

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
Finance Director, Wiszowaty
Village Clerk, Marshall
Building Official, Byrwa
Director of Public Safety, Woodard

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 requested to add an item to the agenda as a discussion item, “Discuss ways to promote donations to the Village”.

Motion by Rijnovean, second by Walsh, to add a discussion item to the agenda, “Discuss ways to promote donations to the Village”.

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

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Koss, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ralph Lohrengel of 18346 Beverly Road informed everyone that Christian Citizenship Seminars will be held on Wednesday evenings in February at Redeemer Lutheran Church on Maple Road. He has flyers available with the details.

Oakland County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson representing District 17 informed the Council and public about support group meetings held at the Birmingham Community House for families who have loved ones serving overseas. She also announced that Michigan soldiers now have an option to connect with loved ones through a military video conferencing system in Oakland County at the 1775th Military Police Company at the Pontiac Armory. The system will allow families to not only talk to their loved ones serving in Iraq or Afghanistan but also see them face-to-face for free. The County's service will utilize OakVideo, a system that links the county's courts and law enforcement agencies.

Gershenson related that the County Commission passed a resolution introduced by a student from Waterford Kettering high school to declare March 26 as “Support our Troops Day” with a

request that people pause at 6 p.m. to reflect on the sacrifices being made by our service men and women.

Gershenson reported that Beverly Hills has received \$242,608 from the Environmental Reimbursement Fund and is now maxed out. This was a five-year, \$25 million program to support local communities by reimbursing them for the costs of eligible environmental remediation or improvement projects related to ground and surface water. She advised Council that the 2006 West Nile Reimbursement Fund will be active and have a quick turnaround. This money can be used to fund educational programs and chemical treatment for potential larvae sites.

Gershenson, a volunteer on the Oakland County Community and Home Improvement Advisory Council, provided information on new options for Oakland County residents including an American Dream Down Payment Initiative Loan Program, an office that provides free counseling and advice to tenants and homeowners, and an office for home improvement programs. Gershenson asked that anyone interested in receiving more information on any of these programs contact her through the Board of Commissioners or via the Beverly Hills or Southfield Township Clerks.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court commented that the large garage issue is still a concern in Beverly Hills. She displayed a photograph of a new, large garage located one street away from the Village limits. Tischler commented on the traffic situation at Groves High School and asked if there has been any action taken to address unsafe traffic conditions in that vicinity.

Spallasso responded that there has been communication with the School District, and he has addressed the parking issue at Groves High School by issuing two Traffic Control Orders for Embassy-Elwood and Waltham-Sunset. Traffic jams occur in the morning in front of GHS as a result of the high number of vehicles trying to enter the driveway at the same time. He will look into the situation further and may have to issue Traffic Control Orders for limiting the movement of traffic. Spallasso's main concern is to keep Thirteen Mile Road traffic flowing. He noted that there is also a busy entrance off of Evergreen Road. Public Safety has been involved in traffic control, and the high school principal has been asked to request cooperation from the school population.

Norm Downey of 23042 Nottingham Drive commented that the five-year financial plan indicates that no funds will be allocated towards resurfacing local asphalt roads. Taylor remarked that Council has not yet discussed the five-year financial plan prepared by Village administration. It will be addressed during budget deliberations.

Downey questioned the need for a \$3.7 million fund balance in the Water & Sewer Fund. Spallasso responded that this will also be addressed during the budget process. He offered to sit down with Mr. Downey and the Finance Director to address his questions.

Downey charged Council and administration with being evasive about the Village's violation of peak flow into the Evergreen sewer. Spallasso stated that he indicated at the last Council meeting that the Village's consulting engineering firm Hubbell, Roth & Clark will present the

results of its Sanitary Sewer Infiltration/Inflow study at the first Council meeting in March. He clarified that this is not a peak flow issue; it is a matter of exceeding our capacity due to extraneous water going into the sanitary sewer system.

In response to an inquiry from Downey, Spallasso stated that debt service revenue in the Water & Sewer Fund is no longer being posted in the sewage disposal account.

Kathleen Berwick of 31381 Kennoway Court referred to ongoing home reconstruction in her neighborhood and again urged Council to consider creating an architectural commission to oversee home additions and renovations. She also suggested more stringent building restrictions that would limit the amount of time a dumpster can be located on a residential site.

Berwick agreed with people who have problems with the traffic in the area of Groves High School. She asked for increased public safety patrols at that location. Berwick also suggested better enforcement of ordinance restrictions relative to removing trash cans from the street.

Rijnovean related that she spoke with the Village code enforcement officer regarding enforcement with respect to placement and removal of trash containers from the street. He indicated that he writes warnings regularly to people who do not comply with Section 13.11 of the Municipal Code when a violation comes to his attention. The next time a violation occurs, that individual could receive a ticket for \$500.

Ron Berndt of 31384 E. Rutland reminded everyone that there are still zoning issues on the east side of the Village. He would like to see this matter studied and acted upon in a timely manner. He listed goals outlined by himself and others: 1) eliminate to the extent possible the non-conforming nature of residential properties on the east side; 2) define and better regulate garages; 3) protect permeable land in the Village; and 4) avoid overbuilding of property that has been evidenced in neighboring communities. These are matters that can be addressed through ordinance language.

UPDATE ON MASTER PLAN STATUS – DAVID JENSEN, PLANNING BOARD CHAIRPERSON

David Jensen stated that Council should receive a final draft of the Master Plan for review at the end of April so that it can provide input prior to the public hearing on the document. The Planning Board has reviewed and updated the first draft of the Master Plan and accompanying maps. It has reviewed and incorporated portions of the Strategic Plan into the document where applicable. A decision was made not to include a Housing and Neighborhood Chapter in the Master Plan. The research and study involved in preparing that chapter is an important topic for review but would hold up the completion of the Master Plan.

At its February meeting, the Planning Board will review the first three chapters of a third draft of the Master Plan without strikeouts and underlining with the idea that the balance of the document will be undertaken in March. The Planning Board will look at the final draft in April and forward it to Council for review. He proposed that Council read and discuss the updated Master Plan with the Planning Board at a joint meeting and arrive at a plan for public input.

Jensen clarified that copies of the draft plan will be available to the public prior to the public hearing on the Master Plan.

Some members of Council indicated a preference to review a working copy of the document with strikeouts and underlining in order to compare the current plan with the updated Master Plan.

Taylor thanked Jensen for the work that he and the Planning Board have done. He questioned the progress being made on a survey related to the Housing and Neighborhood Study and suggested that there may be interest in moving more quickly to address the issue of zoning on the east side of the Village.

Jensen responded that the Neighborhood Plan is the next study that the Planning Board will undertake. The Board is working on formulating a questionnaire, which will be reviewed at the February meeting. The housing and neighborhood analysis involves land coverage and issues related to size of a house and garage, setbacks, and lots that do not conform with current zoning ordinance requirements. The issue will be to preserve the character of the neighborhoods while providing incentive for people who want to improve their housing stock.

Taylor commented that he has commissioned an individual to draft zoning ordinance language that he would like to share with the Planning Board and Council. Jensen expressed interest in receiving and reviewing the language.

Rijnovean voiced her opinion that the east side zoning issue should be addressed in a timely manner. She questioned the urgency to complete the Master Plan.

Attorney Ryan commented that the Master Plan is the underpinning of the Zoning Ordinance and suggested that the Village complete the Master Plan before continuing with the Housing and Neighborhood Study.

Jensen stated that the Planning Board already has a fair amount of data compiled on the neighborhood study. Once it begins to concentrate on the topic, the Board should be able to prepare something to recommend to Council.

Ron Berndt stated that there has been a problem with non-conforming lots on the east side of the Village for 47 years. He believes that the Village is at a crisis point with its mature housing stock and that the Planning Board and Council should work together to arrive at a solution in a timely manner.

Robert Walsh of 20655 Smallwood Court does not think the Village is in a crisis mode nor is there a need to make major changes to the Zoning Ordinance that would reduce the size of lots and side yard setbacks. Residents can renovate their homes by requesting and receiving a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals in order to build an addition.

Kathleen Berwick of 31381 Kennoway Court expressed concern that a homeowner may not be able to rebuild their home on a non-conforming lot if the structure is destroyed by fire. Ryan

responded this is a possibility under the law, but the reality is that the homeowner would most likely not be kept from rebuilding if their house burned down.

Jon Oen of 32061 Verona Circle commented that he provided the Planning Board with a sample ordinance adopted by Grosse Pointe that addressed building an addition onto a home that does not conform to the ordinance. The sample ordinance indicated that an addition must be constructed with like materials that are harmonious with the existing house. Oen suggested that the Village should be reasonable with allowing renovations on the east side of the Village but should consider retaining some architectural control.

Gladys Walsh remarked that her understanding of the agenda item was that the Planning Board Chairperson would update Council on the status of the Master Plan and Neighborhood Study. She did not think that Council was going to get into a discussion on changing the zoning on the east side of the Village. Walsh expressed concern that the Council President has authorized an individual to prepare ordinance language without discussion by the Council as a whole.

Pfeifer concurred that the discussion has expanded beyond the topic listed on the agenda. She expressed the opinion that the east side study should be a priority of the Planning Board once the Master Plan update is completed.

Koss commented that she would like to see the draft ordinance language referenced by Mr. Taylor before it goes further.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Woodrow, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Review and consider minutes of a joint Council/Finance Committee meeting held on January 10, 2006
- b. Review and consider minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 17, 2006
- c. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, January 23, 2006
- d. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, February 6, 2006

Motion passed (7 - 0).

BUSINESS AGENDA

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF FEBRUARY 21, 2006 TO REVIEW AND CONFIRM 2005 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SOUTHFIELD ROAD BUSINESS ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

The Village maintains the public right-of-way along the Southfield Road business district and assesses the cost of landscape maintenance and water for the sprinkling system to the property owners on the west side of Southfield Road. A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2006 to review and confirm the 2005 Special Assessment Roll for the Southfield Road Business Assessment District.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER EXTENSION OF 12-HOUR SHIFTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY SWORN OFFICERS

Rijnovean reviewed that the Department of Public Safety began a one-year trial of a 12-hour shift schedule on March 21, 2005 with the support of Village Council along with the officer and command labor units. At the January 17, 2006 Council meeting, the nine month trial period (encompassing the fourth quarter of FY 2004/05 and the first and second quarters of FY 2005/06) was discussed in order to update Council and the public on the progress of the trial.

Public Safety Director Woodard reviewed that there was discussion at the last Council meeting on the historical perspective of wages and overtime in the Public Safety Department for the last five fiscal years. Displays indicated that wages generally kept in line or were slightly below the budget. In most of those five years, there were overruns in the overtime budget. Woodard provided background on this topic in his memo to Council dated February 2, 2006. Whether overtime expense could be reduced was a consideration in trying a 12-hour shift. Exhibits provided on the first six months of the current fiscal year show that wages are under budget through December 31, 2005; overtime is \$7,000 over budget at this point.

A display was presented at the last Council meeting illustrating what was budgeted for wages and overtime on an 8-hour schedule with 26 officers compared to what had been budgeted for 25 officers working the 12-hour schedule (23 of whom are actually working the 12-hour schedule). The wages, overtime budget and extra pay for the extra 104 hours worked showed that the 12-hour trial should operate in the black from a budget standpoint.

Woodard has collected the last nine months of actual wage and overtime expenses under the 12-hour shift and compared that to actual wages and overtime expense for the same nine-month period when the Department was working an 8-hour schedule with 26 officers. He described the various categories and costs on the chart noting that the comparison indicates an actual figure of \$36,000 in the black as opposed to the \$22,000 projected. This suggests that the 12-hour shift operation does not appear to have an adverse economic impact. Further exhibits have been provided relating to staffing shortages and how they might be encountered and/or impact the overtime account.

Woodard concluded that the 12-hour shift trial is going forward in decent fashion, and few if any operational issues have been encountered. The shift schedule has been well accepted by the officers and supervisors who are working it. It is Woodard's recommendation that there be a 12-month extension of the trial 12-hour shift.

Council member Woodrow stated that updated figures show that the actual net impact of the 12-hour shift at this point represents about a \$36,000 savings for the Village. He mentioned that the Livonia Police Department is currently working towards a 12-hour shift schedule, and he thinks that other departments will be looking at 12-hour shifts in the future.

Walsh pointed out that, as part of the 12-hour shift trial, there was a supplemental agreement that was signed by representatives of the Village and of the Public Safety Department Lieutenants and Sergeants Association agreeing to the one-year trial period under the terms set forth in a Memorandum of Understanding. The Memo of Understanding states that "this trial 12-hour shift implementation is the result of cooperative discussions between union members and department administration, as ratified by Village Council." Walsh had understood that it

was a management right to change shifts; this supplemental agreement indicates that it is more than that.

The Memo of Understanding states that “The 12-hour shift will proceed on a trial basis for two schedule bids or approximately 12 months. Thereafter, the 12-hour shift will be continued, provided that all parties (Command Officer Association, Public Safety Officer Association, Department Administration) mutually agree to such continuation.” Walsh expressed a strong concern that this issue should not be part of a Council session. It is indicated in the Memo of Understanding that “this agreement will be considered part of the collective bargaining agreement, subject to all of its terms and conditions”.

Walsh questioned whether overtime is really an issue and whether the Village has seen a different impact under the 12-hour shift schedule. She would be interested in what the Villagers think about the status of their safety. The Memo of Understanding indicates that the department operations/patrol staffing will be reduced from 21 (3 Lieutenants, 3 Sergeants and 15 PSO’s) to 20 personnel (4 Lieutenants, 4 Sergeants and 12 PSO’s) during the 12-hour shift schedule. Walsh questioned whether this shift in personnel has involved increases in salaries or other costs including holiday pay.

Walsh has reviewed the Fair Labor Standards Act and has done readings on 12-hour shifts. She thinks that people can adapt to a 12-hour shift but questioned how long they would be able to keep up with that schedule. Other things being impacted by a change to a 12-hour shift are overtime and sick leave. Walsh does not think that Council has the complete picture on this complex issue. She was concerned that Council is talking about allocating money for the next fiscal year when it has not yet appropriated budget funds or approved expenditures for next year. Walsh posed the following questions: Are we a safer community? Has crime decreased? What has the performance of the Public Safety Department been under the 12-hour shift schedule? Walsh is not in favor of extending the 12-hour shift trial and she does not think the issue has a place at the Council table.

Rijnovean asked Director Woodard whether he thinks the quality of safety has been affected by the change to a 12-hour shift.

Woodard responded that the exposure of the Village to public safety officers on patrol is unchanged in terms of minimum staffing. The protection and safety level of the Village and the ability to supply fire fighters has not been changed with the 12-hour shift trial. In response to an inquiry about fatigue or boredom factors, Woodard stated that he is not hearing complaints from his supervisors or citizens in this regard.

Burry questioned whether the Department could be staffed with 24 sworn officers on a 12-hour shift. Woodard responded that the loss of a third investigator would result in a reduction in the quantity and timeliness of investigations. It is a service issue and not a safety issue because there would still be 20 officers on the road.

Burry referred to the Public Safety Department Operational Review done by Rehmann Robson in August of 2004. The report recommended that the detective bureau remain at the current

level, which was two persons at the time. It also suggested that any additional detective work be taken up by the Public Safety Officers. If the Department went to a 12-hour shift, the report recommended staffing with 24 sworn officers with a savings of \$89,875. Burry thinks that the 12-hour shift is probably a good idea. Service is maintained and the officers prefer it. He cannot support the 12-hour shift schedule unless it is staffed with 24 officers. The level of service would be maintained while saving the Village a substantial amount of money in wages, medical and retirement costs.

Woodrow countered that the Village would experience a reduction in service if it lost one officer. Council and Personnel Committee members discussed this with the Director at length at the time the operational study was issued and thought it was best to use that third detective to alleviate investigation issues. The Rehmann Robson report was reviewed carefully by the prior Council and Administration, and some of the report recommendations were incorporated by the Public Safety Department. The individuals who prepared the study were in agreement with the Village's actions and thought that it looked like a good plan.

Koss thought that the boredom factor would decrease with a 12-hour shift schedule because officers are working longer hours for shorter periods of time during the week.

Pfeifer recalled that it was the Director's recommendation to proceed with a 24-month trial period when Council was having this discussion a year ago. Council compromised and approved a 12-month trial. The Department is only nine months into this trial. Pfeifer recommended extending the trial 12-hour shift schedule and continuing to gather data. She maintains that any adjustment in the staffing level should be discussed and determined during budget deliberations.

Rijnovean commented that she is not sure that Council should be dealing with this topic, but it was presented to them for a decision. She believes that the primary reason for having the extra detective is to cover for shortages. The fact that the Village is short in funding health care for retirees makes her want to look at spending critically.

Walsh believes that the extra person on duty to cover may be comfortable for the manager, but it is not a wise business practice. Extra staff comes with a cost in terms of wages, health care and pension costs. Walsh hopes that everyone gives this matter thought and deliberation. She does not think that Council has to continue with this trial shift schedule just because it was put on the table a year ago.

Koss stated that the number of officers on the force is an issue that is addressed during budget discussions. The issue before Council is whether or not to extend the 12-hour shift trial.

Woodrow thought that the Department did a good job of trying something new to save the Village money and that the trial warrants further analysis.

Taylor stated that he would support extending the trial schedule for a period shorter than a year. He expressed concern with the amortization of pension and health care costs.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court does not think that Council has enough information to decide on approving a 12-hour shift schedule at this time. She suggested that Council extend the trial period and look at more numbers. Tischler commented that the Village's Public Safety Department provides a unique service to residents in all kinds of scenarios. They do an outstanding job as a problem solving service. As far as cost savings, the hope is that the Public Safety Department budget will come under the same scrutiny as Administration's budget. Tischler would like the Village to take a look at the issue of fatigue and productivity under a 12-hour shift.

Art Liberty of 20850 W. Thirteen Mile Road suggested that this topic be referred to the Finance Committee for further study.

Jill Sickles of 17171 Kinross commented that her only concern as a resident is the productivity aspect of officers on a 12-hour shift.

Bob Walsh of 20655 Smallwood Court questioned why this particular topic came before Council for discussion in an open forum when it is part of the labor contract.

Motion by Rijnovean, second by Koss, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council approve the trial 12-hour shift schedule to be extended to October 1, 2006 consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding executed subsequent to the February 1, 2005 Village Council meeting.

Koss stated that this issue will come back before Council prior to October 1 for the shift change pick. In answer to an inquiry, Woodard indicated that Council will have 12 months of actual figures at that time and a first glimpse of the actuarial impact on pension for nine months.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion passed (4 – 3).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER PURCHASE/LEASE OF NEW POSTAGE METER

The Village has a postage meter and scale that need replacement in 2006. Because the manufacturer is no longer in business, the postage scale owned by the Village cannot be updated to reflect new rates that went into effect at the beginning of the year. The four-year lease agreement for the postage meter with Automated Mailing Solutions expires on March 18, 2006. The U.S. Postal Service is requiring the Village to have a digitized system in place before December 31, 2006. The Village currently pays \$105 per month, which includes meter rental (\$25) and maintenance.

Bid specifications were written for a digital system that has comparable features to the Village's current machine. Council is in receipt of bid specifications and the three bid proposals opened on January 31, 2006. The bids are for both purchase and lease of the equipment. Village Clerk Marshall recommends entering into a three or four-year lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for the DM400 mailing system. Entering into a lease agreement allows the opportunity to upgrade the mailing system if the Post Office imposes a future mandatory update.

Council members considered the proposals for purchase and lease of the equipment. Rijnovean suggested sharing a postage meter and scale with the Township of Southfield office. Marshall addressed questions from Council on the usage of its postage meter and charges for ink cartridges. She has contacted the Post Master's Office, and two individuals recommended a short-term lease over purchasing equipment to avoid owning a postage meter in the event that there are technology changes in the future.

Pfeifer asked if the Pitney Bowers machine will be updated if changes occur during the lease period. Marshall deferred to Stacey Halverson from Pitney Bowes to answer that question. Halverson stated that there is a satisfaction guarantee provided in the lease proposal. Pitney Bowes will make sure that the equipment is up to par with the standards of the U.S. Postal Service for the term of the lease.

Sharon Tischler asked if maintenance is required as part of the lease proposal. She was informed that maintenance was included in the leased price and was not itemized separately. All of the bids include maintenance packages because the manufacturers do not want another party to repair their equipment.

Motion by Woodrow, second by Pfeifer, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council authorize the Village Manager to enter into a four year lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for the DM400 mailing system at a monthly lease amount of \$118, which includes meter rental, meter resets, rate updates and maintenance. Funds are available in Office Equipment Rental, Account #101-248-940.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion passed (5 – 2).

DISCUSSION ITEM – DISCUSS WAYS TO PROMOTE DONATIONS TO THE VILLAGE

Rijnovean reviewed that there has been discussion on the topic of encouraging people to make monetary contributions to the Village for general or specific purposes and receive a tax

deduction. The Village has accounts established where donations can be deposited for specific projects. Rijnovean proposed implementing a plan to publicize an initiative for monetary contributions to the Village. She outlined ideas for marketing this program:

- An article in the Villager Newsletter encouraging people to make monetary contributions to the Village. Rijnovean has drafted such an article
- Write letters to various homeowner association presidents
- Include an article in area newspapers
- Post information about this campaign on the Village web site
- Display a message on the marquee sign in front of the municipal building.

There was support from Council to pursue these action items. Spallasso stated that administration will follow up on these measures.

REPORTS – MANAGER

Spallasso stated that the Village is in the process of preparing bid specifications for printing services for the Villager newsletter. Council will be asked to consider bids and award a contract at the first meeting in March. Administration is preparing to advertise for proposals for the joint parking lot project. This will probably come to Council for award at the second meeting in March.

The water main replacement project is active again in Section 2 west of Southfield Road. The Village office will be closed in Monday, February 20 in observance of Presidents' Day.

COUNCIL

Burry reported that the Finance Committee met on Monday, February 6 and developed an approach for its analysis of the five year financial forecast using a study matrix as a starting point. The Finance Committee affirmed that its objective is to be a fact finding, analytical group that will look at the long-term financial health of the Village. The Finance Committee will be meeting twice monthly on second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Walsh announced that the Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on Monday, February 13 to hear one case for a side yard deviation to build an attached garage. Walsh commented on the February 5th Finance Committee meeting. Committee members indicated that the group will be driven by facts and analysis and will focus on long-range solutions to problems and providing alternatives to Council. Walsh remarked that Council has not imposed a deadline on the Finance Committee's review of the five year financial forecast.

Rijnovean announced that eligible seniors and people with disabilities can take advantage of an Oakland County Sheriff's Office program that will provide assistance with snow removal. If snow accumulates more than three inches, the OCSO's Boot Camp trainees will help eligible residents with snow shoveling. Individuals interested in registering for this program can call the OCSO Community Service Hotline at (248) 975-9700 and hit key #5 to leave their name and address.

Koss stated that the Southfield Township Board will meet on Tuesday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m. The Baldwin Library Board will meet on Monday, February 20. Koss mentioned that she is currently not able to be contacted via email; she can be reached by phone or through the Village office.

Pfeifer stated that the Birmingham Area Cable Board will meet on Wednesday, February 15. She informed everyone that Comcast is again raising its rates for cable television service. Pfeifer clarified that the Cable Board has no control over rates or programming; the Board does monitor customer service.

The Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council has a snow shoveling program for seniors through the Community Development Block Grant program.

Taylor questioned the availability of Council members to attend a budget study session in the next couple of weeks. Council members were available to meet on Monday, February 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Taylor mentioned that interested parties can learn more about OakVideo Military Video Conferencing by going to www.co.oakland.mi.us. It is a free service to keep military families connected. Taylor recognized Oakland County Commissioner Chuck Moss in the audience.

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

Motion passed (7 – 0).

Dave Taylor
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary