



# Rochester Hills

## Minutes - Draft

### City Council Regular Meeting

1000 Rochester Hills Dr  
73a.pdf" Olson  
(248) 656-4600  
Home Page:  
www.rochesterhills.org

*Greg Hooper, Nathan Klomp, Adam Kochenderfer, James Rosen, Mark Tisdel,  
Michael Webber and Ravi Yalamanchi*

*Vision Statement: The Community of Choice for Families and Business*

*Mission Statement: "Our mission is to sustain the City of Rochester Hills as the premier  
community of choice to live, work and raise a family by enhancing our vibrant residential  
character complemented by an attractive business community."*

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Monday, March 18, 2013

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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## CALL TO ORDER

*President Hooper called the Regular Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order  
at 7:00 p.m. Michigan Time.*

## ROLL CALL

**Present** 7 - Greg Hooper, Nathan Klomp, Adam Kochenderfer, James Rosen, Mark  
Tisdel, Michael Webber and Ravi Yalamanchi

## Others Present:

*Bryan Barnett, Mayor  
Tracey Balint, Public Utilities Engineer  
Tina Barton, City Clerk  
Ron Crowell, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director  
Mike Hartner, Director of Parks and Forestry  
Keith Sawdon, Director of Finance  
Allan Schneck, Director of DPS/Engineering  
John Staran, City Attorney*

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*Mr. Tisdel introduced **Joan (Jo-Ann) Puffer Kotcher** and stated that she was born  
in Harbor Beach, Michigan. As the middle daughter of a school superintendent and  
a high school teacher, she lived in a number of towns and cities in Michigan. He  
noted that she graduated with top honors from Flint Central High School. She  
attended The University of Michigan and was one of the few women awarded a  
B.A. in Theoric Mathematics. She also holds an MBA. He commented that with  
patriotic enthusiasm, Kotcher joined the American Red Cross overseas recreation  
program for the military. Her first assignment was a 14 month tour as a recreation  
aide in Korea. She developed programs for US soldiers on bases and in the field,  
to provide relief from their demanding military assignments. After her Korean tour,  
she volunteered for a similar position in Vietnam, and was one of the first women in  
US history to serve in combat areas. He noted that her book, **Donut Dolly: An  
American Red Cross Girl's War in Vietnam** chronicles the danger she unselfishly*

*faced to bring solace to our young soldiers. She exhibited outstanding bravery and courage under perilous conditions, and received the Medal for Civilian Service in Vietnam from the US Government for her meritorious contributions.*

*Photographs were displayed highlighting her years of service.*

*Ms. Kotcher led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Kochenderfer, that the Agenda be Approved as Amended to move Legislative File 2013-0103 Proclamation in Recognition of Joann Puffer Kotcher to immediately follow the Approval of Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

## RECOGNITIONS

**2013-0103** Proclamation in Recognition of Joann Puffer Kotcher

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Proclamation.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**Mayor Barnett** invited **Joann Puffer Kotcher** to join him and be recognized for her contributions. He stated that he has had the opportunity to meet Ms. Kotcher and her husband during their involvement in many community projects over the last several years, and has followed the success of her book. He commented that the photographs she displayed tell a wonderful story. He read the proclamation.

*Council recognized Ms. Kotcher.*

### **Presented.**

**Whereas**, Joann Puffer Kotcher was a member of a very brave and unique group of women called Donut Dollies. Donut Dollies served during wartime as part of the American Red Cross bringing a little bit of home to soldiers on the front. Joann served as a Donut Dolly in Vietnam in 1966-67 and also served a one-year tour in Korea. Joann was one of the first civilians to go to Vietnam in service to the military. Her job, a recreation worker serving frontline combat and combat support troops, was very dangerous. During her service there, Joann missed being shot more than six times. Veterans she served with remember her fondly and think of her as one of them; and

**Whereas**, Joann has chronicled her courage in her book titled, *Donut Dolly: An American Red Cross Girl's War in Vietnam*. While historians have called her book important, highly readable, and well-researched, *Donut Dolly* is ultimately a tribute to the heroism of our unsung soldiers; and

**Whereas**, during her time of service as a Donut Dolly, Joann Puffer Kotcher put herself in danger to help bring comfort to American soldiers; and

**Whereas**, at a time it was needed most, Donut Dollies served their country and fellow man by writing letters, singing songs, serving donuts, and bringing light and laughter to young men in very grave situations and very far from home.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Mayor and City Council of Rochester Hills, hereby recognize and commend Joann Puffer Kotcher for her service to our country during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and applaud her and all the Donut Dollies for their service to our country.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Robert Sirna**, 5823 Wellwood, Oakland Township, spoke in opposition to the Blossom Ridge senior housing development proposed for the northwest corner of Adams and Dutton Roads in Oakland Township. He stated that the proposed development has only recently been taken to the Oakland County Coordinating Zoning Committee (CZC) for consideration. He noted that 238 units, along with a 400-foot long three-story building are proposed for the 42-acre property, and he commented that the City needs to consider the impact that this massive development will have on its traffic, EMS services and nearby home values.

**Bob Bao**, 1977 Brookfield Court, stated that he and his family live in Rochester Hills in the vicinity of the proposed Blossom Ridge Development and travel through the intersection of Adams and Dutton Roads fairly often. He mentioned that the area will be heavily impacted by the density of the development and stated a third party should review the potential impact on traffic and EMS services.

**Beverly Ross**, 5765 Lochmoor Court, Oakland Township, expressed concern regarding the Blossom Ridge development on traffic in the area, noting that an elementary school is nearby, and neither Dutton nor Adams Roads can handle the increased traffic it will generate.

**Michael Maland**, 3569 Wedgewood Drive, expressed his objections to the proposed Blossom Ridge Development, stating that the development does not fit the character of the surrounding environment, and the current roads are stretched to capacity and will not support the density. He stated that the City has the opportunity to communicate its concerns to the CZC and should note that the EMS response traffic and demand on City resources may infringe upon the needs of the citizens.

**Marty McQuade**, 5605 Murfield Drive, Oakland Township, commented that the current Oakland Township administration is very interested in receiving input regarding the Blossom Ridge development from the City and its residents. She noted that the CZC wishes to hear the concerns of Rochester Hills and requested the City and its citizens send their input to the CZC prior to its meeting on March 26, 2013.

**Thomas Ryan**, 3626 Hollenshade Drive, stated that he represents the residents of Thornridge Subdivision and requested Council's assistance to stop the proposed Blossom Ridge development. He pointed out that the original zoning for the property was for 61 homes. He requested the City send a

*delegation to the CZC committee to voice its concerns and opposition to the development, noting that it will be a round-the-clock business operation nestled amongst single family homes, residents will view a three-story 450 foot building, surrounding home values will drop, traffic will increase, and emergency services will be impacted.*

**Jerry Romito**, 1995 Wales Drive, noted that he forwarded an email to Council including two letters in opposition to the Blossom Ridge development. He suggested Council get the word out to its residents prior to the CZC meeting on March 26th to oppose the development.

**Madelyn Arsenault**, 2678 Hickory Lawn, spoke in opposition to the location of the Community Garden, requesting Council save Wabash Park.

**Janice Glancy**, 2703 Hickory Lawn, stated that Wabash Park should be preserved as a park, and not as a location for a Community Garden. She commented that the park is not large enough to support a garden and should remain a place for children to play.

**Dakota Rubbelke**, 2485 Norton Lawn, commented that she goes to Wabash Park to play after school and requested Council preserve the park.

**Jennifer McClelland**, 231 Wabash, stated that she lives less than 1,000 feet from Wabash Park. She commented that while she does not oppose the concept of a Community Garden, it should not be located at that park. She suggested that a garden be developed in conjunction with the development of the new River Bend Park. She stated that children use the park as a practice field, there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood, no bathroom facilities at the park, and she does not wish to look at a seven-foot fence.

**Lorraine Lecuru**, 2510 Hickory Lawn, commented that she lives two doors away from Wabash Park and does not wish to have a Community Garden there. She pointed out that most residents near the park already have gardens on their property and stated that the land belongs to the children.

**Brooke Coulter**, 2888 Hickory Lawn, stated that she loves to play in the flat, dry area of Wabash Park and commented that she and her friends will be sad to lose the park to a Community Garden.

**Bob Ryzor**, 2530 Hickory Lawn, commented that Wabash Park is a poor choice for the location of a Community Garden, as it has no main road access. He mentioned that the parking lot is dirt, and there is no handicap parking, and stated that cars do not park properly, leaving room for only approximately 15 cars, not the 21 cars suggested. He distributed a drawing highlighting the location of the proposed garden within the park property, and requested that the garden be developed in the new park proposed for Hamlin Road.

**Duane Paige**, 2576 Norton Lawn, stated that he chose his newly constructed home because it was across from Wabash Park, and does not wish to see a community garden located there. He suggested that alternative gardening methods be looked at, noting that it would be better for the community.

**Brian Hoppe**, 2688 Hickory Lawn, commented that the residents of the neighborhood support a Community Garden somewhere other than Wabash Park. He provided an envelope containing 66 petitions signed by residents along with 48 online petitions in opposition to the garden. He suggested other parks such as Nowicki, Bloomer or Spencer be considered, and stated that the garden will take away a permanent dry play field.

**Jennifer Arsenault**, 2678 Hickory Lawn, requested Council reconsider the location of the Community Garden at Wabash Park. She stated that the park is not underused and is a wonderful meeting spot for both her neighborhood and Cumberland Subdivision as well. She questioned whether trees located within the proposed garden area would be impacted.

**Scot Beaton**, 655 Bolinger, expressed his opposition to a Community Garden at Wabash Park. He stated that it is a tiny neighborhood park without bathroom facilities, a paved lot or sidewalks. He requested Council reconsider its decision.

**Tim Maurer**, 854 Ravine Terrace Drive, commented that he was opposed to the location of the Community Garden as it will take the entire dry area of Wabash Park. He stated that Phase One will eliminate five trees and pointed out that 66 of 68 neighbors of the park signed a petition against the garden. He mentioned that Council Members Klomp, Rosen and Yalamanchi communicated their concerns about the location.

**John Coulter**, 2888 Hickory Lawn, expressed his opposition to the location of the Community Garden, noting that it will take away the main play area at Wabash Park and cause traffic problems. He commented that drivers travel 40 to 50 miles per hour cutting through that road and the speed limits are not enforced.

**Robin Buxar**, 1540 West Gunn Road, Oakland Township, expressed opposition to the proposed Blossom Ridge development, noting that 356 residents of Rochester Hills' Hawthorn Hills Subdivision will view a three-story building. She noted that it is intended that Rochester Hills' EMS services will serve the complex, and pointed out that Oakland Township does not have a ladder truck.

**Dawn Gialanella**, 2458 Hickory Lawn, stated that residents have expressed that they wish to preserve open space in City Parks and commented that a Community Garden at Wabash Park will go against this idea.

## LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

2013-0105 Resolution regarding the proposed Blossom Ridge Development Rezoning Request

**Attachments:** [Hawthorn Hills HOA Ltr 031813.pdf](#)  
[Maland Ltr 031813.pdf](#)  
[Oakland County Ltr 031413.pdf](#)  
[Oakland Twp Ltr 030813.pdf](#)

**President Hooper** requested City Attorney Staran explain the City's duty as it pertains to the proposed Blossom Ridge Development and the Oakland County Coordinating Zoning Committee (CZC).

**John Staran**, City Attorney, stated that as a requirement of the current Michigan Zoning and Enabling Act, a carryover from prior Township Zoning and Enabling Act, that unlike cities, townships have an extra step to go through when making a zoning change. He explained that townships are required to submit the proposed rezoning to the County Planning Commission for their review and public comment after the township Planning Commission has done its review, held its public hearing, and formed its recommendation, before the proposal goes to the Township Board for final approval. He stated that where there is no County Planning Commission, such as in Oakland County, there is a Coordinating Zoning Committee. He commented that the Blossom Ridge project has been in the local media and has gained much attention for at least two years. He noted that Oakland Township has taken a step back, as the step of going to the CZC was missed initially. Rochester Hills has received notice from the County that the CZC will be meeting next Tuesday, March 26th, to review the project and provide its recommendation, in particular with an eye to make sure that the zoning change does coordinate and mesh with the zoning of the surrounding communities. He noted that this particular case has more importance because the subject property is right on the border of the communities of Oakland Township and Rochester Hills. He explained that under the law, the CZC will review and make its recommendation to the Township Board, which will then make a decision on the zoning request.

He mentioned that the City has been notified, along with the traditional notification made to those 300 feet from the property boundaries advising them of the upcoming meeting, at which the CZC will receive input from concerned residents as well as the community itself. He pointed out that the community is not required to provide input, but has the opportunity to do so. He stated that this is the residents' opportunity to express their concerns, comments and questions.

**President Hooper** questioned whether all residents within 300 feet were notified in writing by Oakland Township.

**Mr. Staran** responded that he would presume, although he cannot attest personally, that residents would have received a notice similar to what the City Clerk received.

**President Hooper** stated that the City has received notification from Oakland Township that they have sent a hand-delivered notice of the CZC meeting to all residences in Rochester Hills within 300 feet. He commented that he does not know the details of zoning in Oakland Township and is not familiar with the Master Plan for Oakland Township. He noted that the first time he heard of the development was when resident Thomas Ryan addressed Council in 2012. He

*stated that since then, he requested the City Attorney assemble a draft resolution. He added that a letter was received from the Hawthorn Hills Homeowners' Association and questioned whether Thornridge Subdivision would also submit a letter. He stated that all letters received will be assembled by City Clerk Tina Barton and will be sent on to the CZC along with a letter addressing Rochester Hills' concerns. He read the draft resolution.*

**Mr. Rosen** questioned what obligation the City has, stating that the City's Master Land Use Plan should be reviewed as to how it comports with the proposed use of the Oakland Township property. He commented that the proposed development is substantially larger than any development anywhere near it in Rochester Hills, noting that in at least a mile to a mile-and-a half south there are only single family residences. He pointed out that the closest similar developments are Danish Village and Waltonwood, both on major thoroughfares near shopping centers.

**President Hooper** noted that as he has not seen Oakland Township's Master Land Use Plan, it may have some master planning for senior housing there that the City is not aware of. He commented that while the City can speak to properties within its boundaries, it cannot speak to Oakland Township.

**Mr. Rosen** suggested that a statement be added to the proposed resolution noting a distance where only single family residential development exists.

**President Hooper** questioned whether including a statement such as that would be appropriate.

**Mr. Staran** responded that to the extent that a statement is factually correct, there is no problem. However, he stated that he would urge caution before taking a specific stand as to what is compatible. He pointed out that the City is going off of what it has heard from residents and in the media, and has not had access to the hours of deliberation or reports available. He stated that he would caution Council about reaching a conclusion like that on such a superficial level and suggested only pointing out factual things, letting the CZC infer what it will.

**President Hooper** suggested adding a paragraph to the proposed resolution stating that the adjacent property is zoned residential.

*Discussion ensued on various ways to word a statement noting that the property in question is adjacent to single family neighborhoods.*

**Mr. Kochenderfer** commented that he is hesitant to put a specific mile range number in the resolution language.

**Mr. Rosen** stated that he would like to see City Council's discussion of the resolution and reference to the surrounding area mentioned in the meeting minutes.

**President Hooper** suggested that this reference be included in the letter drafted by the Clerk to accompany the submission to the CZC.

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Kochenderfer, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0065-2013

**Whereas**, the City of Rochester Hills has received notice from Oakland County that the Oakland County Coordinating Zoning Committee (CZC) will hold a meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2013, at 9:00 a.m., in the Board of Commissioners' Auditorium at 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac, Michigan to consider the proposed Blossom Ridge Rezoning Request for the 41.8 acre site located at the northwest corner of Adams and Dutton, just north of the City of Rochester Hills, from MRD medium residential density district to RM multiple family residential district with a PRRO planned residential rezoning overlay; and

**Whereas**, the meeting notice states the purpose of the meeting is to provide a review of the proposed rezoning change, including any impact that may result at community boundaries; and

**Whereas**, the adjacent property in Rochester Hills is zoned single family; and

**Whereas**, the Rochester Hills City Council has heard from various City residents who have expressed concerns and questions about the proposed rezoning and the project in general; and

**Whereas**, the City Council wants to make sure those concerns are heard and considered by the CZC.

**Therefore, It Is Resolved**, by the Rochester Hills City Council that residents are asked to submit their written comments, questions, or concerns to Clerk Barton on or before noon, this Friday, March 22, 2013.

**It Is Further Resolved**, that Clerk Barton is requested to present any and all such written comments, questions, and concerns received from residents to the CZC prior to the CZC's March 26, 2013 meeting.

**It Is Further Resolved**, that a certified copy of this resolution also be transmitted to the CZC expressing the City Council's desire that the CZC fully consider and take into account the input received from Rochester Hills residents during its review and deliberation of the proposed zoning change.

**President Hooper** thanked everyone in attendance for their comments. He stated that not everyone will agree with every decision made by Council. He commented that after consideration of the research presented by the Administration, it appears that Wabash Park is the best location for the proposed Community Garden. He noted that there will be no permanent structure constructed and he would have no problem moving the garden if it does not work in that location. He pointed out that neither the play structure nor any trees will be removed. He mentioned that the fencing proposed will be seven-and-one-half foot black vinyl-coated chicken wire with a gate. He noted that the garden will not consume the entire park. He explained that a community survey regarding the preservation of open space pertained to the Green Space Millage previously passed by the voters, and he pointed out that properties purchased by Millage funds are acquired specifically for open space preservation. He commented that Dinosaur Hill's representative indicated that traffic concerns should be imperceptible, as at no time do they

*expect more than two to three vehicles to be accessing the garden at any one instance. He noted that while he understands that there are concerns, residents live in a subdivision with a public park that has, and will continue to have, community use. He stated that the proposed Community Garden will add another use to the park.*

**Mr. Webber** stated that he appreciated public comment regarding the proposed Blossom Ridge development in Oakland Township and Council's action will give the County a clear view of Rochester Hills' stance. He commented that he has seen the Community Garden project as a win-win for the community and expressed his hope that it would have been embraced by the entire community. He pointed out that in time, he believes it will be embraced as it was in Rochester. He stated that he stands by his vote to approve the Community Garden. He suggested that the City's Parks Department review the remainder of Wabash Park to determine whether anything could be done to solve any drainage issues and make the entire park usable.

**Mr. Klomp** stated that he spent time reconsidering all the information presented regarding the proposed Community Garden at Wabash Park and commented that he did not see or hear anything new that would warrant a rescission of his vote. He expressed his hope that the residents will be surprised and pleased by the Garden, and mentioned that if it does not work in that location, he would revisit the decision. He commented that he would encourage residents to provide their feedback in six months.

**Mr. Kochenderfer** mentioned that an article in the Rochester Patch online news site detailed several home break-ins that occurred in the northeast corner of the city. He stated that he spoke with Captain Michael Johnson, Oakland County Sheriff's Department, and was informed that the Department is following leads and has made these incidents their number one priority, increasing patrols in that area. He encouraged residents to report anything suspicious to the Sheriff's Department.

*He thanked those commenting for their feedback on the Community Garden. He stated that every single site considered had a mix of pros and cons, and the plan for the proposed garden will continue to save usable play space. He encouraged the Administration to review drainage issues and he noted that an advisory committee will be formed and will include a neighborhood representative. He commented that he is willing to move ahead; however, he will keep an open mind to any feedback received.*

**Mr. Rosen** stated that it is his hope that the Community Garden will be very successful in its Wabash Park location. He expressed appreciation for Council's action regarding the proposed Blossom Ridge development, and questioned whether it would be appropriate for him to attend the CZC meeting, with the understanding that he would inform those attending that he is a member of City Council, has extensive experience in local Planning Commission issues, and is not attending to speak for Council.

**President Hooper** responded that Mr. Rosen could attend the meeting, speaking for himself.

**John Staran**, City Attorney, stated that he does not see Mr. Rosen's attendance at the CZC meeting as an issue. He commented that he would expect that he would identify himself as a Council Member, as well as discuss his credentials. He stated that Council Members are free to go to a public meeting and weigh-in and express their opinions and Mr. Rosen could attend and offer information based on his knowledge and experience, speaking for himself and not on behalf of Council.

**Mr. Tisdell** stated that one of the first emails he received after his election to Council encouraged the development of a Community Garden, followed by a Dog Park. He pointed out that he was supportive last year when a member of the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) presented a proposal for a garden to Mike Hartner, Director of Parks and Forestry. The RHGYC included the topic for discussion at its Youth Summit in March of 2012, where the garden was debated and enthusiastically received by 170 high school students. He noted that RHGYC support has continued. Since these discussions, the Administration identified Wabash Park as a location for the garden, based on its features, including an existing parking lot, play area, access to a water main, flat land and underutilization relative to other parks.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** commented that he previously questioned whether the Administration reached out to the residents. He pointed out that 66 of 68 nearby residents signed a petition requesting Council reconsider its decision. He stated that no one is opposed to having a garden. He commented that should the project proceed, he hopes that Wabash Park turns out to be a good location for the garden. He noted that the park is within a subdivision, and is more like a subdivision park than an independent park and Council should explore its options.

**Mayor Barnett** stated that he believes Council moved prudently in its action regarding the proposed Blossom Ridge development. He commented that he may have staff representatives attend the meeting to observe the process and ensure that any issues and concerns are represented.

He mentioned the following:

- Kuvam Nirad Shahane, Rochester Hills resident and Van Hoosen Middle School eighth-grader, took first place for the second year in a row in the Oakland Press Regional Spelling Bee.
- Rochester College's Basketball Team won its fifth USCAA national title
- Rochester Falcons Basketball Team won the MHSAA Region 8 title over Bloomfield Hills Lahser last week. It is the first time that Rochester has earned the regional championship since 1950. The team will play in the state quarterfinal basketball game tomorrow night at the University of Detroit Callahan Hall.
- Two days before the final deadline, both University Hills and Long Meadow Elementary Schools achieved their goal with nearly 500 households donating nearly 1.175 million of their RecycleBank points to the Green Schools Project. Ten thousand dollars in grant monies will come back to the community, with each school earning \$5,000.

*In response to comments regarding the Community Garden at Wabash Park, Mayor Barnett stated that while not everyone can be happy, the Administration's goal is to have as little conflict as possible. He noted that there was a considerable desire from people in the community to have a garden. He commented that gardens could be expanded throughout the community in other locations, and mentioned that 15 percent of the plots at Wabash Park have already been leased. He stated that there are tremendous challenges faced by public officials to weigh the wants of the whole community with the interests in the immediate area. He mentioned that the topography was reviewed again today and the garden is going in the lowest spot of the park, at an elevation of 780 feet, while the southwest corner of the property is at 794 feet. He stated that traffic tracking equipment was placed on the street to gather data for the Advisory Traffic and Safety Board to make a determination whether a four-way stop is warranted at Hickory Lawn and Wabash. He stated that the number one reason people move to Rochester Hills is its parks system. It is the City's job to deliver something at the Community Garden that is equal to that task.*

## ATTORNEY MATTERS

*City Attorney John Staran had nothing to report.*

## NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

**2013-0089** Request to Confirm the Mayor's reappointment of Vince Mungiolli and Ralph Pisani to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) each for six-year terms to expire March 31, 2019

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Pisani CQ.pdf](#)  
[Mungiolli CQ.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Webber, seconded by Kochenderfer, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0054-2013

**Resolved,** that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby confirms the Mayor's reappointment of Vince Mungiolli and Ralph Pisani to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) each for six-year terms expiring March 31, 2019.

**2013-0090** Request to Confirm the Mayor's reappointments of Deborah Brnabic, Dale Hetrick, and Nicholas Kaltsounis to the Planning Commission each for three-year terms expiring March 31, 2016

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Brnabic CQ.pdf](#)  
[Hetrick CQ.pdf](#)  
[Kaltsounis CQ.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

***President Hooper*** commented that he has had the pleasure to serve as City Council representative with these individuals and stated that he wholeheartedly supports their reappointment to the Planning Commission.

**A motion was made by Klomp, seconded by Webber, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0055-2013

***Resolved***, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby confirms the Mayor's reappointments of Deborah Brnabic, Dale Hetrick, and Nicholas Kaltsounis to the Planning Commission each for three-year terms expiring March 31, 2016.

- 2013-0091** Request to Confirm the Mayor's reappointment of Stephan Slavik to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) for a four-year term to expire March 31, 2017

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Slavik CQ.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Webber, seconded by Yalamanchi, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0056-2013

***Resolved***, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby confirms the Mayor's reappointment of Stephan Slavik to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) for a four-year term expiring March 31, 2017.

- 2013-0058** Nomination/Appointment of one (1) Citizen Representative to the Zoning/Sign Board of Appeals for a three-year term to expire March 31, 2016

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Appointment Form.pdf](#)  
[Koluch CQ.pdf](#)  
[Riedel CQ.pdf](#)  
[030413 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Nomination Form.pdf](#)  
[Aubuchon CQ.pdf](#)  
[Booth CQ.pdf](#)  
[Deel CQ.pdf](#)  
[Graves CQ.pdf](#)  
[Mazur-Abeare CQ.pdf](#)  
[Olson CQ.pdf](#)  
[Paurazas CQ.pdf](#)  
[Schmeisl CQ.pdf](#)  
[Schultz CQ.pdf](#)  
[Shurkus CQ.pdf](#)  
[Notice of Vacancy.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**President Hooper** stated that Kurt Reidel and Kenneth Koluch were nominated at the March 4, 2013, Regular City Council Meeting. He instructed Council Members to vote for one individual.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** stated that since the March 4, 2013 meeting, he has had the opportunity to review Mr. Koluch's background and would concur with his reappointment.

Council unanimously cast their votes for Mr. Koluch.

**A motion was made by Webber, seconded by Kochenderfer, that this matter be Adopted by. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0057-2013

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council appoints Kenneth Koluch to the Zoning/Sign Board of Appeals to serve a three-year term expiring March 31, 2016.

## NEW BUSINESS

**2013-0096** Request for Approval of Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Wildlife Division Canada Goose Nest Destruction for Heatherwood Village Homeowners' Association

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Heatherwood Request Letter.pdf](#)  
[Goose Nest Destruction Appl.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**Deborah Barno**, in attendance to represent the Heatherwood Village Homeowners' Association, requested Council approve a resolution to allow the subdivision to continue with its Canada Goose Nest Destruction activities. She stated that the program is effective in controlling the goose population and reduces the conflict between the residents and the geese.

A motion was made by Klomp, seconded by Tisdel, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdel, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0058-2013

**Resolved**, that the City of Rochester Hills requests the Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Wildlife Division to allow Heatherwood Village Homeowners' Association to conduct a program of Canada Goose Nest Destruction for a period of five (5) years.

**The following two (2) legislative files are related to the City's Retiree Health Care Funding Plan and Trust**

**(Mr. Klomp exited at 8:58 p.m.)**

**Present** 6 - Greg Hooper, Adam Kochenderfer, James Rosen, Mark Tisdel, Michael Webber and Ravi Yalamanchi

**Absent** 1 - Nathan Klomp

**2013-0099** Request for Approval of an amendment to the City's Retiree Health Care Funding Plan and Trust

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[1st Amendment 501c9 Trust.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**Keith Sawdon**, Director of Finance, explained that City Council approved the creation of a Retiree Health Care Funding VEBA Plan in June of 2011. The Plan was submitted to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for tax exempt status and the status was received in June of 2012. That determination required the Plan to file a Form 990 on an annual basis. He stated that since that point, the Administration has had ongoing communications with the IRS requesting an exemption from the 990 filing, as the VEBA plan is affiliated with a governmental unit, and governmental units are generally exempt from filling a 990 form. He commented that recent communications with the IRS determined that there is one sentence within the Trust document that stated that the Trustees that serve on the VEBA Trust Board serve by virtue of office rather than by appointment. In order for the IRS to approve the exemption, this sentence must be deleted and replaced to provide for an appointment made by a majority of Council. He mentioned that the proposed resolution language was written by the City's Retirement Attorney.

**Mr. Kochenderfer** requested an explanation of the Form 990.

**Mr. Sawdon** responded that it is an annual requirement that all non-profits file a Form 990 unless they are affiliated or connected with a governmental unit. He explained that the form contains much detail about how the non-profit operation conducts its business, who its officers are, and so forth.

**Mr. Kochenderfer** questioned whether the Form 990 contains public information that is readily available.

*Mr. Sawdon confirmed that it is. He commented that the Administration's intent in requesting an exemption is to avoid the annual cost of producing the document.*

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Kochenderfer, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Hooper, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

**Absent** 1 - Klomp

Enactment No: RES0059-2013

**Whereas**, on June 21, 2011, the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan adopted the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan Retirement Health Care Funding Plan and Trust Agreement;

**Whereas**, on February 24, 2012, the Internal Revenue Service issued a favorable tax exemption for the Plan and Trust which required annual Form 990 filings;

**Whereas**, on July 30, 2012, the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan filed a Request for a Miscellaneous Determination, Form 8940 with the Internal Revenue Service requesting an exemption from filing annual Form 990s; and

**Whereas**, the Internal Revenue Service has indicated that it will approve an exemption from annual Form 990 filings provided City of Rochester Hills, Michigan adopts an amendment to the Trust Agreement to provide that the trustees appointed to the trust are persons appointed directly by the City Council and are not appointed by virtue of their positions, i.e. the City Finance Director and City Treasurer. This amendment is not intended to preclude the City Council from appointing the City Finance Director and City Treasurer as trustees.

**Now Therefore, Be It Resolved**, That effective March 18, 2013, Section 1.1 of the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan Retirement Health Care Funding 501(c)(9) Trust Agreement is hereby amended and restated as follows:

#### 1.1 NAME OF TRUST

This Trust shall be entitled City of Rochester Hills, Michigan Retirement Health Care Funding 501(c)(9) Trust Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "Trust"), and shall carry into effect the provisions of the Plan created prior to, or concurrently herewith and forming a part hereof. All of the definitions in such Plan are hereby incorporated herein by reference. By majority vote, City Council for the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan shall appoint two trustees, to take, hold, invest, administer and distribute in accordance with the following provisions, any and all contributions and assets paid or delivered to the Trustees pursuant to the Plan.

**(Mr. Klomp re-entered at 9:02 p.m.)**

**Present** 7 - Greg Hooper, Nathan Klomp, Adam Kochenderfer, James Rosen, Mark Tisdell, Michael Webber and Ravi Yalamanchi

- 2013-0098 Appointment of two Trustees to the City's Retiree Health Care Funding Plan and Trust

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**Keith Sawdon**, Director of Finance, explained that Council's action to amend the VEBA Trust Document served to remove the two Trustees that are currently are serving on the Retiree Health Care Funding Plan (VEBA) Board. He noted that it is appropriate that Council's next action should be to bring the two Trustees back to the Board so that the Plan's assets are, in-effect, managed. He stated that it is the Administration's, and his, recommendation to City Council that it reappoint the two Trustees that have been serving in that capacity since the Trust was adopted in June of 2011.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** questioned whether once appointed, any prior actions of those Trustees would have to be ratified.

**Mr. Sawdon** responded that would not be necessary. He explained that as the Trustees were serving in the capacity of the Trust prior to tonight's actions, the validation of the actions they have taken prior to their removal by resolution earlier this evening are still valid.

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Webber, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0060-2013

**Whereas**, On June 21, 2011, the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan adopted the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan Retirement Health Care Funding Plan and Trust Agreement;

**Whereas**, On March 18, 2013, City Council amended the City's Retirement Health Care Funding Plan and Trust Agreement requiring a formal appointment of two Trustees to the Trust.

**Now Therefore, Be It Resolved**, in accordance with Section 1.1 of the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan Retirement Health Care Funding 501(c)(9) Trust Agreement, City Council hereby appoints the City Treasurer and City Finance Director as Trustees, positions previously held by the City Treasurer and City Finance Director prior to the March 18, 2013 amendment, to the Trust.

### **The following two (2) legislative files are related to the Grant Pump Station Replacement Project**

- 2013-0094 Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Contract/Blanket Purchase Order for Grant Pump Station Replacement Project in the amount of \$974,950.00 with a 10% contingency of \$97,495.00 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,072,445.00; Lawrence M. Clarke, Inc., Belleville, MI

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Map.pdf](#)  
[Presentation.pdf](#)  
[Bid Tabulation.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**President Hooper** stated that although he works in the construction industry and knows of the recommended contractor, he was not involved in the bid process and has no financial interest in the firm. As such, he sees no need to recuse himself from this item.

**Allan Schneck**, Director of DPS/Engineering, introduced **Tracey Balint**, Public Utilities Engineer.

**Ms. Balint** noted that the proposed Grant Pump Station Replacement Project was presented to Council in December of 2011. She explained that the sanitary sewer pump station services approximately 2,000 customers in the southwest sections of the city. The station was constructed in the late 1970s and currently consists of a wet well/dry well system. She stated that the station is deteriorating and requires much maintenance as the equipment is beyond its useful life. She noted that a brand new submersible pump station is proposed, which will be safer and require less maintenance. After its construction, the current station will be demolished. She mentioned that the design was completed in the past year and the project was let for bid and Lawrence M. Clarke, Inc., was the low bidder.

**Mr. Webber** pointed out that the project was carried over to the 2013 budget from 2012. He questioned why the cost is much higher than was allocated in the 2013 Budget.

**Ms. Balint** responded that the Department has been working on this pump station for several years and it was determined that many items needed to be replaced. She explained that a few years ago, the Administration took a step back to determine whether it would be more beneficial to replace the entire station. At that time, the Michelson Pump Station which was replaced five or six years ago was used to estimate costs. She pointed out that the Michelson Pump Station, was bid out with a much larger project, the Grant Pump Station is deeper and uses a different pumping system, and costs have increased over the past five or six years. She stated that rather than presenting the project in multiple budget amendments, the Administration felt it best to return to Council once the bids were received and accurate costs could be determined.

**Mr. Webber** commented that the next item for consideration is the engineering services for the Pump Station Project and noted that there were no funds allocated in the Budget for that work.

**President Hooper** stated that if approved, funding would be allocated in the 2nd Quarter Budget Amendment.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** commented that the Administration actively pursued this project in 2007 or 2008. He questioned what improvements were made underground in the system.

**Ms. Balint** responded that a bypass and valves were installed with an eye to replacing the pumps, and new pumps were bid out. The low bid came in at \$350,000. The Administration then took a step back to determine whether a submersible system would be in the best interest of the City and prove more economical.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** commented that previously, it was thought that the entire pump station did not have to be replaced.

**Ms. Balint** reviewed the current pump station, noting that it has an elevator, a building to be maintained with a roof and doors, an odor control unit, and it is 30 feet deep with a wet well and dry well. She commented that the entire station will be replaced by an underground submersible pump station. There will be a control panel above ground, similar to the Michelson Pump Station.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** questioned whether the new pump station would be as deep.

**Ms. Balint** responded that the station will still be the same depth; however, there will be no need for physical access as the equipment will be removed and maintained from the top.

**Mr. Schneck** stated that the pumps will be on rails; currently, they are maintained in a confined space.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** questioned the cost, noting it is approximately three times higher than anticipated.

**Mr. Schneck** responded that the project is not being piecemealed together. He pointed out that the SCADA system electronics are 25 years old and are 15 years past their useful life. The pumps are nearing the end of their useful life. He mentioned that there are maintenance issues with the building itself and there are confined space safety concerns. He stated that the project has a lifespan of approximately 30 years and there will be economies of scale in doing the entire project now.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** questioned what the previous \$350,000 bid entailed.

**Ms. Balint** responded that the \$350,000 bid was for pumps and motors. She commented that in discussions with the general contractors that bid on the project, it was determined that there was additional work to be considered, including the control system. She stated that the project began to grow in scope.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** questioned whether Hubbel, Roth & Clark would provide project management as well.

**Ms. Balint** responded that they are the design engineer on the project, and would also provide inspection services, review shop drawings, provide start-up services on the pump station and complete the as-built drawings.

*Mr. Rosen* noted that the total project has grown to approximately \$1.2 million. He commented that most of the City's infrastructure that was installed in the 1970s is now starting to wear out and the City must now begin to look long-term.

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Tisdell, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0061-2013

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a Contract/Blanket Purchase Order for Grant Pump Station Replacement Project to Lawrence M. Clarke, Inc., Belleville, Michigan in the amount of \$974,950.00 with a 10% contingency of \$97,495.00 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,072,445.00 and authorizes the Mayor to execute a contract on behalf of the City.

**Further Resolved**, that the City's acceptance of the bid and approval of the award of a contract shall be contingent and conditioned upon the parties' entry into and execution of a written agreement acceptable to the City.

**2013-0095** Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Proposal/Blanket Purchase Order for Construction Engineering Services for the Grant Pump Station Replacement Project in the amount not-to-exceed \$130,860.00; Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Bloomfield Hills, MI

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[HRC Proposal.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**See also Legislative File 2013-0094.**

**A motion was made by Webber, seconded by Klomp, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0062-2013

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes the Proposal/Blanket Purchase Order for Construction Engineering Services for the Grant Pump Station Replacement Project to Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Bloomfield Hills, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$130,860.00 and authorizes the Mayor to execute a contract on behalf of the City.

**Further Resolved**, that the City's acceptance of the proposal and approval of the award of a contract shall be contingent and conditioned upon the parties' entry into and execution of a written agreement acceptable to the City.

**2013-0097** Request for Purchase Authorization - FIRE: Contract/Blanket Purchase Order for emergency dispatch services in the amount not-to-exceed \$310,234.32 through March 31, 2015; County of Oakland, Pontiac, MI

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Historical Data.pdf](#)  
[2013-2015 Fire Dispatch Agreement.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**Ron Crowell**, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director, stated that the price per call specified in the proposed contract for Dispatch Services is less than the previous contract; however, the total not-to-exceed amount for the two-year contract will be higher due to an increase in call volume. He mentioned that the second year of the two-year contract will call for an increase of approximately two percent. He pointed out that a two-year contract period will coincide with contract periods for other agencies that Oakland County dispatches for, and will allow Oakland County to negotiate across the board.

**President Hooper** noted that the total contract not-to-exceed represents a 24 or 25 percent increase and questioned whether the call volume has increased that significantly.

**Chief Crowell** responded that it had, and noted that a three-year time period was reviewed to determine an average call volume of 6,153. He pointed out that the average call volume for 2012 was 6,276, higher than the average, and he stated that call volume has been increasing gradually for the year.

**Mr. Webber** questioned whether call volume will be continually reviewed on a three-year basis.

**Chief Crowell** responded that Oakland County will continue to track average call volume to determine a charge per call. He explained that Oakland County computes call volume in this manner for the other communities it provides dispatch services for.

**Mr. Webber** stated that utilizing Oakland County for Dispatch Services was a big change for the City, and he expressed his appreciation for the work that Chief Crowell's Department has done to make the change possible. He commented that while not everyone embraces change, it was difficult to not look at the amount of money saved. He noted that it has been a smooth transition.

**Mr. Kochenderfer** questioned whether calls actually have gone up each year or if the County is merely getting a better handle on the actual call numbers.

**Chief Crowell** responded that the call numbers are going up every year. He explained that the City's population is aging, and there are several senior citizen developments served. He stated that calls increase by 200 to 300 each year, and pointed out that approximately 70 percent of the calls dispatched are EMS-related.

**President Hooper** questioned how the proposed Blossom Ridge Development in Oakland Township will be served by Rochester Hills.

**Chief Crowell** responded that Oakland Township will dispatch Sheriff and EMS from their location. In the event that an ambulance is needed and none is available from Oakland Township, Rochester Hills would be called. He mentioned that the mutual aid agreement between the communities provides for the sharing of various equipment, such as an aerial truck.

**President Hooper** commented that Rochester Hills would be secondary for any calls for service in Oakland Township.

**Chief Crowell** explained that he would respond with the City's own department for any fire alarm. He stated that if there is smoke or flames showing, or report of an actual fire, he would show a box alarm through the mutual aid system and call upon additional communities.

**Mr. Rosen** expressed his appreciation to Chief Crowell, stating that Rochester Hills has a very good system and works together with surrounding Departments. He pointed out that the City does not receive many complaints and stated that it is a tribute to everyone concerned.

**Mr. Tisdell** questioned what the costs were for dispatch services prior to contracting with Oakland County.

**Chief Crowell** responded that the City budgeted over \$800,000 each year for its own Dispatch Center.

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Webber, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0063-2013

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a Contract/Blanket Purchase Order for emergency dispatch services to County of Oakland, Pontiac, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$310,234.32 through March 31, 2015 and authorizes the Mayor to execute a contract on behalf of the City.

**Further Resolved**, that the City's acceptance of the proposal and approval of the award of a contract shall be contingent and conditioned upon the parties' entry into and execution of a written agreement acceptable to the City.

**2013-0054** Request to rescind Resolution RES0028-2013 passed on February 11, 2013 in support of submitting a grant application to Michigan Department of Natural Resources through their 2013 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund program and replace it with a revised Resolution.

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[021113 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[021113 Resolution.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**Mike Hartner**, Director of Parks and Forestry, explained that when this item previously came before Council, the Agenda Summary was accurate; however, the wrong resolution version was included in the Council Packet. He noted that corrected resolution wording is included, which requests approval to submit an application for a \$93,000 grant, and pledges \$31,000 as the City's 25 percent match for the \$125,000 project.

**A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Tisdell, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0064-2013

**Whereas**, one of the goals and objectives of the City of Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2011-2015 includes the implementation of the Friends of the Clinton River Trail Look & Feel project; and

**Whereas**, this project is in the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP #PK-10D) and will improve the trail by providing information and way-finding signage and will also enhance the community identity associated with the trail.

**Whereas**, the Friends of the Clinton River Trail has developed a Look & Feel Master Plan to supplement the Clinton River Trail Master Plan. They have met many times going back to August 2008 when they held a public visioning session to receive input and in December 2012 produced their final report on the Look & Feel project; and

**Whereas**, the implementation of the Look & Feel project will provide the installation of signage, way-finding and trail amenities along the Clinton River Trail in Rochester Hills; and

**Whereas**, construction is planned to begin in 2014; and

**Whereas**, the grant application deadline is April 1, 2013;

**Be It Resolved**, that Rochester Hills City Council does hereby rescind Resolution RES0028-2013 passed on February 11, 2013 and replace it with this revised Resolution supporting the application for a grant to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Program.

**Be it Further Resolved**, that Rochester Hills City Council does hereby support the application for a grant to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Program and if awarded the grant, provide funding for this development of \$31,250 as the required 25% match for \$125,000 signage and amenity package.

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Mayor or his designee is authorized to execute the application on behalf of the City.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA):**

**Mr. Klomp** reported that RARA has moved into its new building at 500 Second Street and will be hosting an evening to highlight the facility sometime in April.

### **Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee (PRTRC):**

**Mr. Webber** reported that the PRTRC will meet this Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

### **Older Persons' Commission (OPC):**

**Mr. Webber** reported that the OPC Board continues to meet. He noted the Center will host a celebration of its 30 years on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, with

*complimentary activities for those 50 and over. He mentioned that the Board will suggest a resolution be adopted by the three participating communities making October 16th the OPC Heart of the Community Day.*

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**President Hooper** noted that a Joint Meeting with Auburn Hills is proposed for April 29, 2013.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** mentioned an opportunity for homeowners who are delinquent on their property taxes to request up to \$30,000 in financial assistance on a one-time basis from the Michigan Homeowner Assistance Nonprofit Housing Corporation Hardest Hit Fund. He explained that national settlement monies were received by the State from financial institutions allowing these funds to be channeled into the program. He questioned whether information could be placed on the City's website and a letter be sent to any addresses that the City knows are in foreclosure for nonpayment of property taxes. He invited residents to visit the website for the program, [Stepforwardmichigan.org](http://Stepforwardmichigan.org).

He requested the Administration look into the possibility of having a bin at City Hall for residents to drop off used batteries.

**Mayor Barnett** commented that he would look into both issues. He mentioned that information would be forthcoming regarding plans for the development of River Bend Park. He explained that there is an opportunity for the City to work on conceptual development of plans for the Park through Hubbel, Roth & Clark to balance the needs and desires of the donor with the surrounding community. He noted that a Town Hall meeting would be scheduled with the residents, along with a discussion with the Planning Commission and City Council. Feedback gathered in these discussions will be incorporated, and the results adopted into the City's Parks Master Plan sometime this summer. He mentioned that the City has an agreement with the donor, signed pursuant to Council's acceptance, and a concept is proposed that builds on the natural resources on the property.

**Mr. Yalamanchi** commented that the projects completed by Lawrence Technological Institute students were well received. He stated that he has received emails from residents who desire a natural eco-friendly type of park. He commented that five neighboring subdivisions must stay engaged in the process.

**Mr. Rosen** stated that the recent experience with Wabash Park area residents should provide a lesson that speed can be an enemy and the desire to get something accomplished by particular time can cloud judgment. He commented that this is a unique situation, with the wishes of residents, neighbors, donors, users and the City Charter Amendment to consider. He questioned whether a suggestion of a canoe launch might constitute a commercial use.

**Mayor Barnett** stated that the City will never move forward if it waits for all five neighborhoods and the donor to be in total agreement on every issue. He

*commented that this situation is something the City has not encountered before, as it has a donor who must be satisfied and remain engaged in the process.*

**Mr. Yalamanchi** questioned what the donor's requirement for the park is.

**Mayor Barnett** responded that it is the desire of the donor that the park be designed to improve the health of the community.

**Mr. Klomp** expressed his appreciation to Mayor Barnett and Mike Hartner, Director of Parks and Forestry, for their efforts. He commented that the City will need to take a difficult road in order to get something accomplished, and stated that he is proud that there is a committed group here that is willing to do just that.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

*Regular Meeting - Monday, April 8, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business before Council, President Hooper adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.*

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*GREG HOOPER, President  
Rochester Hills City Council*

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*TINA BARTON, Clerk  
City of Rochester Hills*

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*MARY JO PACHLA  
Administrative Secretary  
City Clerk's Office*

*Approved as presented at the (insert date, or dates) Regular City Council Meeting.*