

Present: President Stearn; President Pro-Tem Pfeifer; Members: Craig, Downey, Munguia and Walsh

Absent: Domzal

Also Present: Village Manager, Murphy  
Public Services Director, Spallasso  
Assistant to the Manager, Pasioka  
Village Clerk, Marshall  
Village Attorney, Ryan  
Director of Public Safety, Woodard

President Stearn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2001**

On page 9, paragraph 3, change ‘June 11’ to read ‘June 19’.

MOTION by Pfeifer, supported by Craig, that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on Monday, June 18, 2001 be approved as amended.

Motion passes unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

**CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FROM BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY COALITION**

Pfeifer introduced Pat Anderson, Executive Director of the Birmingham Community Coalition for the prevention of substance abuse. Anderson introduced several active members of the Coalition who were present in the audience.

Anderson related that the Coalition was established as a non-profit organization in 1995 with the primary purpose of mobilizing the whole community to prevent the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The organization primarily serves the role of a catalyst to initiate and support prevention efforts undertaken by all segments of the community. Anderson presented an overview of the programs and activities supported by the Birmingham Community Coalition. She revealed statistics that establish that substance abuse occurs in all age groups and emphasized the importance of prevention if all segments of the community are addressing the issue.

The Coalition is governed by a volunteer board of directors and staffed by a part-time executive director and a community organizer who helps coordinate drug-free activity for all youth. The coalition serves those who live, work, attend schools, and worship in the Birmingham Public School District area. Its primary funding sources are the Birmingham Public School District and the City of Birmingham with contributions from other municipalities in the service area, schools, religious organizations, civic organizations, fund raisers, businesses, and individuals. The

Village's participation in its major programs is appreciated. Many of the Council members as well as administration have been involved. There has been support received from the Beverly Hills Public Safety Department. Anderson hopes that Council will be able to continue to support the Birmingham Community Coalition, which will help the organization to assist the community to sustain and further expand on past efforts. The Birmingham Coalition is seeking \$1,800 from the Village of Beverly Hills this year.

A member of the youth group and senior at Groves High School, Hannah Roberts, spoke on behalf of the youth who benefit from the Community Coalition. She urged Beverly Hills to continue to help this organization fight the cause of curbing substance abuse in today's youth.

RESOLVED by Pfeifer, supported by Downey, to approve an expenditure of \$1,800 to be granted to the Birmingham Community Coalition to provide services to the youth of the Village of Beverly Hills. These funds have been provided for in the 2001/02 budget under Account #101-747-890.02.

Ryan stated that this resolution will be reflected in a contract between the Village of Beverly Hills and the Birmingham Community Coalition.

Roll Call Vote:  
Resolution passes unanimously.

#### **ACACIA RELIEF ROUTE STATUS**

Council is in receipt of a copy of the Acacia Relief Route Study prepared by consulting engineering firm Hubbell, Roth & Clark (HRC) to assist the Village in selecting a feasible, cost effective route for the Acacia Interceptor Relief Sewer.

Public Services Director Spallasso introduced Wally Alix, principal engineer with Hubbell, Roth & Clark, who has been closely involved with the Acacia project and the overall sewer needs for the Village of Beverly Hills and City of Birmingham. Alix will give a presentation on the Acacia Interceptor Relief Project and address alternate routes, after which he will be available for questions from Council. Spallasso hopes that Council will reach a consensus to proceed with the preliminary design based on a specific route.

Alix presented background on the Acacia Park Interceptor District. Basement flooding has occurred in this area during heavy storms due to the lack of capacity of the Acacia Interceptor compounded by local sewers with a lack of capacity. An analysis of the existing system was prepared by HRC in 1996, which demonstrated that the system has a capacity of transporting a one-year storm. That is a storm that has a 100% chance of occurring in any given year and equates to about one inch of rain in an hour. A ten year storm equates to about two inches of rain in an hour. The Relief Sewer Project will double the capacity of the existing system so that it will be able to safely transport flows for a ten year storm.

Alix reviewed that the 1996 Sewer System Study involved numerous projects. It was the basis for a dedicated millage being passed by the electorate in 1997 to fund sewer system improvements. The millage has resulted in critical repairs, the construction of the Amherst-

Sheridan relief sewer, and catch basin restrictions. The project under discussion is a relief sewer that will increase the capacity of the Acacia Interceptor.

