

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Manager, Wilson
Assistant Manager/Clerk, Marshall
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 Mooney, to approve the agenda as published.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held December 6, 2011.
- b. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, December 19, 2011.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER 2012 GOAL SETTING SESSION

Koss reviewed that Council held a goal setting session in 2011 using a facilitator to assist with the process. Members are in receipt of handouts listing 2011/12 short and long-term goals and the status of the those items. Koss said that everyone should be proud of what Council was able to achieve this year. Included with the material distributed was an updated sheet listing Strengths, Opportunities, Weaknesses and Threats. This could be the starting point for the next goal setting session.

Council members agreed to schedule the 2012 Goal Setting Session for Saturday, January 28 at 10 a.m. Neil Hitz has volunteered to facilitate this meeting.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER EVIP CONSOLIDATION AND COLLABORATION REPORT

As part of the State's Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP), the Village Manager has drafted a report on consolidation and collaboration of local government services. Upon Council's

review and input, the document will be submitted along with Form 4487 to the Michigan Department of Treasury by January 1, 2012. Wilson related that the State requires municipalities to list past efforts in terms of collaboration and consolidation and include a cost estimate. He outlined his approach to preparing the document.

Council members had comments and questions on the report. A major concern was how Beverly Hills would meet its State revenue sharing requirements, considering that the Village has undertaken consolidation and collaboration measures since its incorporation in 1958. There was agreement that the State needs to recognize what municipalities have accomplished in the past.

Receiving no objections from Council, Wilson will submit the report later this week with a few minor revisions. Once the report is finalized and submitted to the State, it will be made available on the Village website.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Briggs reviewed that he outlined a communications strategy for the Village at the November 15 Council meeting. At that time the suggestion was made to establish a citizen communication committee to provide community involvement and assist administration with newsletters and other communication opportunities.

Briggs proposed that the Council President appoint a subcommittee of three Council members to determine the scope and structure of the Communications Committee and report back to Council for formal approval at the second meeting in January.

Motion by Briggs, second by Burry, to direct the Council President to appoint a subcommittee of three Council members to establish the scope and structure of the Communications Committee and report back to Council for formal approval.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Court remarked that the report on consolidation of local government services captured many of the service sharing efforts that the Village has employed for a long time. Tischler suggested that the report include establishment dates to call attention to how many years the Village has been operating cost effectively.

Former Council member Ron Berndt of 2182 Lost Tree Way in Bloomfield expressed concern that there may be an increasing trend in criminal activity even though Beverly Hills remains an extremely safe community. He mentioned that, during his term on Council, he advocated maintaining a 25-member public safety department and continued participation in the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team.

REPORTS – MANAGER

Wilson reported that the Baldwin Library is accepting applications from high school juniors to serve as a Student Representative on the Baldwin Library Board. Residents of the Village of Beverly Hills are eligible to apply; application forms are available on the Baldwin website.

Applications are due by January 12 and can be mailed to Josh Rouan, Baldwin Public Library, 300 West Merrill, Birmingham, MI 48009. Students requesting more information can contact the library at 248.554.4683.

Village offices will be closed on Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26, Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2 for the holidays. Trash service will not be interrupted on these days.

Wilson stated that he has been informed by the Southfield Township Treasurer that the Township Board has agreed in principle to move forward with the consolidation of tax collection services. Township legal staff is preparing a draft agreement for review by Village administration and legal staff. Southfield Township will be requesting reimbursement for costs in drafting the agreement. Wilson will keep Council informed on this matter.

Wilson related that there are about 125 people participating on the Village's Facebook page. He encouraged residents who are interested in the community to search for the Village of Beverly Hills on Facebook.

Attorney Ryan has suggested that the Village consider adopting a social media policy because of its involvement with Facebook and the GovDelivery program, which offers an automated email and digital subscription platform to government. Wilson will work with the Village attorney on drafting a policy for Council review at an upcoming meeting.

Wilson addressed questions from Council members regarding current financial documents and water billing issues.

Public Safety Director Woodard updated Council and the public on recent breaking and entering (B&E) activity in the Village over the past four weeks occurring in the area between 13 and 14 Mile Roads and between Southfield and Greenfield Roads. He provided information on the four incidents that occurred during this time frame. Woodard urged residents to take extra precautions particularly at this time of year to secure their property, lock their doors, and watch for people or vehicles acting in a suspicious manner. Report suspicious activity to the Public Safety Department by calling 248.540.3400 or by dialing 9-1-1.

REPORTS – COUNCIL

Burry thanked Council, Village staff and administration for their hard work this year.

Mercer commented that the Village has a great public safety department. He asked residents to call the Department immediately if they witness something out of the ordinary.

Mooney referred to comments made by Ron Berndt earlier in the meeting regarding recent breaking and entering crimes in the area. He noted that there is historically a rise in crime everywhere at Christmastime. The Public Safety Department is on the job and Beverly Hills is the safest community in Oakland County.

Mooney looked back on where the Village was 14 months ago and where it is today. Beverly Hills is fiscally solvent, and administration is working diligently towards meeting expectations of the citizens and the state and federal governments. He commended the efforts and leadership of Rosanne Koss on the millage proposition in November of 2010. Her day-to-day involvement in the community is remarkable.

Mooney extended his congratulations to the all the Groves High School graduates attending the James Madison School at Michigan State University who made the Dean's List this semester.

Oen commended the Public Safety Department for doing a tremendous job of patrolling in the community. He and other members of Council thanked Manager Wilson for his efforts in preparing the EVIP Report.

Briggs reported on upcoming Baldwin Library programs and activities and outlined items from the recent Library Board meeting.

Council members wished everyone a happy holiday and a Happy New Year.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ONGOING LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to go into closed session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss ongoing labor negotiations.

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

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to reconvene in open session at 9:00 p.m.

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

Motion by Mooney, second by Mercer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.
Motion passed (7 – 0).

Rosanne Koss
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary