

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, Torongeau

President Koss called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 pm 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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Southfield Township Clerk Tischler reported that the Township will not be holding a shredding event this fall. The shredding service will be scheduled again for Saturday, May 4, 2013 from 10 am to noon. In response to a question, Tischler stated that absentee ballots will be mailed late in September or perhaps the first of October.

Todd Stearn, former Council President, announced that he is running for County Commissioner in the 14th District covering Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin, part of Farmington Hills and Farmington. Current Oakland County Commissioner, Marcia Gershenson, has been redistricted to another area and will no longer be representing Beverly Hills. Stearn thought that Gershenson was an excellent liaison between the Village and the County. The County is in the best position to help coordinate shared services among local communities. Stearn requested support in the upcoming election.

Tony Lott of 19101 Riverside, 30-year resident of the Village, announced his candidacy for the Beverly Hills Village Council. He asked for support in the upcoming election. Lott stated that a candidate's forum will be held in the Village Council Chamber on Thursday, October 11 at 7:00 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Consider approval of minutes of a regular Council meeting held September 4, 2012.
- b. Review and file bills recapped as of Monday, September 10, 2012.

Motion passed.

BUSINESS AGENDA

REVIEW AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS TO USE VILLAGE STREETS AND SIDEWALKS FOR A BLARNEY BLAST 5K RUN ON MARCH 9, 2013

Nareman Dietz, 17876 Beechwood, representative of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, described the proposed Blarney Blast 5K Run. Money raised will support the School and Parish.

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, that the Council for the Village of Beverly Hills approve the request of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs to use Village Streets and Sidewalks for a Blarney Blast 5K Run on Saturday, March 9, 2013. Upon approval of the Run, OLQM will submit the required Certificate of Insurance with the Village of Beverly Hills as a named insured.

Roll call vote:
Motion passed (7 – 0).

REVIEW AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE TO ADOPT A COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Lynn Kier, Communications Committee Chairperson, reviewed material contained in the Communications Strategy document. Briggs thanked the Communications Committee for their efforts in compiling the strategy.

Motion by Briggs, second by Oen, that Village Council approve the Communications Strategy recommended by the Village Communications Committee and direct them to commence work on related projects.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

A copy of the Communications Strategy is available for public review at the Village office.

LaFerriere had an inquiry regarding emergency communications. He asked Public Safety Director Torongeau if the Village had access to reverse 911; Torongeau responded in the affirmative. Torongeau clarified that, when a test of the Oakland County outdoor warning siren system is initiated, the siren will last 30 seconds. This should not be confused with an actual activation of the outdoor warning sirens which lasts a steady 3 minutes. If you hear the sirens for the full 3 minute activation, you should seek shelter immediately and listen to a radio or television for more information. Siren tests are not conducted during December, January or February due to winter weather.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS TO INSTALL BANNER AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF DUNBLAINE AND SOUTHFIELD

Chris Henige, 21796 Hampstead, representative from Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church requested to install a banner at the northwest corner of Dunblaine and Southfield Roads to direct people to their Oktoberfest to be held Friday, October 5 and Saturday, October 6.

Motion by Oen, second by Briggs, that the Village of Beverly Hills Council approve the installation of a banner at the northwest corner of Dunblaine and Southfield Roads by Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church from September 19 to October 8, 2012.

Motion passed (7 – 0).

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TWO VACANCIES FOR ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

LaFerriere announced that two vacancies exist on the Zoning Board of Appeals for alternate members. Alternate members fill in when a full complement of the Zoning Board is not expected to be in attendance at a meeting. They are also welcome to attend ZBA meetings when their attendance is not required. Both terms have an expiration date of June 30, 2015.

No applications have been received following previous announcements regarding these vacancies. Applications are available on the Village website and at the municipal office. A subcommittee meeting will be scheduled after applications are received. LaFerriere encouraged interested members of the community to apply for these positions.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF OCTOBER 16, 2012 REGARDING PROGRAM YEAR 2013 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

As a requirement for receiving federal funding, Council set a public hearing date of October 16, 2012 to review the Program Year 2013 Community Development Block Grant Application.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

In response to an inquiry from Sharon Tischler, 21415 Virmar Ct., it was stated that the grant writer is continuing work on obtaining grants for the Public Safety Department. The Public Safety Director is preparing a report to Administration and Council.

Andrea Gilles Briggs, 16207 Reedmere Ave., stated that she is seeking support as a candidate for Southfield Township Clerk in November.

REPORTS – MANAGER

November Council Meeting – The first Council meeting in November has been moved to Monday, November 5 so as not to interfere with the November 6 election. The Village calendar lists this meeting as being held on November 6, but the date has been changed.

Ongoing Construction – The Village has completed construction work on the Village sidewalk program and will be doing restoration. Concrete street replacement is continuing. Wilson related issues regarding staging and construction notification occurring in the North Georgetown subdivision, which are being addressed by Administration and Public Safety Department personnel. Residents should contact the Village office if they have any questions or concerns. The Village is also in the process of taking bids to address a sinkhole issue on Beaconsfield.

The contractor awarded the bid for the paving of Stafford Street has begun preliminary site work and should begin paving as early as the week of September 24.

EVIP Funding – As directed by Council at the last meeting, Manager Wilson drafted a letter detailing the Village's concerns over inequity in EVIP funding. Council has received a copy of a

letter addressed to Lt. Governor Brian Calley and copied to the Governor, State Treasurer and leaders of both parties in the House and Senate, along with our local representatives. Wilson will pass along any responses received. Wilson related that the Village will be working on EVIP Phase 1 documentation for completion and submission by the end of the month to ensure that the Village qualifies for its first set of funding.

PSO Officer Hiring – The Public Safety Department received over 60 applications for the open PSO position. The Village is in the process of conducting interviews and should be in a position to make a selection soon.

Village Audit – Wilson stated that he and Finance Director Wiszowaty met with auditors from Plante Moran today. The audit has been finalized and will be presented at the next Council meeting of October 2, 2102.

LaFerriere expressed the view that Village water bills are getting out of hand. He asked what more can be done and if there is any recourse. Wilson highlighted issues with the billing methodology imposed by the Water Resources Commissioners office and talked about how to address dramatically increased costs. There will be more discussion on this topic during the audit report at the next meeting.

In answer to an inquiry from Mooney, Wilson indicated that complaints regarding water and sewer bills have been received, particularly this quarter. There have been inquiries regarding dual metering. Mooney suggested that it might be in the interest of Council and Administration to schedule a public discussion to explain the reason for the increase in water and sewer rates.

Mooney commented that the Parks and Recreation Board will meet on Thursday, September 20 and receive a presentation on landscaping at Riverside Park from members of the Six Rivers Land Conservancy. He suggested that Village staff reach out to residents who have had concerns about the appearance of Riverside Park and invite them to that meeting. Wilson said that he will contact those individuals.

Mercer asked if the Village has looked at legal options relative to resolving issues resulting from the billing methodology enforced by the Water Resources Commissioners office. Wilson responded that an injunction was not pursued initially. At this point, an administrative review process is underway. The Department of Environmental Quality acting on behalf of the Chicago section of the EPA is in the process of reviewing the rate change implemented by the Water Resources Commissioner. Last year, the DEQ representative conducting a review looked at the information submitted by the Water Resources Commissioners office and looked at the information submitted by the communities and could not make a determination due to the lack of history in this system. Legal action may be appropriate following the outcome of the administrative review. Wilson addressed further questions from Council on this topic.

REPORTS – COUNCIL

Burry announced that the Birmingham Area Cable Board will meet tomorrow morning at 7:45 am. Beverly Hills will present a grant request for an Interactive Plasma Display for the Council chamber. Burry reported that the Joint Senior Services Committee met last week to compare data on the various senior centers. The Committee will meet on September 27 to develop focus groups to determine the needs of seniors.

Mercer recognized and thanked the Village's Public Safety Department for the work they do in a dangerous profession. He referred to the tragic shooting death of Officer O'Rourke from West Bloomfield Township. Beverly Hills officers attended the services. Mercer thanked PSO Miles and VanHorn for attending his block party.

LaFerriere talked about the exceptional schools in the Birmingham School District. He congratulated the large number of Groves and Seaholm students who have been selected to be National Merit Semi-Finalists.

Oen reported on recent meetings of the Southfield Road Corridor subcommittee. Progress is being made and a public hearing will be scheduled on the overlay district in the near future. Oen voiced his thanks for the work that the Beverly Hills Public Safety Officers do in the community. He asked motorists to watch out for school children.

Mooney joined LaFerriere in commenting on the fact that the outstanding schools in our community produce brilliant scholars. He is proud of our schools and students.

Briggs commented that he was impressed with the planting work done at Riverside Park. The Baldwin Library Board will meet on September 19 at 7:30 pm in the Rotary Room. He commented on a presentation by Jim McGuire on changing demographics in the community that is currently being aired on the public cable channel.

Koss announced that the old Borders building at The Corners will host a Halloween City for the next two months.

Motion by Mooney, second by Oen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm.

Motion passed.

Rosanne Koss
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary