

Present: President George; President Pro Tem Hrydziusko, Members: Abboud, Drummond, Mooney, and O’Gorman

Absent: Kecskemeti

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

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President George called the regular Village Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Council Chambers located at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

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

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mooney, second by Abboud, be it resolved, the consent agenda is approved.

1. Review and consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held May 7, 2024.
2. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, May 20, 2024.
3. Review and consider approving change of control of a Metro Act Permit from 123.Net to 123Net Holdings, LLC.
4. Review and consider resolution appointing SOCRRA representatives for Fiscal Year 24-25.
5. Review and consider resolution appointing SOCWA representatives for Fiscal Year 24-25.
6. Review and consider Parks & Recreation Board’s recommendation to waive pavilion rental fees for the Groves Flag Football Team on May 22, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (6-0)

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER ADOPTING THE VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS ACH POLICY

Campbell provided an overview. On December 30, 2002, the Governor of the State of Michigan approved Act No 738 of the Public Acts of 2002 authorizing the use of electronic transactions by designated officers of local government entities. The Act determined that it is in the best interest of the local governments to make certain financial transactions by using electronic transactions as described in the Act.

The Village of Beverly Hills does allow for payment of invoices via electronic funds transfer (EFTs). This payment method can streamline the accounts payable process and is requested by certain vendors. Vendors are paid in a timely manner.

An Electronic Funds Transfer policy is recommended for municipalities. Village Administration recommends approval of the Resolution to allow Electronic Fund Transfers. Electronic Fund Transfers refers to any electronic payment method, including ACH, Wire Transfers and Point of Sale transactions. EFTs usually process funds via an automated clearing house (ACH) while wire transfers are sent directly between one bank and another. A copy of the policy was provided to Council for review. It was found to be in order by the Village Attorney.

Abboud expressed cybersecurity concerns. Campbell stated that there is at least a two-step verification process when sending and receiving funds electronically.

Motion by Hrydziusko, second by Abboud:

WHEREAS, on December 30, 2002, the Governor of the State of Michigan approved Act No. 738 of the Public Acts of 2002 authorizing the use electronic transactions by designated officers of the local government; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems that it is in the best interest of the Village of Beverly Hills to make certain financial transactions by using electronic transactions as described in the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the policy attached to this resolution as Exhibit A shall govern the use of electronic transactions.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (6-0)

SECOND ANNOUCEMENT OF VARIOUS BOARDS/COMMISSION VACANCIES

Campbell made the second announcement of various Board/Commission vacancies. The following is a list of board members whose terms expire on June 30, 2024. All of the members have been notified of their term expiration and asked to submit an application if they are interested in reappointment. Council agreed in November of 2008 to make these vacancies open to the public as well as the currently seated member. Several members have expressed interest in reappointment, while others have not.

All terms are for three years beginning July 1, 2024 and expiring June 30, 2027. All interested and eligible residents of Beverly Hills are encouraged to apply. Descriptions of each Board/Commission can be found on the Village website by selecting “Boards/Commission” under the “Government” tab. The deadline for applications is Monday, June 10, 2024. Applications are available on the Village website or by emailing the Village Clerk at krutkowski@villagebeverlyhills.com. A blank application is also included in this packet.

This constitutes the second announcement of the vacancies with appointments scheduled to take place at the June 18, 2024 regular Village Council meeting.

Mooney commented on the current interview process for appointing Board and Commission members and suggested that it be longer than 15 minutes going forward. He suggested implementing term limits for Board/Commission members of 3 terms or 9 years. He said it is difficult for Council to deny volunteers another term if they are incumbents and have done a good job.

The Council discussed term limits and the interview process for Board and Commission appointments.

O’Gorman said he was open to implementing term limits. He said he thinks the interview process is good as it is and that he calls applicants ahead of time to gather more information.

Hrydziusko said she is not opposed to making term limits in order to keep a mix of seasoned members and new members. She noted that, especially with the Parks & Recreation Board, if outgoing members would like to continue to be involved in events and projects, that they should be able to on a voluntary basis.

Drummond said that historical knowledge that comes with serving on a Board or Commission is beneficial. He said a 9-year limit seems reasonable, but there should be some sort of continuity on Boards.

Abhoud remarked that this is the first time he has seen 4 members of the ZBA not seek reappointment.

George said perhaps the Council give more time from when they ask for applications to when appointments are made. Regarding the interview process, he said Council can usually tell who will be qualified to serve based on their applications. He asked Council members to think about if this is a problem that they would like to help solve and suggested looking at what other municipalities are doing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Janice Pinson, Birwood, said she moved from Birmingham to Beverly Hills and likes that there are more trees in Beverly Hills. She said buckthorn was growing through her old fence and she would like a 5’ fence installed. She said she would like her family’s dog to be safe in the yard. She will be attending the Planning Commission meeting on May 22, 2024.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Memorial Day - The Village Office will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2024. The Village office will reopen on May 28, 2024. Trash collection will be delayed by one day next week.

