

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2021
Meeting #867**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on December 13, 2021, in the community room at Westwood City Hall.

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Paula Schwach at 7:09 p.m.

Present: Mayor Schwach, Michael Anfang, Ed Gogol, Rosemary Podrebarac, Karen Shelor Sexton, Ludwig Villasi, and David Schmitz. City Attorney Jim Orr and City Treasurer Jim Martin were present.

Becky Fast, Johnson County District 1 Commissioner, and Police Chief Curt Mansell were also in attendance.

Motion by Gogol to approve the agenda, with the removal of the Mayor's Report under the Consent Agenda, the addition of an item d. iii. 6 under New Business (President of Council), and the addition of an item c. under Informational Items (LKM Resources). Second by Shelor Sexton. All aye. Agenda approved with noted amendments.

Motion by Gogol to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Second by Shelor Sexton. All aye. Motion approved.

No Old Business.

New Business:

Swearing In of Mayor and Council

Commissioner Becky Fast administered the oath of office to Mayor Schwach, new councilperson David Schmitz, and returning Councilpersons Anfang, Gogol, Podrebarac, and Shelor Sexton.

Proclamation in Appreciation of Ludwig Villasi

Mayor Schwach read a proclamation from the City in appreciation for the work of retiring councilperson Ludwig Villasi and presented the same to Mr. Villasi.

LKM Statement of Municipal Policy & MARC Legislative Agenda

Mayor Schwach reviewed the LKM and MARC policy agendas for the upcoming legislative session, highlighting several items of particular interest to the City of Westwood Hills, especially issues of sales tax revenue sharing between counties and

cities, requested change in real property tax treatment for health clubs, and a possible exemption from State sales tax for food items.

Appointments

Mayor Schwach recommended the following Standing Committee assignments:

Buildings and Ordinances - Podrebarac, with backup from Shelor Sexton
Public Safety - Shelor Sexton, with backup from Gogol
Landscape – Gogol, with backup from Schmitz
Budget and Finance – Anfang, with backup from Podrebarac
Public Works – Schmitz, with backup from Anfang

Motion by Sexton Shelor to approve the above standing committee assignments. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.

Mayor Schwach requested confirmation of the current membership of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA):

Liz Judy, Chair, term expires September 2022
Mike Coffman, term expires September 2023
Daniel Swint, term expires September 2023

Motion by Gogol to approve the BZA membership. Second by Shelor Sexton. All aye. Motion approved.

Next, Mayor Schwach requested confirmation of the current membership of the Planning Commission:

Lyle Miller, Chair, term expires July 2022
Mike Whitsitt, Secretary, term expires July 2023
Chris Fein, term expires July 2022
Bryce Crady, term expires July 2023
Solana (Sollie) Flora, term expires July 2023
Norman Friedman, term expires July 2023
Erik LaPrade, term expires July 2023

Motion by Podrebarac to approve the Planning Commission membership. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.

Mayor Schwach then recommended the appointment of the following City Officials:

City Clerk – Beth O’Bryan
Police Chief – Curtis Mansell
Municipal Judge – Tim Turner
City Treasurer – John Martin
City Attorney – Jim Orr

Motion by Gogol to appoint the above City Officials. Second by Shelor Sexton. All aye. Motion approved.

Mayor Schwach next discussed appointment of President of the Council and recommended that, as the longest serving councilperson, Rosemary Podrebarac be appointed to that role.

Motion by Gogol to appoint Podrebarac as President of the Council. Second by Anfang. All aye. Motion approved.

After these appointments, Mayor Schwach discussed formation of some ad hoc committees. For the care of the dog station on The Green, Mayor Schwach recommended appointing Ludwig Villasi to monitor and tend the dog waste bag station. **Motion by Gogol, second by Schmitz, to appoint Ludwig Villasi as the person to monitor and care for the dog station on The Green. All aye. Motion approved.**

Mayor Schwach also recommended creating a committee for Internal Budget Controls, consisting of City Clerk Beth O'Bryan, City Treasurer John Martin, Michael Anfang, and David Schmitz. **Motion by Podrebarac to appoint O'Bryan, Martin, Anfang, and Schmitz to the newly created committee for Internal Budget Controls. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.**

Finally, Mayor Schwach recommended creating a committee for Cyber Security, consisting of City Clerk Beth O'Bryan, Ed Gogol, and Karen Shelor Sexton. **Motion by Podrebarac to appoint O'Bryan, Gogol, and Shelor Sexton to the newly created committee for Cyber Security. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.**

Stormwater Inlet Markers

Podrebarac reported that "no dumping" markers have not yet been installed on several of the City's stormwater drop inlets and that additional markers are required for the project. **Motion by Podrebarac to approve purchase of additional markers for the stormwater drop inlets and encumber \$100 for the purchase of these marker. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.**

Stormwater Inlet Cleaning Contract

Council previously encumbered \$5000 from the KDHE Loan Operations and Maintenance fund to be spent on stormwater inlet cleaning. **Motion by Shelor Sexton to authorize a contract to be entered into with A-1 Sewer & Septic to perform the stormwater inlet cleaning work. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.**

WWPD NYE Meal Encumbrance

Shelor Sexton requested an encumbrance to provide a meal to the Westwood Police Department on New Year's Eve to thank them for their work this past year. **Motion by Shelor Sexton to encumber \$160 for the NYE meal for the Westwood PD. Second by Gogol. All aye. Motion approved.**

Executive Session for a Personnel Discussion

Motion by Podrebarac, second by Anfang, for the Council to enter Executive Session at 8:43 pm for 15 minutes to discuss a personnel matter. All aye. Motion approved.

At 8:55 pm, motion by Podrebarac, second by Anfang, for the Council to exit Executive Session and resume the regular Council meeting session. All aye. Motion approved.

Upon return to regular session, the Council addressed the issue of compensation for the City Clerk. **Motion by Podrebarac to increase City Clerk Beth O'Bryan's base pay by 2% effective January 1, 2022, and to pay her a bonus of \$500 either in this month or next. Second by Anfang. All aye. Motion approved.**

Informational items – no action to be taken

There were no items from Citizens in attendance.

Mayor Schwach reminded Council that the City's website has been updated and should be live later this week.

Mayor Schwach also recommended that Council review the many resources available from LKM.

Motion to adjourn by Gogol. Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.