

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF GROSSE  
POINTE WOODS HELD REMOTELY ON MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021.

The Facilitator's statement was read.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Bryant.

Roll Call\*: Mayor Pro-Tem Bryant

Council Members: Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy (Southfield, MI)

Absent: None

(\*Unless specifically identified otherwise, Council Members attended remotely from Grosse Pointe Woods, MI.)

Also Present: City Administrator Smith  
City Attorney Anderson  
Treasurer/Comptroller Murphy  
Director of Public Safety Kosanke  
Director of Public Services Schulte  
Building Official Tutag  
IT Manager Capps  
Recreation Supervisor Gerhart  
Deputy Clerk Antolin  
Facilitator/Administrative Clerk Miotto

Mayor Pro-Tem Bryant paused for a moment of silence in honor of the late Mayor Robert Novitke.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Gafa, that all items on tonight's agenda be received, placed on file, and taken in order of appearance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy

No: None

Absent: None

Motion by Gafa, seconded by McConaghy, that the following minutes be approved as presented:

1. City Council Minutes dated March 1, 2021 and February 22, 2021.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Koester, seconded by Granger, regarding **website/content management**, that the City Council concur with the recommendation of the Committee-of-the-Whole at their meeting held March 8, 2021, and authorize the City Administrator to sign a contract with Municode for website redesign, hosting, and support in a total amount not to exceed \$32,500.00 with costs spread out over four years, funds to be taken from Contractual Services Account No. 101-855-818.000.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Granger, seconded by Gafa, regarding **2020 Vision Plan Implementation-Streetscape Improvement Proposal**, that the City Council concur with the recommendation of the Committee-of-the-Whole at their meeting held March 8, 2021, and approve the portions of the 2020 Vision Plan Implementation regarding Streetscape Improvement proposals as set forth with full finding in the amount of \$98,724.40, and approve a budget amendment from the Prior Year Reserves Account No. 101-000-699.000, into the Municipal Improvement Account No. 401-902-977.101.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Gafa, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **COVID Time Bank for Employees**, that the City Council concur with the recommendation of the Committee-of-the-Whole at their meeting held March 8, 2021, and approve the recommendation from the City Administrator establishing an employee bank for COVID time for the calendar year 2021 as outlined in his memo dated February 11, 2021.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Granger, regarding **Charter Amendment-Proposed Ballot Language regarding Administrative Services**, that the City Council concur with the recommendation of the Committee-of-the-Whole at their meeting held March 8, 2021, and proceed immediately with the City Attorney's proposal as set forth in her March 2, 2021, correspondence to the City Council including the language that she has set forth and also encompassing the comment from Council Member Gafa, and that the City Administrator's title may be changed to City Manager but only as amendment nomenclature as opposed to changing any other job duties.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, McConaghy  
No: Koester  
Absent: None

Motion by Gafa, seconded by McConaghy, that the following minutes be approved as presented:

1. Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated March 8, 2021.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Koester, seconded by Gafa, regarding **Postponement of Memorial Tree Ceremony**, that the City Council concur with the recommendation of the Tree Commission at their meeting held March 3, 2021, and postpone the Memorial Tree Ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, April 7, 2021, to a later date yet to be determined.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

THE MEETING WAS THEREUPON OPENED AT 7:16 P.M. FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 8, BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE IX, FENCES, TO HEAR THE APPLICATION OF **ASTRIT AND EDIT BACI, 21479 MORNINGSIDE DR., GROSSE POINTE WOODS**, WHO IS REQUESTING TO REPLACE AN OLD WOOD FENCE WITH A SOLID VINYL FENCE, WHICH IS

NONCOMPLIANT WITH SECTION 8-279(1) OF THE CITY CODE REQUIRING A MINIMUM 2” OPENINGS THROUGHOUT 50% OF THE LENGTH OR HEIGHT OF THE FENCE. A VARIANCE IS THEREFORE REQUIRED.

Due to the two vacancies on City Council, discussion ensued regarding the petitioners’ option to postpone the hearing until a full Council is present. The petitioners decided to proceed with the hearing.

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Gafa, that for purposes of the public hearing the following items be received and placed on file, Items 5A 1-10:

1. Letter Received 02/12/21 – Edit Baci
2. Neighbors signed approvals
3. Application for Fence 10/04/20
4. Photos (3)
5. Google Earth Map
6. Memo 03/02/21 – Building Inspector
7. Photos (7)
8. Memo 02/19/21 – Director of Public Services
9. Affidavit of Property Owners Notified
10. Aerial Views

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

The Building Official provided an overview of his memo dated March 2, 2021.

The Chair asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak in favor of the proposed request. The following individuals were heard:

Astrit and Edit Baci  
21479 Morningside Dr.

The Chair asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak in opposition to the proposed request. No one wished to be heard.

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Gafa, that the public hearing be closed at 7:28 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion by Gafa, seconded by Granger, regarding **Fence Public Hearing: Astrit and Edit Baci, 21479 Morningside Dr.**, that the Council approve the variance based on the fact that the fence is surrounding a pool, at which special circumstances or conditions do exist.

