

Approved 10/16/17

City of Keego Harbor Special Council Meeting

Tuesday June 20, 2017

2025 Beechmont, Keego Harbor

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Rubin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT

Mayor Sidney Rubin, Mayor Pro Tem Joel Yoder, Council Members, John Fletcher, Rob Kalman and John Newberry

STAFF PRESENT: Interim City Manager Linda Voll, Police Chief Kenneth Hurst and DPW Doug Waldon

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion of Police Department Options

Mayor Rubin gave an update on the process and discussion of the Police Department

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENT

Charlie Meade - 1815 Rustic Lane, asked City Council to hear all the options regarding the Keego Harbor Police Department.

Council Members indicated:

- Option #1 Keep Keego Harbor Police Department
- Option #2 then willing to share a police chief with Sylvan Lake utilizing our police building for a cost and sharing the police chief for a cost to City of Sylvan Lake
- Option #3, West Bloomfield Township contractual service proposal.

Researching a Public Safety Millage and create a plan for the usage of the funds. If the city can meet the deadline date of August 15, for the language to be submitted Oakland County; this millage would be placed on the General Election Ballot in November 2017 if passed the Millage rate would be on the 2018 summer taxes. Council needs to work on millage language, how many years and the millage increase. Council Members do not like raising taxes but this would be in place for a specific amount of years.

Mike Aziz, 2020 Harbor Village, asked about creating a millage.

Mayor Rubin indicated he was not ready to discuss a millage until an agreement is decided on which Option the City will embrace.

Phil Trzos 3252 Bulwer, would like to see a working chief seeing the chief of police on the road for the public to see and the lake is a necessity for Cass Lake with all the problems. Council needs to set a criteria plan of what the police department is expected to enforce including the Police Chief.

Council Member Fletcher discussed the expectations of the Police Department driving through the city at least twice per shift and have a working Police Chief. Explained the budget and when the recession cut our budget enormously, which the city cut City Administration, DPW Departments and the Police Department plus not being able to give cost of living pay increases and proper training.

Shawn Terrieny previous resident – 1999 Cass Lake Road, how can the city move forward sharing a Chief of Police with City of Sylvan Lake if we can't even partner and do a parade together.

Mayor Rubin indicated the Memorial Day Parade issue was due to not receiving promised funding from Sylvan Lake, to pay for their portion of the parade.

Shannon Aubrey 2933 Glenbroke, mentioned to council to reach out to other communities that have done this type of collaboration. Do not want to see our police officers neglecting the City due to a merge, likes the presence of the police around Roosevelt School.

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Mayor Rubin indicated if there was collaboration, it would be with the newly hired Police Chief only, and not the police force, and could be housed out of Keego Harbor's Police Station with a cost to Sylvan Lake.

Eric Gubka mentioned that Keego Harbor and Sylvan Lake had a parade together for years, but there was never a mutual contract/agreement signed by either municipality.

Mary Hutchinson 3118 Varjo Court, what about the revenue from Magnolia project.

Council informed Mary of the TIFA District and the debt that TIFA has to pay off before they can defease the TIFA District and have the city regain the TIFA District area taxes. The debt will be paid off in 2025 or earlier depending on call dates for the bonds.

Laura Friedman 1528 Beachland, would like an idea if a millage was passed on how much each resident would have to pay annually and how long the millage would be in effect.

Sue Williams 2917 Cordell, Sylvan Lake has a Public Safety Director can Keego have a Public Safety Director and what would the rates be for a millage; is the rest of the departments in good budget condition.

Council Member Kalman indicated he discussed a public safety millage a few years ago and the costs will be discussed at another time at an open meeting.

John Fletcher responded no to get the Public Safety Director and no the other departments are stressed and not properly funded, need to ask for a millage to increase and discuss real numbers create a plan to distribute properly.

Kerstin Douglas 1703 Maddy Lane, The police make a big impression on her family. Proper equipment and training are important. Investigate case studies from other municipalities our size for information.

Karen Meabrod 2255 Maddy Lane, this meeting was beneficial and gave clarity. The people will vote on the millage and if it passes it would not be council increasing taxes it would be the residents of Keego Harbor increasing their own taxes. I want to thank Council for all the information.

Council discussed a working chief being part of the savings, active in every day patrols being seen in the neighborhoods 16 to 20 hours per week being seen in the community and covering the desk when necessary.

Mayor Pro Tem Yoder discussed offering current chief a 90 day extension with a 3 month option. City Manager indicated the City Manager appoints the position and the city is not prepared at this time to appoint a new Chief of Police. During those 90 days council can look for a new police chief, work on a new structure and have time to prepare properly for interviewing and open meetings. Need to ask Chief Hurst if he would consider extending his employment with the city. Council Member Newberry supported Mayor Pro Tem option more time is needed to the proper procedure.

Council Member Fletcher indicated there are 3 full time officers that should have the opportunity to move forward, it's been 9 years since a Sergeants position has been second in command, reinstitute the Sgt. being the most senior officer to assume the position and move forward on searching for a new chief of police.

Council Member Kalman, the issue with appointing a Sgt. There is a binding Union Contract where there is a process that needs to happen on promotions and if the city violates the contract there can be grievances and lawsuits the city should seek the opinion of our labor attorney.

Kirstin Douglas 1703 Maddy, would like to see a smooth transition.

Sue Williams 2917 Cordell, indicated this is not a good time of year for all this to be happening, with school being out.

Sue Murphy 2846 Beland, Council needs to keep us out of debt and stand on our own feed.

Approved 10/16/17

Council discussed the culture of the department which needs to change and is Chief Hurst willing to do so and work with the transition of the new Chief with professionalism being a priority to the department

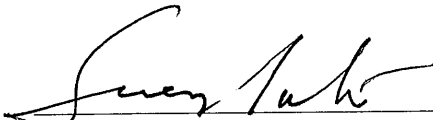
Motion to extend the existing contract with Chief Kenneth Hurst with an automatic renewal every 30 days, with 30 day written termination by the employer (Keego Harbor) or 30 day termination by the employee (Kenneth Hurst) without cause by Mayor Pro Tem Yoder; seconded by Council Member Newberry.

Ayes: Unanimous

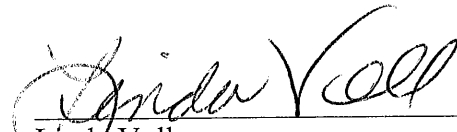
MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business, Mayor Rubin adjourned the meeting at 10:53 p.m.



Sidney Rubin
City of Keego Harbor its Mayor



Linda Voll
City of Keego Harbor its City Clerk

