

Present: President George, President Pro Tem Drummond, Members: Abboud, Hrydziusko, Kecskemeti, Mercer and O’Gorman

Absent:

Also Present: Village Manager, Rothe
Village Attorney, Kolb
Village Clerk, Brown
Public Services Director, Johnston
Public Safety Director, Arnold

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President George called the regular Village Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Council Chambers located at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025. Brown called the roll. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mercer, second by Kecskemeti, to remove the first item June 16, 2026, Council meeting minutes off the consent agenda and to the Business Agenda as item 1A.

Motion passed.

Motion by Hrydziusko, second by Drummond, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING CHECK PRESENTATION: CONGRESSWOMAN TLAIB

Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib explained that each member of Congress receives a limited number of Community Project Funding requests annually and that Congress approved \$250,000 for improvements to Beverly Green Park. Tlaib presented Council with a ceremonial check.

Council thanked Congresswoman Tlaib for her continued advocacy on behalf of Beverly Hills

SWEARING IN OF NEW PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

Director Arnold introduced new Officer Roswell Ginther, a recent graduate of the Oakland Police Academy, and the oath of office was administered to Officer Ginther.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Megan Mabee, Dunblaine, presented a report compiled from publicly available records regarding the Riverside Park project, stating that the park has long been recognized as an environmentally significant area within the Rouge River corridor. She requested that the Village make available documentation related to the project's environmental review, including EGLE correspondence, jurisdictional determinations, restoration plans, and engineering documents, to improve public understanding of the project.

Jennifer Roma, Beverly Road, expressed concern about increasingly aggressive deer behavior after two deer repeatedly confronted and stomped at her dog in her fenced backyard, causing her to fear for her safety and that of her pet. She asked what actions the Village is considering addressing the issue and urged that a solution be pursued as soon as possible.

Karen Gilbert, Amherst, referenced information obtained through a FOIA request, including the Village's organizational policies and procedures manual, and read portions of the Village's ethics policy regarding prohibited conduct by Village officials. Gilbert highlighted provisions addressing preferential treatment, misuse of nonpublic information, public confidence, and participation in matters involving personal or family interests, and submitted the referenced material for the record.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Hrydziusko, second by Kecskemeti, be it resolved, the consent agenda is approved.

1. Approval of June 16, 2026, Closed Session Minutes
2. Review and File Bills recapped as of July 6, 2026
3. Approve Change to Non-Union Health Insurance Buy Out Policy
4. Approve CLEMIS Participation Agreement
5. Municipal and Community Credits Contract with Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART)

Roll Call:

Motion passed (7-0)

APPROVAL OF JUNE 16, 2026 COUNCIL MINUTES

Mercer identified two clerical corrections to the June 16, 2026 Regular Council Meeting minutes: (1) the minutes should reflect that President George called the meeting to order and the phrase “the oath of office” should be removed because it was repeated twice.

Motion by Mercer, second by Abboud, be it resolved, the Beverly Hills Village Council approves the June 16, 2026 Village Council meeting minutes with the noted changes.

Motion passed.

APPROVE QUOTE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY WINDOW REPLACEMENTS

Village Manager Rothe presented a request to replace the windows at the Department of Public Safety building as part of the FY 2027 Capital Improvement Program. And stated that Administration recommended awarding the contract to Escher Glass, noting the company has successfully completed municipal window replacement projects and is highly recommended. Council discussed the project and expressed support for the improvements to enhance the building's energy efficiency and employee comfort.

Motion by Abboud, second by Hrydziusko, BE IT RESOLVED, the Beverly Hills Village Council hereby approves the quote from Escher Glass for the Public Safety Window Replacement Project in the amount of \$59,361 and authorizes a 10% contingency. Funds are available in account #205-345-970.00.

Roll Call:

Motion passed (7-0)

AWARD BID FOR BEVERLY PARK FENCE REPLACEMENT

Rothe stated that the existing fencing at Beverly Park has exceeded its useful life and replacement will improve public safety, park security and the overall park appearance. Rothe stated that Administration recommended awarding the project to Pure Fence LLC, whose proposal met budget expectations and received favorable references. Council and Administration discussed pedestrian openings along Allerton Drive, commercial-grade v. residential-grade fencing, disposal of the existing fencing and the availability of replacement parts in the future.

Motion by Kecskemeti, second by Hrydziuszko, BE IT RESOLVED, the Beverly Hills Village Council hereby award the Beverly Park Fence Replacement bid to Pure Fence LLC in the amount of \$102,433 and authorizes a 10% contingency. Funds are available in account #208-751-970.00.

Roll Call:

Motion passed (7-0)

ORDINANCE #395 — SECOND READING

Rothe introduced the second reading of Ordinance No. 395, which proposes amendments to Chapter 8 of the Village Code relating to animal ownership. Kolb conducted the second reading and explained that the proposed ordinance establishes a provision allowing residents who legally possessed more animals than permitted under the October 7, 2025 ordinance to continue keeping those animals for the remainder of their natural lives. Council and Administration discussed possible administrative challenges, enforcement, what constitutes a conflict of interest, and whether residents should be required to formally register for the exemption within a specified deadline.

The following residents spoke on the matter:

Greg Kessler, Beverly Road, expressed opposition to the proposed ordinance amendment, arguing it would allow unequal enforcement of the Village's chicken ordinance. He raised concerns regarding compliance, enforcement, and potential conflicts of interest, questioned the management of Hrydziuszko's property, and stated his intention to pursue legal action if the amendment were approved.

Todd Schafer, Sunset, stated that the proposed grandfather provision would allow existing violations to continue and create unequal treatment among residents. He noted that annual permitting already provides opportunities for compliance and suggested requiring residents to claim grandfathered status within a set timeframe.

Karen Gilbert, Amherst, questioned how the Village would verify grandfathered animals over time and how the permitting process would be administered. She also questioned whether the relatively small number of chicken permit applications received demonstrated limited community interest. Gilbert read O'Gorman's previous comments about cats and encouraged Council to apply objective and consistent standards when regulating both cats and chickens, noting that excessive numbers of either could create concerns.

Dale Young, Riverside, expressed concern that the ordinance would be difficult to enforce because of challenges in verifying ownership and age of grandfathered animals. He suggested adding documentation requirements to improve traceability and establishing a defined expiration period for the provision.

Motion by O’Gorman, second by Kecskemeti , BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Village of Beverly Hills adopt the amendment to Chapter 8 Article I to add section 8-15 and to add Chapter 8 article 3 section 8-62 as discussed with the one amendment in Article I section 8-15D modifying October 7th, 2026, to October 7th, 2025.

Roll Call:

Abboud	no
Drummond	yes
George	yes
Hrydziusko	yes
Kecskemeti	yes
Mercer	no
O’Gorman	yes

Motion passed (5-2)

ORDINANCE #396 — INTRODUCTION

Rothe introduced Ordinance No. 396, which establishes regulations for electric and battery-powered vehicles, including Class 1, 2, and 3 electric bicycles, electric scooters, and mopeds. Rothe stated that the proposed ordinance incorporates Michigan's e-bike classifications, establishes operational standards, parental responsibility for minors, age and helmet requirements, speed limits, parking regulations, enforcement provisions, and prohibits Class 1, 2, and 3 e-bikes from being operated within Village parks except in designated parking areas. Kolb explained that the ordinance was developed using Michigan law and similar ordinances adopted by other communities to address increasing safety concerns related to e-bike use. Administration and Council discussed numerous potential revisions, including clarifying how electric dirt bikes are regulated, reducing sidewalk speed limits for e-bikes, expanding helmet and age requirements for Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes, requiring riders to obey posted traffic controls, clarifying enforcement procedures and penalty references, and correcting drafting inconsistencies and typographical errors. Council and Administration also discussed the need for public education before enforcement, provisions addressing golf carts and benchmarking neighboring communities' ordinances to promote regional consistency. Council asked that Administration prepare a revised draft incorporating Council's comments, benchmark surrounding communities' regulations, and develop a comparison matrix summarizing the proposed rules for various vehicle types. The revised ordinance will be circulated to Council members for additional review before returning for a formal first reading and the required public hearing at future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Gilbert, Amherst, questioned the practical enforcement of the proposed e-bike ordinance, asking how Public Safety would determine vehicle speed, verify the ages of young riders, and enforce the various classifications of electric vehicles. She also suggested the ordinance should consider children's ride-on electric toys.

Dale Young, Riverside, expressed concern that existing bicycle traffic laws are not consistently enforced and questioned whether the Village would effectively enforce the new regulations. He suggested the ordinance should also address scooters and prohibit riders from traveling across private property and landscaping. Mr. Young also reiterated his opposition to the Riverside Park project, citing concerns about flooding, erosion, and environmental permitting. He requested an explanation of the project's approval process.

John Jennings, Orchard Way, expressed support for the Village's efforts to regulate e-bikes, citing safety concerns about children riding at high speeds along Lahser Road. He encouraged a combination of education and enforcement, noting that meaningful consequences can serve as an effective deterrent.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Rothe went over the Manager's report as provided in the regular Village Council meeting packet and gave an update on the Riverside Park Improvements project. Arnold gave the Public Safety Report and noted that proactive traffic enforcement continues to contribute to lower traffic accidents, injury crashes, and medical calls.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Kecskemeti thanked Administration for the update on the Riverside Park project and emphasized the importance of reviewing internal processes to prevent similar issues in the future while ensuring environmental compliance and meeting community expectations. She also expressed appreciation for the discussion on e-bike regulations, noting public safety concerns, particularly for children, and encouraged documenting improved procedures for future Village projects.

Hrydziuszko reminded everyone about next week's Parks & Recreation Board meeting on July 16th at the Beverly Park pavilion. She appreciated the Riverside Park update from Administration and acknowledged that challenges encountered with the Riverside Park project are part of managing large projects and noted similar issues had occurred during the Village's buckthorn remediation efforts. She encouraged reviewing what occurred, documenting improved procedures for future projects, and expressed confidence that the completed park improvements would ultimately benefit the community despite the additional time and effort required.

Abboud reported on attending the SEMCOG General Assembly and shared information on a regional flooding survey that may be distributed to residents, and provided updates on the Michigan Municipal League, Cable Board, NEXT's planned move to 400 Lincoln, and the Senior Advisory Council. Abboud also highlighted an upcoming Oakland County community health event on July 30th. Abboud thanked Village staff for their assistance with his high school reunion at the pavilion and congratulated his wife on their 38th wedding anniversary.

George expressed appreciation for the discussion regarding Riverside Park, emphasizing that the focus should be on identifying what went wrong, learning from the experience, and improving future processes rather than assigning blame. George stated that Council, Administration, and contractors all have lessons to learn and stressed the importance of complying with EGLE requirements and obtaining the appropriate expertise for similar projects moving forward. George expressed appreciation for the Village Attorney's clear legal guidance during discussions of the animal ordinance and stated that providing administration with clear enforcement tools helps

reduce ambiguity, legal disputes, costs, and delays. Lastly George inquired about who's responsible for repairing the damaged fence along Evergreen Road near Wellsley and requested that Administration plan a fall Volunteer Appreciation Night for current and former board and commission members.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Abboud, second by Hrydziuszko, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Motion passed.

John George
Council President

Carissa Brown
Village Clerk