

Present: President Craig; President Pro-Tem Lison; Members: Buterbaugh, Kennedy and Walsh

Absent: Downey and Stearn

Also Present: Village Manager, Hanlin
Village Clerk, Marshall
Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Building Official, Byrwa
Director of Public Safety, Woodard

President Craig called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION by Buterbaugh, supported by Walsh, that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on Monday, January 3, 2000 be approved as submitted.

Motion passes unanimously.

Buterbaugh introduced Kyle Holton, member of Boy Scout Troop 1029 from Queen of Martyrs School. He is attending the Council meeting to earn his communications merit badge.

Kennedy was pleased to introduce Beverly Hills resident John Grant who was recently appointed to the Retirement Board to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Robert Benton. Grant commented briefly on his background in the investment field and remarked that he is delighted to be a part of the community.

Director Woodard introduced Officer Andrew Van Horn who was hired by the Beverly Hills Public Safety Department this month to replace Michael Young who left on medical retirement. Van Horn stepped forward and expressed his enthusiasm to be in Beverly Hills.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA

There were no comments from the public.

APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY

The Parks and Recreation Board is requesting that Council allocate an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for expenses related to the upcoming Winter Family Fun Day in Beverly Park. Money has been budgeted to fund this event in the 1999/2000 Community Action: Special Events line item. The Winter Family Fun Day was scheduled for January 9 but postponed due to lack of snow and rescheduled for Sunday, January 30.

Pasieka related that the Village of Beverly Hills won first prize last year for its Winter Family Fun Day in a Michigan Municipal League competition for achievement in the area of improving life for

youths and families. Buterbaugh attended the annual Michigan Municipal League meeting on behalf of the Village and accepted a plaque in recognition of outstanding commitment of local officials and employees to improve the quality of life for citizens in the community. The plaque and the exhibit prepared to promote the event will be displayed in the park pavilion for the benefit of the residents who participate on January 30.

Craig is in receipt of a flyer indicating that the Cub Scout Klondike carnival is taking place in Beverly Park on the same day as the Winter Family Fun Day. Parks and Recreation Board member Jim O'Reilly, who is in charge of the event this year, has worked this out with cub scout representatives. The scouts were invited to stay for the Village events.

RESOLVED by Kennedy, supported by Lison, to authorize an expenditure of up to \$1,000 on the Winter Family Fun Day to be held in Beverly Park on January 30, 2000.

Roll Call Vote:

Resolution passes unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPING A RESIDENTIAL HOME BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

Kennedy stated that residents have been asking why the Village does not have a beautification program to recognize properties that have demonstrated an outstanding job of renovation or historical preservation. She proposes that Council establish a committee to serve in an advisory capacity and make recommendations to the Council regarding an annual beautification awards program. The purpose would be to recognize properties that have demonstrated an outstanding job of harmonizing structure and landscaping.

This committee acting alone or with other groups or organizations could design, coordinate, and implement a recognition program with the help of administration at a minimal cost to the Village. The idea is to invite citizens to come forward and volunteer for this. Village boards would be asked to select a representative to serve on a beautification committee. Kennedy expects that the committee would draft guidelines that would come before Council for approval. She recommends using the Village's site development handbook for reference.

Kennedy mentioned all the renovation going on in Beverly Hills. This type of program would encourage updating by awarding and publicizing positive things being done in the community. She would like to see recognition for different categories. Award winning homes could be featured in the Village calendar.

Council members were supportive of the proposal to create a beautification committee. Categories for awards were suggested - residential building and architecture, commercial, and landscaping. The Village may want to include a developer award. It was noted that communities are sometimes separated into segments for the purpose of recognition when the homes differ in various areas. It was clarified that it is not the intent of this proposal to create historical districts, which can become restrictive.

Council asked administration to draft a policy for its review with respect to establishing a beautification committee. Administration was asked to come back to Council within 90 days with an outline on the creation of this advisory group.

Administration will inform the public and village boards of the intent to seek volunteers for a beautification committee. Representation from the Planning Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Village historical committee, Woman's Club and Garden Club will be sought. A meeting will be scheduled for the end of March to bring volunteers together to exchange ideas.

UPDATE ON RETIREMENT BOARD ACTIVITIES

A vacancy on the Retirement Board created by the resignation of citizen member Robert Benton has been filled with the appointment of John Grant. A Retirement Board meeting was held last week and election of officers took place. John Grant was elected as chairperson and Elaine Kennedy as vice-chairperson.

Kennedy reported that the Retirement Board decided at its January 11, 2000 meeting to make modest changes in the allocation of funds due to the poor recent performance in certain asset categories. She emphasized that the Village of Beverly Hills Public Safety Officers Retirement System is in good health. The market value of the Retirement Fund was over \$15,500,000 at the end of the year and gained over \$1 million last year.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

MOTION by Buterbaugh, supported by Walsh, that the bills from a period of 1/4/00 through 1/18/00 be approved for payment in the following amounts:

\$215,548.94	General Fund
6,691.76	Major Road Fund
8,154.71	Local Road Fund
32,175.34	Water/Sewer Operation Fund
<u>8,627.64</u>	Trust & Agency Fund
<u>\$271,198.39</u>	Total

Questions from Council members on the bills were addressed by administration.

Motion passes unanimously.

LIAISON'S REPORTS

Buterbaugh related that the Cablecasting Board's negotiating committee has reached an agreement with MediaOne representatives on a new franchise agreement. He anticipates that the Cablecasting Board will recommend approval of a cable ordinance and franchise agreement to the consortium communities at its meeting this week.

Kennedy stated that the Planning Board discussed a work program for the bikeways, walkways and pedestrian safety study at its meeting last week. A public forum will be held on February 9 to discuss existing conditions and receive citizen input on safety concerns and problems with walking from one place to another. This will assist the board in forming the goals and objectives of the study.

Lison reported that delivery of the new fire truck is 8-12 weeks away.

Craig reminded everyone that the Winter Family Fun Day in Beverly Park will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2000 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Hanlin reported on the dramatic progress of the renovation of the Southfield Road building owned by Linden Nelson. She has been assured that Bed Bath & Beyond will open for Mother's Day. The building department, public services department, and public safety department have all been working closely with contractors on the site. Council will be kept updated on this project.

Hanlin reported on the well publicized meeting of the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority (SOCRRA) held last week. Royal Oak presented ten resolutions including attempts to dissolve SOCRRA, change the bylaws, and dismiss its legal counsel. None of the resolutions were adopted. A resolution was passed by the board to contract for a study to obtain factual information in terms of rates. There have been claims by the media that the rates are too high.

The manager of SOCRRA has offered to address the Council on all issues surrounding SOCRRA. Hanlin assured Council that administration is aware of the issues and is working towards keeping its rates as low as possible while staying a member of the consortium.

Hanlin asked Director of Public Safety Woodard to briefly address a staffing issue that will be coming before Council at the next meeting as an agenda item.

Woodard stated that he will be discussing a manpower issue with Council at its next meeting. It is his intent to make a hiring decision in anticipation of a potential vacancy. Candidates are available, and there is a fire fighting academy beginning in February. He is attempting to reach the department's budgeted strength of 26 people. Woodard explained that the officers who are in training are not countable, which affects the two in/two out rule requiring four fire fighters on a fire ground. Woodard responded to questions from Council.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Craig expressed his satisfaction with the progress made on the Linden Nelson building on Southfield Road. He thinks the deeper setback on Southfield Road resulting from the demolition of the front portion of the building is a positive change. Craig encouraged Council members to drive to the back of the site to view the proximity of the apartments to the rear parking lot. He regrets that Council did not require a screening wall to be erected. Craig asked administration to do everything possible to make sure there is an adequate greenbelt planted along the property line in addition to the fence.

Council has received copies of a letter and related information that is intended to be mailed to individuals informing them of the upcoming millage election. Council members may want to add to the list of people who will receive this mailing. A pamphlet has also been prepared by administration explaining the millage cap increase. Craig asked Council members to review the material and submit comments to Hanlin by Friday.

Craig emphasized the importance of continuing an education process on the millage cap increase. The next Council meeting will be held at Greenfield School, and the first meeting in March will be at Berkshire Middle School. Residents will receive printed material about the millage proposal as well as information in the Villager newsletter.

Kennedy urged residents to contact Council members or administration if they have questions on the ballot question. She remarked that the budget is a public document and is accessible for review. Kennedy commented that Council is being proactive, and the millage cap increase will protect the residents in the future.

Buterbaugh mentioned that an individual approached him before tonight's Council meeting and volunteered to help with the passage of the ballot proposal. If anyone would like to assist in this endeavor, they should contact the village office.

Craig stated that the deadline for submitting Council candidate petitions is January 31 at 4:00 p.m. He is attempting to arrange for all Council candidates to have five minutes to speak at the February 22 Council meeting.

MOTION by Kennedy, supported by Walsh, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously.

Andrew Craig
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk