

Present: Council President Domzal; President Pro-Tem Woodrow; Members: Downey, Koss, McCleary, Pfeifer and Taylor.

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager, Spallasso
Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Village Clerk, Marshall
Finance Director, Wiszowaty
Director of Public Safety, Woodard
Village Attorney, Ryan
Building Official, Byrwa

President Domzal called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road. Boy Scouts from Troop #1024 led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Domzal invited the scouts to come forward and introduce themselves. The scouts are working on their Citizenship in the Community merit badge.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Pfeifer, second by McCleary, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Taylor, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Review and consider minutes of a special Council meeting held on March 15, 2005.
- b. Review and consider minutes of a regular Council meeting held on March 15, 2005.
- c. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, March 21, 2005.
- d. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, April 4, 2005.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

BUSINESS AGENDA

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MICHAEL MILLER, PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF THE COMMUNITY AWARD RECIPIENT

Groves High School student Michael Miller of 31810 Waltham Drive came forward and introduced himself. Miller was named as one of Michigan's top two youth volunteers for 2005 and is the recipient of the Prudential Spirit of the Community Award. Miller stated that he is a senior at Groves High School and will be attending New York University in the fall.

Koss read the following resolution recognizing the achievements of Michael Miller. Manager Spallasso presented a signed and framed copy of the document to Miller, who received congratulatory applause from everyone present.

**VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Michael Miller, a 17 year old Senior at Wylie E. Groves High School and a resident living at 31810 Waltham Drive, Beverly Hills was named as one of Michigan's top two youth volunteers for 2005, and

WHEREAS, Michael received this recognition at the tenth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards where more than 20,000 young people across the country were considered for the award in 2005, and

WHEREAS, the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, constitutes America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteerism, and

WHEREAS, the awards are designed to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to others, and to encourage young Americans of all backgrounds to contribute to their communities, and

WHEREAS, Michael Miller organized a project that enabled young hospital patients to create ceramic tiles with themes from children's books for a new atrium lounge at Beaumont Hospital, and

WHEREAS, he worked with hospital officials, a local foundation, and his school's art department to secure more than \$5,000 in grants, purchase supplies, and recruit nearly 200 student and community volunteers for the project, and

WHEREAS, as a state honoree of the Prudential Spirit of the Community Awards program, Michael will receive a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion and a trip to Washington, D.C., April 30-May 3 for a series of national recognition events,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Beverly Hills, extends sincere congratulatory wishes to Michael Miller in recognition of his being presented the prestigious 2005 Prudential Spirit of Community Award for his outstanding volunteerism in the community. The residents of Beverly Hills are extremely proud and grateful for the splendid volunteer contribution and national recognition achieved by Michael Miller.

Michael's father, Neil Miller, spoke about the venture undertaken by his son. Michael organized a project that enabled young hospital patients to create ceramic tiles with themes from children's books. The tiles will be mounted into the walls of a new atrium lounge at Beaumont Hospital.

PRESENTATION ON IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO GROVES, BERKSHIRE, BEVERLY AND GREENFIELD SCHOOLS BY TMP ARCHITECTURE AND BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Koss stated that voters approved a bond issue in 2003 to rebuild or completely renovate schools in the Birmingham School District. There are improvements and additions scheduled for Beverly and Greenfield Elementary Schools, Berkshire Middle School, and Groves High School in Beverly Hills. Representatives from Birmingham Public Schools (BPS) and from TMP Architects have been invited to give a presentation on the construction projects in the Village.

Downey entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

John Miliacca of TMP Associates, project manager for the 2003 Bond Program with Birmingham Public Schools, was present with Mark Ceo, Manager of Facility Operations for BPS. Miliacca presented an overview, scope, and timeline for rebuilding and renovation projects that will occur starting in 2005 with the four facilities in the Village of Beverly Hills. The power point presentation included artist renderings of the existing and improved buildings. The overall bond program is projected to be completed by 2008.

Comments and questions from Council were addressed by Miliacca. Council thanked Mssrs. Miliacca and Ceo for their presentation noting that increased communication and cooperation between the Village and the Birmingham School District is a positive step forward and is welcomed. Further information regarding the construction projects is available at regular Birmingham Board of Education meetings, from the School District administration building, and from the BPS web site (www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/)

REVIEW AND CONSIDER AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR PAVILION RENOVATIONS

The Parks and Recreation Board has been working on plans for the renovation of the Beverly Park pavilion as part of the Park Master Plan priority projects. Funding is available from the five-year 0.25 mil Dedicated Park Millage Fund. Architectural plans were prepared, bids were received, and the Parks and Recreation Board has recommended that the Village Council approve the low bid from M.L. Schoenherr for construction of Beverly Park improvements in an amount not to exceed \$210,000.

Motion by McCleary, second by Pfeifer, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council authorize Village administration to enter into a contract with the low bidder, M.L. Schoenherr for Beverly Park pavilion improvements in an amount not to exceed \$210,000. Funds are available in Account 408-900-985.00, Capital Park Improvement, Dedicated Park Millage Fund.

Architect Patrick Westerlund, Beverly Hills resident, was engaged by Council to consult with the Parks and Recreation Board and draft plans and specifications for the pavilion renovation project. Westerlund displayed drawings and elevations of the pavilion plan and demonstrated how the design addresses goals identified for the project including new toilet rooms for the facility, renovation of existing structure, and improved pedestrian circulation

in the area around the pavilion. The new design will route people walking towards the playground area around rather than through the pavilion providing more privacy for people renting the pavilion. Westerlund pointed out features that will update the look of the building and will provide a pleasing visual impact along Beverly Road.

Questions and comments from Council on the pavilion project were addressed by Westerlund. He outlined the process of developing the original pavilion plans and specifications with the Parks and Recreation Board, going out for bids, and subsequent efforts to contain costs in order to come within the amount available for construction.

Westerlund explained that the bid proposal contains unit prices for the cost of replacing rotted boards as needed when the shingles are stripped off the pavilion roof. Because the low bid is less than the \$210,000 allocated for the project, there will be money available for replacement of roof boards. This is an unforeseen cost that cannot be determined until the shingles are removed. Westerlund noted that the roof is sound overall.

Spallasso stated that the Village Building Official will join the contractor in making a determination on the condition of the roof boards. In response to an inquiry, Spallasso remarked that there is adequate funding to complete the contract within the amount allocated for the project based on what is known at this time.

Woodrow questioned whether there is a safety issue in terms of the bathroom entrance alcove not being in view of a public safety vehicle patrolling the park. An officer would have to get out of the car to check that area for undesirable activity.

Director Woodard commented that he noticed the restroom configuration when he viewed the plan this evening. He will pose the possible security issue to Lt. Standfest, who is a certified crime prevention specialist. Westerlund suggested providing a roll down shutter gate to close off the restroom opening when the park is closed in the evening if the alcove becomes a security issue. An alternative would be to relocate the restroom doors. These changes would not effect the structure of the building or have a major impact on the design.

Westerlund stated that the contractor has indicated a desire to start the project as soon as possible. Construction is predicated on issuance of a contract. The formal proposal indicates completion of the contract within 120 days; however, the contractor has indicated that a 90-day construction period is likely.

Domzal thanked Mr. Westerlund for the time he has spent on the pavilion design beyond the initial contract agreement. Council expressed its appreciation to the Parks and Recreation Board for their efforts to get the most out of the dedicated millage money approved by the residents.

McCleary agreed to amend the motion to indicate that approval of the construction contract is contingent upon review and approval of the plan by the Public Safety Department. Pfeifer supported the amendment. The amended motion reads as follows:

Motion by McCleary, second by Pfeifer, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council authorize Village administration to enter into a contract with the low bidder, M.L. Schoenherr for Beverly Park pavilion improvements in an amount not to exceed \$210,000, contingent on Public Safety Department review and approval of the plan. Funds are available in Account 408-900-985.00, Capital Park Improvement, Dedicated Park Millage Fund.

Spallasso understands that this action will allow administration to proceed with the project with the possibility of minor modifications that would not exceed the amount specified in the motion.

Mike Rooney of 20094 Carriage Lane commented that the proposed restroom entrance design is common to many public restrooms.

Rose McLennan of 19977 Sunnyslope questioned the circulation pattern of the new pavilion design. She was informed that people who are not renting the pavilion will continue to have the use of the picnic table area outside the pavilion when rented and inside the pavilion when not rented.

Bob Walsh of 20655 Smallwood Court stated that he has reviewed the record of the pavilion renovation project. He commented on the procedure followed by the Parks and Recreation Board throughout the design development and bid process. He emphasized that the Parks and Recreation Board is an advisory group that reports to Council with final decisions resting with the Village Council.

Bunker Kelly of 21526 Corsaut Lane displayed a copy of the pavilion renovation plan and commented on the design. It is his view that the pavilion project is 50% over budget. Kelly maintains that tonight is the first time that the residents are seeing the pavilion plans and that the public was not asked for its input on this project. The public safety concern brought up this evening should have been explored prior to this meeting.

Spallasso interjected that the proposed pavilion plan has been on display in the Village municipal building lobby for the past three weeks.

Dan Nelson of 32311 Sheridan, member of the Parks and Recreation Board, stated that the park pavilion plans have been exhibited and discussed for months at Board meetings. People who were concerned and wanted to see the plan as it was being developed had a year to attend public meetings. There were residents present who provided input to the Board.

Nelson stated that the \$150,000 estimate for the pavilion project was an educated guess. Bids came in higher than anticipated, and the Board scaled down the project to come within the amount available for the project.

Jack Harmon of 32320 Bellvine Trail stated that he has been a member of the Parks and Recreation Board for 16 years. The pavilion improvement project was part of a Park

Master Plan adopted by Council following public hearings that were well attended. The budget for the pavilion project was an estimate developed without a project scope. Harmon expressed disappointment that Council does not react when residents say things that are non-factual and slanderous to volunteers who are trying to do good things for the Village.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court questioned whether the new park restrooms will be opened daily and if the porta-john in the park will be removed. It was mentioned that the porta-john is used after hours or during large park events.

Tischler believes that the Parks and Recreation Board has worked diligently to put a plan in place that will benefit the entire community. She thinks that there have been procedural errors that have occurred during the process. The Public Safety Department should have had the opportunity to review the plans prior to this evening. She thanked the Parks and Recreation Board for using the money allocated for the project to achieve the biggest bang for the buck.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham Drive asked when the lavatories in the park pavilion will be open. Parks and Recreation Board chairperson Greening responded that the rest rooms were kept open during park hours in the summer last year.

Patricia Greening of 19289 Riverside commented that she is proud of the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Board. It is an advisory board that has been entrusted with a great deal of public money, which Board members managed wisely on priority park projects.

Art Liberty of 20850 W. 13 Mile Road stated that he expects Council and administration to hold the Parks and Recreation Board to their budget for the Park Master Plan improvements. Liberty thinks that the park looks great the way it is presently.

Janet Mooney of 19111 Devonshire asked for clarification of the motion on the floor. She was informed that the motion authorizes approval of the contract as presented not to exceed \$210,000 subject to review and approval of the design by the Public Safety Department. Minor modifications would be permitted as long as the cost stays within the budgeted amount.

Pamela Rijnovean of 32420 Evergreen commented that the pavilion looks lovely but the plan was not communicated to the people. She expressed the view that the plan should go to the people before a vote is taken by Council.

Woodrow commented that it is a misstatement to say that the project was budgeted at \$150,000. Quite some time ago, Council received a wish list for the park priority projects including a cost estimate for each of the items. Money was set aside based on those cost estimates. An updated Park Master Plan priorities and finance report has been distributed. Council is now considering action to budget \$210,000 for this project and authorize the Village Manager to enter into a construction contract for \$205,000. The project is not over budget at this time.

Pfeifer commended the Parks and Recreation Board for the time they put in on the pavilion renovation project and thinks that they arrived at a great plan. She stated that the information has been available to anyone who wants to see it. McCleary added that Parks and Recreation Board meetings are open to the public, and residents have attended and offered their input on the pavilion project.

Domzal commented that the track record of the Parks and Recreation Board as stewards of public funds is extremely good. Council is sensitive to supporting community volunteers. He noted that there are first amendment rights and that Council cannot command that people respect each other. Domzal remarked that he attempts to strike a balance in chairing these meetings.

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

Westerlund recognized Village resident George Ostrowski, landscape architect, who has helped facilitate the landscape plan for the pavilion project.

It was the consensus of Council not to take formal action on the updated Park Master Plan priorities and finances report dated March 30, 2005.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 2005 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Pfeifer stated that, because the Village is a recipient of Community Development Block Grant funds, it has an opportunity to present a proclamation declaring April, 2005 as Fair Housing Month.

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Downey, to adopt the following proclamation:

VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS
PROCLAMATION

Whereas, April has been declared as Fair Housing Month in recognition of the 37th anniversary of the signing of the Federal Fair Housing Act; and

Whereas, this landmark law along with other federal and state legislation strictly prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of sex, color, race, age, religion, national origin, disability, family or marital status; and

Whereas, Fair Housing Month is designated to heighten people's awareness of their rights under the law when pursuing the purchase or rental of housing; and

Whereas, all citizens are entitled to freedom of choice in the selection of housing and are guaranteed certain protections under the law if they are victims of discrimination,

Now, therefore, let it be known that the Village of Beverly Hills does hereby support and proclaim April 2005 as Fair Housing Month.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

BUDGET – RECEIVE TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR 5/3/05

Council is in receipt of a copy of the sixth draft of the proposed budget for the 2005/06 fiscal year. The proposed budget is available for public review at the Village offices.

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Taylor, to set a public hearing date of Tuesday, May 3, 2005 to review and consider adoption of the 2005/06 fiscal year budget for the Village of Beverly Hills.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

REVIEW AND REFER REQUEST FROM CINGULAR WIRELESS TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR SITE PLAN REVIEW AND SPECIAL APPROVAL FOR THE COLLOCATION OF ANTENNAS ON THE WATER TOWER AT 16111 FOURTEEN MILE ROAD AND CONSTRUCTION OF CONTROL BUILDING

The Village is in receipt of a request from Cingular Wireless for site plan and special use approval for collocation of antennas on the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) water tank and construction of a control building at 16111 W. 14 Mile Road. This is a public property zoned district, and any expansion, addition or increase in the intensity of use at the site necessitates site plan review, special use approval, and public hearings.

A letter submitted by the project manager of Velocitel for Cingular states that SOCWA has tentatively approved the plan for a standard 12'x 20' shelter and antennas attached to the legs of the tower at approximately 105 feet. Formal approval is subject to positive action by the Village of Beverly Hills Council.

Motion by Woodrow, second by McCleary, to refer the request of Cingular Wireless for site plan review and special use approval for collocation of antennas on the water tower and construction of control building at 16111 Fourteen Mile Road to the Village Planning Board for review and recommendation to Council.

Questions and comments from Council and the public were addressed by Spallasso. He will advise Council of the revenue that SOCWA will receive from this contract when that information is known.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR PAINTING CENTERLINES AND EDGE MARKINGS ON VILLAGE ROADS FOR 2005-2007 SEASONS

Bids were solicited from contractors to provide complete pavement markings, which include center lines, edge lines, crosswalks and stop bars. Three contractors provided bids with R.S. Contracting being the low bidder at \$17,600 per year for the next three years of 2005, 2006 and 2007. R.S. Contracting has done work in the Village previously, and administration was satisfied with their performance.

Motion by McCleary, second by Taylor, to accept the bid of R.S. Contracting in the amount of \$17,600.00 per year for 2005, 2006, and 2007 to provide the services outlined in their bid for painting centerlines and edge markings on Village roads.

Downey requested that alternative high visibility standards and techniques for crosswalk markings be considered by the Village.

Spallasso emphasized that the current markings used in the Village meet the standards required in the Uniform Traffic Control manual. In response to questions on the program, Spallasso stated that an annual street marking program is necessary for liability purposes because the markings deteriorate throughout the year. Spallasso recalled that a paint was developed that remains on the road for a longer period of time, but its use was prohibited by the Environmental Protection Agency due to its effect on the environment.

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

REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT BUSH TO CONTINUE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING

Woodrow commented that the Community Development Block Grant program is a federal program that was initiated 30 years ago to provide funding for services to benefit low and moderate income families. The federal administration is proposing to eliminate the CDBG funding for fiscal year 2006.

Motion by Woodrow, second by Downey, to table review and consideration of resolution urging President Bush to continue Community Development Block Grant funding.

Roll Call Vote:
Woodrow - yes
Domzal - no
Downey - yes
Koss - yes
McCleary - yes
Pfeifer - no
Taylor - yes

Motion passed (5 – 2).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES THROUGH PLANTE MORAN

The firm of Plante & Moran has performed the Village's annual audit since 1999 and has provided a high level of professional service. Pfeifer remarked that the firm has helped the Village implement the new GASB 34 Accounting Model into its reporting practices. It is the recommendation of administration to extend the contract with Plante & Moran for the year ending June 30, 2005. It was noted that the initial proposal from Plante & Moran was

to increase its fee by 2.3%, the Headlee rate of inflation. They agreed to limit their audit fee increase to 1.15% for the year ended June 30, 2005, which would result in proposed audit fees of \$31,050.

Pfeifer stated that the fee quoted by Plante & Moran for providing a single audit of compliance with federal programs would be \$3,400. She explained that the federal government requires that a municipality receiving federal funds exceeding \$500,000 in a fiscal year must perform a separate audit on those funds. The Village will exceed the expenditure of \$500,000 this year of DWRF (Drinking Water Revolving Funds) money for a water main replacement project.

Motion by Pfeifer, second by McCleary, to extend the Village of Beverly Hills auditing services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005 to Plante & Moran for a total fee of \$31,050. If a single audit is required, the fee will be \$3,400.

Members of Council questioned whether it is time for the Village to go out for bids for its auditing service.

Spallasso recommended that Council approve a one-year extension of the current three-year contract with Plante & Moran and seek proposals for auditing service after completion of the audit. Questions on the Village audit service agreement were addressed by Wiszowaty and Spallasso.

Domzal commented on the credentials of Plante & Moran and indicated that the Village is not required by Charter to go out for bids on professional services. However, Council members are stewards of the public funds and have an obligation to be assured that the Village receives the best service for its dollars. Domzal thinks that there should be an opportunity for discussion and review with Plante & Moran and other auditors starting with the next audit cycle.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham expressed concern that the last audit from Plante & Moran cannot be reconciled with Village budget information in many areas. He provided examples by referring to specific accounts.

Roll Call Vote:

Domzal	- yes
Downey	- no
Koss	- no
McCleary	- yes
Pfeifer	- yes
Taylor	- yes
Woodrow	- yes

Motion passed (5 – 2).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER CONTRACT WITH DOCVIEW, LLC FOR ONLINE CRASH REPORTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Public Safety provides a duplicate copy of an accident report upon request for a charge of \$5.00. The Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County (TIA) has recently proposed an arrangement with a third party contractor to make available to insurance companies copies of crash reports online. DOCVIEW, LLC of Lansing will provide this electronic service to interested parties who register online with the vendor. The client pays a fee to DOCVIEW for the crash report copy; DOCVIEW in turns pays the Public Safety Department \$5.00.

There is no loss of revenue to the Department and Village under the proposed contract. There would be an anticipated reduction in the workload of the part time clerk; her schedule has been reduced in the 2005/06 budget from 1200 hours to 640 hours. The Village Attorney has reviewed this contract and is familiar with it from another jurisdiction; many Oakland County agencies have adopted this online service.

Motion by Koss, second by McCleary, that the Village Council approve the proposed contract with DOCVIEW, LLC of Lansing, Michigan for the provision of online crash reports.

Questions on the Service Agreement with DOCVIEW and privacy issues relative to accident reports were answered by Director of Public Safety Woodard.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham was concerned that the proposal under consideration violates the Freedom of Information Act if the Village refuses to honor valid requests for crash information. He added that there is no financial benefit to the Village.

Director Woodard clarified that an individual who is a party to an accident can come to the Public Safety Department building and receive a copy of an accident report. If someone is not a party to the accident, they can receive a copy of the report for a fee, but it will be redacted so as not to contain personal information.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Laverne Cleary of 31330 Cline, representing area boy scouts and the Garden Club, thanked Council for approving the contract for construction of renovations to the Beverly Park pavilion.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court commented that a description and rendering of proposed park pavilion renovations should have appeared in the Villager Newsletter or on the Village web site.

Tischler questioned whether Council will indicate areas where changes were made to earlier drafts of the budget document at the public hearing on May 3. Questions on the bills were answered by Pfeifer and Marshall.

Tischler commented that a section in the Village Zoning Ordinance speaks to the ratio between garage area and living area. She described a renovated house in South Berkshire with six garage spaces for vehicles where the owner is requesting an additional two-car garage. She brought this situation to Council's attention because it may become a problem in the west end of the Village where there are larger lots. It creates a situation with zero lot line driveways and drainage issues.

Greg Burry of 32742 Pierce questioned why a non-resident has been designated as parliamentarian for the Council. He suggested that the Parks and Recreation Board advertise its projects and undertakings in the Eccentric newspaper.

Pam Rijnovean of 32420 Evergreen Road questioned whether Council is going to request library use data from the Baldwin Public Library. Domzal responded that the Village will be pursuing additional information from the library as part of the process of reviewing its contract with Baldwin Library.

Rijnovean commented on the Public Safety Department staffing recommendation contained in the Operational Review of the Department conducted last spring. Director Woodard addressed her questions. Rijnovean compared the Beverly Hills Public Safety Officers contract with the Birmingham Police Department contract.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham Drive questioned whether the Village is still spending more money than comes in under the new budget document. Domzal responded that expenditures exceed revenues in the proposed 2005/06 budget. Norm Downey had questions and comments on the Village's March 18, 2005 expense and revenue report.

N. Downey commented that the Department of Public Safety Operational Review reports that the Village's Public Safety Department is over staffed and highly paid. He compared staffing and salary statistics of the Village Public Safety Department with the Birmingham Police Department.

Domzal stated that some of the items raised by N. Downey will be discussed at the budget public hearing.

Lawrence Needham of 15588 Kirkshire noted that the listing of homeowner associations and contact people was omitted in the 2005 Village calendar. He requested that this information be included in future calendars and that consideration be given to including this information as a supplement in the next Villager newsletter.

Needham expressed the view that elected representatives must have control of the Council meetings. The fact that a parliamentarian who is a paid employee can override anyone in the room is not Needham's idea of democratic government.

Bunker Kelly of 21526 Corsaut commented on the value of hearing diverse opinions on topics and trying to reach some agreement. Kelly disputed previous comments relative to arbitrary budget targets for park improvement projects and for other department budgets. Kelly talked about communication and open meetings. He suggested that the Village needs to do a better job of getting articles into the local newspapers. He thinks that there is selective policing of speech at the lectern.

At the last Cable Board meeting, Council's representative on that body brought up the topic of videotaping Council budget sessions next year in addition to regular Council meetings. Kelly expressed disappointment that this individual did not request the Board to approve recording and rebroadcast of additional Beverly Hills meetings throughout the year.

REPORTS – MANAGER

Spallasso reported that yard waste collection begins on Monday, April 11. Residents are asked to use brown paper bags designed for yard waste disposal or cans with a Beverly Hills "We Recycle" label. Yard waste in plastic bags will not be picked up.

Non-residents can begin making pavilion reservations on Wednesday, April 6 with the understanding that they could be canceled when pavilion construction dates are confirmed. The Village office will call the renter as soon as it is known that their event will be affected. All fees will be refunded in the case of cancellations due to construction.

Scott Dierks, project engineer from Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May was in the office on March 30 to review final plans for improvements to the municipal building parking lot. The construction drawings are almost ready to be submitted to the State for approval. It is anticipated that the project will be ready for bids some time in May with construction in mid summer. Spallasso reviewed that the Village received a grant covering 75% of the engineering and construction costs of the improvements.

At the request of Council, Spallasso will provide members with a copy of a letter of understanding from the Public Safety Officers union related to the implementation of a 12-hour shift.

COUNCIL

Taylor stated that the Southfield Township Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, April 12 at 8:00 p.m. Taylor commended resident Michael Miller on his volunteer work and contributions to the community.

Koss left the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Downey reviewed that there was discussion on the topic of Village Elections at the last Council meeting. He indicated at that time that he was going to take it upon himself to ask a few former Council members to opine on election issues. He received favorable responses from John Mooney, Bob Walsh, and Frank Worrell, who met and came to an agreement on issues that they plan to share with Council at an upcoming meeting.

Downey commented on the value of the SEMCOG (Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments) organization. He has represented the Council on SEMCOG for a number of years and is requesting that another member of Council be appointed as representative. He will remain as an alternate. Downey thinks it would be good to get the future leadership of the Council engaged in SEMCOG, particularly in the area of regionalization.

Downey related that he has talked to members of the local business community who expressed interest and concern about the increase of vacant stores at The Corners shopping center. There is a concern about the future of that property. Downey mentioned that there has been discussion of engaging in a Southfield Road corridor study. He commented on the importance of being a vibrant community for decades to come.

Pfeifer reported that she informed the Cable Board at its March 16 meeting that the Village of Beverly Hills Council may be requesting to have its Council budget sessions broadcast or taped and replayed on MLTV 15. The budget meetings occur in the spring but not on a regularly scheduled basis. She was informed that Bloomfield Community Television needs two weeks notice to cover a meeting. The schedule for live broadcasts and replaying of meetings conducted by the four member municipalities is a major consideration as well as the Board's contract with BCTV. It was suggested that Beverly Hills submit a request to the Board asking for coverage of special meetings.

A copy of the proposed 2005/06 Birmingham Area Cable Board budget and Cable Administrator budget documents will be distributed to the Beverly Hills Council for review and comment before adoption by the Cable Board.

Pfeifer informed Council that Kathryn Hagaman has resigned her position as Executive Director of the Cable Board. The Board is seeking an individual to fill the part-time Cable Board administrator position.

Pfeifer encouraged people to contribute to the Birmingham Area Senior Coordinating Council in response to its "No Show Glow" fund raising program. With regard to the status of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, Pfeifer encouraged Council members and the public to write to their representatives and senators in Washington to preserve the CDBG program. Elimination of the Program and funding to the Village would have a devastating impact on BASCC, an organization that administers funds used to benefit residents in the Village who have a difficult time with the expense of home maintenance and repairs.

Pfeifer commented that the Village Election cycle and terms of office are matters that must be decided by Council. She does not think that there is a clear understanding of the issues. Pfeifer requested that a special meeting be scheduled to discuss Village Elections prior to the next Council meeting.

There were members of Council who suggested that the election issue be discussed as an agenda item at a regular Council meeting.

Pfeifer questioned whether an additional budget study session will be scheduled prior to the May 3 public hearing and adoption of the 2005/06 budget. There were members of Council who did not think another review of the figures was needed before the public hearing.

Woodrow recalled that the issue of Mr. Ryan being authorized by the President as parliamentarian was brought up shortly after he joined the Council. Ryan has been authorized by past presidents of Council to be the parliamentarian of these meetings. Woodrow believes that some of the comments made by individuals are getting off-point and out of order, and he applauds Mr. Ryan in for jumping in when he does.

Domzal stated that there will be an Oakland County Economic Outlook Luncheon on April 28 at the Detroit Marriott. He thinks it is good for Beverly Hills to look beyond its geographic borders and consider some of the larger issues occurring in our area.

The Birmingham Youth Assistance organization is having its Youth in Service dinner on May 5.

Council received a letter from the Governor's Conference on Physical Fitness mentioning the Labor Day Walk across the Mackinac Bridge. In order to raise public awareness and encourage communities to develop their own physical fitness programs, communities are being asked to think about organizing a walk of their own on Labor Day. Domzal suggested that community groups consider taking this on as a fun event combined with a fund raiser.

Domzal commented that the public needs to recognize that Renzo Spallasso is holding two positions currently and that the level of individual response to matters may not be at the same high level until such time as the Village can become fully staffed. Spallasso has obligations with respect to the manager position as well as his public services position. While the Village is saving money by having one person hold two jobs, it comes with a cost in terms of service.

Mr. Spallasso's contract will come before Council for further consideration at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Domzal affirmed that he has given Tom Ryan authorization to act as Council parliamentarian and to support his efforts, as appropriate, to keep the meetings well run and on point. Domzal stated that he has the greatest respect for the Village Attorney. He is past president of the State Bar Association and is regarded in the State as being the preeminent municipal law expert.

With respect to the conduct at Council meetings, Domzal believes that he is more tolerant than past presidents. People have first amendment rights, but the quality of meetings suffers as they become longer and less productive. Comments could be condensed and more relevant. He implored the public to exercise more self restraint in its comments.

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Taylor, to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 p.m.

Motion passed.

Dave Domzal
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary