



Rochester Hills

Excerpted Draft Minutes

City Council Regular Meeting

1000 Rochester Hills Drive
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*Erik Ambrozaitis, Bryan K. Barnett, Jim Duistermars, Barbara Holder,
Linda Raschke, James Rosen, Ravi Yalamanchi*

Wednesday, January 4, 2006

7:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

DRAFT

2005-0346

City Council Policy for Use of Electronic Communication Devices During City Council Meetings

Attachments: Agenda Summary.pdf; Draft Policy.pdf; 110205 Agenda Summary.pdf; Administrative Policy #300-2004.pdf; Galeczka Memo-Usage Info & Survey.pdf; 120199 Letter Staran.pdf; 110303 Letter Staran.pdf; 051404 Letter Staran.pdf; 051502 Memo MIS.pdf; MINUTES.pdf; 03

Mr. Barnett noted that some of the language of the policy suggestions with regard to the use of communication devices during Council meetings could be softened suggesting the use of the word "discouraged" in place of "prohibited."

Mr. Duistermars noted that the issue was a matter of common sense and courtesy, suggesting that Council members place their pagers and cell phones on vibrate during meetings and exercise discretion when drawn away from meetings due to emergencies.

It was stressed by Council members that the resources available to them at the dais were an enhancement of their abilities.

President Rosen agreed while indicating that his primary concern with regard to this matter is that Council members not be distracted by these resources and that no use of communication devices during meetings runs afoul of the Open Meetings Act or the Freedom of Information Act.

City Attorney John Staran concurred and asked that he be permitted to provide input into this matter prior to the adoption of any new policy.

It was determined that this matter too should be evaluated by the Administration & Information Services (AIS) Committee and a recommendation be brought back to Council within three months.

A motion was made by Holder, seconded by Raschke, that this matter be Referred by Resolution to the Administration and Information Services Committee.

Resolved that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby directs the Administration & Information Services (AIS) Committee to review the City Council Policy for Use of Electronic Communication Devices During City Council Meetings and return to City Council with recommended changes or modifications within three months.

Be It Further Resolved that the City Council directs the AIS Committee to work in conjunction with the City Attorney to ensure that all legal issues in association with this matter are appropriately addressed.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Ambrozaitis, Barnett, Duistermars, Holder, Raschke, Rosen and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0017-2006