



**City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS**

**1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
248.656.4630
www.rochesterhills.org**

Legislative File No: 2007-0758

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: James Rosen, Council President
DATE: October 19, 2007
SUBJECT: Creation of a Charter Millage Technical Review Committee

City Council at its regular meeting of September 26, 2007 agreed to continue discussions relative to establishing a Charter Millage Technical Review Committee for the purpose of studying the City's Charter and dedicated millages, and to recommend potential changes the City Council may consider. While I had initially indicated that I would plan to bring the item back to Council at the October 17th meeting, additional research and discussion with Mr. Staran have taken a little longer than originally anticipated.

I would like to share the results of what I understand from that research with the Council in order to aid in the decisions of whether and how to move forward:

First, it is becoming fairly clear that voted millages for dedicated purposes cannot simply be "repealed" and "replaced by a different millage" by an election. Examples of these would be such as OPC millages, RARA millage, Green Space millage, or Pathway millage.

Second, while it may be possible to allow one or more of the voted millages to run its course and replace the amount of the millage with an increased different millage, that will take time. For example, the two Police millages cannot simply be replaced now with a new millage, but rather will have to continue through 2013 until they expire and then be replaced.

Third, while it needs much more consideration, it is not clear what changes can be proposed to Charter-authorized millages such as the Charter millage for Fire. It may also be possible to propose a similar Charter-authorized millage for contractual Police funding that does not expire, but this will need to be carefully reviewed.

My purpose here is for all Members of Council have the same information. In addition, I want to be sure the expectations for this Review Committee are realistic. The following information is being provided to outline what needs to be discussed/identified in forming a committee. I have drafted language under each section to help facilitate moving the discussion forward.

Under Article VII, Section .02 of the Rules of Procedure, it states that Committees shall be established by Council resolution setting for the following:

- 1) Purpose and Charge
 - a. Charge/responsibility of the Committee.
 - 1) *To Study the City Charter-authorized and special voted millages.*
 - 2) *To consider the possibility of combining millages, such as for Public Safety.*
 - 3) *Consider possible amendment or modification of both the Charter-authorized and special voted millages.*
 - b. Expected results including, but not limited to, time line.
 - 1) *Make recommendations to City Council regarding potential changes to the Charter and millages based on its study; including no changes.*
 - 2) *Recommendations would be expected within one (1) year.*
- 2) Membership and selection, including number of members, solicitation of members and qualifications of members.
 - c. Each committee shall include at least two (2) and not more than three (3) Council Members.
Two (2) Council Members
 - d. Committees shall include citizen members which shall be appointed by Council.
Two (2) Citizen Members
 - e. Committees may include Administrative Staff Members which shall be appointed by the Mayor.
A representative of the Clerk's Office (i.e. Deputy Clerk) and other Staff Members as appropriate (such as Finance Director).
 - f. Committees may include one (1) Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) Representative selected by the Youth Council
One (1) RHGYC Member
 - e. Term of appointment, where appropriate
The term shall be for one year, with the first to expire December 12, 2007. (...or the first to expire December of 2008)

RESOLUTION

NEXT AGENDA ITEM

RETURN TO AGENDA

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
City Council Liaison		