



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

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Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee

Thomas Blackstone, Dale Hetrick, Orville Hoksch Jr., Jorge Ipina, Walter Johnson, LeAnne Rogers, Tom Stephens
Council Members: Greg Hooper, Michael Webber
Youth Representatives: Pranita Balusu, Sharanya Pai

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

6:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hetrick called the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee to order at 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Present** 7 - Thomas Blackstone, Dale Hetrick, Orville Hoksch, Greg Hooper, Jorge Ipina, Walter Johnson and LeAnne Rogers
- Absent** 2 - Tom Stephens and Michael Webber

Others Present:

Sean Canto, City Fire Chief

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEM

2014-0080

2014/2015 Priorities Discussion

Attachments: [Educational Postcard - Final \(1\).pdf](#)
[Supp. Facilities Improvement and Personnel Staffing Report.pdf](#)
[Draft Ballot Language.pdf](#)
[OCRC Guide to RoadFunding.pdf](#)
[Appendix - Proposed 2014 Ballot Language.pdf](#)
[Police Road Recom 030711\(1\)\(1\) \(5\) \(1\).pdf](#)
[Purpose and Charge \(1\).pdf](#)

Chairperson Hetrick reported that the Educational Postcard (EP) would be finalized upon the City Attorney's review and mailed to the City's residents. He suggested that the Committee's next item on its timeline would be to prepare a script and educational video to be broadcast on the City's cable channel.

The Committee Members discussed:

- Various locations to distribute the EP such as the Festival of the Hills, Older Persons' Commission, Rochester Chamber of Commerce, the Rochester Hills Public Library, possibly City Hall and local area businesses;
- Contact local newspapers for the submission of a press release of the EP;
- EP mailing should coincide with the mailing of the Absentee Ballots; and
- Contact City personnel to submit the Committee's educational information and links for insertion on the Committee's City Web Page.

Chairperson Hetrick stated that he would be meeting with Mr. Jason Dale of Rochester Hills City Television to set a date for information to be broadcast on the City's cable channel.

Chairperson Hetrick then stated that the Committee should move to its follow-up of Fire Chief Sean Canto's presentation at City Council's last meeting.

Member Hooper briefly summarized that Chief Canto had made a presentation at the May 19, 2014 City Council Meeting and that City Council had referred the report for review and recommendation by the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee. He advised that City Council requested the Committee to make its recommendations by July 15, 2014.

Chairperson Hetrick commented that time was of the essence if there would be a possibility that the Committee's recommendation would include potential ballot language. He explained that the deadline for potential November 2014 ballot language is early August 2014.

The Committee Members discussed that the Committee's goal would be to review short term and long term recommendations in regard to infrastructure and staffing improvements to the City's Fire Department.

Member Hooper stated that the Committee would then submit its recommendations to City Council for City Council's review and final determination. He explained that the Headlee Amendment has reduced the maximum millage rate that can be levied and therefore has resulted in a significant reduction in funding for the City's Fire and Emergency services.

The Committee Members then discussed with **Chief Canto** the following:

- A brief, historical overview of the City's Fire Department structure and call volume when the City was formerly Avon Township;
- Description of the City's firefighters, paramedics and emergency medical technicians;
- Brief discussion of the fire fighter unions - International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) - which represent the City's full time fire fighters and the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters (MAFF) which represent the Paid On Call fire fighters (POCs);
- Training of each position within the fire department;
- Definition of 'Cross Staffing' - fire fighters are both emergency medical technicians and paramedics;
- Possible impacts on fire and emergency calls;

- Status of Equipment and Fire Apparatus;
- Description of each of the City's Fire Stations, which locations are staffed 24 hours/7 days per week;
- Impact of road construction projects on the City's emergency services;
- The growth of the City's population;
- Increase in senior citizen housing and insurance organization carrier ratings' recommendations for emergency coverage;
- Examples of call volumes, 'peak' call time periods and response times;
- Loss of trained POCs to other communities;
- 'Private' vs. 'City' Advanced Life Support/Basic Life Support services;
- Other community practices in regard to Fire and Emergency Services;
- Emergency, fire and medical service costs and how the services are billed;
- Evaluation of the fire station infrastructures; and
- Number of female and male fire fighters.

Member Hooper suggested that the Committee could select a Saturday to visit each of the City's Fire Stations which could aide the Committee Members' recommendations to City Council. He shared that when he was first elected to City Council, he had been invited to participate in a 'ride along' on an afternoon with the City's Fire Department in regard to fire and emergency service calls.

Chief Canto responded that he would check into transportation options to assist the Committee Members for a tour of each of the City's fire stations.

The Committee Members had a brief discussion in regard to possible dates for the City Fire Stations Tour and set Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 8:00 a.m.

It was suggested that Chief Canto schedule a member from each of the fire fighter unions, the IFF and MAFF to attend the Committee's next meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 to further discuss fire personnel.

Chairperson Hetrick suggested that the Committee Members send questions for Fire Chief Canto to him for organization.

Member Hooper commented that the questions could be consolidated and sent to Chief Canto so that the answers could be distributed to all of the Committee Members.

Chief Canto responded that the organization of the Committee's questions would allow him ample time to provide the answers. He stated that he would contact representatives at both of the fire fighter unions to attend the Committee's next meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2014.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- *Wednesday, June 11, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.*
- *Saturday, June 14, 2014 - 8:00 a.m. - Site Visit*
- *Wednesday, June 18, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.*
- *Wednesday, July 2, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.*
- *Tentative - Wednesday, July 9, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.*

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee, Chairperson Hetrick adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Dale Hetrick, Chairperson

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