

**Statement of Reason:**

Voted at the regular City Council meeting on June 16, 2009 to increase the tax rate on real estate within the city for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

**Justification of Conduct in Office:**

“Grosse Pointe Shores is a premier community offering exceptional services and amenities for its residents. On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, I, James M. Cooper, on June 16, 2009, voted to raise the property tax rate by 1 mill to strengthen our General Fund assets and build up reserves in our Local Street Fund for future resurfacing projects. This tax rate increase is the first in my 10 years as an elected official and was in response to decreased revenues caused by declining property values.

There has been no intention to deceive the public. All Council and Finance Committee meetings, as well as a Public Hearing to discuss our City budget were done in open, public forums. This policy making decision, in performance of my official duties, was made in the best interest of Grosse Pointe Shores and its residents. It is not in violation of any law or policy.”