

Present: President Mooney; President Pro-Tem Peddie; Members: Abboud, Delaney, Kelly, Mueller and Oen

Absent: None

Also Present: Manager, Wilson
Assistant Manager/Clerk, Marshall
Village Attorney, Ryan

Council President Mooney called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road. A scout from Troop 1699 led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

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

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR SOUTHFIELD ROAD BUSINESS ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

President Mooney declared the public hearing open at 7:31 pm to receive comments on the Special Assessment Roll for the Southfield Road Business Assessment District. No one wished to be heard; therefore, the public hearing was closed at 7:32 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Delaney, second by Oen, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held February 3, 2015.
- b. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, February 9, 2015.
- c. Review and consider 2014 Special Assessment Roll for the Southfield Road Business Assessment District.

Motion passed.

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO FILL ALTERNATE MEMBER VACANCY ON THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Abboud stated that a subcommittee of Council met at 7:15 pm prior to tonight's meeting to review one application and consider a recommendation to appoint a candidate to fill an alternate member vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. It was the consensus of the subcommittee to recommend the appointment of Ashley Lepidi as an alternate member of the Zoning Board.

Motion by Abboud, second by Oen, to appoint Ashley Lepidi to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member with a term to expire on June 30, 2015.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Upcoming Public Hearings - Wilson stated that there will be two public hearings scheduled for the March 3, 2015 Council meeting. One public hearing will be to hear comments on a request from Timothy Patrick Homes on a conditional rezoning and cluster concept development plan for property at 19600 W. Thirteen Mile Road. The other public hearing will be to receive input on a private road application for property at 31805 Evergreen Road. The Planning Commission reviewed both of these applications and forwarded its recommendations to Council.

Water and Sewer Rates – The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) has announced there will be an 11.9% rate increase for suburban customers in the next year. The South Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) is determining what impact these increases, along with a greater use of fixed charges will mean for SOCWA member communities. A subcommittee of Council established to examine the rate structure for water and sewer rates in the Village will be meeting on Wednesday, February 18. Jeff McKeen, Executive Director for SOCWA has agreed to participate in that meeting. This subcommittee will examine our current rate structure and will also look at the potential implementation of fixed charges in our current rate system.

DTE Tree Trimming – There has been news coverage in recent weeks about tree trimming efforts in this area by Detroit Edison. Village Administration has been in contact with officials from DTE about the trimming program, which is scheduled to commence in Beverly Hills later in 2015. DTE is adjusting its methods for public communication so that residents are better informed and aware of the timing and nature of work that will occur. In addition, DTE will reach out to the Village Administration prior to the project beginning.

There is a definite issue with tree and vegetation interference with overhead power lines in this area of Oakland County. DTE has been ordered by the Public Services Commission to be more proactive in addressing conflicts between overhead power lines and trees and shrubs. These conflicts have been directly responsible for the many multi-day power outages in the Village in recent years. DTE will work with Village Administration, residents and neighborhood groups to mitigate concerns while also taking necessary efforts to improve service reliability.

Coyote Sightings – Administration has received an increase in the number of coyote sightings in the Village in recent weeks. Coyotes have been a fairly regular presence in areas around the Rouge River for many years. However, sightings have increased in number and there have been some sightings on the east side of the Village this year. Residents should take precaution with smaller pets and limit the amount of time they are outside unattended, particularly as the weather gets colder and food becomes scarcer.

Code Enforcement Summary – Code Enforcement Officer Dan Gosselin has produced a record of enforcement activities for 2014, which was forwarded to Council for review.

Municipal building improvements - Wilson addressed an inquiry from Council regarding ongoing efforts towards improvements to the municipal building. He talked about how the design and build project will be financed. A building design Request for Proposal is being drafted and will be available shortly.

Mooney asked that Chief Torongeau be informed that Council is impressed with the vigilance of the Public Safety Department over the past few weeks.

Inquiries on the DTE tree trimming program from Delaney were addressed by Wilson.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Abboud commented that the joint meeting between Council and the Planning Commission held on Wednesday, February 11 was productive and informative. Abboud referred to the encouraging State of the City address given recently by Detroit Mayor Duggan. Abboud will be attending the Industry Outlook of the Year meeting featuring the new President and CEO of the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation Rodrick Miller.

Peddie reported on new resources offered at the Baldwin Public Library. Rosetta Stone, the most recognizable brand of language learning software, has returned to the library. Lynda.com is a leading online learning company that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills. This training software lets users take expert-led courses at their own pace on a variety of topics that can be accessed from their homes. The library now offers a program called Hoopla for streaming movies at home.

Mooney thanked the Planning Commission for the opportunity to meet with them to review ongoing programs and activities. Mooney reported that it was his pleasure recently to act as a judge at the annual Birmingham Youth Assistance dog show. It was a wonderful event held at Berkshire Middle School with fantastic dogs and great kids.

Motion by Oen, second by Delaney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Motion passed.

John Mooney
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary