



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

City Council Special Meeting

1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
(248) 656-4600
Home Page:
www.rochesterhills.org

*Erik Ambrozaitis, J. Martin Brennan, Greg Hooper, Vern Pixley, James Rosen,
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."*

Monday, June 15, 2009

6:00 PM

Joint with the City of Rochester

CALL TO ORDER

*President Hooper called the Special Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order
at 6:20 p.m. Michigan Time.*

ROLL CALL OF THE ROCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

Present 7 - Jeffrey Cuthbertson, Stuart Bikson, David Becker, Ben Giovanelli, Jeffery
Matis, Kim Russell, David Zemens

ROLL CALL OF THE ROCHESTER HILLS CITY COUNCIL

Present 7 - Greg Hooper, J. Martin Brennan, James Rosen, Erik Ambrozaitis, Ravi
Yalamanchi, Michael Webber and Vern Pixley

Others Present:

*Bob Grace, Rochester Hills Director of MIS
Jane Leslie, Rochester Hills City Clerk
Patrick McKay, Rochester Hills Supervisor Interpretive Services
Leanne Scott, Rochester Hills City Council Coordinator
John Staran, Rochester Hills City Attorney
Jaymes Vettraino, Rochester City Manager*

*Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett had previously given notice that he would be
out of town and unable to attend.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

President Hooper opened the meeting by welcoming the City of Rochester and stating that this meeting provides a good opportunity to begin open dialogue and solid working relationships between the two cities. He stressed that the key is collaboration.

Mayor Cuthbertson concurred, stating that although they have a standing Sister-City Committee with Rochester Hills, it was time for the full Councils to get together and break bread.

DISCUSSION OF ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

President Hooper introduced Pat McKay, Supervisor Interpretive Services, who gave the following brief history on the Museum's collaborative efforts:

- The Rochester Hills Museum is a repository for photographs. Many of the photographs belonging to the City of Rochester are housed within the Museum.*
- The City of Rochester has given money to hire interns to process archival collections they have donated.*
- The Museum has approximately 130 years of newspapers for both the City of Rochester and Rochester Hills.*
- The Dairy Barn itself is located in the City of Rochester, but is owned by the City of Rochester Hills.*
- The Museum serves as a quasi-museum, quasi-Chamber of Commerce.*
- The Museum's resources, exhibits and grounds provide an attraction for residents of both Cities.*
- The Museum's Dairy Barn is a standing example of how historical sites can be adaptively reused, rather than put into a landfill.*

Council Member Becker expressed his appreciation for the Museum's efforts in assisting the Paint Creek Trailways Commission to assure that the information on the historical markers on the Trailways is accurate.

The two Councils discussed the following items:

Rochester/Rochester Hills

- It was stated that many residents, and non-residents, do not differentiate between the two Cities*
- The two Cities currently collaborate with inter-governmental agreements for the Older Persons Commission (OPC), Rochester Avon Recreational Authority (RARA), and the Rochester Hills Library. They provide mutual aid for Fire and EMS services, and further cooperate to promote the area to the film industry.*
- Setting aside the different governmental structures, discussion centered around sharing best practices and the benefits that can be gained from economies of scale in purchasing*
- It is felt that each City should be appreciated and respected for their uniquenesses and differences*

- The feasibility/possibility of combining the Educational Environment Center and Dinosaur Hill was suggested.
- The topic of using one policing service for the two Cities was raised.
- The benefits of Rochester Hills' new Single Trash Hauler Ordinance and the Recycle Bank were discussed.
- A suggestion was made that there be one (1) community calendar that lists upcoming events for the City of Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township. Each community could be responsible for updating their data, and the calendar could be linked to their respective web sites.
- Rochester Hills uses Pictometry (aerial photography) to assist with many City functions, such as Assessing and Ordinance Enforcement, as well as having it on the computers located in the Fire Department Command Vehicles, just to name a few. Rochester Community Schools uses it and likes it; the City of Auburn Hills has expressed interest in using this and sharing the cost. The question was raised if the City of Rochester may also be interested. If the three communities share the cost, it will benefit all.

Discussion ensued regarding ways in which the two communities could work together by encouraging departments within both Cities to communicate and work together at the staff levels, and to ensure that regular, standing Sister-City Meetings are held. It was the consensus of both Councils that President Hooper and Mayor Cuthbertson draft a resolution to support their efforts to collaborate.

Public Comment:

Melissa Luginiski, 985 E. Tienken Road, thanked the two Councils for meeting in her community.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, President Hooper adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

GREG HOOPER, President
Rochester Hills City Council

JANE LESLIE, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills

LEANNE SCOTT
City Council Coordinator
City Clerk's Office

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