The Acacia Relief Route Study was prepared by HRC in 2000. Three possible routes were outlined in the study. Alternate Route No. 1 goes along Warwick, Kinross and Bates. Alternate Routes No. 2 and 3 parallel the existing interceptor, one along Beverly/Pierce and the other along Beverly/Bates.

Alix outlined Alternate No. 1 using a map displayed on a screen. Instead of going down Beverly Road, this route goes up Waltham to Warwick, over to Kinross and across to Bates. It then goes up Southfield Road to 14 Mile Road where it connects to Birmingham's system at Birmingham Street.

Alternate No. 2 follows the same route of the existing system along Beverly Road. The system would have to be tunneled on the side of Beverly Road where the existing sewer is located and would use open cut construction the remainder of the way up. Alix stated that tunneling is much more expensive than open cut construction. Alternate No. 3 is similar to the second route except that the route along Beverly Road goes north on Bates Street. There is a concern with construction taking place next to the existing Acacia Interceptor with the potential of damage to the sewer pipe.

HRC has evaluated the three routes considering cost, construction, project phasing, community impact, and easements required. The cost of Alternate No. 1 is \$8.6 million; \$10.0 million for Alternate No. 2, and; \$9.8 million for Alternate No. 3. These costs are engineering estimates of the open cut and tunneling construction based on typical costs seen in the industry. Alix pointed out that the cost includes a 50% contingency, which accounts for unforeseen conditions, legal costs, engineering, administration, and occurrences that can not be anticipated until construction plans have been developed.

With regard to construction issues, Warwick is well suited for sewer construction due to the 100' right-of-way and lack of utilities and large trees. The setbacks allow for deeper construction along Warwick. There will be less traffic disruption along this route. Alternate No. 1 has the shortest length of high cost tunnel construction and has less lineal feet of pipe than any other alternative.

The tunneling involved in Alternates No. 2 or 3 extends along the majority of the length between Evergreen Road and Southfield. There would be open cut construction from Pierce or Bates.

Project phasing was evaluated. Because of the lesser cost of Alternate No. 1, construction could begin in 2003. Construction would begin in 2004 if Alternates No. 2 or 3 are selected.

Each route will impact the community. There will be open cut sewers along Warwick, Kinross and Bates with Alternate No. 1, which will be disruptive and inconvenient for residents. One of the advantages of this route is that those are local streets whereas Beverly Road construction will impact more traffic. In addition, there are some streets that will be difficult to access because they have only one entrance off Beverly Road.

Easement will be required for all three alternative routes, with fewer easements needed for Alternates 2 and 3.

Alix stated that the HRC report concludes that the recommended route is Alternate No. 1 for the reasons discussed including cost, construction, and impact on the community. Constructing the sewer in Beverly Road with a narrow right-of-way in close proximity to the existing 72” pipe is of major concern.

Spallasso clarified that, although three alternatives were described, only two routes can be considered. Alternate No. 2 was eliminated when Council selected the Bates route for the 14 Mile Road advance sewer project.

In response to an inquiry, Spallasso stated that the Village will embark on a public relations campaign before any activity begins in the field to make sure that all residents, particularly those who live along the construction route, have an opportunity to learn about the project. If Council concurs with Spallasso’s recommendation and that of the consulting engineer, he will begin contacting property owners soon to acquire necessary easements. Everything possible will be done to make sure that the residents are well informed ahead of time.

It was asked if soil borings or any other data will be collected subsequent to design approval that might affect a decision on the route. Alix confirmed that the HRC report indicates that one of the first things that will be done is to collect soil data on these routes.

Questions and comments from Council regarding route selection based on tunneling and length of pipe were addressed by Alix.

Downey mentioned that there is a traffic island in the ROW at the intersection of Warwick and Riverside Drive. The island has been maintained beautifully by the area residents. He asked that administration take necessary steps to assure that the island is restored to its prior condition after construction of the sewer line. Spallasso indicated that every possible effort will be made to properly restore this traffic island.

Stearn remarked that the Infrastructure Committee has reviewed the Acacia Relief Route Study in great detail. HRC made this presentation at an Infrastructure Committee meeting attended by several Council members in August of 2000. Stearn stated that he will support Alternate Route No. 1 based on cost savings and less inconvenience to residents. He affirmed that residents will be kept informed on this project.

RESOLVED by Walsh, supported by Pfeifer, that the Beverly Hills Village Council approves Alternate Route No. 1, which is Warwick, Kinross and Bates, for the routing of the Acacia Interceptor Relief Project as outlined in the Acacia Relief Route Study of July, 2000 prepared by Hubbell, Roth & Clark.

