



Rochester Hills Minutes Public Safety Committee

1000 Rochester Hills Drive
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
(248) 656-4660
Home Page:
www.rochesterhills.org

Adam Alleman, Bryan Barnett, Ron Crowell, Louis Eble, Gary Elliot, Andy LeBlanc, Linda Raschke, Gerald Robbins, Andrew Roscoe, Bob Smith

Monday, June 6, 2005

7:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Raschke called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Linda Raschke, Louis Eble and Gary Elliott

Absent: Bryan Barnett and Gerald Robbins

Non-Voting Members Present: Ron Crowell, Robert Smith, and Andy LeBlanc.

Non-Voting Members Absent: Adam Alleman, Andy LeBlanc and Andrew Roscoe.

Others Present: Rochester Hills Fire Department: Bill Cooke, Fire Inspector and Mark Neuville, Suppression Captain

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2005-0179 Regular Meeting - February 7, 2005

Attachments: DRAFT Minutes.pdf; Resolution.pdf

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

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2005 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Raschke, Eble and Elliott

Absent: Barnett and Robbins

2005-0321 Regular Meeting - March 14, 2005

Attachments: DRAFT Minutes.pdf; Resolution.pdf

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

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2005 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Raschke, Eble and Elliott

Absent: Barnett and Robbins

COMMUNICATIONS

- 2005-0396** Definitions for Emergency Medical Dispatch
Attachments: Definition sheet.pdf
The Committee reviewed the basic definitions for Emergency Medical Dispatch.
Received and Filed
- 2005-0340** Discuss Use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to Fund Police & Fire Service -
Memo from Dan Casey, Planning & Development Dept.
Attachments: 022205 Memo Casey re TIF.pdf
The consensus of the Committee was to postpone this topic until the July Public Safety Committee meeting.
Postponed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 2005-0110** Monthly Report - Fire Chief
Attachments: 020705 Memo Crowell.pdf
Chief Crowell gave a brief update that included the following:
- * *The Rochester Hills Fire Department (RHFD) took delivery last month of a tanker, an engine and three (3) administrative vehicles that replaced ailing and damaged vehicles.*
 - * *The RHFD is going to use, on a test-basis, two (2) motorcycles from the City of Pontiac Fire Department to determine if they are an effective way to assist with medical incidents that may occur during the Festival of the Hills due to traffic congestion.*
 - * *The switch from using gas cards to the fuel station at the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Building will likely be completed this month and should save an estimated \$1,000 per month in fuel costs.*
- Discussed**
- 2005-0170** Discuss Survey to Municipal Fire Departments
Attachments: Compiled Survey Responses.pdf; Survey List - Municipal Fire Depts.pdf; Response letter to Fire Chiefs.pdf; Auburn Hills FD Survey.pdf; Brandon Twp FD Survey.pdf; Chesterfield Twp FD Survey.pdf; Farmington Hills FD Survey.pdf; Independence Twp FD Survey.pdf
The consensus of the Committee was to postpone this topic until the July Public Safety Committee meeting.
Postponed
- 2004-0028** Discussion of Fire Department's Five-Year Plan (2000) and Fire Response Time

Attachments: 011204 Req 5 Yr Plan & CEMS.pdf; 020204 CEMS Response Times & False Alarm Info.pdf; 2004 Bravo Staffing Statistics.pdf

The Committee briefly discussed a new Five Year Plan and noted the following:

- * The criteria of first Five Year Plan (2000) has been met.*
- * The Committee will be looking into a new Five Year Plan with the input from the Rochester Hills Fire Department (RHFD).*
- * Although the previous millage attempts have failed, the Committee has worked very hard to educate the public regarding public safety needs.*
- * The general city population may not know that the RHFD is a "combined Fire Department" consisting full-time and paid-on-call personnel.*
- * In addition to millage funding, there may be other resources such as grants and user fees to help offset service costs.*

Discussed

2004-0032

Discussion of False Alarm Ordinance

Attachments: 033104 Agenda Summary.pdf; 020204 False Alarm info.pdf; 020204 PS Minutes.pdf; 032604 Master Report.pdf; 040204 Memo Capt. Smith.pdf; False Alarm Info - St Hgts.pdf

The Committee briefly discussed the False Alarm ordinance and made the following points:

- * At the April Public Safety Committee meeting, Mayor Somerville indicated her support of a False Alarm ordinance that can be upheld.*
- * In order to achieve maximum results, it is very important to follow a proven, successful model.*
- * The City of Sterling Heights has recently implemented a False Alarm Ordinance.*

Discussed

2005-0233

Discuss Police Millages

Attachments: 050905 Supplmtl Info - Memo Jenuwine - 3 scenarios.pdf; 033105 Memo Jenuwine.pdf; 2005 - OCSD Millage Analysis.pdf; 2005 - OCSD Millage Analysis R&E.pdf

The consensus of the Committee was to postpone this topic until the July Public Safety Committee meeting.

Postponed

NEW BUSINESS

2005-0339

Discuss Future Fire Department Positions

Attachments: Draft Resolution of Support.pdf

Chief Crowell discussed the current agreement with the Oakland County Medical Control Authority (OCMCA) and how it relates to the current operations of the RHFD. The following points were made:

- * In 2004, the OCMCA identified the RHFD as an "Interim Advance Life Support Agency" through 2007.*

* An Interim Agency can run two (2) two-man Advance Life Support (ALS) units and one (1) one-man ALS unit.

* Under the Agreement, RHFD has to show progression toward being a complete ALS provider by eventually having two (2) paramedics on each unit which will require the City to hire three (3) paramedics for Fiscal Year 2006 and three (3) paramedics for Fiscal Year 2007 so that all ALS units will respond with a minimum of two (2) men at all times.

Chief Crowell also read the following excerpt from the OCMCA agreement, "... the community will submit a letter from the local governing body acknowledging its intent to achieve the Oakland County ALS standard of a minimum of two (2) paramedics within three (3) years. A one year extension will be considered by the OCMCA provided the community can demonstrate substantial progress towards compliance and a plan to comply with twelve (12) months".

Based on the Agreement, the City has 2006 and 2007 to comply. If the City hires three (3) paramedics in 2006, but cannot hire three (3) in 2007 due to financial constraints, then the City could apply for a one (1) year extension to the Agreement. However, the City would be required to hire three (3) paramedics for Fiscal Year 2008.

The Committee consensus was to discuss this again at the July Public Safety Committee meeting.

Discussed

YOUTH COMMENTS

None were presented.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2005-0435

Discussion of Emergency Preparedness

Chairperson Raschke introduced **Ms. Karen Bickle**, 735 Sandstone, who came before the Committee to discuss her concern about the Consumers Power gas leak that occurred in May on Squirrel and Dutton Roads.

Ms. Bickle stated that her concern was what could have been done differently to notify the residents of the situation so they could have stayed off the 911 emergency lines in case another emergency was happening at the same time.

The Committee discussed the emergency situation and made the following points:

* In this case, the RHFD and the Sheriff's Department could not put themselves in a position to determine what area is safe or unsafe until Consumers Power made the determination. This case was also unique because it encompassed four (4) municipal jurisdictions.

* Had this emergency lasted longer than it did, there would have been formal updates on the TV and radio stations.

* When an emergency of a large magnitude occurs, there are ten (10) things that Sheriff Commanders have to do simultaneously as part of an "instant command" procedure in order to make an assessment. It takes time to determine which Fire Chief is in charge [by law], the type of emergency, the solutions needed and set up a media center for updates to the community.

* Much of the evacuation was self-initiated due to residents speaking with media and

the media relaying incorrect information to the public.

** This is the first time since Oakland County went into an enhanced 911 program where the 911 lines were all busy at the same time.*

** When 911 lines are busy, the next best method for emergency notification is tuning to TV Channels 2, 4 or 7 and/or tuning to radio station WJR.*

** It is important for every subdivision or complex to have an active association group in order to help each other in an emergency. It is equally important for each household to have flashlights, transistor radios and supplies on hand in order to take care of themselves for the first day or two during a critical emergency.*

** From an emergency standpoint, Chief Crowell and Capt. Smith were very satisfied with the way in which the gas leak was handled.*

** Chief Crowell and Capt. Smith are in the process of re-examining a local radio system that may be used to broadcast emergency update information such as, "...there is an emergency, however, we have no information at this time, please do not call 911, and stay tuned to this station for further updates..." or something to that affect.*

The Committee thanked Ms. Bickle for her valid input.

Discussed

2005-0437

Discussion of Bike Path Stop Signs

Attachments: Referral to LAC.pdf

*Chairperson Raschke introduced **Mr. Greg Formanczyk**, 329 Powderhorn Court, who came before the Committee to discuss a safety concern regarding the need for signage on City bike paths to alert pedestrians, cyclists and joggers to stop or yield before crossing intersections. This concern was previously discussed at two (2) Public Safety Committee Meetings in 2004.*

The Committee briefly discussed different methods of signage. It was the concensus of the Committee to refer this matter to the Leisure Activities Committee for review because bike paths are funded by a millage under Parks & Forestry.

Approved and Referred to the Leisure Activities Committee

NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, July 11, 2005 - 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Raschke adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Minutes were prepared by Denise Mertz.

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