

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

Absent: None

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

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.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Oen, second by Abboud, to approve the agenda with Business Agenda Item: “Review and consider request to seek bids for 2016 Asphalt Resurfacing” added.

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Review and consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held March 1, 2016.
2. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, March 7, 2016.
3. Review and consider request from Berkshire Middle School Dad’s Club 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, May 7, 2016.
4. Set public hearing date of April 5, 2016 to consider reprogramming 2013, 2014 and 2015 Community Development Block Grant funds.

Motion passed.

BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION FROM UTILITY SERVICES PARTNERS, INC. ON VILLAGE SERVICE LINE WARRANTY PROGRAM

Michael Chambers, representative from Utility Service Partners, Inc., explained the National League of Cities (NLC) Service Line Warranty Program. The NLC Service Line Warranty Program, administered by Utility Service Partners, Inc. (USP), is an affordable home protection solution that helps Village residents save thousands of dollars on the high cost of repairing broken or leaking water or sewer lines. The NLC Service Line Warranty Program covers the portion of the outside water and waste lines that are the responsibility of the homeowner. While the

homeowner is responsible for their in-home water and waste lines, many are not aware that they are also responsible for the portions of the line that are buried outside of the home to the point of the utility connection.

The NLC Service Line Warranty Program gives Village residents the opportunity to obtain a low cost warranty that will provide repairs for a low monthly fee, with no deductibles or service fees. The work is performed by licensed, local plumbers who will call the customer within one hour of filing a claim. The repair is performed professionally and quickly, typically within 24 hours. USP provides a personally staffed 24/7 repair hotline for residents, 365 days a year. There is no cost to the Village to participate in the program. All marketing materials are handled by USP with information about the program sent to residents via mail twice a year. There are 20 cities in Michigan participating, over the last six years they have a national level of 98% customer satisfaction. Based on their experience, after the first mailing 10-12% of homeowners sign up, after three years participation maintains at about 35-40%.

Borgon asked about the yearly cost to residents. Chambers said that it ranges from \$93.00-\$84.00 per year for the sewer line coverage and \$69.00-\$60.00 per year for the water line coverage. There is no deductible or service fee for residents and no contract to be signed.

Delaney inquired if the program could be sold without the Village participation. Chambers explained that the support of the Village is what helps keep the program costs down, and helps introduce the program to the residents. They are looking for the Village to put their name and logo on the mailing, to help introduce the program to the residence of the Village. There is also the option for the Village to receive a share of the revenues collected.

Mueller asked how often they see confusion about the origins of the program, if residents think they are dealing with a Village service versus an outside company. Chambers stated that the letter makes it very clear that it is not a Village service. The use of the Village logo on the envelope helps ensure that residents open the letter.

Aboud asked that Chambers walk the Council through a timeline of a customer using their services. Chambers said the resident calls the provided 800 number and files a claim. Within one hour the resident will receive a phone call from a local contractor, and that 95% of claims are resolved within 24 hours. The \$4,000 threshold is based upon the last six years; 98% of claims have fallen below this threshold.

Peddie asked if the program is a yearly renewal, and if the Village can track the success and usage of the program. Chambers explained that it is a yearly renewal, and that there is a partner portal that the Village can log into and track the success and usage.

Mooney reminded the Council that this session will not involve a vote, but is an information gathering session. The Village needs to consider the age of the infrastructure, and take advantage of the opportunity to educate residents on what part of the system is their responsibility.

Oen stated that the priority for him is that it is clear this is not a Village provided or staff supported program. He has spoken to the City of Huntington Woods, and they had good things to

say about the program. Chambers said that he would leave information on other cities that use this program, and encouraged Council to contact those cities for more feedback.

Mooney opened the floor to the public. Dan Nunez, Marguerite Street, recently had some major repairs done, and wanted to know if all pipe issues are covered, regardless of where the problem originates. He also wanted to know how claims over the \$4,000 threshold are handled. Chambers explained that all issues are covered and that the company pays out the \$4,000 and then negotiates on behalf of the resident with the contractor.

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON A PROPOSED ORDINANCE RENEWING AN AGREEMENT WITH CONSUMERS ENERGY

Council President Mooney opened the public hearing at 7:54 p.m.

Norman Rubin, Rivers Edge Court, spoke of his concern regarding the aging Consumers Energy Pipeline that runs through the Village. He inquired whether the Village receives copies of testing results and information regarding the stability of the infrastructure. He also suggested an upgrade in the appearance of the shut off valve areas at 13 Mile near Groves High School and the structure at 13 Mile and Lahser.

Ursula Warren, Consumers Energy of Southeast Michigan Area Manager, said that the pipeline is tested yearly and worked on regularly. They do a full inspection which includes an inserted camera for the length of the pipeline verifying safe and solid infrastructure. The records are available upon request.

Mooney stated that administration would reach out to Consumers Energy to resolve the beautification issues.

