

**MINUTES
ST. CLAIR SHORES CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2011**

Regular Meeting of the City Council, held in the Council Chambers, located at 27600 Jefferson Circle Dr., St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Present: Mayor Hison, Council Members Frederick, McFadyen, Rubello, Rubino, Rusie and Walby

Also Present: City Manager Hughes, City Clerk Kotowski, Directors D'Herde, Haney, Koto, Rayes and City Attorney Ihrie

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Kotowski, City Clerk, called the roll with a quorum present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Hison stated he attended the memorial service for Frank Mumford, who passed away recently. He stated Mr. Mumford helped in developing the Parks and Recreation Department. Mayor Hison asked for a moment of silence.

Mayor Hison stated that over 8,500 people lost their lives in the earthquake and tsunami in Japan recently. He added that there are still over 12,000 people unaccounted for. Mayor Hison asked for a moment of silence.

Mayor Hison noted that Item #7, Request from two Council Members to amend the City's Facebook terms of usage guidelines, and Item #8, Request to approve the sale of NSP homes, have been removed from the agenda.

2. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

a. 40th Annual St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club Reflections on Ice Proclamation

Mayor Hison presented the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club President, Christine Rollins, the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION
for the
40th ANNUAL "REFLECTIONS ON ICE" WEEKEND
April 1 – 3, 2011**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores deem it fitting and proper to publicly recognize and commend organizations dedicated to serving the youth of St. Clair Shores; and

WHEREAS, the **ST. CLAIR SHORES FIGURE SKATING CLUB'S "REFLECTIONS ON ICE"** show is being presented for the 40th consecutive year, featuring 130 local skaters ranging in age 4 to 22 years old from the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club and the St. Clair Shores Learn to Skate; and

WHEREAS, for this year's theme, the **ST. CLAIR SHORES FIGURE SKATING CLUB** will combine their skating and acting skills to bring to life the popular story "The Wizard of Oz";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores do hereby proclaim April 1 – 3, 2011 as "**REFLECTIONS ON ICE WEEKEND**" and commend the **ST. CLAIR SHORES FIGURE SKATING CLUB** for its service to the City's youth and for providing outstanding entertainment, and hereby wish the Club and its members every success in their future endeavors.

Presented this 21st day of March 2011.

Ms. Rollins advised that ticket information can be found at the Parks and Recreation counter and on the website www.scsfigureskatingclub.org. Grant Hoskstein and Shannon Hurst, members of the Club, explained about the upcoming show. On Thursday, March 31, a benefit show will be hosted by the Shorewood Kiwanis for challenged children. They put together sack lunches for the audience and performers. On Friday, April 1, the show will begin at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem from the City of Eastpointe, Veronica Klinefelt, asked the City of St. Clair Shores to join Eastpointe in adopting Resolution #1658 requesting the Governor and State Legislature to re-evaluate tax structures for cities. She stated that it is difficult to do 5-year financial planning. At this time, neither party has had any discussions about tax

2. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS cont'd.

structures. Roseville and Warren have this resolution on their upcoming Council agenda. Ms. Klinefelt added that with all of the discussions about regionalization, in the end, the tax structure is still flawed and will happen again. She added that after many surrounding cities pass this resolution, it will be sent out state wide to gain additional support.

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (2 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

Jim Goodfellow, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding items #6 and #11f. He questioned why #6, Request for approval of PC 10-10 rezoning from RA to P-1, 21516 Maple, is on this agenda and yet item #11f to vacate the alley adjacent to 21516 Maple, is on the April 18 agenda. He felt they should both be on the same meeting agenda.

James Radjewski, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4, the Parks and Recreation Proposed Master Plan. He stated that St. Clair Shores needs a skate park. This sport has become more popular over the last couple of years, and the children need a safe place to skate.

Leesha Cieslinski, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated she was present on behalf of the boys who are trying to support the skate park and talked about the many benefits of a skate park. Also, the boys are all honor students. Kids also need a place to ride their BMX bikes. The demand for biking and skateboarding areas is growing. She stated that kids involved in sports are 92% less likely to use drugs and more likely to graduate.

Debbie Cottrell, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated she supports the skate park, and noted that it is a good way to get kids off the street and to provide a good place for them to hang out.

Loraine Johnston, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated she is a member of the Older Persons Advisory Committee and she is in support of the Senior Center. Ms. Johnston stated that many communities are making efforts to attract seniors. The population of senior citizens in St. Clair Shores is increasing dramatically every year. She added that cutting funding for the Senior Center is sending the wrong message to seniors and surrounding businesses.

Sue Zaroni, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated she has lived in St. Clair Shores for 42 years. The Senior Center is a place for companionship and great activities. The exercise room is a huge asset. The Senior Center could also use some improvements and the bocce fields need to be enclosed. By 2012, there will be five seniors to every child in St. Clair Shores.

Mary Cipriano, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated that she is the Chairperson of the Older Persons Advisory Committee. She joined the Senior Center in 2003. In the last three years, there have been some remodeling and improvements. But, the exercise room is so crowded you almost have to make an appointment to work out. More room and extended hours are needed. She added there needs to be more twelve month programs which would increase revenues to pay for the programs.

Jack Downey, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated that he would like to see City Manager Hughes and Assistant City Manager Smith research grants for seniors so the physical fitness room can be expanded and membership be increased. There needs to be expansion of the exercise room because the 17 pieces of equipment are used by 70 seniors per day.

Kenneth Kinney, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. Mr. Kinney stated he has been attending the senior fitness center for over one year. There are 17 different pieces of equipment available, but there are a lot more people than equipment. He also suggested putting on seminars geared toward senior citizens.

Marty Gulewicz, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated that the Senior Center is a great place to meet people, and would like to see the hours extended. He suggested considering a resident fee increase of \$5 and a non-resident increase to \$50 annually.

Najiba Berry, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated the Senior Center needs more room. There are over 300 more people that have joined just in the last year. She is at the young end of the seniors and she uses the Adult Activity Center, which needs improvements to be able to take her group from ages 50 to 80+.

Anthony Rascano, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he is a member of the Golf Course Committee. He added that the Golf Course has the most favorable senior rates in the area. They would like to see cart paths, and would like to keep the course open longer in the winter. They are also trying to get the restaurant to stay open year around. Golfers go where they are invited and stay where they are welcome. The City needs to continue to maintain this service.

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (2 MINUTE TIME LIMIT) cont'd.

Eugene Meyer, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. Mr. Meyer stated that canopies are needed for outdoor activities at the Senior Center to prevent cancer and to lengthen the season and hours of use.

Angela Jianis, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated she has lived in St. Clair Shores for 37 years. Her son is the President of the Lakeview swim team. She added that kids look forward to summer to they can go swimming. She asked to assist in keeping the parks and pool open. The pool provides kids with a place to go.

Jim Cronin, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he began visiting the Senior Center in the fall of 2004 when they had very few pieces of fitness equipment. Equipment and the number of seniors have increased every year. He was pleasantly surprised when he returned in 2007 to find the amount of equipment and its use have increased.

Joe Wielgot, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #13. He stated that he hoped the residents will not be intimidated by Council members. He noted this portion of the meeting is when residents can express their opinions and concerns to City Council.

Florence DelAguila, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated that a few weeks ago, the seniors sent City Council a letter asking them to exercise all options to keep the pool and the Senior Center open.

Maria Martinez, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She stated that the kids of St. Clair Shores Extreme Sports Club came before City Council eight months ago to ask about a skate park. The kids are doing all the fundraising. They are very passionate. She stated one of the best things of the City is the Parks and Recreation which needs to expand.

George Spiteri, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he is the Girl Varsity Soccer Coach at South Lake and a two year resident of the Shores. He has stayed in the City because of the great Parks and Recreation program.

Paul Doppke, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated that school and recreation are two basic fundamentals for development and they are reasons people pick a City to reside in. He asked for continued support of the Parks and Recreation program and to endorse the Master Plan. Mr. Doppke noted that the 57th hockey season closed yesterday; he congratulated the players and their families.

Grant Hochstein, resident of Grosse Pointe Park, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he is a member of the Junior World Team USA for skating and reinforced how important Parks and Recreation are. He encouraged support of the Master Plan and continuation of the Parks and Recreation Programs.

Christine Rollins, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. She explained she has been involved with the Civic Arena for the last 13 years, and is the President of the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club. She stated she is in attendance tonight to lend support to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which will ultimately produce more elite skaters and bring support to businesses and the community in St. Clair Shores.

Chris Vitale, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #12. He thanked Erin Stahl for giving residents the opportunity to speak for two minutes before the agenda items. At the last Council meeting, he made a presentation on multiple code violations and asked what actions have been taken.

Shawn Nicholson, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he is a Board Member of the St. Clair Shores Hockey Association and wants to keep the money in Parks and Recreation that is already there and support the Master Plan.

Fred Waseci, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he supports the 5 year Master Plan to expand Parks and Recreation. He explained that he has osteoporosis and he has exercised at the Senior Center with a personal trainer. He feels much better and his bone density is definitely better. He doesn't know what he would have done without the Senior Center. There is a problem with the overcrowded exercise room.

Dave Grauzer, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he has seen the City evolve, and wants to continue to see the Parks and Recreation programs grow.

Joe and Lil Claycomb, residents of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. Mrs. Claycomb stated their family has done the life cycle in this City, and we need to keep and maintain everything we have. She stated she is the Chair of the Beautification Commission, and is very proud of our City. She thanked former Mayors and the present Mayor,

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (2 MINUTE TIME LIMIT) cont'd.

former Council members and present Council members. She stated that very few cities offer what we have, and the community that keeps it all will be the first community to come back.

Chuck Hall, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding items #4 and #6. He stated that he is glad the Master Plan is finished and thought Items #6 and #11f should be addressed at the same time.

Jordan Obercht, resident of St Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he really enjoyed the summer Special Needs Program and the counselors, and thanked Parks and Recreation for putting it on.

Richard Ryszawa, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding item #4. He stated he read the Master Plan and is surprised that part of it includes the skate park and the Senior Center. He added that St. Clair Shores is in competition with other communities around us. Mr. Ryszawa asked to not lose sight of the need for Parks and Recreation programs in order to entice new residents into the City.

4. PARKS AND RECREATION PROPOSED MASTER PLAN

Mr. Esler, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that tonight clearly indicates how proud he is of his staff. St. Clair Shores is the envy of a lot of different cities because of its Parks and Recreation programs.

Ms. Lucie Fortin, Carlisle/Wortman Associates, explained that the 5-year Master Plan is a State mandated document. She stated the plan articulates the vision for Parks and Recreation for the next five years. She added there was a great effort in getting input from residents, and there is a need for expansion and improvement.

Ms. Fortin explained there are seven goals associated with upholding and enhancing outstanding recreation services and programs:

- 1) Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities that are clean, safe, attractive, functional, and incorporate green technology.
- 2) Develop new park facilities that respond to residents' recreational needs.
- 3) Address the need for a community center.
- 4) Participate in the establishment of a City-wide non-motorized pathway system.
- 5) Acquire future park land and open space in a fiscally responsible way to meet the future recreational needs of the community.
- 6) Continue to offer outstanding parks and recreation programs and services that enrich and engage the community.
- 7) Provide for an efficient and fiscal administration of parks and recreation.

Mayor Hison explained that the prior Master Plan expired in 2010. The Master Plan is required to be on file with the State of Michigan to help the City obtain future grant money.

a. Public Hearing

Mayor Hison opened the Public Hearing at 8:23 p.m.

Carrie Boileau, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated she supports maintaining the pool. She was representing the swimming programs.

Lauren Walsh, resident of St. Clair Shores and Dog Park Co-Chair, stated she supports the Dog Park, and would like to see the current park extended or the addition of another park in the City, because there are now over 500 members. She would also like to see the present park regarded and filled in, because all the grass is gone. Ms. Walsh stated she would like to see all the parks in St. Clair Shores leash friendly to dogs. She has raised and will continue to raise money for the City.

Joe Claycomb, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he and his wife have been active and involved in this community. He stated he loves the Golf Course and spoke of the importance in maintaining and improving the course.

Michael Bodner, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he is a Dog Park Committee member, and would like to see the park maintained better and a possible second dog park to meet the park's demand.

Glenn Hayner, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he is a fitness attendant at the Senior Center. He stated that people need each other, and the Senior Center offers companionship, a place to meet new people, and happiness.

4. PARKS AND RECREATION PROPOSED MASTER PLAN cont'd.

He added that finding a way to make the seniors happy will extend their lives. Mr. Hayner stated there are sometimes over 100 seniors at the Center per day.

Bill Mutart, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he is a handball player at Kyte-Monroe. The outside courts are open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. They are busy all day long and need a little bit of paint.

Richard Ryszawa, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated residents are paying less taxes, and possibly a Parks and Recreation millage could be put on the ballot to fund many of these programs.

Dawn Van Gampelaere, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated she has volunteered on the Baseball Association, and added that St. Clair Shores offers many wonderful things. Families benefit from these programs.

John Thomasczewski, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he is a member of the Horseshoe Club, established in 1991, and is in support of the Master Plan.

Chris DenBaas, resident of St. Clair Shores and member of Beautification Commission, stated the Special Needs Program is invaluable. She has a grandson with Downs Syndrome who waits all year long for the program. There was no plan for them when she moved here. Ms. DenBaas supports the Master Plan.

Eugene Meyer, resident of St. Clair Shores and Ambassador for the Macomb County Senior Olympics, stated that Pare School is empty. Maybe the City could obtain some bonds to use Pare School so some senior activities could be held there.

Mayor Hison closed the Public Hearing at 8:40 p.m.

Ms. McFadyen told Mr. Esler that if the City could get bonds or a grant to use the pool year around, she would be willing to set up a committee to start raising funds for that. Mr. Esler replied they will be looking for grants to get the projects done.

Mr. Frederick, liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission, thanked Mr. Esler for all of his hard work. The recreation of a city is the personality of the city. The 5-year plan for Parks and Recreation is the roadmap to the future. Ideas have to be prioritized. Mr. Frederick stated he thought looking at Pare School is a good idea, and he will check into it. The gym could possibly be used.

Ms. Rusie thanked TIFA for funding the master plan project.

Mr. Rubello stated that the citizens of St. Clair Shores love their Parks and Recreation Department. The seniors are a growing population in St. Clair Shores.

Mr. Walby asked if, once this request is approved, the grants will be worked on immediately. Mr. Esler replied yes and very aggressively. Mr. Walby inquired if we are too late for 2011. Mr. Esler replied yes, the grants will be for 2012.

Mayor Hison applauded everyone who helped in putting together this document and those who are here to show their support. The master plan is the key to grants to help the City implement all the programs discussed. Mayor Hison stated that prospective new residents need to hear about the good things St. Clair Shores has to offer. He added that 50% of the last master plan was implemented.

b. Adoption of Five Year Master Plan

Motion by Frederick, seconded by McFadyen to adopt the following resolution approving the 2011 – 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

**St. Clair Shores City Council Resolution of Adoption of the
City of St. Clair Shores Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

WHEREAS, the City of St. Clair Shores has undertaken the update of its five-year recreation plan which describes the community's physical and social characteristics, existing parks and recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve the parks and recreation facilities during the period between 2011 and 2015; and

4. PARKS AND RECREATION PROPOSED MASTER PLAN cont'd.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Clair Shores Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the *City of St. Clair Shores Parks and Recreation Master Plan* during the course of several public meetings held on February 17 and March 10, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the *Parks and Recreation Master Plan's* goals and objectives were developed in response to needs and deficiencies identified by a public input meeting held on January 13, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the *Parks and Recreation Master Plan* has been made available by City of St. Clair Shores for public review in a manner required by law and all comments from the public have been considered by the City of St. Clair Shores Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the plan was recommended for adoption by the City of St. Clair Shores Parks and Recreation Commission by a resolution approved on March 10, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the plan was developed for the benefit of the entire community and a public hearing was held on March 21, 2011 to provide another opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Master Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Clair Shores City Council hereby adopts the *City of St. Clair Shores Parks and Recreation Master Plan*.

Ayes: All – 7

5. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PPC 110002 REZONING FROM RM-1 MULTIPLE FAMILY LOW RISE, TO B-1 LOCAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, AT 20700 TWELVE MILE ROAD, PETITIONER NICK AVOURIS

Mr. Nick Avounis explained that the parcel is currently zoned RM, and a multiple-family dwelling was located on this parcel until he demolished it in 2008. It has been sitting vacant for a few years, and he is interested in rezoning the parcel to make it more marketable to commercial buyers. Mr. Avounis intends to sell the vacant parcel, and there are no plans for redevelopment at this time. He added that it was originally zoned business.

Ms. McFadyen asked how long he had the property. Mr. Avounis replied he bought it from his children.

Motion by McFadyen, seconded by Frederick to approve the request for rezoning from RM-1, Multiple Family Low Rise, to B-1, Local Business District, at 20700 Twelve Mile Road, subject to the Planning Commission and City Council understand that your presence here tonight constitutes that you are a legal representative of the petitioner for Planning Case PPC 110002. Each statement of intent, promise and/or pledge, made by you, the petitioner or agent, either orally or in writing, if permitted by Ordinance, shall be binding upon the petitioner, and shall be a condition of said rezoning, which reads as follows:

THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR SHORES ORDAINS THAT ZONING ORDINANCE 15.000 SHALL BE AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING REZONING:

(173) *Rezone from RM-1 Multiple Family Low Rise to B-1 Local Business District at 20700 12 Mile Rd.*

20700 12 Mile Road – Assessor’s Plat No. 24, Lot 24 except the west 113.00 feet, Liber 15, Pages 6 – 7, Macomb County Records, Macomb County, Michigan, from RM-1 Multiple Family Low Rise to B-1 Local Business District.

Any ordinance or parts of any ordinance in conflict with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall become effective 7 days after publication and copies of this ordinance are available at the Office of the City Clerk 27600 Jefferson Circle Drive, St. Clair Shores MI, 48081 during normal business hours 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
) ss
COUNTY OF MACOMB)

5. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PPC 110002 REZONING cont'd.

We hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance is a true copy of an ordinance as enacted by City Council on the 21st day of March 2011 and that the necessary Charter provisions have been observed.

Robert A. Hison, Mayor

Mary A. Kotowski, City Clerk

I, Mary A. Kotowski, City Clerk of the City of St. Clair Shores, hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was published in the Sentinel Newspaper on April 13, 2011, by posting true copies of the same in each of the following places: Police Station, 27665 Jefferson Avenue, Fire Hall, 26700 Harper Avenue, and City Hall, 27600 Jefferson Circle Drive and shall become effective on April 20, 2011.

Mary A. Kotowski, City Clerk

(ord. amendment eff. April 20, 2011)

Ayes: All – 7

6. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PC10-10 REZONING FROM RA – SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TO P-1 VEHICULAR PARKING DISTRICT, 21516 MAPLE, PETITIONER CITY OF ST. CLAIR SHORES

Ms. Koto, City Planner, explained that the parcel is currently a City owned property that was acquired through the HUD \$1 Home Program. The home has been demolished and the City would like to have this property properly cleared and rezoned for additional parking that is desperately needed at that location.

Mayor Hison asked if the lot had been sold yet. Ms. Koto replied not yet, but some people are interested. Before the lot is sold, it has to be rezoned first. Mr. Rayes added that selling the property has been delayed because potential buyers are fearful it would not be rezoned.

Mayor Hison stated that if someone put in a bid, the purchase could be contingent upon the rezoning.

Ms. McFadyen asked if this could be tabled until the property is sold. Mr. Ihrie replied that is one possibility or the purchase could be conditional upon the rezoning.

Ms. Koto requested to remove this item from the agenda.

Mr. Walby stated that the whole project on Harper was designed to enhance parking and questioned why someone would want to build another house there.

Mayor Hison stated he doesn't understand why the fitness center has not made a proposal since last June.

Mr. Rayes replied that property is part of the Harper Avenue Overlay where the properties are perpendicular to businesses. He will contact them tomorrow and try to get an offer.

Mr. Rubino felt that listing the property is the right thing to do.

Mayor Hison asked the status of 21526 Maple. Mr. Rayes replied the repairs exceed the value of the property and it will be demolished. Mayor Hison stated the garage door is open and needs to be closed.

At the end of the discussion, this item was removed from the agenda at petitioner's request.

7. ~~REQUEST FROM TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO AMEND THE CITY'S FACEBOOK TERMS OF USAGE GUIDELINES~~

This item was removed from the agenda.

8. ~~REQUEST TO APPROVE THE SALE OF NSP HOMES~~

This item was removed from the agenda.

9. BIDS/CONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS – NONE**10. SECOND QUARTER BUDGET REPORT AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT 11-07**

Mr. Haney highlighted the budget amendments as follows:

- The Assessor position became vacant shortly after the end of the quarter and a contract Assessor has been hired.
- Police and Fire overtime are projected to exceed the budget, and after consultation with the Chiefs, there is a proposed budget amendment.
- The consolidated dispatch center has been activated and dispatch employees have been moved to the new entity.
- Community Services has several vacant positions, and the duties are being assumed by outside contractors.
- A labor position is being transferred to Sanitation out of Streets.

Mr. Walby stated that the Police and Fire overtime is up \$220,000 which will come out of the Fund Balance (rainy day fund). Mr. Walby stated he refuses to take any more money out of the rainy day fund. At some point, there has to be a check and balance. The City cannot keep going back to the General Fund every time there is a shortfall in the budget.

Ms. Rusie added she will not approve this request because she does not want any more money taken out of the rainy day fund either.

Mr. Haney explained that the Police Department will only be short \$47,000. Council asked if the shortages were through December 2010. Mr. Haney replied this was the prediction through June 30, 2011.

Motion by Walby, seconded by Rusie to deny the Budget Report and Budget Amendment 11-07 and send back to administration to re-evaluate funding \$47,000 from other accounts.

Ayes: All – 6
Nays: Frederick

Mr. Frederick stated Council took almost \$400,000 out of the Fire Department, and half of the money out of the Police Department when the original budget was passed. This should not be a surprise that now we need to put the money back. He asked what else is left to cut and how is this going to be done. The budget report and budget amendment should be passed and Council needs to move on.

Mr. Rubello asked if the \$200,000 had to be all added back at one time. Mr. Haney replied that increases are projected through June 30, 2011. Mr. Rubello asked what the repercussions would be if the Fire Department overtime was not put back in. Mr. Hughes replied that if that money is not allocated, the Fire Chief will have to find it somewhere else, such as vehicle repairs or gasoline costs.

Mr. Rubello asked if the money was not put in for the Police Department overtime, how it would affect the Police Department. Mr. Hughes replied they would have to further reduce their minimum manpower.

Mr. Rubello asked if there would be any layoffs. Mr. Hughes replied there would not be any layoffs.

Mr. Walby stated the money does not have to be solely out of the Police and Fire budgets. It can be found elsewhere.

11. CONSENT AGENDA – All items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a vote of City Council. There will be no separate discussion of the items unless the Mayor and or a Council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered under the last item of the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Walby, seconded by Rubino to approve the Consent Agenda items a, b, d, e and g, separating item c and removing item f, which include the following:

a. Bills

March 21, 2011

\$3,434,871.76

To approve the release of checks in the amount of \$3,434,871.76, of the report that is 21 pages in length and of the grand total amount of \$3,434,871.76, \$425,035.53 went to other taxing authorities.

11. **CONSENT AGENDA cont'd.**

b. Fees

Roumell & Lange	\$8,485.19
Ihrle & O'Brien	\$9,141.00

To approve the above attorney payments to Roumell & Lange and Ihrle & O'Brien subject to audit.

d. City Council Minutes - None

e. Receive & Place on File Boards, Commissions & Committee Minutes

To receive and file the following minutes:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
Communication Commission	January 12, 2011
Communication Commission	February 9, 2011
Cultural Committee	January 12, 2011
General Employees Pension Board	February 15, 2011
Parks and Recreation Commission	January 13, 2011
Parks and Recreation Commission	February 10, 2011
Planning Commission	February 22, 2011
Police & Fire Pension Board	January 27, 2011
Police & Fire Retiree Health Care Trust Board	January 27, 2011
Zoning Board of Appeals	February 3, 2011

g. Receive and deny claim of Michigan Harbor Properties, LLC and Colony Marine Sales and Service, Inc. vs City of St. Clair Shores, and refer to the City Attorney for response

Ayes: All – 7

Separated Item

c. Progress Payments

Tiseo Brothers, Inc.	\$22,570.43
Terra Contracting, LLC	\$15,989.84
R.S. Contracting, Inc.	\$33,709.90
Posen Construction, Inc.	\$64,178.47
Bricco Excavating Company, LLC	\$55,894.27

Mr. Rubino questioned the Progress Payment in the amount of \$22,570.43 to Tiseo Brothers, Inc. Mr. Rayes noted the amount increased because they were able to add New York Street this year.

Motion by Walby, seconded by Rubino to approve the above progress payments, subject to audit.

Ayes: All – 7

f. **Request to set Public Hearing date for the vacation of the public alley adjacent to 21516 Maple, PC 10-11 on April 18, 2011, petitioner City of St. Clair Shores** This item was removed as it was a companion item to Agenda item 6 which was withdrawn by the petitioner.

12. **UPDATES AND FOLLOW-UPS FROM COUNCIL MEETING**

- **PCB's** – Mr. Hughes advised that there will be an EPA Meeting on Thursday, March 31 in the Library from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, and another from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- **Harper Street Paving** - Mr. Rayes stated that repaving on Harper between 13 and 14 Mile Roads will begin on the northbound lanes first. They are waiting on the County's bids.
- **Little Mack Paving** - Mr. Rayes stated that concrete replacement on Little Mack from 10 Mile to 12 Mile will begin the first of April in the northbound lanes first.
- **Fireworks** – Mr. Hughes stated he is working with the Police Chief regarding parking on residential streets during fireworks.
- **Larchmont Property** – Mr. Ihrle advised that there are still code violations on the Larchmont driveway. The house is in need of care, and at this time the case is in litigation.

Mayor Hison congratulated Mr. Hughes on his one-year anniversary with the City today.

13. COMMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILPERSONS

Council Member Walby asked when the new Rams Horn will open. Mr. Rayes replied he was there this morning, and they were training. He anticipates opening at the end of March.

With reference to the Quarterly Budget Amendment presented tonight, Mr. Walby stated Council has already dipped into the General Fund and that has to be stopped sometime. Creative solutions are needed more than ever.

Council Member Frederick asked how many employees do we have now compared to seven years ago. Mr. Hughes replied that seven years ago, the City employed 317 people. Presently the City has 253, and they are working very hard.

Mr. Frederick stated that if the City can save money and hire someone at the same time, which is creative. In addition, he stated that the Rainy Day Fund is the taxpayers' money.

Mayor Hison stated that there is \$14 million in the General fund now. By 2014, we should have \$6 million. We need to use some of those funds to develop a plan.

Mr. Frederick reminded everyone of "Reflections on Ice" from April 1-3, 2011. Also, the St. Clair Shores Lakers made it to the quarter finals.

Mr. Frederick stated the St. Clair Shores Sharks won the Division 8 championship at the Special Olympics regional basketball tournament held at Northville High School on March 5. The Sharks players include Scott Castro, Aaron Deskins, Sam Gaglio, Dwain Goodlow, Vincente Johnson, Andy Linsdeau, Brandon Marchiori, Stephen Mazurkiewicz, Suezanne Pauli, Sean Phelps, Todd Shields, and Josh White. The team now qualifies for the State Basketball Finals to be held March 25-26 in Rockford, Michigan.

Council Member Rubello stated the Marchioni Catering Spaghetti Fundraiser for the Memorial Day Parade raised over \$3,000, and the food was great.

Mr. Rubello stated that the Swing Shift Orchestra and Dave Coulier will be at Lakeview High School for a Memorial Day Parade Fundraiser. The orchestra will begin at 5:30 p.m. and Dave Coulier will begin at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00.

Mr. Rubello thanked the Lake Shore Band who played at the Assumption Cultural Center Spaghetti Fundraiser.

Mr. Rubello thanked everyone who participated in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Mr. Rubello inquired what residents should do if they have any problems with the sidewalks and streets that were redone last year. Mr. Rayes replied if there are problems, residents should call CDI.

Council Member McFadyen stated she approved of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Now that it is approved, the grants can begin. She thanked everyone who sent flowers, cards and phone calls while she was ill. She is presently going for dialysis, so she still has a long road ahead of her. She thanked Mayor Hison and Council for their support.

Council Member Rusie apologized for her lengthy council comment at the last meeting. She added that the time goes quick once you begin speaking. She wants to speak her side of issues, and answer residents' questions.

Ms. Rusie requested an update on the Larchmont and Winton homes. Mr. Rayes noted that everything has been going according to the policy set by City Council.

Ms. Rusie advised that Assumption Greek Orthodox church donated food, space, and wait staff for the Marchioni Catering fundraiser.

Ms. Rusie stated that tickets for Dave Coulier can be purchased at City Hall or the Parks and Recreation Department. She thanked Village Market for letting them sell tickets.

Ms. Rusie stated the Parade Committee is still looking for volunteers. If interested, call Sue at 586-504-0493.

Ms. Rusie wished well wishes to her mother who is in the hospital.

She announced an upcoming Memorial Day Parade fundraiser at Happy Scrapper on Harper; \$35 to enjoy a whole day of scrapbooking.

13. COMMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILPERSONS cont'd.

Council Member Rubino stated the City is looking at a \$2.2 million deficit. He stated this is a sprinkle, but the monsoon is coming. It will get much worse. Locally foreclosures are up 30%, and housing is down 9%. Homes are worth 35% less. He stated he was very disappointed with the Budget Meeting on Saturday. Closing the pool or Senior Center is unacceptable.

Mayor Hison stated he relies on staff to bring ideas to us. City Council needs to look at these ideas with new strategies. Some of the rainy day fund might have to be used. Mayor Hison stated there was an article in the Detroit News about our new Regional Dispatch Center. Because of declining budgets, communities are consolidating with other communities. He stated he has met with the Chamber of Commerce and the Harper Avenue Business Association, along with the three school districts, to discuss sharing services in the future.

Mayor Hison announced the Lac Ste. Clair Symphony will host "Shall We Dance?" on April 3 at the Lake Shore Presbyterian Church at 3:00 p.m.

14. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Hughes stated there is a Study Session scheduled for March 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. for Council to review the draft of the Energy Efficiency Ordinance, and to review cost estimates for the \$1 HUD Program.

Mr. Hughes reminded everyone there will be a Passport Day in the USA 2011, on April 9, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at City Hall. Additional information is on the City's webpage, or by contacting the City Clerks Office at 586-447-3303. Cash, check or money orders will be accepted.

Mr. Hughes announced a City-wide blood drive with the Red Cross on April 6, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Please call 877-505-9527 for an appointment; walk-ins are also invited.

15. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

Roger Reichenbach, resident of St. Clair Shores, commended Council Members for being civil tonight. He also stated he was on the Board of Review last week, and stated Teri Socia and Vicky Shipman were great team members. Mr. Reichenbach stated he is concerned that the proposed Ethics Ordinance has created all this fighting among Council Members, and suggested a citizen sub-committee be assigned for the purpose of drafting the ordinance.

Mayor Hison replied that there is already a sub-committee and he will pass his questions on to the committee.

Duane Michno, resident of St. Clair Shores, reminded everyone that the Fireworks event is 90 days away. Any donations can be sent to City Hall or can be dropped off to Mr. Haney, payable to the St. Clair Shores Activities Committee/Fireworks. Call 774-1223 for further information.

Chris Vitale, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated the City needs to pursue the homes that are blighted. Also, the Marchiori Catering fundraiser was great.

Mr. Vitale stated there is a proposal by Mark Hackle to bring in a casino somewhere on the waterfront. He stated the corner of 11 Mile and Jefferson is the most valuable property in St. Clair Shores. He stated he would rather see a resort/convention center on that corner. He suggested that if the school districts were consolidated, South Lake High School could be used as the new municipal center with City Hall, Police Department, Library and Court.

Jamie Victory, resident of St. Clair Shores, commented on the fire on Masonic Boulevard. He advised everyone to get smoke detectors as they can save your life.

Brian Mazey, resident of St. Clair Shores and President of the Shorewood Kiwanis, showed everyone a St. Clair Shores Monopoly Game he had made to help raise money for Parks and Recreation. He stated he sold 16 properties in two hours. To purchase a game, the cost is \$20 and they will be ready for purchase by August. The goal is to raise \$10,000 for the Senior Center. Please call 586-255-6616 for further information.

Bob Fetter, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated that during good times you save extra money, and during bad times you allow an additional \$47,000 for the Police Department. Mr. Fetter feels this is punitive against the Police Officers and that games are being played. He told Council that they are responsible and the residents vote for them. They need to take some sort of leadership. He stated it is a good idea to organize a new Ethics Committee without City Council being members.

15. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT) cont'd.

Nate Kasczmarek, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated that mudslinging is a long standing American practice. Tough decisions need to be made regarding the budget. After all is said and done, \$47,000 means a lot to every household in this City. There is no room and no tolerance for personal attacks in politics. Mr. Kasczmarek asked Council to pledge that they would not engage in personal attacks here or on the political trail.

A resident at 28000 Manhattan asked if the City had the money to support all the plans for Parks and Recreation. He added that City Council needs to stick together and support one another. He added that there are a lot of places to cut.

Bill Mutart, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated he attended the Memorial Parade Spaghetti fundraiser. He showed Council a picture of the Memorial Day Parade from 1940 when it went down 11 Mile Road from Harper.

Dan Stieber, resident of St. Clair Shores, stated there is cost recovery for the Police Department in the budget, and felt that it is a good sign. Any non-resident involved in an at-fault accident in St. Clair Shores, should be charged. Other communities are doing it.

Donald Lobsinger, resident of St. Clair Shores, spoke regarding Martin Luther King.

Chuck Hall, resident of St. Clair Shores, commended City Council on the civility among them this evening. He stated it is a far cry from the last meeting. Mr. Hall stated he agrees with Council about giving the budget back to Council. Mr. Hall congratulated Mr. Hughes on his one year anniversary of service with the City. He noted that the corner of Ridgeway and Jefferson looks like a blighted property.

16. REQUEST TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY STATE STATUE MCLA 15.268, SECTION 8(e) R. BURDEN V ST. CLAIR SHORES

Motion by Rubino, seconded by Frederick to enter Closed Session by State Statute MCLA 15.268 Section 8(e) R. Burden v St. Clair Shores at 11:22 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: All – 7

Motion by Rusie, seconded by Rubino to return to Open Session at 12:25 a.m.

Ayes: All – 7

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rusie, seconded by Rubino to adjourn at 12:26 a.m.

Ayes: All – 7

ROBERT A HISON, MAYOR

MARY KOTOWSKI, CITY CLERK