

A JOINT MEETING OF THE CITIES OF BERKLEY, HUNTINGTON WOODS AND OAK PARK, THE BERKLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND THE OAK PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:30 PM ON THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017, AT THE CITY OF BERKLEY, BY MR. PHIL O'DWYER, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY

PRESENT:

Berkley

Phil O'Dwyer, Mayor
Steve W. Baker, Mayor Pro Tem
Jack Blanchard, Councilmember
Colleen Graveline, Councilmember
Alan H. Kideckel, Councilmember
Dan Terbrack, Councilmember
Matthew C. Baumgarten, City Manager
Darchelle Strickland Love, Deputy City Manager
Phommady A. Boucher, City Clerk
Cynthia Chiara, Admin. Assist. to the City Manager

Huntington Woods

Bob Paul, Mayor
Jeff Jenks, Commissioner
Jules Olsman, Commissioner
Joe Rozell, Commissioner
Amy Sullivan, City Manager

Oak Park

Marian McClellan, Mayor
Erik Tungate, City Manager

Also Present:

State Representative Robert Wittenberg

Berkley School District

Mary Jo Israel, President
Sheryl Stoddard, Vice President
Mitchell Moses, Treasurer
Roger Blake, Secretary
Ron Justice, Trustee
Keith Logsdon, Trustee
Mike Tripp, Trustee
Dennis McDavid, Superintendent
Mary Beth Fitzpatrick, Assistant Superintendent
Lori Suarez, Executive Assistant to Superintendent
Jessica Stilger, Communications Supervisor

Oak Park School District

Mildred Warren, Secretary
Claudette Lunkins, Trustee
Daveda Colbert, Superintendent
Stan Trompeter, Executive Director

Berkley Mayor Phil O'Dwyer opened the meeting and extended his welcome to everyone. He shared some interesting facts from a recent Michigan Municipal League (MML) Capital Conference in Lansing. In 1980, the population in the state of Michigan was 9.3 million people and the population today is 9.9 million people. If Michigan would have progressed at the same rate with the rest of the country, our population would be at 14 million people. Municipalities in Michigan have reduced their Public Safety personnel by 36% from 2002 to 2014 and the nation increased their law enforcement by 8%. The Fire Departments in Michigan was reduced by 24% although there was an increase of 3% across the country. Reduction in state shared revenue that provides funds to schools and communities make it unsustainable in Michigan. We cannot afford to maintain the services and the quality environment on these continued reductions. From 2002 to 2014 every state in the union has on average increased its contributions to local municipalities; Ohio who ranked second to the last contributed an increase of 28% while Michigan decreased by 9%. Mayor O'Dwyer introduced City Manager Matt Baumgarten. He spoke about the closeness, collaboration, and cooperation between City of Berkley and the Berkley School District. He is thankful for the leadership of the Superintendent, the Board of Education, and City Council. To the teachers and school administrators of the respected school districts, Mayor O'Dwyer shared a proverb, "Those who instruct many to justice, shall shine the stars for all eternity."

Berkley City Manager Matt Baumgarten welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting and thanked the Berkley Historical Committee for donating the gifts for our guests. He recognized Administrative Assistant to the City Manager Cindy Chiara and City Clerk Phommady A. Boucher for coordinating tonight's meeting.

State Representative Robert Wittenberg reported that on February 8, 2017, Governor Rick Snyder signed the state's fiscal year 2017 budget into law. The budget included a boost in funding for the state's K-12 education system, Michigan's transportation infrastructure, and other programs but lacked funding for statutory revenue sharing. State Representative Wittenberg is currently working on a graduated income tax proposal that would cut taxes for 94% of people in the state and increasing taxes on the top 5%; this proposal would generate over \$800 million in new revenue each year. They are looking to cut \$200 to \$300 million in general funds spending in compared to the governor's proposal. The cuts will be from the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Corrections, Higher Education, and Department of Health and Human Services budget. The General Government Subcommittee adds \$12.8 million for revenue sharing to be distributed on a per capita bases rather than the typical formula. The K-12 education system will receive additional funding for at risk students in high schools and less funding for

virtual charter schools; there would be a net loss for schools in comparison to the governor's proposal. Senate Subcommittees have reported budgets and show significant cuts in comparison to the governor's proposal. State Representative Wittenberg's priorities are increase in revenue sharing, funding for school aid and higher education, transportation funding, and Medicaid Expansion healthy Michigan. There are roughly 600,000 people covered under the Medicaid Expansion Plan and the governor is on the right side of this issue. The Federal government is looking to eliminate the Affordable Care Act and the Medicaid Expansion Plan. Representative Wittenberg encourages everyone to contact him with any questions at robertwittenberg@house.mi.gov or by phone at (517) 373-0478. March is Reading Month; in 2015 he read to nearly 800 students, in 2016 he read to over 1,000 students, and this month he has read to 1,600 students.

Berkley School District Superintendent Dennis McDavid congratulated Mary Beth Fitzpatrick on her new position as the Superintendent of the Royal Oak School District. The following are updates from the school district:

- The Berkley High School Choir students are visiting Austria and Italy and other students are doing some reading in Sweden during Spring Break.
- This year more students have gone to Dominican Republic, Ireland, Washington D.C., New York City, and Penn State.
- April 22nd is the 2nd Annual Berkley Schools Give Back Day, last year 120 volunteers including staff planted flowers and clean parks and common areas.
- April 3rd is the Berkley High School Job Fair, an opportunity for the school to work with the local businesses to recruit High School students in the summer.
- The district participates in the school of choice program for Kindergarten through 5th Grade; there were 360 students that applied, 72 students were accepted, and 290 on a waiting list.
- School bond update: Phase I for infrastructure updates to Angell, Pattengill, Norup, and half of Berkley High School is almost complete. Phase II for infrastructure updates to Rogers, Burton, Anderson, and the other half of Berkley High School will begin now and all through the summer. Phase III for infrastructure updates to Avery and Tyndall will begin March of next year. Superintendent McDavid recognized Mary Beth Fitzgerald and Larry Gallagher for working as the project managers on Phases I to III.
- The district is on track to finish with the highest fund balance compared to past years. In 2010/2011, the school district loss funding of \$2.3 million and they are able to save money through a Share Time program with 40 partners across several counties.
- The graduation rate for the district is among the highest in the state, 60% of the High School Students this year will graduate with at least one college or Advance Placement (AP) class, and 15% of the students attend Oakland Schools Technical Campus.
- Last year, the district signed an agreement with Equal Opportunity Schools to work with low income students.
- The district will remove class rank based on their academic scores beginning with the Class of 2019.
- Just over 50% of the middle school students will complete at least one high school class.
- There are 150 students enrolled at the Center for Advanced Studies and the Arts (CASA), and 350 students volunteer as peer mentors.
- Music, drama, and athletics programs continue to be points of pride for the district.
- The Berkley Education Foundation is funding the eighth graders on college tours, support teaching and learning through mini grants, and after school enrichment with a pilot program at Pattengill. The program offers Lego robotics, mindfulness, drama, stem, and music makers in ukulele. Over 40% of the students at Pattengill take advantage of these programs. The district plans to do a roll out of these programs to the rest of the elementary schools next year.

Oak Park School District Superintendent Daveda Colbert on behalf of the Oak Park School District congratulated Mary Beth Fitzpatrick as the new Royal Oak School District Superintendent. She spoke highly of the relationship between Oak Park School District and the City of Oak Park. The following are updates from the school district:

- Oak Park School District consists of students from Oakland County, Wayne County, Macomb County and Genesee County.
- The district is made of three elementary schools, one middle school, one traditional high school, one discipline academy, one alternative school, and a virtual academy. Nova Discipline Academy enrolls students from third grade to eleventh grade and Oak Park Alternative Education Center has building trades similar to Oakland Schools Technical Campus (OTEC).
- Although Oak Park School District has 86% poverty, they take pride in providing all students with opportunities that will change their trajectory.
- On Saturday, March 25th, twenty students in the district from the Class of 2019 were inducted into the Wade McCree Incentive Scholarship program. Each year the district has a finalist in the Gates Millennium Scholars Program.

- In December of 2010, the district was in a deficit and they are now fiscally responsible with \$11 million in a surplus. At the end of the previous school year, the district signed a four year contract through 2020 with their unions. teachers, administrators, and paraeducators.
- March National Reading Month the district welcomed State Representative Robert Wittenberg, Mayor Marian McClellan, and City Manager Erik Tungate to read to the students at the elementary schools. 750 Pre-kindergarten to Second Grade students took a field trip to the Oak Park High School to visit with Lisa Wheeler the author of "Bubble Gum Bubble Gum." They also toured the Oak Park City Hall and viewed the "Future of Oak Park" fourth grade art exhibit.
- The 2nd Annual Drumline and Dance Competition was hosted by the Oak Park High School and featured on FOX 2 News. Detroit. The Oak Park Drumline recently performed at the Detroit Piston vs. Phoenix Suns game. Last November, 100 students attended the Battle of the Bands in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Huntington Woods Mayor Bob Paul thanked the City of Berkley for hosting tonight's meeting. He encourages the City Managers and the District Superintendents to have more discussions about shared services. Mayor Paul introduced Huntington Woods City Manager Amy Sullivan.

Huntington Woods City Manager Amy Sullivan spoke about City Administration hosting conversations and presentations for their residents to discuss the future housing for seniors. The City Administration and Planning Commission plans to make updates to their zoning ordinance to address the compatibility of new homes and existing neighborhoods. They are implementing focus groups to roll out ideas of ways to encourage compatibility and reduce massing. In the summer of 2017 and 2018, the City is scheduled for a road construction and water main improvement project. After the August 2014 flood event, the City did an aggressive sewer cleaning and televising program. Scotia Park, which hosts concerts in the park and the 4th of July festivities, will undergo major renovations and re-engineering.

Oak Park Mayor Marian McClellan attended the Michigan Municipal League (MML) Capital Conference in Lansing and suggests that we educate others on the decrease in municipal funding. She fondly spoke about the "Future of Oak Park" art exhibit and praised the teachers for their impressive work with the students. Mayor McClellan shared that at the Oak Park High School student council meeting they discussed a federally funded "Jobs for Kids" program in Detroit. She would like to see a similar program made available to the students in the Oak Park School District and the Berkley School District. Mayor McClellan introduced Oak Park City Manager Erik Tungate.

Oak Park City Manager Erik Tungate said that in the summer of 2012, City of Oak Park had long term liabilities that were unfunded, the operational budget was in a negative position, and the state had the City on their watch list. Today, the city has an 18% general fund balanced; their fund balance is at \$21 million. The Public Safety Department will be operating an ice cream truck to serve ice cream to the residents and Prairie Farms in Oak Park has agreed to donate the ice cream. For many years the city has utilized the City of Southfield's K-9 Unit at no additional cost and now the city will be adding a K-9 Unit to their Public Safety Department. The City has instituted a traffic enforcement detail program; the officers will be allowed to come in before or after their shift to enforce the traffic laws. Last summer the city budgeted \$10,000 for a project to have sunflowers planted around the community and they plan to continue this program. This summer, the City will be offering single stream recycling bins to the residents. The City will be making some changes at the Coolidge and I-696 overpass and they will be painting the water tower at Eleven Mile Road at a cost of \$150,000. There will be road construction at Nine Mile Road bordering the City of Ferndale and Greenfield Road bordering the City of Southfield. The city plans to eliminate two traffic lanes from the five lanes on Nine Mile Road and build linear parks with bike trails. More information on this project may be found on their city website at www.ci.oak-park.mi.us. Pop up pocket parks will be part of the Nine Mile corridor such as the one at Nine Mile Road and Sherman Street; there will be road closure test done on the major thoroughfare. The City of Oak Park plans to be an AA rate city and be able to bond against unfunded long term liability. They are currently 60% funded in their Public Safety and general retirement pension system. DTE Energy will be installing LED street lights in every lamp in the entire city at a cost of \$625,000. The City will be incorporating a city wide health and wellness program that will include healthy vending machines in public offices, a new fitness facility, and a public wellness center partnered with City of Ferndale and the City of Hazel Park. City Council approved a Recreation Inter-local agreement with City of Hazel Park.

Berkley City Manager Matt Baumgarten City Manager Baumgarten addressed the inadequate investment in the City's infrastructure. On December 19, 2016, the City organized a Citizen's Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Improvements that consist of fifteen residents. On March 20, 2017, the committee presented their recommendations to the City Council. There will soon be a road, water main, and sidewalk reconstruction project on Harvard Road at a cost of \$2.3 million. In collaboration with the Berkley School District, the city will be renovating the Merchant Park to add a splash pad, natural walkways, play area, and redo the baseball fields. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) hired a DDA Director Vivian Carmody to assist in revitalizing the downtown district. There is a conceptual site plan in process to help save the Our Lady of La Salette School on Coolidge Highway. The Catholic Church has a proposal to change its property into a residential area and build a new construction. The City has seen an increase in new construction and there were 42 new builds in the past year. City Administration has welcomed our new Finance Director Sabrina Lilla and the City will be

incorporating a multi-year budget. The new City website will launch on Monday, March 27th and allow residents to have access to City information and events.

Berkley Mayor Phil O'Dwyer shared that from 2002 to 2014 the national average municipal payroll increased by 34% and in Michigan the increase was .03%. He agrees with Mayor Bob Paul that the City Managers and the District Superintendents should think in creative ways to collaborate better.

Huntington Woods Commissioner Jeff Jenks shared that the regional population and employment totals for the 2045 SEMCOG forecast was adopted last week. As the populations decreases, the school-age population declines, and the elderly population increases it will result in over millions of dollars loss per year. We need alternative housing for seniors and as a group to market our respective communities to help rebuild the population. Commissioner Jenks gave an update from the National League of Cities conference in regards to the Public-Private Partnership (P3) discussion. He spoke about the Twelve Towns Drain District and suggests there more collaboration between the cities.

Public Comments None

Mayor Phil O'Dwyer thanked everyone again for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.