Memorial Day Parade - 11:00 a.m. - Departs from Groves High School, travels north on Evergreen and then east on Beverly Road

Memorial Day Carnival - 12:00 p.m. - Beverly Park

Memorial Day Ceremony - 1:00 p.m. - Flagpole at Beverly Park

The Village wants to thank all the men and women who gave their lives in service of their country.

Village Wide Garage Sale - The annual Village Wide Garage Sale will be held May 31, June 1,

and June 2, 2024. Permits are required and are available for \$3 at the Village Office during regular business hours, Monday - Friday. Please check the website before the sale to see a list of participating addresses. This list will be updated regularly. Below is a link to the Village website that will provide updates:

https://www.villagebeverlyhills.com/news_detail_T8_R558.php

New Planning and Zoning Director - Former Planning Director Mark Stec left the Village in March of 2024. The Village posted the open position on the Michigan Municipal League website and on the Village website. The Village received several applications, and the Village has hired Susie Stec. Ms. Stec is the former Community Development Director for the City of Lathrup Village, City of Clawson, and the City of Hamtramck. She has 18 years of experience and a master's in urban planning (MUP) from Wayne State University. The Administration wants to welcome Susie Stec to the Village staff.

Quarterly Reports – Included in the meeting packet were quarterly reports from the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Planning and Zoning Departments.

Beverly Park 2050 Vision - A public engagement session hosted by the SmithGroup will be held on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Beverly Park pavilion to receive input about the Beverly Park 2050 Vision.

Jon Oen – Resident and former Council Member, Jon Oen passed away last Friday. The Village sends condolences to the Oen family. Campbell said that Oen was very welcoming and warm when he first started at Beverly Hills and that he will be missed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Drummond echoed Campbell's sentiments about Jon Oen. He said Oen was a great guy, and it will be difficult to fill his shoes. He said he attended Baldwin Public Library's recent meeting and their summer calendar is posted. He encouraged everyone to check out the offerings that the library has.

Abboud stated that SEMCOG will be holding its elections on June 27, 2024. He noted there is a bill in the House that would allow CVTs to determine whether golf carts are allowed on the streets. He said that SMART is working to expand transportation options for veterans and seniors. He thanked the service people who gave their lives. He noted that Next is holding a townhall meeting on May 22, 2024 to discuss the YMCA building. He also noted that Next's golf classic will be held in September. He sent condolences to the Oen family and said that Jon Oen was a lifelong public servant.

Mooney said he was shocked to hear of Jon Oen's death. He said Oen was truly a dedicated public servant. Oen served on the Village Council, Township Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals. He said he admired Mr. Oen a great deal and that he was a remarkable person. Many of the things Oen did went unnoticed. He was a contractor and a charitable guy who brought his tools to help at Beverly Park. He and his wife co-chaired the Halloween Hoot for several years. He said that Jon Oen would walk the walk and help people in the community. He commended the Public Safety Department for their efforts. He was proud to consider Oen his colleague and friend. He sent condolences to the Oen family.

Hrydziuszko echoed Mooney’s sentiments. She said Oen always greeted people with a smile. She talked about how Oen personally reached out to her during her first campaign because there was a mistake on her signs. She said he was always looking out for others. She sent her love and condolences to Trish Oen and her family. She reminded everyone that the Village is collecting new personal care items for veterans in need. She said there is a donation box located at the Village Office. She noted that a Disc Golf Open House will be held on June 8, 2024 at Beverly Park. A group will be coming with discs to provide demonstrations and no experience is necessary.

George remarked that Jon Oen was a great guy and he always made the time for people. Oen always had a smile on his face and George always appreciated talking with him. He sent his condolences to the Oen family. He reminded everyone that the Memorial Day Parade, Carnival, and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 27, 2024. He said volunteers are still welcome to reach out to the committee if they would like to be involved. He said the new sculptures were being installed in the parks. He noted the Sculptures in the Parks program is a three-year rolling program. He congratulated the Groves Girls Flag Football team on their inaugural year and said it was cool that their last game was at Ford Field. He said that communication methods have changed over time and that we need to reevaluate and adapt. He said there is a lot of information on the Village website, in the mailed newsletter, email blasts, and Facebook page. He said there are several avenues in which we try to communicate with the residents. He said that the first Java & Jazz of the season was held on Sunday. He said there was a great turn out at the event and that the Ryan Bills Trio sounded great.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mooney, second by Abboud, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Motion passed.

John George
Council President

Kristin Rutkowski
Village Clerk