

RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE  
OF  
**PLANNING COMMISSION**  
OF  
GROSSE POINTE WOODS

1. The Planning Commission shall be constituted and shall have powers and perform such duties as are provided for in Section 1, Chapter 4, of the City Code of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods.
2. The officers of the Planning Commission shall be a Chair, and Vice Chair/Secretary. The Chair shall preside at all Planning Commission meetings, and in the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair/Secretary shall act in such place and stead.
3. The terms of office of the Chair and Vice Chair/Secretary shall be for a period of one (1) year, or until their respective successors shall be elected and have qualified. At the first scheduled meeting of each year, the Commission shall elect from among its members, a Chair and Vice Chair/Secretary who shall be seated at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
4. The City Clerk or the Clerk's agent shall record all proceedings of the Planning Commission.
5. The Planning Commission shall hold regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday in each month, except November, which will be held on the third Tuesday, and December, which shall be held on the second Tuesday, at such time and at such place as the Planning Commission shall determine. The regular Planning Commission meetings will be scheduled at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted.
6. Special meetings of the Planning Commission shall be called by the City Clerk upon the written request of the Chair, endorsed in writing by two other members, or in such absence, by the Vice Chair/Secretary, endorsed in writing by two other members; or the written request of any three members of the Planning Commission on at least twenty-four (24) hours written notice to each member of the Planning Commission served personally or left at the place of residence; or by a majority affirmative vote of those present at a Planning Commission meeting.
7. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting of the Commission unless the same shall have been stated in the notice of such meeting, provided that the provisions hereof may be waived by consent of the members of the Commission present and the written consent of the absent members.
8. All meetings, both regular and special, shall be open to the public.
9. The majority of the members of the Planning Commission in office shall constitute the quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting thereof and in the event of a lack of quorum, the members of the Commission so present shall adjourn any such meeting to a later date.

10. The business of all meetings of the Commission shall be transacted, so far as possible, in the following order:

- Roll Call
- Approval of minutes
- Matters appearing upon the Agenda
- New Business

11. The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum and shall speak to points of order in preference to other members. The presiding officer shall decide questions of order subject to appeal to the Commission, which appeal must be duly moved and seconded and sustained by majority vote of the Commission.

12. Before any member of the Commission, officers, or person in the audience may address the Commission, permission to do so must be obtained from the presiding officer, provided that any person having the floor shall not be interrupted unless ruled out of order by the presiding officer.

13. Approval of the Planning Commission shall be evidenced by a duly adopted motion or resolution of the Commission and by the execution of the "approval stamp" affixed to the front elevation of the building, the Plot Plan, the plat, the subdivision restrictions, the property use statement and other documents, as the case may be requiring approval by the Chair, or in the Chair's absence, by the Vice Chair/Secretary of the Commission, and when so approved the same shall be delivered to the City Clerk for further processing.

14. The Chair, in consultation with the Building Official, shall prepare an agenda of all matters which will be considered at each meeting, which agenda shall be distributed among the Commission members at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the time of holding the meeting. Any matter not on the agenda shall not be acted upon without the unanimous consent of the members of the Commission present at such meeting, provided, if any matter is presented upon motion duly made and seconded, objection to action thereon shall be immediately voiced by any objecting members of the Commission before discussion is entered upon and, if no such objection is voiced, no objection shall thereafter be voiced to any action taken or proposed to be taken.

15. Upon request of a majority of the members of the Commission present, any question PROPERLY before the Commission shall be put to vote; such request for a vote shall be acted upon immediately without further discussion of the subject, and shall thereupon bring the question to a direct vote upon a motion to table, a motion to refer, a motion to amend, or upon the main question, in the order named.

16. At the request of a Commission member, any question shall be divided if such question, in the opinion of the presiding officer, is subject to division and shall be submitted as divided.

17. No motion or proposition different from that under consideration shall be admitted under cover of amendment, provided that a substitute motion may be submitted to cover the same subject matter and, if carried, shall result in determining the original motion out of order.

18. No motion shall be debated or put to a vote unless the same shall have been seconded and properly read by the Clerk, or summarized by the Chair.

19. A motion to reconsider any vote upon any question shall be in order at the following meeting of the Commission; provided that a member of the prevailing side intending to move to reconsider shall file a notice in writing of the Member's intention to do so with the Vice Chair/Secretary and the City Clerk within twenty-four (24) hours after the action to be reconsidered was taken. The same number of votes shall be required to reconsider any action of the Commission as is required to adopt the same.

Upon the filing of a Notice for reconsideration, the effect of the action to be reconsidered shall be suspended until action can be taken upon such consideration. Action upon the reconsideration shall be taken at the next regular Commission meeting or at a prior Special Meeting called for that purpose.

20. When any question is under debate, no motion shall be received except the following, and in the order named:

- Motion to adjourn
- Motion to table
- Motion for the question
- Motion to refer
- Motion to amend
- Substitute motion

21. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order except when a vote is being taken or when a member of the Commission has the floor. A motion to adjourn or to table shall be decided without debate.

22. These Rules of Order may be amended or altered by a majority vote of the Commission.

23. The Commission, by a majority affirmative vote of the Commission, may suspend the operation of any one of the aforementioned Rules for a single session, except Section 18.

24. Making of remarks by Commission members should be preceded by asking permission of the presiding officer.

25. Upon the City Clerk receiving a petition directed to the Planning Commission, which petition requires a public hearing under the provisions of the City Code, the City Clerk shall determine whether such petition contains all necessary information and, if so, the City Clerk may establish a date for a public hearing before the Planning Commission and publish any notices required and shall forward such petition to the Planning Commission which shall conduct the public hearing on the date established therefore.

26. **IMPORTANT:** If a Planning Commission Member will be absent for a meeting, the Member must notify the Chair of such anticipated absence as soon as possible prior to such meeting.

27. Except as above provided, Roberts "Rules of Order" shall govern.
28. The Chair shall prepare an annual report to be submitted to the City Council in accordance with the Planning Enabling Act. The report shall be submitted to the Planning Commission for approval in January of each calendar year to ensure that the report is submitted to the City Council for their budget deliberations. The report should summarize the Commission's operations and the status of planning activities, including recommendations regarding actions by the legislative body related to planning and development.
29. **Conflict of Interest**
- A. Before casting a vote on a matter on which a member may reasonably be considered to have a conflict of interest, the member shall disclose the potential conflict of interest to the Planning Commission. The member is disqualified from voting on the matter if a conflict exists.
- B. Each member of the Commission shall avoid conflicts of interest and/or incompatibility of office. As used here, a conflict of interest shall at a minimum include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:
1. Issuing, deliberating on, voting on, or reviewing a case concerning him or her.
  2. Issuing, deliberating on, voting on, or reviewing a case concerning work on land owned by him or her or which is adjacent to land owned by him or her.
  3. Issuing, deliberating on, voting on, or reviewing a case involving a corporation, company partnership, or any other entity in which he or she is a part owner, or any other relationship where he or she may stand to have a financial gain or loss.
  4. Issuing, deliberating on, voting on, or reviewing a case which is an action which results in a pecuniary benefit to him or her.
  5. Issuing, deliberating on, voting on, or reviewing a case concerning his or her spouse, children, step-children, grandchildren, parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, parents in-law, grandparents in-law, or members of his or her household.
  6. Issuing, deliberating on, voting on, or reviewing a case where his or her employee or employer is:
    - a) An applicant or agent of an applicant, or
    - b) Has a direct interest in the outcome.
- C. If there is a question whether a conflict of interest exists or not, the question shall be put before the Commission. Whether a conflict of interest exists or not shall be determined by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Commission.
- D. When a conflict of interest exists, the member of the Commission, or committee, shall do all of the following as soon as possible.
1. Declare a conflict exists at the first available meeting of the Commission or committee;

2. Cease to participate at the Commission or committee meetings, or in any other manner, or represent one's self before the Commission, its staff, or others, provided however that the member may remain in the Council chambers during deliberation.
- E. If a member of the Commission is appointed to another office, which is an incompatible office with his or her membership on the Commission, then on the effective date of the appointment to the other office, that shall result in an automatic resignation from the Commission. If a member of another office is appointed to the Commission, which is an incompatible office with his or her membership in the other office, then on the effective date of the appointment to the Commission, that shall result in an automatic resignation from the other office.

30. **Capital Improvement Review**

The Planning Commission will review information regarding appropriate capital improvement projects as provided to it by the Administration in order to comply with state law regarding the capital improvement review process.

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