The public hearing was closed at 7:59 p.m.

SECOND READING AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #357 RENEWING CONSUMERS ENERGY GAS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

A complete copy of the ordinance is available in the Village Office.

Motion by Delaney, second by Abboud, be it resolved that the Beverly Hills Village Council adopts ordinance No. 357 as an ordinance to renew the revocable franchise agreement for 30 years to permit Consumers Energy to provide gas service in the Village of Beverly Hills.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (7 – 0).

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON THE UPDATED MASTER PLAN

Council President Mooney opened the public hearing at 8:04 p.m.

No one wished to be heard; therefore the public hearing was closed at 8:05 p.m.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF MASTER PLAN

Abboud stated that he received feedback from a resident who felt that recreation and amenities for the aging population needed to be addressed.

George Ostrowski, Chairman of the Planning Commission, stated that the inclusion of “complete streets” throughout the Village will offer safer access for the aging population. He also directed the Council to look to the Action List of the Master Plan and see that as a guide to what other action will be taken.

Mueller said that he would like to see swift movement by the Planning Commission in completing the Action List.

Mooney sees the Master Plan as a “living document” and that as the community grows and changes so will the Master Plan. The Planning Commission has put a great amount of effort and time into the Master Plan, and it is a strong document.

Motion by Abboud, second by Oen, to adopt the updated Master Plan as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion passed (7 – 0).

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

A committee made up of Borgon as chair, Peddie and Abboud met prior to the Council meeting to review applications to fill a vacant Beverly Hills position on the Birmingham Area Cable Board. There was one candidate for this appointment. The committee voted unanimously to recommend the appointment of Frank Maly, Jr. to the Birmingham Area Cable Board.

Motion by Borgon, second by Abboud, to appoint Frank Maly, Jr to fill the vacancy on the Birmingham Area Cable Board with a term expiring June 30, 2017.

Motion passed.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER REQUEST TO SEEK BIDS FOR 2016 ASPHALT RESURFACING

This project will be done in collaboration with the Village of Bingham Farms. Their project needs to be completed by the close of June 2016; the work in the Village will be completed during fiscal year 2016/17.

Public Services Director, Meszler recommends the Village resurface the following streets in fiscal year 2016/17, at an estimated cost of \$450,000.

1. Evergreen Road; 13 Mile Rd. to Beverly Rd.
2. Bellvine Trail; 14 Mile Rd. to Corsaut Ln.
3. Weston Drive; Beverly Rd. to Warwick
4. Dunblaine; Southfield Rd. to Pierce & Madison to Sheridan

Motion by Borgon, second by Oen, to authorize the Village Administration to seek bids for the 2016/17 Asphalt Resurfacing Project.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

MANAGER'S REPORT

In the Manager's absence, Marshall wished everyone a Happy Easter.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Borgon stated that he attended the Next meeting on March 15, 2016. Next is growing in size, and they are working with the bus systems to improve their transportation options. They have a "Boomers Summit" coming up at Groves High School and encourage residents to attend. Groves High School track and tennis courts will be closed over the summer for repair. The Cable Board meets March 16, 2016.

Mueller reported that the Parks and Recreation Board will meet March 17, 2016.

Abboud reported that the Planning Commission has decided to postpone a vote on the BP Gas Station renovation. Both the Zoning Board and Planning Commission have an awareness of the fence ordinance and lot size concerns. The Planning Administrator is gathering further information on the One Stop Ready program. SEMCOG is hosting their General Assembly meeting in March. A Farmers Market seems like something that people are interested in, and he would like to see forward momentum with this. The Village Hall renovation subcommittee is moving forward.

Delaney expressed concern that DTE does not just have a tree and power line problem in the Village, but perhaps also an infrastructure issue that needs to be addressed. A meeting with Village Manager Chris Wilson and Public Services Director Tom Meszler has been scheduled to examine the sewer and water line infrastructure of the Village. The Charter has been reviewed and will be on the agenda for the April meeting. Delaney congratulated President Mooney on 30 years serving the Village Council.

Oen reported that building renovations plans are progressing nicely. He also commended President Pro-Tem Peddie on her leadership at the previous Council meeting in the absence of President Mooney.

Mooney thanked President Pro-Tem Peddie for presiding over the previous Council meeting. Mooney congratulated Delaney on starting his time with Council 30 years ago. He asked that the plans for the Village Hall renovation be presented in an open Council meeting. He encouraged Wilson to take under consideration study sessions for the 2016/17 fiscal year budget. He expressed his condolences to the Wiszowaty family on the loss of former Finance Director, Robert Wiszowaty. Mooney gave a heartfelt thank you to the members of the community and Council for all of their support and work over the last 30 years.

Motion by Oen, second by Mueller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 pm.

Motion passed.

John Mooney
Council President

Ellen Marshall
Village Clerk

Elizabeth Lyons
Recording Secretary