



Rochester Hills DRAFT Minutes Public Safety Committee

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Bryan Barnett, Ron Crowell, Louis Eble, Gary Elliot, Andy LeBlanc, Adam Lomasney, Paras Patel, Linda Raschke, Gerald Robbins, Bob Smith

Monday, November 14, 2005

7:30 PM

RESCHEDULED FROM 11/07/05

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Raschke called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

Non-Voting Members Present: Chief Ron Crowell, Andy LeBlanc, Adam Lomasney and Paras Patel

Non-Voting Members Absent: Capt. Robert Smith

Others Present: Ms. Barbara Holder, Council member

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2005-0368 Regular Meeting - May 9, 2005

Attachments: PS DRAFT Minutes - no quorum.pdf; Resolution.pdf

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

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2005 as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barnett, Raschke, Robbins, Eble and Elliott

2005-0457 Regular Meeting - June 6, 2005

Attachments: Draft Minutes.pdf; Resolution.pdf

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

Resolved that the Public Safety Committee hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 6, 2005 as presented/amended.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Barnett, Raschke, Robbins, Eble and Elliott

COMMUNICATIONS

2005-0622 Funding Methods for Public Safety Operations - memo from Dan Casey, Manager of Economic Development

Attachments: 092605 Casey Memo Funding Methods.pdf

Received and Filed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2005-0110 Monthly Report - Fire Chief

Attachments: 020705 Memo Crowell.pdf

Chief Crowell reported that Jim Bradford was promoted from Captain to Deputy Chief. The Fire Department is working with Human Resources to fill two (2) vacant positions: the position of Captain as well as one full-time position that is vacant due to an employee resignation.

Discussed

2005-0447 Fire Department's New Five Year Plan (2006 and forward)

Attachments: Crowell memo for Five Year Plan dtd 11-14-05.pdf

Chief Crowell distributed a memo to the Committee requesting he be given the opportunity to use the 2006 budget year to evaluate the needs and operations of the Fire Department in order to make sound recommendations for a new Five Year Plan. His request was due to the fact that his appointment as Fire Chief was six (6) months ago. The memo also outlined 2006 budget year plans for the Fire Department. The Chief will continue to give regular updates to the Committee.

The Committee concurred with the request.

Discussed

NEW BUSINESS

2005-0767 In Case of Emergency "ICE" - numbers in cell phones

Attachments: 010906 Draft ICE brochure.pdf; 111005 ICE Article from Oakland Press.pdf

Chief Crowell gave a brief update that included the following:

** The Fire Department is working to promote the program along with neighboring communities which will include press releases and brochures.*

** The Fire Department is very careful about the type of information given out over a cell phone during any type of incident.*

Discussed

2005-0233 Police Funding

Attachments: Agenda Summary.pdf; Supplemental Memo Jenuwine dtd 2-17-06.pdf; Supplemental Memo Jenuwine dtd 2-13-06.pdf; Supplemental Memo Jenuwine dtd 5-09-05.pdf; Memo Jenuwine dtd 3-31-05.pdf; 2005 - OCSD Millage Analysis.pdf; 2005 - OCSD Millage Analysis R&E.pdf;

Although there was no member present from the Sheriff's substation, Chairperson

Raschke opened the floor for discussion and noted there were three (3) financial scenarios previously provided by the City's Finance Director which were included in the packet. The following points were noted:

- * *The Police millage is a very critical issue because residents may feel no need for more officers, but the data shows the need for more officers. The substation may be a victim of their own success because they have managed remarkably well given the current manpower, which leads to public misconception of the need for more officers.*
- * *There is a possible concern that the Oakland County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) would not honor a future contract with the City unless the substation has the appropriate number of officers in relation to the City's population.*
- * *Incredible efforts were made to work with the "millage nay-sayers" and invite them "to the table" for discussions, but they refuse to participate in any dialog.*
- * *The question remains on how to proceed, namely if there should be a citizen's committee or a committee with a mixture of staff and citizens. Because a millage expires in 2006, there is a limited amount of time to decide on a millage package and educate the public before the August and November 2006 election dates. At minimum, the police millage renewal is crucial. It may be harder to sell the police renewal because police services are not as tangible as local road conditions.*
- * *It was suggested to recruit an outside, impartial person to sit down with people like the Director of the Older Persons Commission (OPC) and determine how to gain senior citizen support. Also, to have open discussions with the "millage nay-sayers".*
- * *There is a possibility that sooner or later the option of raising the General Fund rate will have to be investigated.*
- * *It has been common practice that the Sheriff's Department is dispatched on fire and medical calls to accompany the Fire Department. That practice was established many years ago when the substation was staffed with a sufficient number of officers in relationship to the City's population. The idea behind it was for protection if an irate person appeared at the scene or to direct traffic if needed, etc. as well as if an officer happened to be nearby during a medical call and had appropriate equipment in the squad car to administer life-saving aid before paramedics arrived. However, due to the increased call volume, the Sheriff's Department is logging calls and asking if they are truly needed to arrive on those calls.*

Discussed

YOUTH COMMENTS

None were presented.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Farewell words from Mr. Robbins

Mr. Robbins expressed his gratitude in serving on the Committee for the past five (5) years and wished everyone well since this was his last meeting as a Council representative.

"Amber Alert" Discussion

Chairperson Raschke recalled a past incident where there was an OCSD helicopter flying over her yard and she received calls from neighbors inquiring as to what might be happening. She was not aware of it at that time, but it was a search for a missing child

who was found right away. She suggested that the City's alpha paging system be used to inform certain city personnel of missing children or missing elderly persons in order to provide an 'extra set of eyes and ears'.

The Committee discussed the pros and cons of using the City's alpha paging system to inform certain city personnel of missing children or elderly persons. Chief Crowell offered to provide information relative to the nation-wide Amber Alert system at a future meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, December 5, 2005 - 7:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Raschke adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Minutes prepared by Denise Mertz.

Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the _____, 2006 Regular Public Safety Committee Meeting.