

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager, Murphy
Public Services Director, Spallasso
Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
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

MOTION by Pfeifer, seconded by Mooney, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bob Walsh of 20655 Smallwood Court commented on what he views as business items that are placed on the consent agenda and approved without discussion at Council meetings. He considered it a disservice that acceptance of a gift from the Village Woman's Club is on tonight's consent agenda with no indication of what is being presented to the Village. He thinks Council should give serious thought to what is placed on the consent agenda.

Walsh attended a meeting of the Strategic Planning Development Committee last week. He questioned whether these meetings will be posted and if agenda and meeting minutes will be available to the public.

Downey stated that, in the interest of conducting an efficient meeting, items on the consent agenda are those that are deemed by a vote of Council not to warrant further discussion. All material covered by Council including the bills are available for public review at the Village office. Downey noted that the Village Woman's Club graciously donated two picnic tables to Beverly Park.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court concurred that there are sometimes items on the consent agenda that should be discussed by Council. She added that residents are not advised of the dollar amount of the bills being reviewed and filed at each Council meeting. Tischler asked questions on two items on the list of bills, which were addressed by administration.

Jim O'Reilly, member of the Beverly Hills Parks and Recreation Board, was present with Andy O'Reilly of 31191 Huntley Court and Mike Sabat of 1751 Norfolk in Birmingham to report on the status of work on the sled hill in Beverly Park. Jim O'Reilly explained that the safety and accessibility of the sled hill was identified as one of the priority park improvements following the passage of the dedicated park millage.

An engineering study was conducted and quotes received on the sled hill work. The low bid received for putting in a fence and steps was \$77,000, which was beyond the amount budgeted for the project. The Parks and Recreation Board contracted to install a railing on the sled hill. Boy Scouts of Troop 1024 stepped forward and volunteered to construct the steps if the Village provided the material. Installation of 191 steps on the north and south sides of the sled hill was completed late yesterday afternoon due to the labor provided by scouts of Troop 1024 led by Andy O'Reilly and Michael Sabat with the help of friends, neighbors and relatives.

O'Reilly stated that the amount spent for sled hill improvements will total about \$60,000 less than the amount quoted. On behalf of the Parks and Recreation Board, he thanked Michael Sabat and Andy O'Reilly for completing this project. It looks great, and he invited residents to come out any time to visit the sled hill.

Andy O'Reilly and Michael Sabat thanked the Village for the opportunity to do the project and thanked a number of individuals who helped with the labor and planning of the sled hill step construction.

Downey thanked Andy O'Reilly, Michael Sabat, and all the Boy Scouts and friends who helped provide the Village with a safer sled hill and who saved the Village a large amount of money through their efforts. The scouts were applauded by Council and the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mooney, seconded by Schmitt, to approve the Consent Agenda as proposed:

- a. Review and consider minutes of regular Council meeting held on November 3, 2003.
- b. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, November 17, 2003.
- c. Review and consider acceptance of gift from Village Woman's Club.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF 2003 BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

The Beautification Committee was formed in 2000 for the purpose of recognizing and honoring property owners for their contribution in making Beverly Hills a more beautiful village. The Beautification Committee has received and considered 39 entries this year. Members of the committee have selected 11 winners to receive the 2003 awards. Committee member Janet Sebo assisted President Downey in presenting 2003 Beautification Award Certificates and a gift of a Pewabic Pottery tile to the following:

Allen Gigliotti and Terry Barclay
32096 Rosevear

Richard and Susan Swann
18432 Riverside

Mark and Debra Hammel
32430 Evergreen

Jerry and Pat Timlin
18861 Saxon

Susan O'Callaghan, accepting award for
Huntley Homeowners Association (entrance)

Jim and Dianne Abel
18151 Buckingham

Fred Porter
31065 Stafford

Emile Salon
31409 Southfield

John Scheuher
16940 Dunblaine

Michael and Julia Garvey
15968 Amherst

Terrance and Paula Sullivan
32120 Rosevear

On behalf of Council, Downey thanked everyone who contributes to keeping Beverly Hills beautiful.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF DECEMBER 1 FOR STAFFORD PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Domzal reviewed that Council received a petition from Stafford Drive residents to construct an underdrain system on their street. At Council's authorization, engineering plans and specifications and cost estimates have been prepared for the proposed drainage project. A public hearing date was set for Monday, December 1, 2003 to review the costs associated with the proposed Stafford special assessment district and to consider moving forward with this drainage project. Notice of the public hearing will be published in the Eccentric newspaper and will be mailed to affected property owners.

Domzal presented an update on implementation of a drainage plan that resulted from a Hubbell, Roth & Clark study prepared about a year and a half ago. The report indicated sections of the Village with drainage problems, most of which were in areas with unpaved roads. An implementation plan identified the high priority areas.

The area in most need of drainage improvements was Embassy, Coryell, Plantation and Elwood. Drainage and road improvements have been completed on these streets in the last year through creation of special assessment districts.

The second priority area was Kennoway, Marlin, and Stafford. The Village is considering establishment of a special assessment district for a drainage improvement project on Stafford. It is proposed to conduct a maintenance project involving reshaping of ditches on Kennoway and Marlin.

The next area identified in the report includes Hummel Court. A special assessment district for drainage and paving has been completed on Hummel Court. The fourth priority was Sheridan. Domzal stated that drainage work has been completed in conjunction with installation of a water main on Sheridan.

The fifth priority area was Riverside, Sunnyslope and Norwood. Depending on budget considerations, the Village anticipates implementing a maintenance project in this area next spring to address runoff located primarily at Riverside. Addressing erosion issues should solve some of the drainage problems experienced on these streets.

Domzal summarized that about 80% of the drainage problems identified in the 2002 Roadside Drainage Study have been addressed by Council and administration. Council has allocated \$100,000 from the local road fund towards drainage, a portion of which goes towards the Village's 20% contribution to special assessment district programs for improvements. The balance goes towards maintenance responsibilities such as cleaning and reshaping ditches.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER #1 – OAKLAND EXCAVATING STAFFORD UNDERDRAIN

A majority of property owners on Stafford Drive submitted a petition to the Village requesting drainage improvements. The petition was accepted and plans were prepared and submitted to the Rouge Program Office with application for a grant to help pay for the improvements. This grant was awarded based on the same unit prices approved previously per the low bid of Oakland Excavating Company for the Coryell Estates and Hummel Court projects.

The Oakland Excavating Company has agreed to apply the same unit prices to the Stafford project through a Change Order to the original contract. Funds are available for this work in the local streets road fund.

Motion by McCleary, seconded by Domzal.

Resolved to approve Change Order #1 to Contract R-02-03A and R-02-03B to The Oakland Excavating Company, 31 Oakland Ave., L.L. Suite B Pontiac, MI 48342 for a total of \$167,206.50 for the construction of the Underdrains/Swales Drainage Improvements on Stafford Drive. This award to be contingent upon the successful establishment of the Special Assessment District by the Village Council.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion carried (7 – 0).

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT OF A VACANCY ON THE PLANNING BOARD

Domzal made the second announcement of a vacancy on the Village Planning Board for a term to expire on June 30, 2006. Interested residents can obtain applications at the Village office or on the Village web site (www.villagebeverlyhills.com). The deadline for receiving applications is Friday, November 21, 2003 at 5:00 p.m.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY TO DREDGE OLD POND

The Mill Pond is located off Evergreen Road at the end of Old Pond Court and extends to north of the Riverside bridge. There have been no substantial maintenance projects undertaken on the pond since it was cleaned but not dredged probably in the early seventies. One of the items included in the Village's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Initiative (SWPPI) under the heading of "Reduce Sediment Loads" is the commitment to perform a feasibility study for the purpose of preparing for implementation action.

Motion by McCleary, seconded by Mooney.

Resolved to authorize a study on the feasibility of dredging Mill Pond off Evergreen Road utilizing the services of engineering consultants Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$6,500.00.

Funds for this expenditure are available in the Village Rouge River Maintenance account. This is a specific amount of money set aside for Rouge River Maintenance and for conducting this type of study.

It was clarified that cleaning up the pond will ultimately be necessary. The goal is to use the results of the feasibility study to locate federal or state funds to offset the project implementation cost. Spallasso stated that he will be providing Council with a comprehensive report on the Village's storm water initiatives in the next month.

Fred Porter of 31065 Stafford questioned the location of the Mill Pond, which was pointed out on the map.

Mark Hammel of 32430 Evergreen spoke in favor of cleaning up and dredging the pond. In answer to an inquiry, Spallasso stated that the HRC study will result in a cost estimate for the project.

Motion carried (7 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Boy Scout Sean Gilmour from Troop 1029 attending University of Detroit Jesuit High School in Detroit was present in the audience working on his citizenship in the community badge.

REPORTS – MANAGER

Murphy reported that the first meeting of the Strategic Planning Development Committee took place on Tuesday, November 11th. After introductions and a quick overview of the process, the committee spent the balance of their first night identifying the key community stakeholders and discussing how to engage and involve the stakeholders in the process. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9th in the Media Center of Beverly School.

As a reminder, the Village offices are closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th for the Thanksgiving holiday. Rubbish collection is delayed by one day. The normal route will be picked up on Friday.

Spallasso reported on activity taking place this week at Rosevear and Beverly Roads in connection with the Acacia Park Relief Drain project. Trees have been removed and the contractor is preparing to stake and fence the work area. Approximately 95% of the 300 trees removed were White Ash trees.

Questions from Mark Hammel of 32430 Evergreen on the Acacia drain project were addressed by Spallasso. It was mentioned that all property owners along the project route are notified of activity on a regular basis.

Downey questioned the posting of agendas for Strategic Planning Development Committee meetings. Murphy answered that these are public meetings. Agendas will be posted and minutes prepared for the general SPDC meetings.

Downey referred to the recent removal of trees in connection with the Acacia Drain project. He asked if it is intended to replace all trees that were removed including the Ash trees. Spallasso responded that it is anticipated that four times as many trees than previously existed will be planted in the area by the time the Acacia project is complete.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Schmitt thanked administration for continuing to seek and obtain grant funds as an offset to Village expenses. He congratulated the O'Reillys and Sabats for all the work they did on the sled hill steps.

Schmitt affirmed that he thanked the Village Woman's Club at the last Council meeting for its generous donation of two picnic tables to the park. The Parks and Recreation Board will meet this Thursday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the municipal building.

Domzal reported that the Planning Board met last Wednesday to review the second draft of the site development requirements section of the ordinance. As part of that process, the planning consultant gave a presentation whereby she displayed pictures of buildings in other communities and asked Board members to respond to the visuals in terms of what they like and dislike about building design, building orientation, and streetscape. The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to improve on building and site design and make Beverly Hills look as nice in its commercial areas as it does in its residential areas.

Domzal commented that a common theme tonight has been recognition of homeowners for their improvements, the Woman's Club for their donation to the park, and the Boy Scouts for their work on the sled hill steps. He maintains that the quality of life in the community is determined largely by its residents and people who care. The fact that there are so many people who volunteer their time to make the Village better demonstrates the healthiness of this community.

Domzal stated that one of the topics of last week's Council study session was the Village tree stock. The Village will be losing a large number of Ash trees to the emerald ash borer. Council is aware that it is important to the quality of life in our community to maintain trees and to replace trees that are removed. Domzal alerted the public to the fact that Council will be looking at the Village's tree stock from a long term policy point of view. There will be further discussions on this topic.

Woodrow stated that the Retirement Board will meet tomorrow, November 18 at 7 p.m. in the public safety building. He thanked the Boy Scouts for their work on the sled hill and the Woman's Club for donating picnic tables to the park.

McCleary also thanked the Boy Scouts and the Woman's Club. He commented favorably on plans to replace the trees removed as part of the Acacia project.

Mooney stated that it is due to the efforts of the Public Safety Department that Beverly Hills will receive \$43,650 from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) that will assist in the purchase of vehicle exhaust removal in the public safety building. This will go a long way in removing contaminants. Congressman Joe Knollenberg commended the BHPSD for looking after the welfare of its firefighters and other employees by seeking this funding.

Pfeifer stated that it was not noted earlier in the meeting that a Council subcommittee of Domzal as chair, Downey and McCleary will meet at 7:00 p.m. prior to the December 1 Council meeting to review applications and consider a recommendation to Council for an appointment to the Planning Board.

Pfeifer thanked the Scouts for all the time they have donated to working on the sled hill steps and for the money they have saved the Village. The Birmingham Area Cable Board will meet on Wednesday morning, November 19 at 7:45 a.m. in the council chambers.

Downey commented on the recent Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority (SOCRRA) quarterly report. He stated that Brian Murphy has been elected vice-chairman of the SOCRRA Board. It was noted that Renzo Spallasso is chairperson of the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority.

Downey remarked that Council worked on a number of issues at last week's study session. A subcommittee of Council was established at that meeting with Woodrow as chair, Domzal, and Schmitt to consider ways to streamline the budget in view of further cuts in state shared revenue.

Council members wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Motion by Pfeifer, seconded by Domzal, to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Motion carried.

Doyle Downey
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary