



Rochester Hills

DRAFT Minutes

Public Safety Committee

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Rochester Hills, MI 48309
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Home Page:
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Adam Alleman, Bryan Barnett, Ron Crowell, Louis Eble, Gary Elliot, Andy LeBlanc, Linda Raschke, Gerald Robbins, Andrew Roscoe, Bob Smith

Monday, January 10, 2005

7:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Raschke called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bryan Barnett, Linda Raschke, Louis Eble and Gary Elliott

Absent: Gerald Robbins

Non-Voting Members Present: Robert Smith, Greg Walterhouse, Adam Alleman, Andy LeBlanc and Andrew Roscoe

Non-Voting Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ron Crowell, Deputy Fire Chief

Committee Member Robbins provided previous notice he would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2004-0902 Special Meeting - September 13, 2004

Attachments: DRAFT Minutes.pdf; Resolution.pdf

A motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Eble, that this matter be Approved.

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee hereby approves the Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 13, 2004 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barnett, Raschke, Eble and Elliott

Absent: Robbins

2005-0004 Rescheduled Regular Meeting - November 8, 2004

Attachments: DRAFT Minutes.pdf; Resolution.pdf

A motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Eble, that this matter be Approved.

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee hereby approves the Minutes of the Rescheduled Regular Meeting of November 8, 2004 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barnett, Raschke, Eble and Elliott

Absent: Robbins

COMMUNICATIONS

2004-0860 Memo from Clerk's Office - Amendments to Bylaws

Attachments: Memo Galeczka - Bylaws Amdmts 092204.pdf; PS Bylaws Final 09-22-04.pdf

Vice Chair Raschke noted for the record that the approved change to the committee agenda format was adding a header called "Youth Comments" to enable the Youth Representatives to bring forward topics of concern during each committee meeting.

Received and Filed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2004-0033 Discuss Emergency Hotline Service

Chief Walterhouse noted that the Emergency Hotline Service was implemented in 2004. Council members can call to obtain information during a major incident happening within the City, such as ice storms, blackouts, etc.

Closed

NEW BUSINESS

2005-0010 Election of Chairperson for 2005

Attachments: Resolution.pdf

Postponed

2005-0011 Election of Vice Chairperson for 2005

Attachments: Resolution.pdf

Postponed

2005-0012 Establish 2005 Meeting Schedule

Attachments: Meeting Calendar memo.pdf; Resolution.pdf

A motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Elliott, that this matter be Approved.

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee establish their 2005 Meeting Schedule as the First Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at 1000 Rochester Hills Drive; with the understanding that any meeting dates conflicting with holidays or elections will be rescheduled as needed.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barnett, Raschke, Eble and Elliott

Absent: Robbins

YOUTH COMMENTS

Vice Chair Raschke read a newspaper article announcing nominations made by U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow to the U.S. Naval Academy. Mr. Roscoe was one of the nominees. The Committee congratulated him.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee noted the following miscellaneous points:

- * Consideration should be given to the affects on Fire and Police services in the City when reviewing the City's Master Plan.*
- * Grant money may be available for homeland security from Oakland County.*
- * The Fire Department is hiring one (1) full-time firefighter due to one (1) being moved into the Inspections Division.*
- * Capt. Smith noted that an exhibit will be coming to the Detroit Science Center this summer that deals with the ravages of drugs in our society. It will also travel around the country. It will contain a "high tech" interactive component that deals with "narco-terrorism" and will bring awareness to the fact that a large percentage of terrorist operations around the world are involved in drug trafficking as a revenue source. It will contain actual pieces of wreckage from the towers that were destroyed on September 11, 2001.*
- * Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton Road, questioned the amount of drug usage in Rochester Hills. Capt. Smith noted that it is the same as it was last year.*
- * Mr. Barnett noted that he serves on the Rochester Community Coalition which tracks substance abuse for fourth, eighth and twelfth grade students. The statistics for drug abuse in Rochester Hills are startling.*
- * Mr. Barnett also noted that he serves on the Community Development & Viability (CDV) Committee and gave an update regarding the snow plowing issue as it relates to public safety. The following points were noted:*
 - Due to the failed road millage in November 2004, there are serious budget issues regarding local road maintenance. Some residents favor a small millage for snow plowing, but in sixty (60) days, the issue will be fixing potholes, repaving, etc.*
 - The Mayor approved a Snow Plowing Policy that recognizes where emergencies come first and local streets are plowed accordingly. The policy is aired on the City's cable channel.*
 - Residents need to understand that City funds are dedicated and divided for specific needs and purposes according to dedicated millages, state regulations, accounting practices, etc. They also need to understand that only about one-third (1/3) of their property taxes are directed to the City. The remaining taxes are directed to the county, school districts, libraries, etc.*
 - The Department of Public Service (DPS) had to prioritize their annual budget in terms of the most important needs which resulted in reduced manpower from thirteen (13) to six (6) DPS employees for snow plowing. The Water and Sewer budget is separate from the DPS budget and cannot be co-mingled.*
- * Vice Chair Raschke asked the following questions:*

- How does the Fire Department know the availability of manpower for weekend coverage?

- How are fire personnel paid when they arrive at their station after a call is cancelled?

* Chief Walterhouse responded with the following:

- Each station is required to have a least one (1) person available to drive an ambulance.

- Firefighters and paid-on-call (POC) employees perform a "call-in".

- Station officers will notify Dispatch if they are short-staffed. Dispatch can then bypass a station that is low on manpower.

- If a firefighter or POC is dispatched and they arrive at the station and the call is cancelled, they are paid.

- If there is an ongoing call and a firefighter or POC that is dispatched does not arrive within twenty (20) minutes from the dispatch time, they are not paid.

* Capt. Smith invited Mr. Eble and Mr. Elliott to "ride along" with a Deputy whenever it was convenient for their schedule. They can call the Sub Station to make arrangements and sign a waiver required by Oakland County. Citizens must be 18 years of age.

The Committee acknowledged that this was the last Public Safety Meeting for Chief Walterhouse. He accepted the Fire Chief position with Mt. Pleasant. They thanked him for his fine service and wished him well at his new job.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, February 7, 2005 - 7:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Chair Raschke adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Minutes were prepared by Denise Mertz.

Minutes were approved as presented at the _____, 2005 Regular Public Safety Committee Meeting.