Motion failed by the following roll vote:

Bryant	No
Gafa	Yes
Granger	Yes
Koester	No
McConaghy	No

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Koester, regarding **Bark Mulch and Mulch Injection Services**, that the City Council approve bark mulch and injection services provided by Unique Clips, LLC at a cost of \$18,990.00, and an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00 for contingency, for a total cost not to exceed \$22,990.00, contingent upon appropriate insurance being received, funds to be taken from:

- Lake Front Park Account No. 101-774-818.102 - \$ 4,000.00;
- Major Streets Account No. 202-463-818.000 - \$18,990.00.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes:	Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy
No:	None
Absent:	None

Motion by Granger, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **Replacement Doors – Department of Public Safety**, that the City Council approve the replacement of doors in the Department of Public Safety, services to be provided by Overhead Door West in the amount of \$25,895.00, and to include a contingency in the amount of \$1,000.00 for a total project cost not to exceed \$26,895.00, funds to be taken as follows:

- City Hall Equipment Maintenance and Repairs Account No. 101-444-850.000 - \$19,000.00;
- Municipal Complex Contractual Services Account No. 101-444-818.000 - \$7,895.00.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Gafa, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **2021 Lake Front Park Pool Opening**, that the City Council approve Aquatic Source to provide pool opening services in the amount of \$5,875.00, funds to be taken from Parks and Recreation Account No. 101-774-818.103, and to authorize the City Administrator to sign the proposal.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Granger, seconded by Gafa, regarding **Request to use Bramcaster/Jackson Soccer Fields**, that the City Council approve the request of Eastside FC to use Bramcaster and Jackson Soccer Fields from April 1, 2021, through November 30, 2021, contingent upon the items listed:

1. Teams submit practice and game schedules;
2. Teams follow all park rules and clear the fields during storms;
3. Teams clean up trash around the fields after use;
4. Teams submit current rosters;
5. Eastside FC provide appropriate insurance as identified.

During discussion, it was stated that Eastside FC used to be called “Eastside Soccer” and/or “Grosse Pointe Soccer Association”.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Koester, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **Department of Public Works 2020 Annual Report**, that the City Council receive the Department of Public Works 2020 Annual Report.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Koester, regarding **Monthly Financial Report - February 2021** that the City Council refer this report to the Finance Committee.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Gafa, seconded by Granger, regarding **2021 CDBG Activities – Request for Proposals**, that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to sign proposal documents for the 2021 CDBG Activities Program allocating \$6,000.00 to PAATS and \$14,000.00 to The Helm Life Center Senior Services, a total of \$20,000.00 in CDBG public service funds, to opt out of the 2021 RFP Program; and to adopt the Resolution as presented.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by Granger, seconded by McConaghy, regarding **Second reading: An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances for the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Chapter 2, Administration, Article VI, Elections to Revise the Nominating Petition Deadline Identified in Section 2-416**, that the City Council approve this proposed ordinance as presented and make it effective 20 days after its enactment.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy  
No: None  
Absent: None

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Granger, regarding **Claims/Accounts**, that the City Council approve payment of Items 9A – 9H as listed on the Council agenda and as identified in the pink sheet in the respective amounts and accounts listed, as follows:

A.	Milk River Drainage System SRF Program 1. County of Wayne Invoice No. 305601 02/15/21 - \$965,992.11; Account Nos.: a. 365-445-991.000 - \$740,996.00; b. 365-445-992.000 - \$224,996.11.
B.	Claim No. 191382 – Michael Fox (Deductible Recovery) 1. Tokio Marine HCC Invoice 03/01/21 - \$15,000.00; Account No. 101-210-812.000.
C.	Lake Front Park Bridge Replacement 1. E.C. Korneffel Co Pay Estimate No. 4 02/28/21 - \$62,177.90; Account No. 401-903-977.109.
D.	2020 Sewer Rehabilitation by Full Length CIPP Lining 1. Corby Energy Services Pay Estimate No. 2 02/28/21 - \$123,944.28; Account No. 592-537-976.002.
E.	Metro Act Attorney 1. Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook Invoice No. 492714 02/25/21 - \$90.00; Account No. 101-210-812.000.
F.	Labor Attorney 1. Keller Thoma Invoice No. 119899 03/01/21 - \$633.75; Account No. 101-210-810.000.
G.	City Attorney 1. York, Dolan & Tomlinson PC 03/02/21 - \$3,627.00; Account Nos.: a. 101-210-801.200 - \$1,255.50; b. 101-210-801.100 - \$2,371.50.
H.	City Attorney 1. Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler PC, Invoice No. 1075187 03/09/21 - \$9,441.50; Account Nos.: a. 101-210-801.000 - \$8,883.50; b. 101-210-801.300 - \$558.00.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy

No: None

Absent: None



The following items were heard under New Business:

- Council Member Granger requested the Director of Public Services to investigate any current plaque programs and coordinate with the Streetscape project.
- Members of City Council shared memories and experiences with the late Mayor Novitke.
- Council Member McConaghy requested the Building Official to call the homeowners/petitioners of 21479 Morningside Dr. regarding the fence variance, to answer any questions and clarify the ordinance.

Under Public Comment, the following individual was heard:

- George Bailey, Planning Commission Member

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, to adjourn tonight's meeting at 7:53 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

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Paul P. Antolin  
Deputy Clerk

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Arthur W. Bryant  
Mayor Pro-Tem