

Present: Council President Downey; President Pro-Tem Domzal; Members: Mooney, Pfeifer, Schmitt, Stearn and Woodrow

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager, Murphy
Public Services Director, Spallasso
Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Building Official, Byrwa
Director of Public Safety, Woodard

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

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as published.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – CONSENT AGENDA AND ITEMS NOT ON THE BUSINESS AGENDA

Downey read a letter received from Susan Beauvais of 17165 Buckingham in support of Council's adoption of a landlord/tenant ordinance.

Dan Nelson of 32311 Sheridan thanked Council for its support of this year's Winter Family Fun Day on behalf of Jim O'Reilly and himself, co-chairs of the event, and the Parks and Recreation Board. Everyone had a great time in Beverly Park on Sunday. Nelson thanked Stan Pasieka for his assistance as well as all the volunteers who helped make the event a success.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham Drive referred to the 2 mill dedicated millage approved by the voters in 1997 to undertake a program of road and sewer improvement and replacement. He expressed concern about what he believes to be an under funding of the Acacia Interceptor sewer project. Downey asked administration to comment on the amount of the shortfall based on current estimates and also questioned whether the road program will be completed as scheduled. Downey maintains that there is a lack of forthright information to residents on the status of these sewer and road improvement programs. He would like to have a project update presented at a Council meeting.

President Downey responded that administration has responded in writing to Norm Downey addressing these issues. Administration is working on a full report with updated information provided by consulting engineers, which will be presented to Council and residents at an upcoming meeting. Council will be ready to discuss the Acacia project at that time.

Norman Rubin of 31020 Rivers Edge Court questioned the amount of the reduction of State revenue sharing funds to Beverly Hills and how the Village is planning to deal with that cutback in the current fiscal year. Downey invited Rubin to discuss this with administration.

Toni Grinnan of 1 Stone House Lane invited the Council and citizens of Beverly Hills to the Groves High School Home Tour. Parents of GHS students raise money every year to put on a

party that provides the graduates a safe place to celebrate on graduation night. Parents are raising money this year by opening homes to be toured on Sunday, February 2 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. There are four homes in Beverly Hills, a home in Franklin, and a home in Bingham Farms. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the GHS office, the Appletree Room in Franklin, or from Grinnan after the Council meeting. Grinnan commented on the homes that will be showcased.

Downey mentioned that the Grinnan and the Kleppert homes were featured in last Saturday's Detroit News and Free Press.

Paul Kleppert of 20855 W. 14 Mile Road remarked that he and his wife are delighted to be participants in the GHS Home Tour on February 2. Kleppert commented on information that has been reported in the newspaper lately regarding the sidewalk millage.

He referred to an engineering study conducted for the Village in 1997 for construction of sidewalk on 14 Mile Road from Lahser to Evergreen and then from Evergreen between 13 and 14 Mile Roads to tie in existing sidewalks to a new sidewalk. Kleppert made the point that these two sections of the Pathways Plan have been engineered with detailed drawings by Hubbell, Roth & Clark and do not have to be redone. The estimated cost of the project at that time was \$486,000.

Kleppert stated that residents will be able to obtain a front yard sign supporting the sidewalk millage proposal on Friday. People can visit www.4sidewalks.org to request free delivery of a sign.

Nanci Freedman of 32460 Evergreen Road expressed opposition to the sidewalk millage proposal. Her comments were directed to the west side of Evergreen between Beverly and 14 Mile Road. Freedman stated that she is a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and a former member of the committee that was instrumental in designating that portion of Evergreen Road as a Natural Beauty Road. She has always taken a position to protect and maintain the character of the community. Evergreen Road in its natural state is a hallmark of the community, which should be preserved without the devastation of sidewalk construction along its west side.

Freedman stated that this area of Evergreen Road has a history of auto accidents. Winding curves and changes in elevation result in driving difficulty. She maintains that Council included Evergreen in its sidewalk plan on which the residents will vote on March 10 without consideration of safety concerns. Freedman stated that the same argument can be advanced for many portions of the remainder of the plan. Sidewalks that lead users to heavily trafficked roads rather than funneling people to interior, less traveled roads are not safe. She urges residents to vote "no" on March 10.

Frank Worrell of 32123 Bellvine Trail affirmed that the Village authorized engineering studies to obtain a price for construction of sidewalk on Evergreen Road in 1997. The estimated cost was \$486,000. Council agreed at that time that the Village could not afford this expenditure because funds were needed for sewer repair and improvements.

Pam Murdock of 30414 Georgetown, a member of the Committee 4 Sidewalks, requested clarification as to whether the 0.37 mill proposal will cover sidewalk construction along the main roads of Lahser, 13 Mile, 14 Mile, Evergreen and Greenfield. She also asked if there is money in the millage to replace trees that are removed. Downey stated that the ballot proposal allocates 0.37 mills to be dedicated to the construction of pathways as outlined in the Pathways Plan.

Murdock expressed the view that it is imperative to the residents and the future of the Village that the community have the ability to get around the Village safely. The Pathways Plan will connect existing pieces of sidewalk to provide a safe path on which to travel.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court commented that the minutes of a Special Council meeting held on January 6, 2003 indicate that there was discussion of a proposal to convert the current Beverly Hills Public Safety Department dispatch service function performed by civilian dispatchers to a consolidated public safety answering point (PSAP) service through the County at a lesser cost. She urged Council to consider establishing a Beverly Hills committee to review this proposal in addition to the study commissioned by Oakland County. She would like to see community involvement in exploring this concept.

Mike Freedman of 32460 Evergreen Road, member of the Pathways Advisory Committee, commented that it is not known that the 0.37 mills will cover funding of all of the Pathways Plan including replacement of trees.

Bunker Kelly of 21526 Corsaut Lane suggested that the cost estimates for sidewalk construction are guesses and that costs can get out of control. He is concerned about State revenue sharing cutbacks and the impact on the Village. Kelly talked about what other communities do in terms of long term maintenance of sidewalks.

Toni Grinnan of 1 Stonehouse Lane commented that she neglected to mention the Kleppert house when she spoke about the Groves High School Home Tour earlier in the meeting. It is an historic home built in the 1800's and a gem of our Village.

Grinnan stated that she has been following the sidewalk issue. She recalled a past movement in Beverly Hills to install bike paths with federal funding. She opposed that proposal because use of federal funds required constructing eight foot wide sidewalks set in a straight line at the back of the right-of-way. The Village is now proposing to fund sidewalk construction locally so it can be done our way. Trees can be preserved by a meandering walkway. She referred to current sidewalk installation in the Village on Beverly Road that demonstrates sensitivity to adjacent landowners.

Grinnan remarked that she hopes that the Sturbridge neighborhood could be included in the Pathways Plan some time in the future. She feels that the Natural Beauty Road is an asset that all residents should be able to enjoy on foot or on a bicycle. Grinnan questioned how a reasonable person could contend that sidewalks do not make pedestrian travel safer. Beyond safety, Grinnan thinks that sidewalks on major roads would knit the Village together. Grinnan supports the sidewalk proposal and has every confidence that the new sidewalks will be sensitively and

carefully done. She urged people to vote for the proposal and then make sure that the sidewalks go in exactly the way the residents want them to.

George Meyer of 22542 Fiddlers Cove advocates completion of the sidewalk on 13 Mile Road from Bingham Farms School to Lahser Road, north on Lahser to 14 Mile Road and west to the Village limits. He urges completion of this portion of the pathway plan on the basis that it is a huge safety issue.

Ingrid Haddock of 32780 White Oaks Trail complimented the Parks and Recreation Board on the Winter Family Fun Day. The activities were well planned and fun, and Beverly Park is a showplace for which the Village can be proud.

Haddock reported on the kick-off meeting of the Committee 4 Sidewalks held last Wednesday in the Village municipal building. The meeting was well attended by supportive community members and resulted in additional volunteers and donations. She invited residents to visit the committee's website at www.4sidewalks.org for more information.

Bob Walsh of 20655 Smallwood Court commented that there is \$7 million worth of sidewalk in the Village. He is opposed to the Village assuming the financial responsibility for repair and replacement of sidewalks. Walsh understands that there is currently \$160,000 worth of sidewalk repair identified throughout the Village. He maintains that allocating \$35,000 a year to repair or replace sidewalks will not be adequate.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Pfeifer, seconded by Mooney, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Review and consider minutes of a special Council meeting held on January 6, 2003.
- b. Review and consider minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 6, 2003.
- c. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, January 13, 2003.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER 2003 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LIMITED TAX BOND AGREEMENT FOR CORYELL ESTATES AND HUMMEL COURT

Before Council for consideration is a Bond Purchase Agreement that would permit the Village of Beverly Hills to enter into a loan agreement with Midwest Guaranty Bank in the amount of \$500,000 to fund the construction of improvements on Hummel Court and Coryell Estates. Special Assessment Bonds will be issued in anticipation of the collection of an equal amount of future due installments on assessment rolls established for Hummel Court and Coryell Estates property owners, together with interest and investment income.

Motion by Domzal and seconded by Pfeifer.

Resolved to adopt a resolution entering into an Agreement with Midwest Guaranty Bank for the issuance of Special Assessment Bonds in the amount of \$500,000.

A copy of the Resolution and the Bond Purchase Agreement is available for review at the Village offices.

Dennis Neiman, bond counsel from Miller, Canfield addressed questions from Council.

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

REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPROVING OAKLAND COUNTY’S REQUEST TO APPLY FOR USE OF A COMPUTERIZED TAX ROLL SYSTEM

Public Act 505 of 2002 “Computerized Tax Roll” allows the Oakland County Treasurer to obtain permission for the use of a computerized tax roll by a local unit. Because the Village uses the Oakland County Information Technology’s Assessment and Tax Receivables Systems, the County is willing to apply to the State for approval on the Village’s behalf upon adoption of a resolution by Council. The County expects to have its I.T. systems certified for the 2003 summer tax collection.

Motion by Pfeifer and seconded by Stearn.
Resolved to adopt a Resolution for Compliance with Requirements of Computerized Tax Roll and Request for Oakland County to Apply for Use of a Computerized Tax Roll.

A copy of the entire resolution is on file at the Village offices for public review.

Southfield Township Clerk Sharon Tischler explained the logic and use of the County computerized database as the tax roll and answered questions from Council members.

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

REVIEW AND CONSIDER COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING GRANT APPLICATION

Downey passed the gavel to President Pro-Tem Domzal for this agenda item.

Downey outlined a State tree-planting program whereby the National Tree Trust and Michigan Department of Natural Resources give tree seedlings to a community for planting in the public right-of-way or on public property. He asks Council to consider applying for the Community Tree Planting Grant. Downey proposes to personally organize the planting and care of the trees.

Motion by Downey and seconded by Stearn to authorize administration to submit an application for a 2003 Community Tree Planting Grant for 300 trees. Administration is asked to work with the Parks and Recreation Board to determine the species of trees that would be requested.

Council discussed the requirements of the grant. The trees must be planted on public property and the Village would be required to undertake a maintenance program for at least two years after the seedlings are received. It is required that the trees be watered. A report must be

submitted in one year on the number of trees that survived. Downey indicated that he will fulfill the requirements of the grant within the best of his ability.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

Downey resumed the chair.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER FY 2002/2003 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Woodrow stated that adjustments are needed to the 2002/03 adopted Village budgets due to projects that were budgeted in 2001/02 but were not completed until 2002/03. The money was added to last fiscal year's fund balance and charged to the current fiscal year expense budget. Council is in receipt of worksheets outlining adjustments needed to the 2002/2003 adopted Village budgets for the General Fund, Major Road Fund, and Local Road Fund.

Motion by Woodrow and seconded by Mooney.

Resolved to approve proposed amendments to the 2002/2003 budget for the General Fund, Major Road Fund and Local Road Fund as outlined in the memorandum from the Finance Director dated January 15, 2003.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion passed (7 – 0).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSED PLANNING CONSULTANT FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2003

Village planning consultant firm Birchler Arroyo has submitted its schedule of professional fees for 2003. The Village usually incurs the fees included in the schedule when a site plan or proposal is under review with such costs passed through to the property owner or developer in keeping with the Village Building Department fee schedule. Special studies such as the 14 Mile Road Corridor Study require a work plan and budget approved by Council before work may proceed. Birchler Arroyo has agreed to maintain its monthly retainer fee at \$900 through the end of the Village's fiscal year. The retainer would increase to \$1,000 in July 2003.

Schmitt described the \$900 retainer as a guaranteed minimum fee. He noted the Village did not use that amount in services over recent months. Birchler Arroyo did not agree to a request from administration to eliminate the guaranteed minimum and provide service on an hourly basis. Schmitt proposes that Council solicit proposals in order to explore other options available for planning consultant services.

Motion by Schmitt and seconded by Stearn.

Resolved that the Village of Beverly Hills Council direct administration to seek proposals for general planning services. In the interim, administration is authorized to continue on a month-to-month basis with Birchler Arroyo in accordance with their letter dated January 13, 2003.

Domzal agrees that the Village should seek proposals at some point but expressed concern with going out for bids prior to July 1 when the Planning Board is the process of a 14 Mile Road Corridor Study and a Southfield Road Corridor Study. The Village is in a position of having

invested in a consultant and arriving at a work product that is about to be generated in terms of the 14 Mile Road Corridor study.

Domzal commented that he works with planning consultants through his law practice and does not find Birchler Arroyo's fee schedule unreasonable for the services provided. He is not opposed to going out for bids but prefers to wait until the next budget cycle. In the meantime, he suggests working something out with the consultant to make sure the Village is receiving full value for its money during that period of time.

Schmitt responded that there are several major projects that the Planning Board is working on currently. The 14 Mile Road Corridor Study is on a fixed fee contract with Birchler Arroyo. The Southfield Road Corridor Study and Master Plan Update have not been initiated, and there is no contract in place for this work. These work programs can be assigned to any planning consultant.

Comments and questions from Council were addressed by Murphy. Birchler Arroyo has been working with Beverly Hills since 1998 and is under a month-to-month contract with the Village. The contract expires 60 days after notice to terminate by either party. There was a consensus of Council to solicit proposals to see what other consultants can offer to the Village.

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

FOURTH ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY ON THE RETIREMENT BOARD

Stearn announced a vacancy on the Retirement Board and encouraged interested residents to make application for this position. This Board meets quarterly on Tuesday evenings and manages the Public Safety Officers Retirement Fund. Applications are available at the Village office or can be downloaded from the Village web site (www.villagebeverlyhills.com).

The chair recognized resident John Mooney, who reported to Council and the community that former Council President Allan Hoover passed away on Sunday. Mooney related some of the accomplishments of Allan Hoover during his 17 years of service on the Council, serving as President or President Pro-Tem for much of that time. Allan Hoover had a profound affect on the progress of Beverly Hills and the lives of all Village residents.

DISCUSSION ITEM – SEASONAL PATHWAYS

Council member Mooney proposed further Council discussion on a seasonal designation for pathways. She related that residents who either support or oppose sidewalks have made it clear that they prefer a seasonal designation for sidewalks on major roads. Mooney outlined three issues that should be discussed and clarified – liability, quality of life, and hardship.

Mooney believes that liability considerations related to clearing pathways remain and need clarification. The quality of life issue relates to the fact that designating paths as seasonal may reduce the use of sidewalks. She questioned whether separating local and major roads would resolve that issue. Mooney commented on the hardship issue. Four miles of new sidewalk on major roads are proposed. This would include a substantial amount of side and rear yard

sidewalks that may be difficult to access and therefore represent a hardship to homeowners in terms of clearing those walks.

Woodrow stated that it was his understanding from the outset that any new pathways constructed by the Village would be designated as “seasonal” or cleared by the Village. He does not think clearing the sidewalk should be a burden of the homeowner whose property abuts new sidewalk on a major road. He is in favor of a seasonal designation in lieu of the Village financing the clearing of sidewalks. Homeowners can clear their sidewalk if they choose. Woodrow will go along with the designation of all sidewalks as seasonal if it means that the new sidewalks are seasonal.

Pfeifer suggested that the definition of a seasonal path be included in the sidewalk ordinance with the designation of seasonal paths to be assigned at the discretion of Council. She does not think all sidewalks should be designated as seasonal because there are different situations in various sections of the Village.

Stearn agrees with designating major roads as seasonal while continuing to require commercial property to clear their walks. He thinks that the current ordinance has worked well for the interior sidewalks.

Schmitt thinks that sidewalks should be shoveled, but he will support an ordinance designating sidewalks on major roads as seasonal paths as long as commercial property is excluded.

Mooney commented that she would like to see additional information from the Village Attorney on the liability issue. She agrees that sidewalks on major roads should be seasonal.

Domzal proposes designating all the pathways in the Village as seasonal from a liability point of view. The Village has an ordinance requiring everyone in the Village who lives adjacent to a sidewalk to shovel that walkway. If that walk is not cleared, the Village can perform the work and charge the homeowner. Domzal noted that this is not done. The Village mandates that the homeowner has to shovel the sidewalk, but if the property owner shovels the walk and does not do a good job, he can be held liable under civil law if someone slips and falls on that sidewalk.

The Village has an integrated pathway system with interior and exterior roads. Domzal thinks that pathways should all be treated as seasonal. Those who want to shovel snow for whatever reason will continue to do so.

Downey asked building official Dave Byrwa questions about the enforcement of the snow removal section of the ordinance. Byrwa stated that he has never issued a ticket to a resident for failure to clear a sidewalk of snow. He has notified people who have not shoveled snow with a form letter to remind them of the ordinance requirement.

Paul Kleppert of 28055 W. 14 Mile Road thinks that people will shovel the sidewalk in front of their house if they want to no matter how Council addresses this issue.

Toni Grinnan of 1 Stone House Lane, an attorney who has practiced personal injury defense work, thinks that most people in this practice will tell you that “slip and fall” on snow and ice claims are scarce, and the Supreme Court has taken a discouraging view of these claims. People are not collecting on these cases and lawyers are not bringing them. Grinnan suggests that this issue may not be worth the amount of consideration Council is investing in it.

Mike Freedman of 32460 Evergreen Road stated that no attorney will guarantee a victory or loss in a court, and he does not want to be the one sued for a slip and fall incident on his sidewalk. The grade on his property along Riverside is steep and would be a dangerous stretch on which to construct a sidewalk. With respect to the issue of seasonal pathways, Freedman thinks that Council should maintain all of the sidewalks and shovel the snow.

Frank Worrell of 32123 Bellvine Trail commented on the Pathways Plan and had questions on the “seasonal” designation. He asked if a seasonal sidewalk designation will grant immunity to a homeowner from “slip and fall” law suits if the sidewalk has not been cleared of ice and snow. Worrell asked if school children (walkers and bikers) will be forced to use plowed roads, putting them in harm’s way if our sidewalks are snow covered and icy for approximately five or six months of the year. He thinks the children will leave the sidewalks and walk on the road where it is plowed. Worrell would like to know how the \$500 fine in Ordinance #312 relative to cleaning sidewalks coordinates with the proposed seasonal sidewalk designation.

George Meyer of 22542 Fiddlers Cove thinks that Council should consider a seasonal designation for all sidewalks in the Village and let the residents decide whether to shovel their snow.

Bob Walsh of 20655 Smallwood Court stated that Ordinance #312 will become effective on January 29. The ordinance addressed sidewalk maintenance as well as a requirement to clear sidewalks under the penalty of up to a \$500 fine. He remarked that the seasonal designation on major roads is geared toward the millage proposal, which will not be considered by the voters until March.

Pam Murdock of 30414 Georgetown thanked Council for listening to the residents and bringing this issue up for discussion. She expressed the opinion that it would be ideal if it is possible to make the pathways along the major roads seasonal and keep the ordinance in tact for interior road sidewalks. If they all have to be deemed seasonal, she would appreciate that as well.

Dennis Page of 30470 Lincolnshire East stated that he supports the idea of seasonal pathway designation along major roads. He encouraged Council to research the costs of a village-wide snow removal program.

Bunker Kelly of 21526 Corsaut Lane expressed the view that designating sidewalks as seasonal in one part of the Village and not another does not seem fair. He commented that lawsuits do happen and they can be devastating.

Mooney asked administration to provide Council with a copy of the Bloomfield Township ordinance regarding sidewalks.

Motion by Mooney and seconded by Domzal to request administration to draft an ordinance for Council consideration that would define seasonal pathways without designating specific pathways as seasonal.

Stearn stated that he would go along with designating all Village pathways as seasonal based on comments from the public. This would eliminate the fine language currently in the ordinance.

Schmitt expressed the opinion that the ordinance should specify which roads would be designated as having seasonal pathways.

Downey understands that the ordinance would define seasonal paths and Council would designate which paths are seasonal by means of a policy document.

