

Present: President Koss; Members: Burry, LaFerriere, Mercer, Mooney and Oen

Absent: President Pro-Tem Briggs

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 (6 – 0).

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson reminded people that free assistance with tax filing is available from the County Accounting Aid Society. Walsh College is holding a Women's Entrepreneurial Conference on February 8 from 8 am to 3 pm. The conference will focus on how to open, run, and grow a business and the challenges faced by women entrepreneurs.

It was announced at a recent conference in Southfield attended by owners of Michigan-based companies that the Buy Michigan campaign has seen a 400 percent sales growth in Michigan made products in the past year.

Gershenson related information from a presentation she attended by the Kimberly Group of Southfield. The Kimberly Group is a "job match" service working to develop candidates to fill job openings in sales, customer service, tech support and office clerical. The organization meets with people seeking jobs to assess their resumes, identify specific skills, review interview techniques as well as prepare them for employment testing. More information is available on their website.

Lisa Ross, member of the Parks and Recreation Board, announced that the Winter Family Fun Day in Beverly Park has been rescheduled to Sunday, January 29 due to lack of snow. Residents will be notified through the Village website if the event is canceled.

Southfield Township Clerk Sharon Tischler announced that the Township will offer free document shredding on Saturday, May 5 from 10 am until 5 pm in the municipal building parking lot. Tischler provided information regarding absentee ballots for the Presidential Primary Election on February 28, 2012. It was noted that Franklin residents have two millage issues on their ballot.

Tischler reminded Beverly Hills residents of the Lions Club Scholarship Program offering a \$1,000 Community Service Scholarship to a graduating high school student in 2012. Information is available at the Township and Village offices or in the current edition of the Beverly Hills Villager Newsletter.

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 January 3, 2012.
- b. Review and file bills recapped as of Friday, January 6, 2012.
- c. Review and file bills recapped as of Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

BUSINESS AGENDA

PRESENTATION OF CABLE BOARD ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11

Birmingham Area Cable Board chairperson Elaine McLain was present with Treasurer Ken McFadden and Executive Director Bob Borgon to present the 2010-2011 BACB Annual Report. McLain provided background on the mission and function of the Birmingham Area Cable Board. She talked about the Board's process for complaint resolution, provider competition in the communities, and the production and preservation of public, educational and governmental programming. The Board issues grant money to qualifying entities to benefit subscribers and enhance communications. McLain commented on the involvement of Beverly Hills representatives on the Cable Board including Ken McFadden, Dorothy Pfeifer, Maryann Verdi-Hus and Alan Heyman.

Ken McFadden discussed future changes in the telecommunications industry that will effect the way video programming is delivered to viewers. He talked about the convergence of services and movement towards a wireless model. There will be new choices for streaming video to a television set with consequences in terms of viewer behavior and revenue for communities. Part of the charge of the Cable Board is to do its best to anticipate changes and to continue supporting PEG programming in the communities.

McFadden and McLain addressed comments and questions from Council members regarding the future of telecommunications and upcoming alternatives to cable television. Council thanked the Cable Board members for their diligence in terms of informing and supporting the community.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF FEBRUARY 21, 2012 TO REVIEW AND CONFIRM 2011 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. Council set a Public Hearing date for February 12, 2012 to review and confirm the 2011 Special Assessment Roll for the Southfield Road Business Assessment District.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE WORLD’S LONGEST LEMONADE STAND

Motion by Mercer, second by Mooney, to adopt the following Resolution.

**PROCLAMATION
VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS**

Whereas, on August 20, 2011, children, parents, grandparents, schools, and sponsors of the World’s Longest Lemonade Stand successfully gathered together toward one goal, a world record, and

Whereas, 350 lemonade stands were purchased and 349 were returned to Beverly Park on a beautiful summer day and were linked together by community members, area businesses and community organizations forming the world’s longest lemonade stand, and

Whereas, the stand length of 1,399 feet and 11 inches easily surpassed the Guinness World Record requirement of 1,200 feet, and

Whereas, the individual lemonade stands were colorfully painted and decorated and snaked through Beverly Park creating a sight unlike any other, and

Whereas, funds raised from the event will support Birmingham Public Schools as well as other various organizations including the Birmingham Education Foundation and Detroit Public Schools, and

Whereas, hundreds of enthusiastic participants provided children an opportunity to earn a World Record, raise money and have some fun in the process,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Beverly Hills Village Council extends its pride and grateful appreciation to the organizers of the World’s Longest Lemonade Stand for their creative idea, tireless energy and triumphant success for the benefit of our children, schools and community.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathleen Berwick of 31381 Kennoway Court cautioned people about Internet and email scams. She referred to the 2010 FBI Unified Crime Report and recited a comparison of violent crime statistics for Beverly Hills and neighboring communities.

REPORTS – MANAGER

Manager Wilson related that the Southfield Township Treasurer is continuing to work with the Village and Oakland County on merging tax collection services. It has been determined through analysis with Oakland County that it will be necessary to maintain separate bills for the first collection period. The Township tax bill and Village tax bill will be mailed in the same envelope and will be payable to the Southfield Township Treasurer. The Village will take measures to make people aware of this change.

Wilson proposed bringing a draft tax collection service agreement before Council for consideration at its February 7 meeting for the reason that some Council will be absent at the February 21 meeting. Wilson recommended moving forward with this proposal on the basis that it will be an efficiency for both entities.

Last Best Offers in the Command Arbitration were submitted today, January 17. Wilson will provide Council with a draft of the Last Best Offer to be considered by the Arbitration Panel. Final briefs are due 30 days after the transcripts are made available. Wilson estimates a decision to be forthcoming by mid-March.

Finance Director Wiszowaty has begun preliminary work on the 2012-13 budget. It is anticipated that Council will prepare a two-year budget again this year. It has been suggested that Council adopt the final budget at its regularly scheduled May 1 meeting. Council may want to schedule budget sessions between now and then.

Financial statements through December 31, 2011 will be available later this week. Those documents will represent the mid-point of the current fiscal year. Wilson will be working with Wiszowaty and Director Woodard on budget amendments for Council consideration at an upcoming meeting.

A Council Goal Setting Session is scheduled for Saturday, January 28 at 10:00 am in the Council chamber. Neil Hitz will attend to assist with the process.

Wilson stated that there were conversations late last year with the City of Southfield about performing road grading services for the Village. Due to temperatures above seasonal averages, Southfield was able to bring grading equipment into the Village and tend to the condition of its unpaved roads. Administration was pleased with the quality of work and hopes to formalize an agreement with the City of Southfield to continue this service.

Wilson remarked that the Village's waste hauler has reported that yard waste bags are being put out for collection due to the mild weather. Yard waste bags set out for curb collection will not be collected at this time. Wilson reminded residents that yard waste collection ends every year in mid-December and starts up again on April 2. Residents can dispose of yard waste by visiting the SOCRRA facility in Troy during regular business hours.

Koss questioned whether the Village ordinance permits people to distribute flyers door-to-door attaching them to door knobs. It was her understanding that solicitation permits are required when an individual comes to the door with the goal of soliciting a homeowner.

Clerk Ellen Marshall stated that a company or individual must apply for a solicitation license at the Clerk's office if they want to knock on doors and ask residents to purchase something. The Village does a background check on the individuals through its Public Safety Department. The Village ordinance does not require people delivering handbills to register with the Clerk's office.

Mooney suggested that passing out information without soliciting is probably protected by the First Amendment. Attorney Ryan will review Village ordinances pertaining to distributing handbills and draft a memo for Council.

In response to an inquiry from Mercer, Wilson stated that residents will be able to pay their Township and Village tax bills at the same time with the same check or with a credit card.

REPORTS – COUNCIL

Burry announced that the Birmingham Area Cable Board will meet tomorrow morning, January 18, at 7:45 am in the Council chamber. Burry mentioned that he met with Clerk Marshall and Cable Board member Pfeifer to prepare a Beverly Hills grant application for Cable Board consideration.

Burry reported that the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council Board has been working with the Southfield Township on an August 2012 millage proposal that will provide an additional revenue stream for their organization. He will keep Council informed. A Council subcommittee met to draft a strategy for a new committee; a resolution to create a Communications Committee will be on the agenda at an upcoming Council meeting.

Mercer referred to this evening's presentation by members of the Cable Board, noting that there may be implications for Council consideration in terms of new ways to communicate with residents. Mercer thanked Beverly Hills representatives on the Cable Board for their participation.

Mercer reminded everyone that the Birmingham Education Foundation will hold a dinner/dance event, the Unabashed Bash on Saturday, February 11 at the Townsend Hotel. The evening features live and silent auction opportunities, musical selections from student performers, and a focus on student accomplishments.

LaFerriere was saddened to acknowledge the death of Delaney Rose, baby daughter of his neighbors Brian and Lindsay Flatter. His thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Oen encouraged residents to support a new dry cleaning business called Fresh and Clean that opened recently at The Corners shopping center.

Mooney questioned whether the Planning Board is giving serious consideration to developing an overlay zoning district for the Southfield Road business corridor. He expressed concern about the effect on the business community if the McDonald's restaurant should move out of the Village. Oen responded that the Planning Board is actively moving forward on drafting an overlay zoning plan.

Mooney commented on the huge problems faced by a number of communities in Michigan and the Midwest relative to crumbling infrastructure including sewer systems, water mains and roads. He commended the past and current administration and the leadership of the previous and current councils to ensure that a long-term plan was put in place to address infrastructure issues in a

business-like manner. Beverly Hills has an infrastructure that will probably last for the next 40-50 years.

Mooney affirmed that the Village is taking steps on a daily basis under the leadership of President Koss and Manager Wilson to consolidate services with other communities. He cited recent examples of engaging the City of Southfield for road grading service and consolidating tax collection services with Southfield Township. These are logical and necessary measures. Mooney is proud of the leadership that has been shown by Council, Village administration, and the work of the Public Safety Department.

Koss remarked that Council has had a productive year and has made great strides to communicate with residents. The Village has done an outstanding job over the years in terms of being a fiscally responsible operation. It has been a collective effort.

Koss announced that the Baldwin Library has appointed two high school juniors from Beverly Hills to serve as student representatives on the Baldwin Library Board. She congratulated Tharron Combs and Alicia Lerner and invited them to attend a Council meeting to discuss their participation on the Library Board.

Motion by Oen, second by Mooney, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Motion passed (6 – 0).

Rosanne Koss
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary