoway Ct. was distressed that there have been a number of home invasions along 13 Mile Road in her neighborhood. She expressed concern that area residents without access to the Internet had no way of knowing that this was occurring.

Ed Pugh of 31602 East Bellvine thanked Council for giving BASCC so much time to present their Joint Senior Services Committee findings and recommendations.

REPORTS – MANAGER

Clerk Marshall stated that Manager Wilson was not able to be present tonight. His report was included in the Council meeting packet and is available for public review on the Village website.

REPORTS – COUNCIL

Burry thanked Council for its support of the final Joint Senior Services Committee report.

Mooney wished his son Daniel Patrick Mooney a Happy 21st Birthday.

Mercer stated that the Beverly Hill Little League has three age groups participating in the Little League Tournament, which starts at the district level and continues to the State Championship. He reported on the status of the games.

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Motion passed.

Tim Mercer
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary