



Rochester Hills Minutes - Draft

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Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee

*Don Cline, Jr., Dale Hetrick, Walter Johnson, Linda Raschke, LeAnne Rogers, Nancy Soisson,
Tom Stephens*

Council Members: Greg Hooper, Michael Webber

Youth Representatives: Amith Diwakar, Farha Hanif, Nicholas Michetti

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

6:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Cline called the Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Michigan Time.

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - Greg Hooper, Don Cline, Dale Hetrick, Nancy Soisson, Michael Webber, LeAnne Rogers and Linda Raschke

Absent 2 - Walter Johnson and Tom Stephens

Others Present:

Paul Davis, City Engineer

Nicholas Michetti, Rochester Hills Government Youth Council Representative

Keith Sawdon, Media Production Technician

John Staran, City Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEM

2012-0001

Attachments: [Revised Proposed Ballot Questions.pdf](#)
[Crime Trend Lines\[1\].pdf](#)
[Committee's Powerpoint Presentation to City Council.1\[1\].pdf](#)
[Revised Draft 2012 Police millage questions \(4.11.12\)\[1\].pdf](#)
[041112 Proposed Draft 2012 Police Millage Questions.pdf](#)
[041012 Press Release.pdf](#)
[Powerpoint Presentation to Home Owners Association Meeting.pdf](#)
[Proposed Draft 2012 Millage Questions.pdf](#)
[2012 Millage Discussion Questions.pdf](#)
[Meeting Agenda January 18 2012.pdf](#)
[III\(a\) Introd of Current and Proj Status of Police Fdg.pdf](#)
[Overheads for 1-18-12 HOM Mtg.\[1\].ppt](#)
[Proposed Press Release.pdf](#)
[RH Police and Road Funding AGENDA\[1\].pdf](#)
[Draft Review Questions.pdf](#)
[Police Funding Article - final for distrib & handout\[1\].pdf](#)

Chairperson Cline introduced John Staran, City Attorney, and stated that he was present at the meeting to discuss the proposed ballot language with the Committee Members.

Mr. Staran stated that the proposed ballot language, Paragraphs A. - F. had been discussed at the Committee's last meeting with a couple of minor revisions. He summarized that Paragraph C. is a proposed amendment to the City Charter. He explained the various minor revisions that had been made to the proposed ballot language with the Committee Members. He advised the Members that Paragraphs A. - F. would need to be presented to City Council for authorization before inclusion on the City's ballot.

The Committee Members discussed the various paragraphs of proposed ballot language to be presented to City Council and then to the voters. The Committee discussed what to do if the renewal for Millage 1 and 2 are not passed and whether to bring other proposed ballots forward in November 2012.

Mr. Staran stated that the November 2012 election would be the Committee's next opportunity for presentation of an alternative option for the voter's consideration.

The Committee Members discussed the importance of a simple educational process and that each ballot question or questions would have to be clear and straightforward. Discussion ensued as to whether the Committee should pursue the charter amendment question, the ten-year millage renewal or both.

Mr. Staran commented that voters seem to like to revisit the ballot question every five or ten years in the context of current circumstances.

The Committee Members discussed the current number of OCSO officers (57) and concerns that in the future, the number of officers may not be sufficient for adequate police services. The discussion turned to:

- The momentum toward specific al carte millages so that General Fund expenditures would be minimal;
- The Committee's attempts to please residents have resulted in inadequate

- preparations for sustained police services for the future;*
- *Fire services are in the City's Charter but could present a funding shortfall for future services;*
 - *4 mills would be necessary to fulfill the funds necessary for police services;*
 - *Reduction of the City's General Fund frees funding for road maintenance; and*
 - *The impact of the Headlee Amendment on charter amounts.*

Mr. Staran discussed that the charter was prepared from the perspective of a township rather than a city, which would have included services such as fire, police, roads, etc.

The Committee discussed its concerns about funding for police services competing with funding for parks and roads. The Members commented its desire not to limit future City Councils and noted that funding for fire services is in the Charter.

Mr. Sawdon commented that fire would be a good example because the City had never spread the max until last year when tax values had fallen.

Member Hetrick stated that the Committee's intent had been to get as much feedback as possible from residents to determine what the residents want and to build the ballot language based upon that information.

Chairperson Cline discussed the Committee's attendance and presentation to the Home Owners' Association Meeting ('HOAM') on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. He suggested that the Committee could plan to meet after that meeting to include feedback in the Committee's report and recommendations to City Council.

Member Hetrick noted that the Committee's attendance at various HOAMs stimulates e-mail responses and opinions to the Committee. He commented that the feedback from the residents provides the Committee with reasonable insight and information.

The Committee discussed providing proposed ballot language in a bullet-point format handout to be distributed at the March 20th HOAM to obtain more feedback and to prevent the funding for police services discussion from becoming sidetracked on other topics.

Member Hetrick suggested that the draft proposed language be distributed to residents so they would see the proposed language in draft form and marked 'draft' to adequately demonstrate that the Committee's hand out is a work-in-progress, draft format.

The Committee requested Mr. Staran to draft the various discussed scenarios into proposed ballot language in the proper and legal form and that there would be an (a), (b), (c) and a draft proposed charter amendment.

Mr. Staran responded that he would work on those the following day and send them to the Committee for review and approval.

Chairperson Cline suggested that the Committee begin preparation of its presentation for the HOAM on Tuesday, March 20, 2012.

Member Hetrick stated that he had sketched out a basic outline before he arrived at the Committee's meeting.

The Committee used a dry erase board to draft a potential presentation for the attendees at the upcoming HOAM. The Committee prepared an introduction, the Committee's history and the information regarding the two expiring millages. The Committee discussed whether to list the number of officers, the specific positions or to state the current funding levels to assist City Council's discussion in regard to liaison officers, street officers and detectives.

Member Raschke commented that there should be a representative from the Oakland County Sheriffs Office in attendance. She stated that the representative could answer such questions as typical response time for a service call, how many responding officers are needed for a traffic accident and the procedure for obtaining additional officers for a more serious police situation.

The Committee then discussed the differences between police school liaison officers, public safety officers, school resource officers and neighborhood watch officers, community safety officers and community police team officers.

Member Hetrick suggested that the Committee could make a statement that its considering other options based upon the feedback it has received thus far and that these considerations are the most important and germane to the search for funding for police services.

The Committee discussed creating power point slides to use in its presentation.

Chairperson Cline recommended that the Committee keep the number of power point slides to a minimum as the Committee would only be allotted 5-10 minutes for its presentation to the HOAM. He added that the Committee could distribute its hand out as well.

The Committee then discussed the time that the HOAM would begin, the length of the meeting and an estimated time as to when the Committee might be introduced to make its presentation.

Member Raschke asked if the OCSO gives a monthly report to the HOA of current incidents and updates within the City. She recalled that when the City had a local newspaper, there was a police blotter section that would report specific incidents and locations within the City. She commented that immediate community alerts to the HOAs could be effective as most people have cell phones.

Member Rogers commented that in her business profession, she had reported for another community that had an active Neighborhood Watch Group which had not only held monthly meetings, but provided local incident reports to be

distributed along with maps that indicated where property crimes had been committed. She said that residents are more involved and interested if the locations of such incidents are known to them.

***Chairperson Cline** discussed which Committee Members would attend the HOAM and the necessary materials for distribution.*

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

***Chairperson Cline** stated that Member Hetrick would prepare the Powerpoint presentation slides for the Home Owners Association Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2012.*

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Wednesday, March 28, 2012 - 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 18, 2012 - 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee, Chairperson Cline adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

DON CLINE, JR., Chairperson

*Prepared by Christine A. Wissbrun
Recording Secretary, City Clerk's Office*