Roll Call Vote:

Pfeifer	- yes
Schmitt	- no
Stearn	- yes
Woodrow	- yes
Domzal	- yes
Downey	- yes
Mooney	- yes

Motion passed (6 – 1).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

REPORTS

Manager

Murphy reminded everyone that there are three Council positions on the ballot of the March 10, 2003 Election. Council petitions are available at the Village office and are due by 4:00 p.m. Monday, January 27.

Council

Woodrow commented that the annual Winter Family Fun day went well on Sunday. Sled hill improvement plans are progressing.

Pfeifer reported on the Birmingham Area Cable Board meeting of January 15. There is a new government liaison from Comcast, Fred Eaton. Former liaison, Mike DiMaria, will be missed. The Board is in the process of reviewing the Cable Board operating fund audit and the franchise fee audit prepared by Plante & Moran.

Pfeifer reminded administration to submit to the Cable Board an accounting of legal fees incurred by the Village Attorney and any other fees incurred by Council or administration resulting from consideration of Comcast Form 394 application for transfer of control of the cable

company. These expenses will be recouped from Comcast. Murphy responded that he is doing this research and will submit a figure to the Cable Board.

Pfeifer attended a meeting of the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC) Board today. She reported that BASCC is experiencing a loss of revenue as are all philanthropic organizations due to the poor economy. The BASCC Board asked Pfeifer to relate to Council that it is looking for the community block grant funds that were allocated by Council to BASCC. The Board expressed gratitude to Village residents for supporting the SMART ballot initiative. The next fundraiser, BASCC in the Glow, is scheduled for Thursday, April 24 at the Townsend Hotel.

Stearn thanked everyone involved in the planning of the Winter Family Fun Day – it was a great event. Stearn urged experienced citizens to make application for the vacant position on the Retirement Board.

Murphy addressed an inquiry from Stearn regarding information that was to be provided to resident Norm Downey prior to today's Council meeting. A report from Hubbell, Roth & Clark regarding the Acacia Interceptor project was received by the Village today. Administration reviewed the data and sent the report back to the consulting engineers for changes. Murphy informed Norm Downey before the meeting tonight that he did not have the current information ready, and Downey would be contacted when it was available. Murphy expects that there will be a presentation at an upcoming Council meeting updating everyone on the status of the Acacia Interceptor project.

Schmitt referred to an article in the Detroit News this weekend about the Grinnan's historical home in Beverly Hills with mention of the Kleppert's home. The regularly scheduled Planning Board meeting of January 22 has been cancelled.

Schmitt commented that, if the Pathways millage passes, all sensitivity will be used during sidewalk construction to spare trees and fences. There were comments made this evening that sidewalk along Evergreen Road would be more dangerous than no sidewalk. Schmitt contends that it is safer to walk, jog, or bike on sidewalk than it is on the shoulder of Evergreen Road.

Mooney acknowledged Jim O'Reilly and Dan Nelson as co-chairs of Winter Family Fun Day this year.

Domzal commented that questions have been raised by residents regarding the Acacia Drain and the impact of State revenue sharing cutbacks on the Village budget. He suggested that it would be helpful if the Manager gave a brief presentation on the state of the Village at an upcoming Council meeting.

With respect to the sidewalk issue, Domzal requested that both opponents and proponents of the issue check their facts with the Village Manager before disbursing information. Sidewalks on major roads is an important and visible issue to the community.

Domzal requested that Council members receive copies of the Southfield Township Board meeting minutes.

Downey thanked John Mooney for sharing his knowledge of former Council President Allan Hoover's contributions to the Village. Downey thanked the members of the Parks and Recreation Board and co-chairs of the event Dan Nelson and Jim O'Reilly for organizing the Winter Family Fun Day. Stan Pasioka and Chuck Comeau and his crew were commended for their efforts.

Downey announced that a special Council study session will be held on Monday, January 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the public safety conference room.

Citizens must be registered to vote 30 days in advance of the March 10 Election, or February 10.

Downey urged early morning and evening joggers to wear clothes that identify themselves to motorists. Downey mentioned to Council members that SEMCOG is holding a workshop on February 18 on the topic of "Restoring Vitality to our Communities".

Downey encouraged everyone who is either for or against sidewalks to keep their comments as constructive as possible.

Downey acknowledged that Council members received mugs along with a note from the Beverly Hills Police Officers Association thanking Council and administration for the cooperation that took place during union negotiations.

Motion by Stearn and seconded by Mooney to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

Doyle Downey
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary