

Present: President Taylor; President Pro-Tem Walsh; Members: Burry, Koss, Pfeifer, Rijnovean and Woodrow

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

President Taylor called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Rijnovean asked to move Consent Agenda item e, Review and Consider Funding 2006 Winter Family Fun Day, to the Business Agenda.

Motion by Walsh, second by Rijnovean, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed (6 – 1).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phil Keila of 2 Riverbank Drive offered suggestions to Council as examples of possible Village course corrections. He believes that there are members of Council who continue to express a crisis mentality about the Village budget. Now that Council has had an opportunity to review a plethora of data, Keila does not think that it is reasonable to tell residents that the Village is in a financial crisis. He referred to a written analysis presented by resident James Calder that clearly demonstrates that there was and continues to be no financial crisis in Beverly Hills.

Accepting the premise that the Village wants to save money without curtailing services, Keila questioned why Council would entertain a motion to change Chapter 13, Section 11.b. of the Village Municipal Code. It will cost money to have the Village attorney redraft the ordinance. Reprinting the ordinance will cost money and take away from other tasks that the Village staff could be doing. Council's advice to any resident wanting to comply with this ordinance should be to contact the Village Manager, who has the authority to grant a resident special dispensation from its restrictions. Keila maintained that the most important reason for not changing this ordinance is that it sets and sends the wrong precedent.

At the November 1 Council meeting, Council asked for an answer on deed restrictions that precluded the Village from charging for the use of ball diamonds. Keila believes that this could be perceived as a mean spirited action and could discourage people from donating towards maintaining the ball fields. Keila promised Council that he would check with Boy Scout Troop 1032 to make sure that the 2006 park cleanup is on their schedule, and it is. He has also

approached Detroit Country Day School to advise them that the Village is refurbishing the ball fields at Beverly Park and to request a donation. Keila stated that it is his pleasure to present the Village with a check for \$500 on behalf of the Blue and Gold Club of Detroit Country Day School to be deposited in the Parks and Recreation fund.

Soter Art Liberty of 20850 W. Thirteen Mile Road referred to the minutes of the November 1, 2005 Council meeting and stated that the Village Manager reported that the estimated amount to be transferred from the fund balance to balance the budget was \$155,000 as of that date.

In response to an inquiry from Phil Keila, Spallasso affirmed that he reported at the November 1 meeting that \$155,000 would be transferred from the fund balance. He emphasized that this figure is subject to change and that Council will be kept advised through monthly financial statements.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court, Southfield Township Clerk, related that she received a phone call recently from a Ronsdale resident with a concern that Douglas-Evans is being used as a dog run by a number of people. She asked that Council look into this and consider posting this area as “no dogs allowed”.

Norm Downey of 24042 Nottingham Drive asked why money collected for debt service on a water main bond was reported in the audit as money collected for sewage disposal. Downey said that he asked this question at the last Council meeting and received a letter from administration that did not answer the question in his view. Downey asked why there has been no report made by the Public Safety Department on its six months experience with 12-hour shifts.

Jeff Pynnonen of 31724 Allerton commented that Allerton residents met with Director Woodard regarding parking on their street. He questioned the status of allowing parking on Allerton during the holiday season.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Review and consider minutes of a joint meeting of Council and Planning Board held on November 9, 2005.
- b. Review and consider minutes of a regular Council meeting held on November 15, 2005.
- c. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, November 28, 2005.
- d. Accept monetary donations from Garden Conservancy and an anonymous source.

Motion passed (7 - 0).

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION CONCERNING ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES BYLAWS

Before Council for consideration is a proposed Resolution of acceptance of membership and adoption of the bylaws for the Alliance of Rouge Communities. Walsh reviewed that the Village has been involved in River Rouge quality issues for many years dating back to at least the early 1980s. Council will hear a presentation this evening on the Rouge River Watershed after which it will consider a Resolution accepting membership and adoption of Bylaws for the Alliance of Rouge Communities.

Spallasso introduced the chair of the Assembly of Rouge Communities, Tom Biasell, who is the Director of Public Services for the City of Farmington Hills. Biasell proceeded with a power point presentation that provided information on the Rouge River Watershed and background on the activities of a group of communities that organized to coordinate efforts to maintain and protect the quality of the Rouge River Watershed. He addressed pollution sources, federal funding (Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project), and the locally driven watershed management approach.

Beverly Hills is one of 38 communities that are voluntarily working together on Rouge River quality issues. The organization is at a point where it is making a transition from the Rouge Watershed Management Assembly to an Alliance of Rouge Communities with the adoption of a Watershed Alliance Law. Biasell outlined the basic provisions of the Watershed Alliance Legislation. He summarized the benefits of membership in the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), including reduced cost of meeting storm water permit requirements, addressing concerns of U.S. District Court, advocate on behalf of its members, and efficiently address river problems and optimize the use of available grant funding. The goals are to continue to improve the Rouge River, return beneficial public uses, and prevent future problems.

Biasell stated that Beverly Hills will become a member of the Alliance by adopting its Bylaws, which parallel what was accomplished with the Rouge Assembly. Membership can be terminated at any time. Assessments and voting shares are prorated based upon population/area within the Watershed. The assessment for the Village will remain the same as it has been under the Assembly last year; Beverly Hills will receive four votes. Biasell related that 31 communities have already approved the Bylaws and joined the Alliance.

Spallasso pointed out that the Village of Beverly Hills has received approximately \$300,000 in grant money through its membership in the Assembly. He suggests that the annual fee of about \$2,900 is well worth the expense.

Walsh commented that the Bylaws include a paragraph on the Alliance of Rouge Communities Budget and Assessments that outlines the budget adoption process. Beverly Hills' contribution will be based on the approved annual ARC budget and the Village's prorated share. The Village's membership dues in 2005 are \$2,899 and will remain at that amount in 2006. Walsh commented that the presentation emphasized the benefit of combining resources to be

successful. Three counties are involved in this Alliance – Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw. There is a need to work together to make our water the best that it can be.

Motion by Walsh, second by Woodrow, to adopt the following resolution.

**Village of Beverly Hills
Acceptance of Membership and Adoption of Bylaws**

Alliance of Rouge Communities

WHEREAS thirty-eight cities, villages and townships and three counties signed an August 15, 2003, Memorandum of Agreement as an interim step to establish a permanent mechanism for communities in the Rouge River watershed to cooperatively meet state storm water discharge permit requirements, satisfy the U.S. District Court's concerns about the river, and encourage restoration of river benefits for residents of the watershed.

WHEREAS after two years of successful operation of the interim Assembly of Rouge Communities, the members recommended state legislation that would provide formal recognition to communities that chose to volunteer to join collaborative efforts to meet state and federal storm water discharge requirements, and cooperatively develop watershed plans to enhance the management of a river

WHEREAS Watershed Alliance legislation passed the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate and was signed into law by the Governor on January 3, 2005, as Act No. 517, Public Acts of 2004, based upon a draft provided and supported by the Rouge River watershed communities

WHEREAS at its meeting on June 8, 2005, the Assembly of Rouge Communities completed drafting of the attached Alliance of Rouge Communities bylaws, and recommended adoption by the appropriate governing bodies of those public agencies within the Rouge River watershed eligible for membership

WHEREAS the formation of the Alliance of Rouge Communities under this new state law will provide the public agencies within the watershed the authority to directly seek grants, enter into contracts, and manage its own resources that have been provided in the past by and through Wayne County with federal funds as part of the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Beverly Hills Council formally adopts bylaws for, and accepts membership in the Alliance of Rouge Communities.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that consistent with the terms of the Alliance of Rouge Communities bylaws, the Village of Beverly Hills Council formally appoints Renzo Spallasso, Village Manager as its designated representative to the Alliance of Rouge Communities, Ellen Marshall, Village Clerk as the alternate representative, and authorizes Renzo Spallasso, Village Manager to designate additional persons to represent the Village of Beverly Hills, if needed, as an alternate to assure voting representation.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that Beverly Hills' continuing membership will be evidenced by payment of its voluntary assessment on an annual basis to the Alliance of Rouge Communities.

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

REVIEW AND CONSIDER GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF VILLAGE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council adopted a resolution creating a Village Finance Committee at its July 5, 2005 meeting. Greg Burry proposed an amendment to that original resolution by adding Section 4, Committee Function and Section 5, Scope of Authority.

SECTION 4. Committee Function. The Finance Committee shall:

Carry out studies as assigned by the Village Council. Time limit for all studies shall be established by the Village Council.

Prepare and present a report to the Village Council outlining its findings, analysis, conclusions and recommendations.

SECTION 5. Scope of Authority. The Committee is a non-administrative Committee serving solely in an advisory capacity. In that capacity, the Committee may make recommendations to the Village Council but may not assume any legislative or administrative authority in the operation of the Village Administration.

Motion by Burry, second by Rijnovean, that the Village Council amend the original Resolution to Create a Finance Committee to add Section 4 Committee Function and Section 5 Scope of Authority.

Roll Call Vote:

Woodrow	- no
Burry	- yes
Koss	- yes
Pfeifer	- yes
Rijnovean	- yes
Taylor	- yes
Walsh	- yes

Motion passed (6 – 1).

Burry reviewed that consideration of goals and objectives for the finance committee was an agenda item for the last meeting. Council did not come to a consensus on an assignment for the finance committee at that time. A motion was passed that the finance committee shall be a standing committee to carry out studies as assigned and requested by Council, present findings to Council and the public, and make recommendations to Council. The motion directed the finance committee to meet for the purpose of structuring the committee. The motion also stated that Council would charge the finance committee with an assignment at its next meeting.

Burry proposed that the first assignment of the finance committee be to look at potential cost savings in the Public Safety Department with the idea of maintaining the same level of safety. He noted that the Public Safety Department consumes two-thirds of the Village general expenditures. The purpose of the study would be to explore efficiencies and improvements to

the Department. He proposed directing the finance committee to provide a report on this topic to the Council within 60 days of its first meeting.

Koss expressed disappointment at Council's lack of direction to the finance committee on its objectives and assignments. The motion passed at the last Council meeting directed the finance committee to meet and structure its committee. She does not believe that this direction was communicated to the finance committee members. Koss thinks it is unrealistic to ask for a report from the committee on Public Safety Department cost savings in 60 days. Furthermore, she maintains that Public Safety Department expenditures is an issue that should be reviewed by Council with administration during budget deliberations.

Woodrow commented that he provided Council members with a list of possible tasks for the finance committee that were prepared by the previous Council. This list appears to have been disregarded. Woodrow did not support directing the finance committee to nitpick the budget of the Public Safety Department.

Rijnovean asked if Woodrow is suggesting that all of the proposed assignments submitted by Council members should come before Council for a vote. Woodrow responded that the intent was that Council as a whole would choose and assign objectives and tasks to the finance committee.

Taylor remarked that Burry received suggestions from Council members and submitted his proposal for Council consideration. Burry added that all of the suggestions received in terms of tasks for the finance committee were distributed to Council at its last meeting. Burry questioned whether it would be productive for the finance committee to meet for the sole purpose of selecting its chair and vice-chair and setting a regular meeting date.

Koss reiterated that Council passed a motion to direct the finance committee to convene and discuss its structure, and that motion should not be disregarded. She mentioned that no communication was received since the last Council meeting requesting input on a charge to the finance committee.

Pfeifer suggested that Council set the second Tuesday in January as a date for a joint meeting between the Council and finance committee to discuss an initial assignment for the new committee.

Burry clarified that his suggested task was not to review the Public Safety Department budget but to look at efficiencies, economies and quality improvements. Rijnovean observed that residents have made comments in the past regarding Public Safety Department costs. This would be the first of a series of studies conducted by the finance committee.

Walsh stated that she was in attendance at the July 5, 2005 Council meeting as a concerned resident voicing opposition to the creation of a finance committee. She thought that it was premature to create a finance committee before Council had established goals, objectives or an assignment for the group. Walsh expressed the view that it is unfair that the current sitting Council is faced with something that it did not create. Walsh still thinks it is premature to

discuss the finance committee before this Council comes to an agreement on what it wants them to do. She would prefer going through the budget process before proceeding with this committee. Walsh thinks that Council members are willing and able to review the budget and arrive at solutions for savings where necessary.

Rijnovean stated that she views the finance committee as a research body that would look at how things are being done and how they could be done. The committee would bring information to Council for consideration.

Frank Worrell of 32123 Bellvine Trail advised against confusing the budget review with a finance committee assignment. It appears that the study Burry proposed is an efficiency study that would look at pensions, benefits and staffing levels.

Ron Berndt of 31384 East Rutland commented that the Public Safety Department represents the biggest portion of the budget and a critical service provided to Village residents. He thinks that it is important to develop a learning process in terms of conducting an efficiency study and to make mistakes on a service more expendable than the Public Safety Department.

Berndt agreed that the Village needs to look for efficiencies wherever it can, and cost cutting is important. He suggested, however, that Council charge the finance committee with exploring funding opportunities as well as cutting costs.

Motion by Burry, second by Pfeifer, to schedule a joint meeting of the Council and Finance Committee for January 10, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. to set up its structure and discuss suggestions for an initial charge to the committee.

Administration was requested to send a letter to the finance committee members asking them to meet with Council on this date.

Roll Call Vote:

Burry	- yes
Koss	- yes
Pfeifer	- yes
Rijnovean	- yes
Taylor	- yes
Walsh	- no
Woodrow	- yes

Motion passed (6 – 1).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER AGREEMENT WITH LATHRUP VILLAGE FOR LOCKUP SERVICES

Rijnovean reviewed that the Director of Public Safety was approached in May, 2005 by the City of Lathrup Village Police Chief with a request that the Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety consider a proposal to provide prisoner lock-up services to the Lathrup Village Police Department. Their department had a previous arrangement with the City of Southfield for

prisoner lockup but approached Beverly Hills after receiving a cost increase from Southfield. Discussions were held between members of administration from Beverly Hills and Lathrup Village, and a consensus was reached on issues of policies and procedures, service rates, and draft contract language.

At its July 19, 2005 meeting, Council considered a proposal to enter into a contract to provide lockup service to Lathrup Village. It was determined at that time that cost estimates were not specific enough to justify the proposed \$100 per day/per prisoner fee, and the potential for impact on Village liability coverage had not been explored in sufficient depth.

Rijnovean stated that a study on the cost of accommodating a prisoner has been done since that time, and it has been determined that the cost would be \$100 per day/per prisoner. Liability insurance coverage for this area of risk is provided by the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA). Mr. William Page, corrections representative for MMRMA, performed a site visit and reviewed the Department's current staffing and policies regarding handling of prisoners. It was his opinion after consulting with the underwriting division of MMRMA that there would be no increased risk and therefore no increased insurance cost to the Village under the proposed agreement.

Council is in receipt of a revised copy of the contract. Rijnovean suggested a change in section 5(c)i., Operations, to say that the City agrees to pay the Village a fee of \$100 per detainee/24 hours. In response to an inquiry, it was indicated that the service agreement includes a hold harmless section. Ryan added that the Village's insurance carrier, MMRMA, would provide coverage to the Village in the event of an injury in the lockup.

Motion by Rijnovean, second by Burry, that the Beverly Hills Village Council approve the agreement for the Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety to provide prisoner lock up services to the City of Lathrup Village Police Department and authorize the Village Manager and Village Clerk to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Village.

Questions and comments from Council on the contract language were addressed by Woodard and Ryan. Minor changes that do not effect the intent will be reflected in a revised Agreement.

Woodard indicated that the lockup service agreement could result in Beverly Hills officers testifying in court, at depositions, or at any required administrative hearing at the expense of the Village. Officers testify in court throughout the year without the Village recovering any of those costs.

It was mentioned in a previous memo on this topic that the Village may need additional camera coverage in the lockup. It was questioned whether this is a cost that could be shared with Lathrup Village. Woodard indicated that it could be a topic of discussion with Lathrup Village.

It was noted that the contract will have to go before the City of Lathrup Village Council for consideration. There will be a quarterly review of this program as it proceeds.

Jill Sickels of 17171 Kinross questioned the number of additional detainees in the lockup as a result of this agreement. Woodward responded that it is estimated that there will be 50-55 detainees from Lathrup Village per year. Sickels thought that additional cameras should be provided to protect the Village against risk.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham was assured that the agreement could be terminated with a 90-day notice. Downey questioned the advantage to the Village. Woodard responded that the arrangement could result in an increase in public safety revenue of \$5,000 per year. Questions on the charges levied by the City of Southfield for its lockup services and about the expense to the Village were addressed by Woodard.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court reminded everyone that other area communities are looking to their neighbors for opportunities for cooperative agreements to provide services. She supports this action as long as it does not infringe on the Village's capabilities.

Bunker Kelly of 21526 Corsaut thinks it is positive that the Village is reaching out to share services and costs with another community in the area. This arrangement can be reviewed as it progresses. Kelly commented on the calculations that were done to determine the cost estimate for lodging prisoners. He expressed the view that video monitoring of the lockup makes sense.

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

REVIEW AND FILE ANNUAL INVESTMENT REPORT

Council is in receipt of a copy of the Village annual investment report in keeping with State municipal reporting requirements. The report provides Council with a level of detail that shows how funds have been invested and how they performed over the previous fiscal year. The Village's investment income is \$166,175.41 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005 as compared with \$86,058.82 earned in 2004.

Finance Director Wiszowaty commented that the investments are consistent with the Village's current Investment Policy and Public Act 20 of 1943. Investment returns are currently averaging 3.6% compared to 1.12% in calendar year 2004.

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Walsh, that the Village Council receive and file the Village of Beverly Hills Investment Report as of June 30, 2005.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT PATROL VEHICLE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Rijnovean stated that the 2005/06 budget contains funding for the purchase of two patrol vehicles to replace vehicles with over 70,000 miles. Vehicle #127 with 81,000+ miles was replaced earlier this year, and Vehicle #129 currently has 85,000+ miles. Director Woodard is requesting authorization to replace Vehicle #129 with a new patrol car equipped per department

specifications at a total cost of \$20,381. Signature Ford of Owosso, Michigan has been awarded the Macomb County Cooperative Bid for 2006 Ford patrol vehicles.

Council is in receipt of a vehicle fleet roster. Rijnovean referred to the list of patrol vehicles and administrative vehicles used by the Public Safety Department. The document lists the vehicle year, make, model, use, and current miles. The Village owns eight patrol cars, with six used for general road patrol and two as backup vehicles. Rijnovean stated that the Jeep and the decoy can be used for backup but pointed out that they have no in-car video or mobile computer, features that are not required but are standard in police vehicles. The Expedition is not certified as an emergency or pursuit vehicle.

Rijnovean stated that the Village has a minimum of three cars and a maximum of four cars on the road, depending on the number of officers on duty. She questioned the need for this vehicle purchase considering that the Village has six general patrol cars, four on the road and two backup vehicles. Rijnovean suggested selling the two vehicles with high mileage (#128 and #129) and purchasing one new police vehicle. The utility vehicle and decoy could be used as additional backup vehicles.

Woodard responded that the Department is requesting to replace one of the 85,000 mile cars and keep the other high mileage car in the fleet. He explained that situations occur regularly from a vehicle maintenance standpoint that present the need for flexibility in terms of backup vehicles in the fleet and on the road. There is an occasional need for body work on a vehicle. Woodard mentioned that there are special events that require the use of vehicles such as the Memorial Day parade, festivals that occur in the community, the Woodward Dream Cruise, patrolling at high school sporting events, etc. The Department feels that it needs the amount of cars that it has in the marked fleet.

Director Woodard addressed questions from Council and the public regarding the number of cars on the road, certification of vehicles for pursuit, and use of detective vehicles and special service vehicles.

Woodard stated that he provided Council with a report on the practice of other departments indicating that most of the departments surveyed in the state had a threshold of 70,000-80,000 miles before they semi-retired or limited a vehicle. He received feedback from these departments that mechanical issues occurring at that point can stand in the way of retaining the vehicles. Some departments that have SUVs such as a Tahoe choose to keep them for longer times with higher mileages.

The Beverly Hills Public Safety Department has established a 70,000 mile threshold for limiting the use of a patrol vehicle. The Department now has two vehicles with 85,000 miles.

Pfeifer informed Council that the vehicle purchase schedule had been carefully reviewed by a previous Council in recent years. She added that the former finance committee studied the possibility of leasing Village vehicles as opposed to purchasing them. It was their recommendation that it made more sense to purchase vehicles.

Motion by Rijnovean, second by Koss, that the Village of Beverly Hills award the purchase of one 2006 Ford Crown Victoria patrol vehicle in the amount of \$20,381 to Signature Ford of Perry, Michigan. Funds for the purchase are available in Account #101-900-979 Capital Purchases – Vehicle Purchases. Village Council further approves the expenditure of up to \$2,400 for vehicle changeover expenses, with the preferred vendor to be selected by competitive bid process; funds are available in Account #101-345-852: Radio Maintenance.

Roll Call Vote:

Pfeifer	- yes
Rijnovean	- no
Taylor	- yes
Walsh	- yes
Woodrow	- yes
Burry	- no
Koss	- yes

Motion passed (5 – 2).

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE SOLID WASTE HOURS OF PLACEMENT

Before Council for consideration is an amendment to the Village of Beverly Hills Municipal Code, Chapter 13, Section 13.11b, Location of Solid Waste and Recycling Containers; Yard Waste Compost; Hours of Placement; Enforcement. Rijnovean read proposed Section 13.11b:

b. Hours of Placement: Residential solid waste shall be set out on designated collection days and at such places as shall be specified in the solid-waste regulations approved by the Village Manager. For weekly collection, such solid waste shall not be placed in any street prior to 5:00 p.m. of the day preceding the scheduled collection day except by arrangement with the Village Manager or his/her designee.

This concludes the first reading of the ordinance.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER FUNDING 2006 WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY

Rijnovean stated that the current budget has \$1,350 reserved for this event. A memo to Council dated December 1, 2005 states that most of this money will be used for refreshments. Since the ice sculptor may be cancelled this year, expenses are expected to be less than budgeted. Rijnovean requested an estimated cost of the event without the ice sculptor expense.

Spallasso responded that the exact figure is not known at this time. The Village will pay the cost of the actual amount spent on the Winter Family Fun Day up to \$1,350.

Motion by Rijnovean, second by Pfeifer, to approve the expenditure of up to \$1,350 for the Winter Family Fun Day event in Beverly Park on Sunday, January 15, 2006. Funds have been reserved in account 101-747-894, Community Action: Special Events.

Burry suggested that the Village solicit donations for this event in the future. Walsh questioned whether the winter event is solely funded by the Village, noting that there are donations received towards the Halloween Hoot.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

REPORTS – MANAGER

Spallasso reported that administration is continuing discussions with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority on obtaining supplemental pollution and remediation insurance coverage. Consideration of a policy may come before Council for consideration at its next meeting.

The December Parks and Recreation Board meeting has been cancelled. The 2006 Calendar is at the printer and is scheduled to be mailed in mid-December. The fourth quarter newsletter is at the printer and should be in the mail at the end of this week.

Rijnovean questioned the status of Spallasso's efforts to fill the public service director position. Spallasso provided information on a candidate that is being considered for the job.

Walsh asked about the timetable for the 2006/07 budget process. Spallasso responded that he and Wiszowaty are working on updating the five year financial plan and anticipate providing a draft to Council this month. Council may want to set a date for the first budget work session at the next Council meeting.

COUNCIL

Koss reminded people that the Southfield Township Board will meet on Tuesday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m. in the Southfield Township offices. Koss announced that she has been appointed as liaison to the Baldwin Public Library Board.

Rijnovean informed everyone that unusual holiday gifts are available at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center gift shop located at 14 Mile and Cranbrook Roads.

Burry related that there was discussion on the ball field renovation project at the November 17 joint meeting of the Council and Parks and Recreation Board. Citizens from Allerton voiced concerns about bleachers being located along the third base side of the field across the street from them. A compromise was suggested whereby evergreen trees would be planted to screen the view of the bleachers from Allerton residents.

The Parks and Recreation Board requested that the Village budget an annual amount towards maintenance and repair of items in the park and for future capital improvements. The Board was asked to prepare an inventory of park facilities and an estimated cost of maintenance so that Council can determine how this can be financed. Burry proposed that the Village seek donations that would help pay for capital items and maintenance for the park.

Plante & Moran presented its annual audit report at the last Council meeting and concluded that the Village is in good financial shape. Burry stated that it was recommended that the Village

establish a fund balance range between 20-30%. He suggested that Council consider taking this action.

Woodrow stated that a previous Council established a policy that set a fund balance level at 20% of General Fund operating expenditures as a recommended and generally accepted practice.

Walsh reminded people that the Zoning Board of Appeals will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 12 in the Village municipal building.

Taylor stated that the Village has received donations from generous residents. A \$636.77 check was received from the Garden Conservancy on behalf of Pamela Rijnovean representing the proceeds from public admission charges to view her garden. Another resident who asked to remain anonymous donated \$750 towards Beverly Park improvements. His donations to the park over a period of years total \$5,344. Taylor thanked Detroit Country Day School for its \$500 donation towards the Beverly Hills Parks and Recreation Fund.

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Rijnovean, to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 p.m.

Motion passed.

Dave Taylor
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary