

Present: President Koss; President Pro-Tem Briggs; Members: LaFerriere, Mercer, Mooney and Oen

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager, Wilson  
Assistant Manager/Clerk, Marshall  
Finance Director, Wiszowaty  
Village Attorney, Ryan  
Director of Public Safety, Woodard

President Koss 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**

Motion by Oen, second by Mercer, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

#### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Lillian Dean, education specialist with SOCWA (Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority), talked about Spring lawn care and an upcoming SOCWA event. Dean works with municipalities and citizen volunteers in the Rouge River district. She distributed materials that outlined simple things homeowners can do to care for their lawns and landscaping using earth-friendly practices to protect the Rouge River Watershed and local waterways. Dean announced that, on Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. until noon, there will be a drop-in workshop and displays at the SOCWA Native Landscape & Gardens at 3910 W. Webster in Royal Oak. There will be an emphasis on proper tree care.

State Representative Chuck Moss reported that the Legislature is on track to have the budget completed by June 1. The good news is that the economy is starting to look up a little bit.

Clerk Sharon Tischler announced that Southfield Township will be offering free document shredding on Saturday, May 7 at the municipal building parking lot from 10 a.m. until noon.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW 2010 ASSESSMENT ROLLS FOR DUST CONTROL AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ASSESSMENTS**

A public hearing is required to review and confirm unpaid assessments and billings that need to be added to the tax roll in the categories of dust control and other miscellaneous assessments. These are charges to residents for services that have already been incurred by the Village. There are 184 properties incurring special assessments in the amount of \$68,681.96.

President Koss opened the public hearing at 7:40 p.m. on the 2010 Assessment Rolls for dust control and other miscellaneous assessments. She read the categories and amounts of the charges. No one wished to be heard; therefore the public hearing was closed at 7:42 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Oen, second by Mercer, to approve the consent agenda as published.

- a. Consider approval of minutes of a special Council meeting held April 18, 2011.
- b. Consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held April 19, 2011.
- c. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, April 25, 2011.
- d. Review and confirm 2010 Assessment Rolls for dust control and other miscellaneous assessments.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL TO USE VILLAGE STREETS FOR WALK-A-THON ON FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2011**

Emily Allison, a junior at Marian High School, was present on behalf of the school requesting to hold a Walk-A-Thon using Village sidewalks and streets on Friday, May 13, 2011. The mission of this school sponsored event is to raise money to provide assistance for Most Holy Trinity Elementary School in Detroit and to support a therapeutic program called O.A.T.S. (Offering Alternative Therapy with Smiles), whereby mentally and physically disabled people learn to ride horses. Administration has reviewed a map of the route indicating which streets in the Village will be involved.

Motion by Oen, second by Mercer, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council approve the request of Marian High School to use Village streets and sidewalks for its Walk-A-Thon to be held on Friday, May 13, 2011. The Village is in receipt of the required Certificate of Insurance with the Village of Beverly Hills as a named insured.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2011/2012 BUDGETS FOR GENERAL FUND, MAJOR & LOCAL ROADS, WATER & SEWER OPERATING AND OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Koss opened the public hearing on the proposed 2011/12 budget for General Fund, Major & Local Roads, Water & Sewer Operating and Other Special Revenue Funds at 7:45 p.m. Finance Director Wiszowaty proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation that provided background information on Village finances and the proposed budget prior to hearing public comments on the budget.

The Village receives its General Fund revenue from three primary revenue sources: property taxes, State Revenue Sharing, and charges for services. Wiszowaty affirmed that the Village will not use a contribution from the Fund Balance as another revenue source this year.

Wiszowaty referred to a chart to explain what is occurring in the Village regarding Taxable Value versus State Equalized Value since the passage of Proposal A in 1994. He pointed out that the significant decrease in property tax revenue is due to a continued drop in home values since the downturn in the economy in 2008/09. In addition, there has been a decade long decline in

State Revenue Sharing (from \$1.08 million in 2000 to \$686,000 this year). Wiszowaty discussed the differences between constitutional and statutory revenue sharing.

Wiszowaty addressed the proposed millage rate. In November of 2010, the electorate passed a ten-year millage in the amount of 12.9184 mills. This millage was split between the Public Safety Fund at 9.9000 mills, the General Fund at 2.1000 mills, and the Library Fund at 0.9184 mills. The difference in the budget this year from previous years is that the 2.1 mills levied for general administration will cover General Fund expenses and exclude Public Safety and the library. The Public Safety and Library Fund will now be included in the category of Special Revenue Funds.

The 2.1 mills for general administration plus other revenues through fees and state revenue sharing will be available to the Village. It is the recommendation of Administration to levy 1.4934 mills for general administration to cover costs. The CSO debt fund millage will be 0.9055 this year. The total combined millage rate for the Village of Beverly Hills will be 13.2173 mills.

Wiszowaty summarized 2011/2012 projected General Fund Revenues and Expenses. Revenue and Expenses will be balanced at \$2,361,750. The General Fund will assess 1.4934 mills instead of the 2.100 mill maximum allowed by the millage rate. Full time employees will remain the same as current levels in both Public Safety and Administration. The Village will not increase the \$100 Service Fee for rubbish collection and disposal to \$150 this year. There will be a \$300,000 transfer to Roads. The Fund Balance will not be used to balance the budget.

Wiszowaty addressed projected revenue and expenses for Special Revenue Funds including the Public Safety Fund, Library Fund, Major and Local Street Funds, Drug Law Enforcement Fund, Retiree Health Care Fund, Vacation Reserve Fund and Sick Pay Reserve Fund. It was noted that the Budget Stabilization line item in the Public Safety Fund in the amount of \$101,682 represents money allocated to start a Fund Balance for the Public Safety Fund.

Wiszowaty explained that the actuarial valuation report of 2007 specified that the Village's annual required contribution (ARC) to fund both the current year health care requirements and an amortized portion of any unfunded 30-year OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) liability was approximately \$1.2 million. The proposed budget will fully fund the Annual Required Contribution for both General Administration and Public Safety.

The Water and Sewer Fund is an enterprise fund. The Water & Sewer budget will increase by \$23,806 from last year, which is primarily due to the meter based billing system costs. Administration is recommending a 4% increase to the water and sewer rate. The average customer will pay \$37.57 more than the preceding year. The cost is split between water, sewer and debt service based on revenue and expenses. The Water & Sewer budget will be balanced at \$3,873,631.

Koss asked for comments from the public. Bob Walsh on Smallwood Court noted that the Public Safety budget did not include a page comparing the proposed budget line items to previous years. Wilson responded that the public safety fund does not show a past history for the reason that this is the first year that it exists without being part of the general administration fund. Wilson has a

document that shows the history and future of public safety expenditures that he will make available to Walsh.

No one else wished to be heard; therefore, the public hearing was closed at 8:08 p.m.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF 2011/2012 FISCAL YEAR VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS BUDGET**

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
TO ADOPT THE 2011/2012 FISCAL YEAR  
VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS BUDGET**

The Village Council of Beverly Hills conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2011/2012 Fiscal Year Budget on May 3, 2011 and public comments have been heard and considered, therefore, be it resolved that the 2011/2012 Fiscal Year Budget for the General Fund, Public Safety Fund, Library Fund, Major Road Fund, Local Streets Fund, Drug Law Enforcement, Retiree Health Care, Vacation Reserve, Sick Leave and Water and Sewer Operating Fund in the following amounts be hereby adopted:

FUND NAME	REVENUES	APPROPRIATIONS
General Fund	\$2,361,750.00	\$2,361,750.00
Public Safety Fund	\$4,980,990.00	\$4,980,990.00
Library Fund	\$433,830.00	\$433,830.00
Major Road Fund	\$373,712.00	\$373,712.00
Local Streets Fund	\$570,501.00	\$570,501.00
Drug Law Enforcement	\$34,100.00	\$34,100.00
Retiree Health Care	\$1,316,117.00	\$692,706.00
Vacation Reserve	\$750.00	\$00.00
Sick Leave Reserve	\$750.00	\$00.00
Water & Sewer Operating	\$3,873,631.00	\$3,873,631.00

Roll Call Vote:  
Motion passed (6 – 0).

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR 2011/2012 FISCAL YEAR VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS BUDGET**

Motion by Oen, second by Mooney, to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE 2011/2012  
BEVERLY HILLS BUDGET**

The Village Council of Beverly Hills has adopted its annual budget for its fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 in accordance with State law and the Village Charter, and

The Village Council is also required to adopt an appropriations act to provide the authority to incur obligations and expend public funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the adopted budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012 shall establish the approved appropriation levels for the said fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council does hereby authorize the Village Manager to execute transfers between appropriations provided that each transfer be approved by the Village Council prior to its execution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council retains authority to amend the Village budget and this appropriations act at such times when deviations from the projected revenues and authorized expenditure levels become necessary and the amount of the deviations becomes known.

Roll Call Vote:  
Motion passed (6 – 0).

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE 2011/2012 VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS MILLAGE RATE**

Motion by Briggs, second by Oen, to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
TO ADOPT THE 2011 VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS BASE TAX RATE  
PLUS ADDITIONAL MILLAGE TO RETIRE DEBT**

The Village Council on May 3, 2011 adopted the 2011/2012 Village Budget, and

The Village Council must adopt a millage rate to be spread on the Village tax roll for 2011, and

Public Act 5 of 1982 does not apply to levying for Debt Service, and

The proposed 12.3118 mils for operating purposes for the General Fund, Public Safety Fund and Library Fund do not exceed the 12.9184 mils maximum approved by the voters at the November 2, 2010 election.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village Council does hereby approve the total 2011 millage rate for the Village at 13.2173 mils and the 13.2173 millage rate is to be spread as follows:

General Fund.....	1.4934 mils
Public Safety Fund.....	9.9000 mils
Library Fund .....	0.9184 mils
CSO Debt .....	0.9055 mils
Total Millage Rate .....	13.2173 mils

Roll Call Vote:  
Motion passed (6 – 0).

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 2011/2012 RATE SCHEDULE FOR WATER CONSUMPTION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

Wilson discussed what went into factoring the rate schedule. For the last three years, the Village has held water and sewer rates at a flat rate while surrounding communities passed along considerable sewer rate increases. This was primarily due to changes in the billing scheme that has been imposed by the Water Resources Commissioner.

Wilson related that all communities that participate in the SOCWA consortium have experienced significant drops in usage. As usage drops, the amount paid on a per-volume basis tends to increase due to the fixed dollar capital and debt service costs. Wilson noted that SOCWA has been able to engage in an arrangement with Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield Township to sell water to those customers at a cheaper rate than they can buy from Detroit. Because of the arrangements that SOCWA has been able to make with non-member communities, it was able to hold the 12% rate increase from DWSD (Detroit Water & Sewer Department) to a 2% increase to Beverly Hills and other member communities.

On the sewer side, the RTB communities in the Evergreen-Farmington district are in the second year of a three-year phase in of a new billing system. There is concern about the eventual impact of changes in sewer charges that will result from the meter based billing scheme implemented by the Water Resources Commissioner’s office. Precipitation rates will begin to play heavily into overall sewer charges, particularly in communities with combined sewers. Because of the uncertainties put forward by this scheme and the potential for increases to the Village, Wilson is recommending an overall 4% increase this year primarily to offset increases from the Water Resources Commissioner’s office.

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
ESTABLISHING WATER & SEWER RATES**

Each premises within the Village connected to the water and/or sanitary sewer system shall pay a consumption charge based upon the amount of water used as shown by the water meter installed in each premises as follows:

Water Consumption		\$ 14.72 per 1000 cu ft
Sanitary Sewer O.M. & R		40.67 per 1000 cu ft
Debt Service		<u>5.71</u> per 1000 cu ft
Total		\$ 61.10

Sanitary Industrial Waste Control Charge

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Monthly S.O.C.S.D.S.</u>	<u>Quarterly Evergreen/Farmington</u>
5/8"	\$ 6.85	\$ 20.55
3/4"	10.28	30.84
1"	17.13	51.39
1-1/2"	37.68	113.04
2"	54.80	164.40
3"	99.33	297.99
4"	137.00	411.00
6"	205.50	616.50
8"	342.50	1027.50
10"	479.50	1438.50
12"	548.00	1644.00

Residential Meter Charge

Quarterly meter charge (up to one inch)	\$	6.00
Quarterly meter charge 2"		9.00
Quarterly meter charge 3"		12.00
Quarterly meter charge 4"		15.00

Minimum Charge

Minimum charge per 1000 cu ft per quarter for water, sewer OMR, sewer debt and meter charge is:  
One inch meter or less \$ 67.10

Sewer Only

All sewer-only customers per quarter \$ 113.07 OMR  
15.93 Debt Service  
\$ 129.00

Effective with all bills mailed after July 1, 2011 and thereafter until changed.

Roll Call Vote:  
Motion passed (6 – 0).

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 2011/12 CHARGE FOR SERVICES FOR RUBBISH COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

Motion by Mercer, second by Oen, to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
TO ADOPT THE 2011 VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS CHARGES FOR  
SERVICES FOR RUBBISH COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

The Village Council of Beverly Hills has adopted its annual budget for its fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 in accordance with State law and the Village Charter, and

The Village Council has adopted an appropriations act to provide the authority to incur obligations and expend public funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the adopted budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012 shall establish a Charge for Services for Rubbish Collection and Disposal for Residential Customers for the said fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council does hereby authorize the Village Manager to authorize the Village Treasurer to add an annual charge in the amount of \$100 to each residential 2011 tax bill for Rubbish Collection and Disposal.

Roll Call Vote:  
Motion passed (6 – 0).

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR VILLAGE PHONE SERVICE**

Wilson stated that the Village's phone service contract with AT&T expired in December of 2010. AT&T provides local and long distance services for the Village Office and Public Safety Department. Clerk Marshall has been working with AT&T to attempt to renew that contract at reasonable rates; those negotiations were not successful. At that point, Marshall investigated

other phone providers and has been in communication with Comcast and WOW representatives regarding phone, cable and Internet services. The result of that effort is included in a memo to Council dated April 27, 2011 comparing rates for AT&T, Comcast, and WOW service. After reviewing proposals from the three providers, it was determined that the best and most efficient service would be provided by WideOpenWest.

Marshall coordinated a meeting between Public Safety and Southfield Township officials and WOW representatives to review what the changes would entail. Wilson noted that the Village reviewed this proposal with the Village's IT contractors, and they are confident that the proposal will work well for the Village. Given the rates and the quality of service, Administration believes that it is in the Village's best interest to pursue a contract with WOW.

Motion by Briggs, second by Oen, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council authorize administration to enter into an agreement with WOW (WideOpenWest) for telephone, cable and Internet services for 36 months at the following monthly rates: Telephone – Village Office \$405.00; Public Safety \$607.50. Cable – Village Office \$43.31; Public Safety \$43.31. Internet – Village Office \$80; Public Safety \$70.

In answer to an inquiry from Council, Wiszowaty stated that the Birmingham Area Cable Board has been covering Beverly Hills' Internet costs. The Cable Board has also approved annual grants in past years for Internet and cable service for consortium police and fire departments. Wiszowaty said that there will be discussions with the Executive Director of the Cable Board regarding reimbursement to Beverly Hills for administrative services rendered to the Board.

WOW representatives Holly Richards, Commercial Account Manager, and Ed Sesi, Business Solutions Manager, thanked Beverly Hills for considering their proposal.

Roll Call Vote:  
Motion passed (6 – 0).

### **FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD/COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Council is in receipt of a memo listing the various board members whose terms expire on June 30, 2011. All of the members will be notified of their term expiration and asked if they would like to be considered for reappointment. Council agreed in November of 2008 to make these vacancies open to the public as well as the currently seated members. All terms are for three years.

#### Finance Committee

William Donnelly  
Erik Jallad  
Jack Lanigan

#### Planning Board

David Jensen  
Vince Borowski  
Nanci Freedman

#### Parks & Recreation

Cynthia Arvant  
Patricia Greening  
Phil Schmitt

#### Zoning Board

Todd Schafer  
Michael Brady  
Michele Tillman

Koss made the first announcement of these board vacancies. Deadline for applications is Friday, May 27, 2011. Appointments are scheduled to take place at the June 7, 2011 Council meeting.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDER SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO FILL VACANCY ON PLANNING BOARD**

A subcommittee consisting of Jon Oen as chair, Brian LaFerriere and Tim Mercer met prior to the Council meeting to review five applications for the vacant position on the Planning Board. All candidates were qualified for the seat. The subcommittee made a recommendation to Council to appoint Lee Peddie to the Planning Board for a term to expire on June 30, 2013.

Motion by Oen, second by Mercer, to appoint Lee Peddie to the Village Planning Board for a term to expire on June 30, 2013.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

**ACCEPT DOUG PREW’S RESIGNATION FROM COUNCIL**

Koss stated that she was contacted by Doug Prew yesterday and informed that he was resigning from the Village Council. Prew recognized that he would not be able to attend the required number of Council meetings per year prescribed by the Village Charter due to his business travel schedule. He was elected to Council in November of 2010.

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to accept the resignation from Doug Prew from the Village Council.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF COUNCIL VACANCY**

Doug Prew submitted his resignation from Council on May 2, 2011. His term on Council expires in November of 2014. The Village Charter, Chapter 5, Subsection 5.7(b) states: “Vacancies in Councilmember offices shall, within sixty (60) days after such vacancy occurs be filled for the unexpired term of the Councilmember whose office has become vacant by appointment by a majority vote of the members of the Council then in office of a person possessing the qualifications for the office.” Traditionally, two announcements of the vacancy take place before an applicant is appointed.

Koss made the first announcement of a vacancy on the Village Council. A second announcement will be made at the Tuesday, May 17 Council meeting. The deadline for receiving applications will be May 27, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. Koss proposed that Council meet in special session at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regularly scheduled June 7, 2011 Council meeting to interview candidates and make an appointment to the Village Council. The individual would take the oath of office at the start of the regular Council meeting.

Mooney stated that he found it troubling that Council would be appointing someone to a council position that extends past the next election. Council will be appointing someone to serve 3½ years without being elected by the voters. Mooney does not recollect any appointed council

member serving past the following election. He noted that the Charter does not address this situation.

Attorney Ryan informed Council that State Law provides that the appointed person would run for office at the next General Election. When the Village changed to four year terms, the resignation of a Council member within that time frame was not anticipated. Mr. Prew was elected to a four-year term. Ryan suggested that a Charter amendment could be placed on the ballot of the next election to mirror State Law. A person appointed to Council would have to run for office at the next election in order to serve the remaining year(s) of that term. There was further Council discussion on this topic.

Township Clerk Sharon Tischler informed Council that there will be a general election in November of 2011 with School Board candidates on the ballot. The Village could place a question on the November ballot and split the cost of the election with the School District.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Koss clarified that Council accepts questions on business agenda items and attempts to answer inquiries. The intent of the public comment portion of the meeting is to allow individuals to make comments without a response or dialog from members of Council or administration.

Kathleen Berwick of 31381 Kennoway Court responded to remarks made at the last Council meeting attempting to discredit her with respect to a 9-1-1 call that she made to the Public Safety Department. She was disturbed that a member of Council would claim that she was untruthful about a dispatcher's response to one of her calls to report a burglar alarm. Berwick claimed that Council members were speaking without all the facts. Berwick referred to her computer records that show that she made a total of 37 calls to the police non-emergency number and 9-1-1 calls from 2008-2011.

Pam Rijnovean of 32420 Evergreen addressed points relative to the recent PSO arbitration award that she believed clarified issues raised at the last Council meeting. Rijnovean provided Council with a list of pages that reference information she presented.

Robert Deneweth of 32321 Arlington Drive commented on misinformation distributed by a group of residents during the months leading up to the November 2010 election. He said that the recent PSO Arbitration Award resulted in a cut in benefits and total compensation for employees and saved the Village \$189,000 per year. He suggested that the excellent arbitration decision was a result of good management by Village administration and Council.

### **REPORTS – MANAGER**

Wilson provided a report to Council regarding the Bloomfield Township Library Board (BTLB) decision last week to end reciprocity agreements with groups involved in the Library Network Cooperative (TLN) that do not have their own library but have contract agreements with participating libraries. It was the decision of the BTLB that they will no longer honor reciprocity agreements with 22 communities in the TLN network including Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Lathrup Village, Orchard Lake and Rochester. The justification for this was that the Bloomfield Township Library has received significant reductions in revenue, and they are trying to protect

services for Bloomfield Township residents. Baldwin Library Director Doug Koschik has pointed out that the reciprocity arrangement between Bloomfield Township Library and Baldwin Public Library has always gone both ways.

Residents of Birmingham, Beverly Hills and Bingham Farms have utilized services at BTL; however, residents of Bloomfield Township make relatively equal use of materials at the Baldwin Library. The assertion that communities that do not maintain their own library but instead choose to have a contract arrangement with a library are second class citizens and not worthy of reciprocity is an error. Wilson suggested that the decision of Beverly Hills and Bingham Farms to participate in a contract with Baldwin Library has been beneficial to all parties. It was his opinion that the decision of Bloomfield Township was not well thought out and not supported by the facts. It flies in the face of everything that state government has advocated municipalities to do in terms of service sharing.

The Baldwin Library Board has decided to take this issue up at its next meeting and decide how it will respond. Wilson agreed with the views of Baldwin Director Doug Koschik and commended him for his efforts to keep Village administration and Council informed on this matter.

Wilson informed Council that he has been receiving complaints from residents in the area of Evergreen Road north of Groves High School relative to power outages. The Village is working with DTE Energy Company on its plan to put together a construction project along the west side of Evergreen north of Groves High school and south of the Ronsdale Subdivision where they believe the current infrastructure is providing a bottleneck for electricity services. DTE plans to replace poles with wires higher than currently exist and remove a few trees that are causing problems.

Wilson has coordinated communication between the affected residents and DTE. The company has the authority to remove trees in the right-of-way, but it wants to work with residents on a plan. Residents have been receptive to the limited amount of vegetation that will be removed. DTE has agreed to replant evergreen trees that will not interfere with lines in the future. The work will be done this spring and hopefully provide relief from ongoing power outages experienced by area residents.

Wilson stated that Nixle community information service has ended; it has been replaced by a similar messaging service through Oakland County. Residents who would like to participate can obtain the link to this service on the Village or Public Safety Department websites. Residents can contact the Village Office if they need assistance in signing up for this free emergency communication service.

LaFerriere suggested that Council discuss the enhanced communication capabilities of the County's e-government delivery system at its next Council meeting. This will be a discussion item at the May 17 meeting. LaFerriere commented on the power outage situation and his request that DTE consider other solutions such as rerouting the circuit rather than removing trees.

**REPORTS – COUNCIL**

Mercer congratulated Lee Peddie on her appointment to the Planning Board and commended Bruce Wayne on his years of service on that body. He thanked all of the individuals who applied for the Planning Board position. Mercer thanked Doug Prew for his service to the Village.

Mooney congratulated Beverly Hills Little League on an outstanding Opening Day event last weekend. He announced that the Annual Park Cleanup will take place on Saturday, May 14 at 10 a.m. Mooney congratulated Lee Peddie on her appointment to the Planning Board.

Mooney thanked Bob Wiszowaty and administration for an outstanding job with providing a balanced budget and setting a millage rate that was less than the maximum allowed. Mooney thanked Bob Deneweth for his comments. An increase in the millage rate was approved at the last election by 60% of Village residents. Claims were made at the time by individuals who said they could balance the budget without an increased millage rate. Council did not hear any suggestions or recommendations from those individuals during recent budget deliberations. Council and administration have done an outstanding job implementing a budget that is in the best interest of the community.

Oen congratulated Lee Peddie on her appointment to the Planning Board and for serving the community. He addressed the recent PSO arbitration award and noted that it saved the Village \$200,000 a year. Oen observed a problem with weeds on the grounds of the Village municipal building and noted that the Township lawn does not have the same problem. He asked that the same care be given to grass along 13 Mile Road in front of the Village offices. Oen thanked residents who voted in favor of the millage proposal, which put the Village in a position to approve a balanced budget without depleting the fund balance.

Briggs reminded residents that Council reviewed a two-year budget. Council recognized the economic conditions and decided to slowly grow the fund balance to the 20% of expenditures level. While a budget was passed for the next fiscal year, Council must persist in working on aspects of government that will continue to save money and look at opportunities for shared services.

Briggs said that the comment was made at the recent Bloomfield Township Library Board meeting that Beverly Hills does not pay taxes to support their library. Briggs pointed out that Beverly Hills residents pay a fee through their taxes to Baldwin Library. As a result, 4,000 Bloomfield Township residents are able to utilize the Baldwin Public Library; 1,300 Village residents are able use the Bloomfield Township Library. Briggs related circulation statistics. He concluded that this is an example of what the Governor is promoting in terms of sharing services and how it should work in the state: political entities working together to provide quality services to all residents Briggs hoped that the BTLB would reconsider its position. and avoid increased costs.

Briggs invited people to enjoy the upcoming musical production of “Thoroughly Modern Millie” at Berkshire Middle School.

Koss offered her thoughts on the Bloomfield Township Library Board meeting. Libraries pay a fee to join a Library Network Cooperative. The library network has a contract that contains a suggested dispute resolution between communities, yet each library's governing board has the authority to make final decisions. She would like someone to follow up on the Library Network Cooperative and its authority. Koss commended the efforts of Baldwin Library Director Doug Koschik and thanked him for supporting Beverly Hills.

Koss expressed appreciation for the hard work of administration and Council on the 2011/2012 budget.

Motion by Oen, second by Briggs, to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Motion passed.

**Rosanne Koss**  
**Council President**

**Ellen E. Marshall**  
**Village Clerk**

**Susan Bernard**  
**Recording Secretary**