

~~Aye 6 - Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Kubicina, McCardell and Tisdell~~

~~Nay 1 - Morita~~

~~Enactment No: RES0329-2017~~

~~**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a Contract/Blanket Purchase Order for preliminary design engineering services to OHM Advisors, Livonia, Michigan for the Auburn Road Corridor Improvement Project between Culbertson and Dequindre in the not-to-exceed amount of \$443,124.86 and further authorizes the Mayor to execute a contract on behalf of the City.~~

**2017-0560** Discussion regarding the Michigan Department of Transportation's proposal to transfer jurisdiction of Auburn Road to the City of Rochester Hills

**Attachments:** [120417 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Davis letter to MDOT 102517.pdf](#)  
[Jurisdictional Map.pdf](#)  
[MDOT Letter to Paul Davis 111717.pdf](#)  
[Draft Memorandum of Understanding.pdf](#)

*Paul Davis, Deputy Director of DPS/City Engineer, stated that the Administration sent a letter to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in October expressing that the City's preferred option was to take jurisdiction of a half-mile length of Auburn Road. He noted that MDOT returned a proposal and a draft Memorandum of Understanding that the City take jurisdiction of a two-mile stretch of Auburn Road. In consideration of that exchange of jurisdiction, \$300,000 was proposed to be made by MDOT toward the corridor improvement project, with the provision that if the project is not completed within five years, that funding would be returned to MDOT.*

*He stated that upon review, it was determined that \$300,000 should cover an overlay of that section. It is the Administration's opinion that \$300,000 is not adequate. He noted that the City expended approximately \$140 per foot for a subdivision with driveways, which is approximately \$1.5 million, and \$300,000 would most likely be the amount necessary for one mile instead of two. He stated that Council's direction is requested as to whether to present a counter or accept MDOT's current offer. He commented that there are pros and cons associated with the offer. He stated that accepting jurisdiction would add a greater level of maintenance to the existing network; however, it would provide more control of the road. He noted that the City could move forward with either MDOT maintaining jurisdiction, or the City taking it over.*

*Vice President Morita stated that it is her opinion that the City should control the roadway if it wants to do the project right. She commented that the City should ask MDOT for more money. She noted that as the discussion is technically concerning acquiring property, it is her opinion that the discussion should be held in Closed Session.*

*City Attorney John Staran concurred.*

*Mr. Hetrick stated that he would concur as well that the discussion regarding MDOT's monetary contribution should be held in Closed Session. He*

questioned the benefit of receiving Act 51 dollars for the roadway versus the cost of maintaining that portion.

**Joe Snyder**, Chief Financial Officer, stated that the City would likely receive \$80,000 to \$100,000 each year per mile for roadways covered under Act 51 funds, while maintenance would be in the range of \$41,000. He commented that this amount would be favorable until year 20 when the roadway would need replacement, as it would then be the City's responsibility.

**Mr. Hetrick** stated that hopefully in 20 years the City would be in good shape to handle the project.

**Dr. Bowyer** commented that the City needs to have ownership of the roadway to move forward. She stated that she would agree that the City should approach MDOT for negotiation.

Discussed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT for Items not on the Agenda**

**Scot Beaton**, 655 Bolinger, stated that Rochester Hills has the best snow removal crew in the world and reminded motorists to give the snowplows plenty of room.

**Lee Zendel**, 1575 Dutton Road, stated that elections are important in America and local elections are important as well. He commented that the Rochester Hills Clerk's Office does an exemplary job of running elections. He noted that the candidates have a responsibility to properly fill out and file campaign information in a timely manner, and stated that any winning candidate who has not filed the proper forms should abstain or recuse themselves from voting until they have done so. He mentioned that post-election reports are due this coming Thursday.

**Sakis Pechlivanidis**, 1250 N. Livernois, requested that a speed limit of 40 miles per hour on Livernois not be posted as it could encourage drivers to drive at a higher speed than they are currently driving. He noted that he collected signatures from 35 or 40 homes to this effect and would request the City's support.

**Melinda Hill**, 1481 Mill Race, stated that a recent fire in the Miller family's home destroyed one of the City's historical properties. She noted that the family is in great distress and requested individuals visit the GoFundMe page set up to help with their needs. She requested the City intervene with Rochester College to ensure that the iconic landmark historic barn on the property does not deteriorate. She noted that the gravel portion of Washington Road is now posted at 45 miles per hour and traffic is horrendous.