Roll Call Vote:  
Resolution passes unanimously.

**CONSIDER COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TWO APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD**

Downey related that a committee of Council consisting of himself, Stearn, and Walsh met this evening to review applications for two open positions on the Village Planning Board. The committee voted unanimously to recommend the appointment of Hugh Woodrow to the board. Candidate Robert Schneiders received a 2-1 vote for appointment to the Planning Board. Downey commented that an alternate candidate for this position is Bruce Wayne.

MOTION by Downey, supported by Walsh, to appoint Hugh Woodrow to serve on the Planning Board for a term to expire on 6/30/04.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Downey, supported by Walsh, to appoint Robert Schneiders to serve on the Village Planning Board for a term to expire on 6/30/04.

Stearn commented that he was pleased to see Messrs. Schneiders, Woodrow, and Wayne attend the committee meeting, which gave members of Council an opportunity to meet those candidates. Stearn stated that his was the dissenting vote on the motion to recommend Schneiders for appointment to the Planning Board for the following reasons. He believes that Mr. Wayne would be an exemplary person to serve on the Planning Board. Additionally, Mr. Schneiders’ first choice was to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals. There is a vacancy on the ZBA, and Stearn believes that Schneiders would be a good candidate for that appointment. There are also two vacancies on the Cable Board. On the other hand, Mr. Wayne indicated on his application that the Planning Board is his sole choice for service on a board. Stearn will vote against the motion because he thinks that there is a better selection for a variety of reasons including the fact that Mr. Schneiders is willing and capable of being a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Ayes – Downey, Munguia, Pfeifer, Walsh

Nays – Craig and Stearn

Motion passes (4 – 2).

**CONSIDER COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Craig reported that a committee of Council met prior to tonight’s meeting to review applications for a position on the Village Finance Committee. The committee unanimously agreed to recommend that Ana Dan be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2002.

MOTION by Craig, supported by Downey, to appoint Ana Dan to the Finance Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2002.

Downey commented on the exemplary resume submitted by this candidate. Ms. Dan is a fine community volunteer, and he looks forward to her joining the Finance Committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY ON THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Munguia made the first announcement of a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Interested residents are encouraged to apply for a seat on this board. Residents can call the Village office and request to have an application mailed to their home, or they can pick up the brief form at the office during business hours. Applications can be printed from the Village web site ([www.villagebeverlyhills.com](http://www.villagebeverlyhills.com)).

**SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT OF TWO VACANCIES ON THE BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD AND APPOINTMENT OF DOROTHY PFEIFER AS ALTERNATE TO THE CABLE BOARD**

Pfeifer made the second announcement of two vacancies for Beverly Hills representatives to the Birmingham Area Cable Board. She commented on the activities of the Cable Board and noted that it meets once a month at 7:45 a.m. at the Baldwin Public Library. Pfeifer encouraged members of the community to apply for this position.

The deadline for accepting applications will be on Friday, July 6, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. A committee of Pfeifer as chairperson, Domzal and Stearn will meet on Monday, July 16, 2001 at 7:15 p.m. to review applications and recommend a candidate for appointment to the Cable Board.

MOTION by Craig, supported by Walsh, to appoint Dorothy Pfeifer as an alternate member of the Birmingham Area Cable Board representing the Village of Beverly Hills.

Stearn stated that he will vote against this motion on the basis that Pfeifer is doing a good job as a Cable Board member. Pfeifer indicated that she will continue to be involved with this board as an alternate member.

Ayes – Craig, Downey, Munguia, Pfeifer and Walsh

Nays – Stearn

Motion passes (5 – 1).

**SECOND READING AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES #302, 303, 304 AND 305 TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE WITH MODIFICATIONS**

Before Council for approval are four ordinances that will amend the Village of Beverly Hills Municipal Code relating to the building code, electrical code, plumbing code, and mechanical code and designate an enforcing agency to discharge responsibility of the Village under the provisions of the State Construction Code Act as amended. Walsh reviewed the ordinances by section noting differences in the language.

At the first reading of these ordinances, Council questioned the wording relative to permits under Section 3.01, Paragraph C. The wording has been modified to delete the last sentence in each paragraph with the exception of the ordinance addressing the electrical code. Ryan suggested a revision in paragraph C of Ordinance No. 303 to change the last words to read ‘electrical appliances’ rather than ‘electrical equipment’.

RESOLVED by Walsh, supported by Downey, to adopt the following ordinances to amend the Village of Beverly Hills Municipal Code:

- Ordinance No. 302, Chapter 24 – Building
- Ordinance No. 303, Chapter 25 – Electrical
- Ordinance No. 304, Chapter 26 – Plumbing
- Ordinance No. 305, Chapter 28 – Mechanical

Stearn thinks that there is an opportunity to clarify the issue of exceptions to the ordinance through these amendments. He expressed dissatisfaction with the ordinance language as proposed.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court voiced concern with adoption of ordinances with restrictions that make enforcement a problem. She questioned how the public will be notified of the ordinance requirements and enforcement procedures.

Council discussed the issue of requiring permits for minor repairs and the enforcement of the ordinance. It was noted that the Village's current ordinances require residents to obtain the same permits.

Village Attorney Ryan stated that the language proposed is the same language used since the Village has been adopting national codes. The permit language is needed to make sure that people call the building department with a question about a minor repair. It would be cumbersome to attempt to define a minor repair in the ordinance. The building official is given some discretion. Ryan commented that the language has worked for many years without a problem. It is for the protection of the public and the people who own property in the Village. The purpose of the proposed amendments are to adopt the state code instead of the national code to provide uniformity of codes throughout the state.

Roll Call Vote:

Craig	- yes
Downey	- yes
Munguia	- yes
Pfeifer	- yes
Stearn	- no
Walsh	- yes

Resolution passes (5 – 1).

**APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE TO THE MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Stearn passed the gavel to President Pro-Tem Pfeifer for this agenda item. The annual business meeting of the members of the Michigan Municipal League will be held in Battle Creek, September 12-14, 2001.

Pfeifer remarked that she attended the Michigan Municipal League conference last fall and found it to be a valuable experience. She would encourage every member of Council to attend.

MOTION by Stearn, supported by Craig, to appoint Dorothy Pfeifer as the official representative of the Village of Beverly Hills and Doyle Downey as the alternate to the Michigan Municipal League annual business meeting held September 12-14, 2001 in Battle Creek.

Motion passes unanimously.

Stearn reclaimed the chair.

**APPROVE CONTRACT FOR STUDIO IN COUNCIL ROOM**

The Village is in the process of implementing improvements to the cable television broadcast of Council meetings. The Birmingham Area Cable Board provided Beverly Hills with grant money for audio-visual equipment for the council chambers and approved a bid in the amount of \$98,605 for that equipment. Council approved a \$3,880 bid for a new Council table and matching lectern.

The bid opening for the control room construction was held on June 26, 2001. Six contractors were invited to bid. Only one bid was received from the Brodie Company in the amount of \$12,251. The estimated construction cost for this project was \$15,000. This contractor is known by members of the Village staff to be reliable and competent.

Since there is no provision for this project in the 2001/02 budget, it is recommended that money be allocated from Account #101-900-977.00, Site Improvement. Budget amendments in June 2002 will reflect this expenditure.

RESOLVED by Pfeifer, supported by Craig, to award the project work for all construction associated with building a control room to house the cable TV equipment in the Council chambers to Brodie Construction Company of Beverly Hills in the amount not to exceed the bid of \$12,251 to be financed from the Site Improvement Account 101-900-977.00.

Questions from Council and the audience on the bidding process were addressed by Pfeifer and Pasieka. Stearn stated that he will vote against the resolution on the basis that there is only one bid to consider. Pfeifer responded that six companies were contacted and asked to bid. This is a small job during a busy construction season.

Roll Call Vote:

Downey	- yes
Munguia	- yes
Pfeifer	- yes
Stearn	- no
Walsh	- yes
Craig	- yes

Resolution passes (5 – 1).

Pfeifer expressed her gratitude to Pasieka for the time and effort he put into coordinating this project.

**APPROVE PURCHASE OF ADMINISTRATIVE VEHICLE FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT**

Craig stated that there are five administrative vehicles being used in the Public Safety Department as follows: Public Safety Director, School Liaison Officer, General Administration, Detective Bureau, and Deputy Director. There are two 1996 vehicles and two 1994 vehicles. Council approved \$20,000 for the replacement of one of the 1994 vehicles this year. The new vehicle will be used by the Director of Public Safety. The price was secured through the Oakland County Cooperative Purchase Program.

RESOLVED by Craig, supported by Downey, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council approve the purchase of one 2001 Ford Taurus four-door sedan at the delivered price of \$18,288.20 from Signature Ford of Perry, Michigan. Funds are available in account #101-900-976, Capital Purchases: Vehicle Purchases.

Be it further resolved that the Council approve expenditures up to \$1,000 for the changeover of radio and other emergency equipment to the new vehicle. Those funds are available in Account #101-345-852: Radio Maintenance.

Craig noted that this bid is under the budgeted amount by \$1,711.80 plus the sale price of the car being retired.

A question on the rotation of administrative fleet was addressed by Director Woodard.

Roll Call Vote:  
Resolution passes unanimously.

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JULY AS NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH**

Stearn passed the gavel to President Pro-Tem Pfeifer for this agenda item. At the June 21, 2001 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board, a recommendation was made that Council proclaim July as National Recreation and Parks month in the Village of Beverly Hills.

RESOLVED by Stearn, supported by Walsh, to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION**  
**National Recreation and Parks Month**

**Whereas**, Parks, recreation activities, and leisure experiences provide opportunities for young people to live, grow, and develop into contributing members of society, and

**Whereas**, parks and recreation creates lifelines and continued life experiences for older members of our community, and

**Whereas**, generating opportunities for people to come together and experience a sense of community through fun recreational pursuits, and

**Whereas**, park and recreation agencies provide outlets for physical activities, socialization, and stress reducing experiences, and

**Whereas**, parks, playgrounds, nature trails, open spaces, community and cultural centers, and historic sites make communities attractive and desirable places to live, work, play, and visit in a manner that contributes to our ongoing economic vitality, and

**Whereas**, parks, greenways, and open spaces provide a welcome respite from our fast-paced, high-tech lifestyles while simultaneously protecting and preserving our natural environment, and

**Whereas**, parks and recreation agencies touch the lives of individuals, families, groups, and the entire community, which positively impacts upon the social, economic, health and environmental quality of our community.

**Now, therefore be it resolved**, that we proclaim July as Recreation and Parks Month and encourage all citizens to celebrate healthy, active lifestyles by participating in their choice of recreation and park activities.

Roll Call Vote:

Resolution passes unanimously.

**REFER REQUEST FOR A LOT SPLIT AT 15705 AMHERST TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION**

MOTION by Downey, supported by Walsh, to refer a request for a lot split at 15705 Amherst to the Village Planning Board for review and recommendation.

Council discussed the lot split proposal. Pfeifer indicated that she will abstain from voting on this lot split request due to the proximity of the property in question to her home.

Motion passes unanimously.

**APPROVE BILLS**

MOTION by Pfeifer, supported by Downey, that the bills from a period of 6/19/01 through 6/29/01 be approved for payment in the following amounts:

\$186,856.77	General Fund
9,118.50	Major Road Fund
18,567.69	Local Road Fund
4,573.29	Capital Projects
60,919.66	Water/Sewer Operation Fund

8,357.66 Water/Sewer Improvement Fund  
471.96 Trust & Agency Fund

\$288,865.53 Total

Questions from Council and the audience were addressed by administration.

Motion passes unanimously.

### **LIAISON'S REPORTS**

Downey reported that, at its meeting on Wednesday, June 27, the Planning Board reviewed proposed changes to the parking lot layout on the site plan for the Kensington Academy expansion project. The Planning Board recommended denial of the revised site plan as proposed. Downey noted that there was significant community input on this issue. The pathway plan prepared by the Planning Board will be considered by Council at its next meeting.

Walsh reported on a SEMCOG meeting he attended last Thursday. There were 12 amendments made at this meeting to the 2025 Regional Transportation Plan for Southeast Michigan adopted earlier in the year. The amendments had to do with road construction, with only one change in Oakland County.

Walsh informed Council that SEMCOG is in the process of developing a transit plan for the seven counties. It is anticipated that a plan will be ready for a vote in October. There will be one public meeting on this plan per county during August and September. Walsh remarked that it will be both an extensive and expensive transit program.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Murphy stated that the Parks and Recreation Board at its June 21 meeting agreed that the park improvement project would be best served if it were coordinated in its entirety through the Village offices. The board directed Village staff to ask engineering firm Hubbell, Roth & Clark for a proposal to design, bid, and oversee the development of the balance of the park. HRC is already under agreement to prepare the construction documents for the Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) grant related work in the park. Village staff will present the proposal with possible alternatives for Council's consideration in the near future.

The Finance Committee met on June 19 without a quorum. Members MacDonald and Hitz were in attendance as well as Council liaison Domzal. Those present engaged in a constructive conversation regarding the role and mission of the Finance Committee. It was suggested that the committee consider exploring its mission. It was further suggested that the exercise might prove more fruitful following a joint meeting with the Village Council at which time Council members can express their views on the committee's role.

There has been a suggestion to have a Village Council planning and goal setting session. The idea is not to develop a long term strategic plan but to hold an informal session to address near term issues and to provide Village staff with direction.

The June 24<sup>th</sup> Concert in Beverly Park was well received. About 150 residents and guests enjoyed the sounds of Bobby Lewis and the Crackerjack Band. The next concert brings the X Band to Beverly Park on Sunday, July 22 at 4 p.m.

On behalf of the Village staff, Murphy wished the Village Council and the entire community a safe and enjoyable holiday. A fireworks display will be held on July 3 at 10:00 p.m. at Lincoln Hills Golf Course.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court asked if a final decision has been reached with the Birmingham Public Schools regarding the cell tower issue. Stearn responded that this issue is pending oral argument in the Michigan Court of Appeals. Village staff will check into whether antennas have been installed on the two cell towers at Berkshire School.

Tischler observed that the Council meeting agenda is no longer displayed on the municipal cable channel prior to the meetings. Agendas are not consistently published in the Eccentric newspaper. Tischler advised Council that the topic of discussion is not always clear to the home viewer. Stearn stated that he will try to improve on that.

Tischler pointed out that item #5 on tonight's agenda read "Acacia Relief Route Status". Council passed a resolution selecting a route when the wording of the agenda item did not indicate that action would be taken on this matter. Tischler suggested that it might be advantageous to post the Council meeting agendas on the Village's web site.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council members wished everyone a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. There will be a fireworks display held tomorrow, July 3 at Lincoln Hills Golf Course.

Walsh asked that the Village staff contact the Eccentric newspaper about publishing the Council meeting agenda on a regular basis. Pfeifer commented on a nice article that appeared in the Eccentric relative to the new manager.

Downey reported that there was continued discussion on the 14 Mile Road corridor at the last Planning Board meeting. The board is looking at zoning overlays and potential redevelopment of that area. He mentioned that members of the Planning Board are interested in receiving Council direction on that activity.

Downey referred to a copy of a letter distributed to Council from the Road Commission of Oakland County directed to Spallasso regarding the reconstruction of 14 Mile Road from Southfield to Greenfield Roads. The Road Commission will be widening that road, and the Village is placing a relief sewer under the road.

Downey read paragraph #4 of the letter regarding anticipated storm sewer flows to the proposed Acacia Park sewer and to the existing 30" storm sewer at Greenfield Road. The Road Commission is basically saying that it will provide some type of detention mechanism to control the water if the road discharges too much storm water. Downey stated that this reaffirms his

opinion that the Village should adopt a ground water retention ordinance. He maintains that the Village should always be concerned with the quality of its rivers, illicit discharges, and overflows controlled through the treatment facility. He would like Council to be involved in those decisions.

Downey noted that the Parks and Recreation Board at its last meeting made a motion to request Council to authorize administration to pursue construction design and management of the park improvement program through Hubbell, Roth & Clark. The board is recommending this particular firm in lieu of potential bidding for this service. From a governmental perspective, Downey would encourage as much open discussion and consideration as possible.

The Planning Board's pathway plan will be coming before Council for consideration at its next meeting. Downey commented that he is a strong advocate of safety paths in the Village and believes that there are many residents interested in sidewalks. He referred to an article in today's Detroit News in the Oakland section entitled, "Strollers find safe paths". It refers to the Bloomfield Township sidewalk construction. The Village has locations in the community where play facilities and community facilities are close to homes but people are required to walk in the street to access them.

Stearn is concerned that the Village's annual Community Development Block Grant fund allocation is not being used to the full benefit of residents that qualify under program guidelines. He asked Council to read information provided to them by the manager on this topic.

The pathway study will be discussed at the July 16 Council meeting. Stearn thinks it is important for all residents to attend that meeting and express their views on this controversial issue.

Stearn anticipates that a proposal from Hubbell, Roth & Clark for park improvements will be available for Council review at the next meeting. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Board and administration have come to the conclusion that there is a need to oversee this project. The logical choice was HRC because that firm is preparing plans for improvements to be funded through the Clean Michigan Initiative grant. If Council is not satisfied with the proposal for overseeing the park improvement project, other firms can be considered.

MOTION by Craig, supported by Downey, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously.

**Todd S. Stearn**  
**Council President**

**Ellen E. Marshall**  
**Village Clerk**