

**MINUTES  
ST. CLAIR SHORES CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 3, 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, Rubello, Rubino, Rusie and Walby

Absent & Excused: Council Member McFadyen

Also Present: City Manager Hughes, City Clerk Kotowski, Directors D'Herde, Haney, 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 and noted that Ms. McFadyen asked to be excused. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**Motion by Walby, seconded by Rusie to excuse Council Member McFadyen.**

Ayes: All – 6  
Absent: McFadyen

Mayor Hison wished everyone a Happy New Year and announced that Council will do everything to be positive and on the right track. He mentioned that the 2011 City calendars were delivered by mail and the calendars include the scheduled meetings and scheduled events. He commended the Communication's Department for a job well done.

Mayor Hison noted that item #4 was removed from tonight's agenda at the request of the petitioner and they will reschedule this at the end of February. He stated that item #8h from the consent agenda was also removed.

**2. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS - NONE**

**3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (2 MINUTE TIME LIMIT) - NONE**

**4. ~~REQUESTS FOR PLANNING COMMISSION CASES PC 10-13 AND 13A, AT 22500 NINE MILE ROAD, PETITIONER KROGER CORPORATION~~**

- ~~a. Rezoning PC 10-13, part of Lots 1, 32, 33 and 34 of Fresards Lake Subdivision, as recorded in Liber 3, of Plate Page 189, Macomb County Records, from B-1 Local Business District, to B-3 General Business District, at 22430, 22500 and 22504 Nine Mile Road~~
- ~~b. Request for site plan approval, for PC 10-13A, for a new gas station and convenience kiosk, at 22500 Nine Mile Road~~

Item was removed at the petitioner's request.

**5. REVIEW OF THE EXISTING PARKING LOT ORDINANCE**

Mayor Hison said there are different criteria for establishing the number of parking spots per business. Mr. Rubello requested that the parking lot ordinance be discussed.

Mr. Rubello explained that he asked for this to be discussed because businesses have complained that the parking is too strict. His purpose is to ease the parking restrictions for businesses in the City and for businesses moving into the City. He thinks the City needs more gift shops, clothing shops, small boutiques, etc. He asked Mr. Rayes what requirements a new business moving into the City needs to do regarding parking.

Mr. Rayes stated that most of the buildings in the City meet the parking requirements for small retail and general office (approximately 90% of the buildings will meet the requirements). The challenge is for restaurants and hair salons because they need larger parking areas to accommodate their customers and employees. He explained that for a 1,000 square foot building, the business would need five parking spots.

## **5. REVIEW OF THE EXISTING PARKING LOT ORDINANCE (Cont'd)**

Mr. Rayes said the parking ordinance has been reviewed many times in the past. There needs to be a balance in the number of parking spots, so as not to burden the surrounding residents with people parking on the residential streets.

Mr. Rubello mentioned that certain Cities don't have parking requirements and he feels that they are making it easier on the businesses by not having strict requirements.

Mr. Hughes stated that parking issues were in the top five issues in the three other communities he has worked in. The goal is to make our City more business friendly without making our residents unhappy. He asked how much the parking restrictions would need to be lowered to be more agreeable with businesses, taking into consideration that lowering the restrictions could create problems for the residents because people would then be parking on the residential streets.

Mr. Rubello said that with a more liberal parking ordinance, "no parking" signs could be put on the residential streets to keep people from parking there. We need to be open to change or nothing will get better. We can remain stagnant or we can move forward. He mentioned that the City of Roseville recently passed a more lenient parking ordinance and maybe we could get ideas from what they did. He asked how the parking restrictions are handled for strip malls where businesses share one lot.

Mr. Rayes responded that if it's a large shopping center, such as the Shores Plaza, there is a reduction in the minimum number of parking spaces required. In large shopping centers, people use the parking spot for shorter periods and the parking spots are being used by multiple people throughout business hours. A parking spot cannot be counted twice when there are two businesses that are both open during the same time. He named a few businesses that have some type of parking agreement with neighboring businesses, such as, Achatz Burgers has an agreement with Colony Marine and Gentle Dental has an agreement with Lakeland Manor.

Mr. Rubello asked if the City could reconsider the requirement for businesses that had to pay for parking spots that don't need them and have never needed them.

Mayor Hison noted that this ordinance is encompassing for the entire City. The ordinance is three pages in length and includes criteria for parking requirements. Many years ago, there were changes to the parking ordinance on Eight Mile Road where "back out" parking was eliminated when work was being done there in order to meet the requirements to receive Federal Grants. A Special Assessment District (SAD) was created to remove homes along Eight Mile Road in order to allow for parking, which has helped the parking issues. If we eliminate or lessen the parking requirements today, it will cause people to park on the residential streets and then we will have the residents in those areas petitioning to put signs up.

Mayor Hison explained that when a business wants to move into the City, we look thoroughly at the planning, which includes the amount of parking needed for that type of business. There are solutions and we want to help the businesses be successful. He stated that he would rather see more cars than no cars in the parking, because that would imply that the businesses are successful. In the past, we have tried to encourage businesses to work out the parking situations. We need to review the ordinance and make some important decisions.

Mr. Rubello said that Council has made changes in the past and considered the number of parking spots versus the seating at the theater. He is not looking to reduce the parking requirements in a "clean sweep across the board". He is more interested in the parking requirements for retail stores. He feels that if other Cities can get away with having a less stringent parking ordinance, then we need to look into doing the same. Sometimes we need to "push the envelope a little" to get results.

Mr. Rubino commented that we are in competition with other Cities for business and we have to make it easier for businesses to move in. He would like to see the parking lots overflowing. He doesn't feel that forcing businesses to use neighboring business' parking spots is the right way to go about it. In the case where Gentle Dental has an agreement with Lakeland Manor to use their parking lot, he doesn't think that people going to Gentle Dental actually cross Harper to park at Lakeland Manor.

Mr. Rayes said that in most cases where businesses have a parking agreement, the employees would use the off site parking lot to allow for more customer parking spots.

Mr. Rubino stated that most people don't want to park at the off site parking because it is further away. If the off site parking is never even used, then the business is paying for something they shouldn't be and that is not "business friendly". He asked why the City formulates the parking spots by using the square footage of the building and not the

## **5. REVIEW OF THE EXISTING PARKING LOT ORDINANCE (Cont'd)**

seating. There may only be twenty-five tables at a restaurant and we could be requiring them to have fifty parking spots just because we are basing it on the square footage of the building.

Mr. Rayes said we use a formula that would help the business determine how many parking spots would be needed. This formula is used in order to prevent a new business from being in a situation where they spend a large amount of money on renovations only to discover that they no longer meet the parking requirements because they originally required parking for only six tables and now they have fifty tables. A retail business could only require five parking spots and a restaurant could require eighteen parking spots, so a business that wants to conform a retail business to a restaurant would need to take that into consideration before they start anything. Most businesses in the City do not have too many parking spots. He said he doesn't think the ordinance is too restrictive, but sometimes he has suggested other buildings to a new business coming into the City.

Mr. Rubino said that we should look at the ordinance and the formulas more thoroughly.

Mr. Rayes explained that City Administration does not have the "luxury" of ignoring the formula in the ordinance to decide at the Planning Commission Meetings how many parking spots are needed for a business.

Mr. Rubino stated that the parking spots should match the number of customers that particular restaurant would have and to not use the building's square footage in a formula.

Mr. Rayes noted that in the past the seating area plus employees was considered for parking spots and the formula worked out similarly to the formula used now.

Ms. Rusie commented that she wants our businesses to be successful. Many businesses in the City have to bear the cost of off site parking, which could be a huge expense to a business that is already struggling. Council is not expecting administration to make impractical changes, but we would like to make some changes to the parking ordinance to allow businesses to be successful. She feels that the number of seats and employees should be considered when figuring the number of parking spots. She suggested that we look at what surrounding Cities are doing about their parking issues. She thinks that it's a good idea to look at the ordinance to make necessary revisions.

Mayor Hison said we should identify which areas of the ordinance to discuss. This ordinance has been reviewed by every Councilperson up here at one point. We do not want to restrict or to mislead businesses coming in. When businesses are first starting out, they don't know if they will be successful. Normally, it would take about a year for a new business to determine if they would be successful. He thinks that we should narrow the particular land use areas down in the ordinance and address those specific areas.

Mr. Frederick mentioned how the building where the Red Hat Winery was located had two businesses there and people would park on the residential streets because there wasn't enough parking spots in the lot. The City had to put "No Parking" signs on the street to keep people from parking there. He said Achatz Burgers is not suffering from parking issues right now because the Red Hat Winery went out of business and that side of the building is currently vacant. He suggested that the City consider meter parking down Jefferson. He asked what kind of relief there is for people who are turned down by the Planning Commission.

Mr. Rayes explained that the petitioner first goes before the Planning Commission then they have the choice to go to the Zoning Board of Appeals if they are not satisfied with the Planning Commissions' decision.

Mr. Frederick suggested that we look at the area that the public has access to plus the number of employees when figuring the square footage for the formula. By eliminating the workspace from the formula, the number of parking spaces to the number of people would be more accurate. He asked if a business has ever been turned down in the last year for parking issues. If so, was the business informed of a more suitable building in the City that was available.

Mr. Rayes stated that they always try to encourage businesses to go to more suitable building if the building they wanted didn't work out.

Mr. Frederick asked if it's possible to reduce the square footage in the formula from gross to net.

Mr. Rayes stated that he wouldn't feel comfortable reducing the square footage to net at every business because that could cause problems for certain businesses.

## **5. REVIEW OF THE EXISTING PARKING LOT ORDINANCE (Cont'd)**

Mr. Frederick told Mr. Rayes that he would like to give him the flexibility to work out the parking issues with businesses in the City.

Mr. Rayes responded that there is some potential flexibility with the parking requirement, but reducing the square footage to net would require a 1,000 square foot building to have only two parking spots instead of four. He agrees with making the parking requirements more "business friendly" in certain areas where it's feasible, but does not want to give people false information by making them believe it's feasible to eliminate a number of parking spots. He is very cautious about giving the correct information to new businesses opening up in the City.

Mr. Walby asked how much it costs to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Rayes said that it costs \$300 to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals, but the cost is based on the City's fees for the advertisements that need to be published in the newspapers.

Mr. Walby asked if the \$300 fee could be lowered, to eliminate being a burden to the business. He asked about the laws regarding the advertisements and if there is a way to go around taking it to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Ihrie replied that the law states that changes in zoning must be advertised in the newspapers.

Mayor Hison added that we cannot waive the fee or it becomes a burden for the residents.

Mr. Walby stated that he would really like to lower the \$300 Zoning Board of Appeals cost.

Mayor Hison reiterated that the \$300 cost is due to the advertisements that the City has to publish in the newspapers, but maybe we could cut the cost by grouping cases together so the advertisement will be for more than one case at a time.

Mr. Rubello commented that this is about shaping a business community. He recognized the reasons given by Mr. Rayes as valid reasons, but hopes that the City could look into how other Cities have a more lenient parking ordinance. He mentioned how Traverse City, Michigan is a well-shopped and traveled area and they calculate their parking spots as one parking spot for every three hundred fifty square feet. We calculate our parking spots as one parking spot for every two hundred fifty square feet. We need to make the necessary changes to help the businesses in the City survive.

Mayor Hison identified some of the items that were mentioned that need to be reviewed, such as, table areas versus net area, competition with other Cities, and how Zoning Board of Appeals will always be an avenue for petitioners. We have changed over time, but it doesn't mean that we can't change more.

## **6. REQUEST FOR ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REGIONAL GOVERNANCE OF THE DETROIT WATER AND SEWER DIVISION SYSTEM**

Mayor Hison explained that this was a request of Mr. Walby to work with Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties.

Ms. Rusie suggested more clarity with the resolution to include our concerns with the Federal indictment and lack of communication regarding a recent "Boil Water Advisory". The resolution should reflect the concerns we have.

Mr. Walby reviewed the resolution and stated that the resolution is clear in stating the request for a Regional Authority so we have more of a voice or equal voice. He would be more than happy to add Ms. Rusie's comments to the resolution for clarification.

Mr. Ihrie commented that the resolution is the initial comments and if there is justification of the resolution, additions could be made before it is sent. This could be approved with additional comments, adding substance and formatting.

Mayor Hison noted that he would like this to be sent out this week after the whereas, phrase's are added and emailed to Council.

**Motion by Walby, seconded by Frederick to approve the adoption of the Resolution supporting regional governance of the Detroit Water and Sewer Division System which reads as follows,**

**WHEREAS, the City of St. Clair Shores has been a long term customer of the Detroit Water and Sewer Division (DWSD); and**

**6. REQUEST FOR ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REGIONAL GOVERNANCE OF THE DETROIT WATER AND SEWER DIVISION SYSTEM (Cont'd)**

WHEREAS, as a municipality that consumes water and purchases services from the DWSD, the City of St. Clair Shores is concerned about recent federal indictments related to the DWSD; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Clair Shores has identified some service related concerns with DWSD, most recently involving their lack of communication with our Department of Public Works, resulting in a loss of water pressure on December 17, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Clair Shores is supportive of modifying the governing Board of the DWSD to provide for increased representation and oversight from suburban communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of St. Clair Shores City Council supports regional governance of the Detroit Water and Sewer Division System for these reasons and the City of St. Clair Shores hereby formally requests that the new Macomb County Executive, Mark Hackel advocate and encourage such changes within the DWSD Board, while also working toward the creation of a regional governing authority.

I, Mary A. Kotowski, the duly qualified and appointed City Clerk of the City of St. Clair Shores, Macomb County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on Monday, January 3, 2011 the original of which is on file in my office.

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Mary A. Kotowski, City Clerk

Ayes: All – 6  
Absent: McFadyen

Mr. Frederick added that residents have probably paid too much for water from Detroit. He asked if there is a chance for the residents to recoup money. A great deal of “wrong” has been done for so long and he would like to see the residents get some money back.

Mayor Hison replied that we would ask our new Macomb County Executive to work at this. We will continue to pursue this.

**7. BIDS/CONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS - REQUEST TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR THE MACOMB COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES**

Mr. Hughes explained that there are no fee increases in 2011. Overall, we have been pleased with the Macomb County Animal Shelter services. We do not have coverage for the weekends. City Council asked if we could collaborate with a neighboring City to get weekend services. The administration supports this and will explore our options.

Mr. Rubino asked if this agreement with Macomb County Animal Shelter covers if there is a dog loose on the weekend.

Mr. Hughes replied no. We will look into acquiring weekend service.

**Motion by Rubino, seconded by Walby to approve the request to approve the Renewal of Agreement for the Macomb County Animal Shelter Services for 2011.**

Ayes: All – 6  
Absent: McFadyen

Mayor Hison reiterated for the listening audience that the City calendars were delivered to each home by the postal service and for residents to contact the post office if they have not received the calendar. He encouraged residents to call 586-498-2880 or 586-498-2874 because guaranteed delivery postage was paid.

8. **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 – i as presented, which include the following:**

**a. Bills**

January 3, 2011 \$2,563,411.20

To approve the release of checks in the amount of \$2,563,411.20, of the report that is 15 pages in length and of the grand total amount of \$2,563,411.20, \$0 went to other taxing authorities.

**b. Fees - None**

**c. Progress Payments**

Italia Construction, Inc. \$134,431.33

To approve the above progress payments, subject to audit.

**d. Approval of Minutes**

To approve the following minutes:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
City Council	December 20, 2010

**e. Receive & File Boards, Commissions & Committee Minutes**

To receive and file the following minutes:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
Fence Arbitration	October 20, 2010
Beautification Commission	November 10, 2010
Beautification Commission	December 1, 2010
Cool City Committee	November 10, 2010
General Employees Pension Board	November 16, 2010
Library Board	November 16, 2010
Planning Commission	November 23, 2010
Police and Fire Pension Board	November 18, 2010
Police and Fire Retiree Health Care Trust Board	November 18, 2010

- f. To approve the request by the Lake Shore, Lakeview, South Lake, L'Anse Creuse, Macomb Intermediate and Macomb Community College school districts to levy 100% of their 2011 tax levy July 1, 2011

- g. Recommendation from Sub-Committee on Boards, Committees & Commissions to appoint the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Term Ending Date</u>
Mary Cipriano	Older Persons Advisory Committee	9/30/2012
Marianne Courey	SCS Memorial Day Parade Committee	12/31/2011
Robert Montgomery	SCS Memorial Day Parade Committee	12/31/2012

**h. ~~Adoption of Resolution for Designation of Street Administrator~~**

- i. Adoption of Transfer of Operations Agreement between the City and South East Regional Emergency Services Authority (SERESA)**

Ayes: All – 6  
Absent: McFadyen

## **9. UPDATES AND FOLLOW-UPS FROM COUNCIL MEETING**

- **PCB's** – Mr. Hughes spoke with the Environmental Protection Agency recently and they have made progress in receiving some super funds for the PCB remediation. The Environmental Protection Agency plans to come back in April or May for a follow up meeting with the residents. There are two issues involved in their action plan, firm identification of the PCB source and the remediation and cleanup plan.
- **Harper Water Main and Street Lighting** – Mr. Rayes said they are working on Harper going north up to 14 Mile Road. They are almost complete for that main, but will have to do a couple smaller lines.

Mr. Rayes said the street lighting is complete at Harper and 14 Mile Road. The other side will not be completed until a later date.

- **Southeast Regional Emergency Services Authority (SERESA)** – Mr. Hughes stated that St. Clair Shores, Roseville, and Eastpointe have successfully merged to one dispatch center. The dispatch center allows for all 911 calls for Police, Fire and Emergency to respond efficiently. The dispatch center is located in Roseville. The consolidation of services is a savings for the residents. It costs approximately \$1 million to run the 911 dispatch services and nearly 25% of the cost will be saved by consolidating services. We will continue to look for opportunities to save. It was suggested to have a center built large enough to service more communities. On December 29, 2010, we went live and it was a success with only a few minor issues.

Mayor Hison commented that the dispatch center is a very nice facility and all eleven of our dispatchers have been transferred there.

## **10. COMMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILPERSONS**

**Council Member Walby** commended Mr. Hughes for pushing the consolidation of dispatch services. We need to consolidate things without jeopardizing services to the residents. He asked if Council would have a vote on other municipalities joining.

Mr. Hughes it is determined by SERESA, but all three communities will be involved. St. Clair Shores has two voting members on the Authority.

Mr. Walby mentioned how the City purchased a Peterson Loader for about \$120,000. He feels that the Peterson Loader should be shared and rotated with other surrounding Cities to cut the cost for our residents.

Mr. Walby received a few emails regarding the 5% pay cut for Police. An agreement has been made with the other bargaining units to reduce their wages by 5% and he is frustrated that we have made no headway of getting the 5% pay cut from the Police.

Mr. Hughes said mediation was not successful and today we went to arbitration with the Police Officers Association. The arbitrator will inform us of their decision by February or April.

Mr. Walby \$335,000 is needed right now to balance the budget. By 2014, the rainy day fund will be depleted if no changes are made. He suggested that we hire reserves for certain times and certain events in order to cut the overtime cost. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mayor Hison said that we need to continue to work with other communities to consolidate services. We have discussed having a reserves and how having a reserves would significantly reduce overtime costs.

**Council Member Frederick** wished everyone a Happy New Year. He asked Mr. Rayes about there not being two disability act pads at the corner of Cavalier Drive and Nine Mile Road. There are two disability act pads on the north side of the street and there is only one disability act pad on the south side. He wished Lake Shore swim team good luck.

**Council Member Rubello** mentioned that the Senior Center is looking for volunteers for snow shoveling. He asked if the problem with the cement and the spacing at Nine Mile Road and Greater Mack was fixed.

Mr. Rubello mentioned that the Older Person's Advisory Committee is available for any seniors that have issues, topics or discussions. He said the Sign Ordinance Committee has been working on the ordinance and will provide it to Council at the next Council meeting.

**10. COMMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILPERSONS (Cont'd)**

Mr. Rubello commended Mr. Schwanger for going out of his way on New Year's Eve to resolve a water issue. He announced that a former St. Clair Shores resident, Dave Coulier, who is a celebrity comedian living in California has agreed to hold a fundraiser to raise money for the parade. The fundraiser will be on April 2, 2011 at Lakeview High

School auditorium and tickets will be \$20 (Lakeview High School auditorium holds 1538 people). He thanked Mr. Coulier and stated how honored we are to have him come back to the City to help.

**Council Member Rusie** wished everyone a Happy New Year. She thanked everyone for participating on facebook. She thanked Ms. D'Herde for her efforts and for being diligent on facebook. She mentioned that it was stated that the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) houses would have an open house for neighbors and residents to walk through. She asked Mr. Rayes if there will be open houses for these homes.

Mr. Hughes stated that we are in the final stages of these homes and he would be happy to work with Council to set aside time to show the homes.

Mr. Rayes said he and Ms. Koto discussed with the neighbors the best time to show the homes and it was agreed on that the real estate agent would show the homes since the best time for the neighbors was after regular business hours.

Ms. Rusie reiterated that the neighbors are curious because they have seen all the work being done on these homes and residents that have been watching the Council meetings are also curious and may want to see the homes.

Ms. Rusie apologized for Kroger Corporation rescheduling. Kroger Corporation rescheduled to the last meeting in February because they were not prepared for tonight's meeting. We only received notification at 11:30 a.m. today. She spent hours researching and preparing for this and residents planned to speak at the meeting. She asked if they can reschedule again with such short notice.

Mr. Ihrie said that there isn't policy that states that they can't cancel or reschedule. Given the fact that they have rescheduled two times already, we could request that they give us more of an advance notice, so we can notify the residents.

Ms. Rusie noted that their excuse for rescheduling due to the holiday's is unacceptable because they knew that the holidays were right before this meeting. She announced the 2011 Senior Winter Fest on Wednesday, February 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Clinton Township.

**Council Member Rubino** stated that it is very important that if we tell the residents that we are going to do something, that we do it. He commended Mr. Rubello for contacting Mr. Coulier and for raising money for the parade. He announced that there would be a STRAW meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Library on how to appeal your property taxes. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**Mayor Hison** reminded everyone that there would be a Budget Study Session on January 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. He asked what kind of program to expect with Mr. Coulier.

Mr. Rubello explained that Mr. Coulier is a comedian/actor. It will be a good clean family fun show. Mr. Coulier was gracious, humble, and was quick to return the phone call. He feels that sometimes it can be difficult asking the same people for help and so he thought that it was best to reach out.

Mayor Hison noted that Mr. Coulier is from St. Clair Shores and he will be doing a great service to the City.

**11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Hughes received several emails and phone calls regarding snow removal. He gave a brief overview of the difference between a snow event and a snow emergency. When a snow event occurs, the Department of Public Works will remove the snow on the main roads and the roads highly traveled by school buses and fire vehicles. We do not have the resources to remove the snow from residential roads during a snow event. When the Mayor declares a snow emergency, the snow will be cleared on the residential streets. There is approximately 220 miles of road in the City and it would cost approximately \$48,500 to salt every road (not including the cost of diesel fuel or wages). Harper, Ten Mile Road and Twelve Mile Road are all plowed by the County. We understand resident's concerns, but this is the policy.



**12. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)**

Jamie Victory, St. Clair Shores resident, wished everyone a Happy New Year. He announced that he was in the Macomb Daily Newspaper. He was asked to be Santa and to pass out \$100 gift cards to needy families.

Joe Backus, St. Clair Shores resident, mentioned that a long time ago parallel parking was allowed. He thinks that parallel parking would be okay if it were at least three feet from the sidewalk and in the area on the street next to the building. He mentioned that the pipes by the Coast Guard road and Blossom Heath are clogged. The Coast Guard road causes issues by Blossom Heath and he asked if the road could be redesigned to help the water flow since this would be the Federal Government project and cost.

Rick Swanquist, St. Clair Shores resident, said that parking has been a problem for many years and nobody has come up with a solution since. He remembers complaining about the parking issues in 1998. The "No Parking" signs on the residential streets hurt businesses and the residents lose the parking spots and the City loses business. He encourages residents to reconsider allowing parking on the residential streets to help the City overall. This would be the only way to prevent parking issues from keeping a business from being successful. An antique store opened up recently and it was mentioned that women's boutiques are desired. He asked for the City to go after State funds to help the parking issue (build parking structures). He thinks it's a solvable problem and he thinks we can get past the issues. The City should lower the Zoning Board of Appeals cost.

Mayor Hison requested Administration get input from the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals on parking issues. He encouraged residents to see the NSP homes.

Duane Michno, St. Clair Shores resident, thinks that the City should use street parking in the formulas for parking requirements. He thanked everyone who contributed to Goodfellows and he wished everyone a Happy New Year. He mentioned that another City in the area charges \$500 for the Zoning Board of Appeals and he feels that our cost is reasonable.

**13. REQUEST TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION AS PERMITTED BY STATE STATUTE MCLA 15.268, SECTION 8 (C)**

**Motion by Walby, seconded by Rubino to enter Closed Session as permitted by State Statute MCLA 15.268 Section 8(c) at 9:15 p.m.**

A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: McFadyen

**Motion by Frederick, seconded by Rubino to return to Open Session at 9:42 p.m.**

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: McFadyen

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Frederick, seconded by Rubino to adjourn at 9:43 p.m.**

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: McFadyen

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ROBERT A HISON, MAYOR

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MARY A. KOTOWSKI, CITY CLERK