



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

City Council Special Meeting

1000 Rochester Hills Dr
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
(248) 656-4600
Home Page:
www.rochesterhills.org

Kevin S. Brown, Greg Hooper, Adam Kochenderfer, Stephanie Morita, Mark A. Tisdel and Thomas W. Wiggins

Vision Statement: The Community of Choice for Families and Business

Mission Statement: "Our mission is to sustain the City of Rochester Hills as the premier community of choice to live, work and raise a family by enhancing our vibrant residential character complemented by an attractive business community."

Monday, January 5, 2015

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

In accordance with the provisions of Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, the Open Meetings Act, notice was given that a Special Rochester Hills City Council Meeting would commence at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2015, for the purpose of interviewing candidates to fill the City Council At Large vacancy and possibly appoint a new At Large City Council Member, term to expire November 15, 2015.

CALL TO ORDER

President Hooper called the Special Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Michigan Time.

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Kevin S. Brown, Greg Hooper, Adam Kochenderfer, Stephanie Morita, Mark A. Tisdel and Thomas W. Wiggins

Others Present:

*Bryan Barnett, Mayor
Tina Barton, City Clerk
Leanne Scott, Deputy Clerk*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Morita, that the Agenda be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 6 - Brown, Hooper, Kochenderfer, Morita, Tisdel and Wiggins

PUBLIC COMMENT for Items not on the Agenda

None.

LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

None.

ATTORNEY MATTERS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2015-0001** Interview of candidates for City Council At Large vacancy; and possible nominations/appointment of new City Council At Large representative to fill the unexpired term of Michael Webber; term to expire November 15, 2015

Attachments: [Blackstone, Thomas.pdf](#)
[Granthen, Julie L.pdf](#)
[Hetrick, Dale A.pdf](#)
[McGoldrick, Lorraine.pdf](#)
[010515 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Price, Donald W.pdf](#)
[Stephens, Tom.pdf](#)
[Tischer, Charles \(Chip\).pdf](#)
[City Council Vacancy Notice.pdf](#)

President Hooper explained how Council will proceed with the interview process to fill the vacancy. He noted that no public comment would be taken during the interview portion of the meeting, nor would questions directly from the public be addressed. He stated that Deputy Clerk Leanne Scott would have candidates draw numbers, and the resulting order would be how the candidates would present their opening statements. He noted that every candidate would be called forth individually, and would be given ten minutes to speak. After their opening statement, Council members would be given an opportunity to ask each candidate questions. He stated that after this process was complete, he would open the floor for nominations.

He noted that if more than one person is nominated, Council would convene tomorrow evening to conduct a formal interview of those nominated. Those candidates nominated would sit at the presenters' table and will answer questions raised by any member of Council in a random process. Subsequent to the interviews, Council would take a vote to select one candidate. Upon a candidate receiving four votes, a Council member would offer a motion to appoint that candidate. The successful candidate would then be sworn in to office by City Clerk Tina Barton. Their first meeting as a Council representative will be January 12, 2015.

Deputy Clerk Leanne Scott had each candidate draw a number. President Hooper noted that each candidate would be given up to ten minutes to introduce himself/herself and provide information on their background and qualifications, in the order of the number they drew. After their opening statements, Council members asked specific questions of each candidate.

The candidates spoke in the following order:

Candidate Charles (Chip) Tischer stated that he grew up in the area and commented that he and his wife have lived in Rochester Hills for ten years. He stated that he has degrees from Western Michigan University in Political Science and Public Policy, and has leadership experience and training through the Michigan Political Leadership Program through Michigan State University. He noted that he is currently the Community Relations Coordinator for the Huron Clinton Metroparks, responsible for all 13 parks covering five counties. He explained that he sits on three City Boards and Commissions, serving as Secretary for the Historic Districts Commission, member of the Elections Commission, and member of the Economic Development Corporation. He stressed his experience in community outreach, noted his previous work with the Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner's Office, and mentioned his work with the Great Lakes Guardians non-profit environmental group.

Questions were asked by **Mr. Tisdell, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Kochenderfer and President Hooper.**

Candidate Dale Hetrick noted that he has been a resident of Rochester Hills for nearly 20 years. He explained that as a member of the Planning Commission since 2009, he has experience applying Zoning Ordinances to dozens of residential, commercial, and brownfield development projects in the city; contributed to the Master Land Use Plan and the development of Form-Based or Overlay zoning; and participated in the Capital Improvement Plan. He pointed out that he has been a part of the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee, which has been responsible for recommending the repurposing of three expiring millages into dedicated funds for Local Roads, creating a sustainable mechanism for funding Police Services, and funding the addition of Fire and Emergency Personnel. He mentioned that in his career, he has put together strategic plans for large corporations.

Questions were asked by **Mr. Brown, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Tisdell and Ms. Morita.**

Candidate Thomas Blackstone stated that he has lived in Rochester Hills since 1995. He noted that he attended Wayne State University, graduating with a degree in Political Science. After that, he was a Detroit Police Officer for 25 years, working patrol and administration, and serving as a Detective Sergeant and in Internal Affairs. After retiring from Detroit, he was an investigator with Farmers Insurance. He mentioned his community involvement activities in Detroit, leading a resident organization of over 1,700 homeowners. He explained that since his retirement, he is a volunteer at the Rochester Neighborhood House Food Pantry, tutors immigrants in English as a Second Language, and is very involved in the Older Persons' Commission. He stated that he has been on the Advisory Traffic and Safety Board for over ten years, served on the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee, and serves on the Liquor License Technical Review Committee. He commented that as a retiree, he can represent those in the City 65 years of age and older.

Questions were asked by **Mr. Tisdell, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Kochenderfer and President Hooper.**

Candidate Lorraine McGoldrick noted that as a graduate in the field of Criminal Justice, her focus is on safety. She commented that she is a team player, able to deal with the emotional aspects and the facts of a decision. She stated that she respects private property rights, public-private partnerships, and values historical sites. She mentioned that she has been an active volunteer and community member, and looks for opportunities to include youth and engage stakeholders. She stated that all benchmarks and City goals and objectives must improve quality of life. She commented that she is a founding member of the Green Space Advisory Board, and has been involved in holding organizations accountable in matters of campaign financing. She noted her grant writing experience for the Rochester Community Schools Foundation, and stated that she received a PTA Leadership Award.

Questions were asked by **Mr. Tisdel, Mr. Brown, Mr. Wiggins** and **President Hooper**.

Candidate Julie Granthen stated that she grew up in Avon Township and has worked in both the public and private sector. She commented that she has been involved in both volunteerism and politics. She mentioned that she serves on several boards in the area and has been engaged in fund raising, strategic planning and mentoring activities. She stated that she recently took a buyout from her employer and has the time to devote to public service. She commented that, if selected, she would make decisions to benefit the city as a whole. She stated that while she would miss serving on the Historic Districts Commission and the Historic Districts Study Committee, she would welcome the opportunity to serve the city.

Questions were asked by **Mr. Tisdel, Mr. Wiggins** and **Mr. Kochenderfer**.

Candidate Don Price noted that he has been a resident of Rochester Hills for four-and-a-half years. He commented that the best way to make a difference in the community is through public office. He explained that he is currently a manager in the Evaluation and Litigation Support Group at Baker Tilly, a public advisory accounting firm with 2,500 professionals located primarily in the Midwest and East Coast. He stated that he has been involved in valuation litigation work for more than ten years and has valued hundreds of closely-held companies. He commented that he has a solid understanding of issues affecting small business owners. He stated that he has a Bachelor's in Accounting from Oakland University.

Questions were asked by **Mr. Kochenderfer, Mr. Tisdel, Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Brown** and **Ms. Morita**.

President Hooper noted that a seventh candidate who had originally submitted an application voluntarily withdrew his name from consideration due to a change in his work situation.

He noted that the next step in the appointment process would be to open the floor for nominations for individuals to move on to a formal interview. He expressed his

congratulations to each candidate for taking a bold step to throw his/her hat in the ring. He stated that each candidate is qualified to serve as a City Council member. He commented that it should not be taken as a negative if not chosen. He stated that once the floor is opened, each Council Member will be able to make one nomination. If more than one nomination is made, a formal interview process will be conducted tomorrow evening.

President Hooper Opened the Floor for Nominations.

Mr. Tisdell nominated Julie Granthen.

Mr. Wiggins nominated Lorraine McGoldrick.

President Hooper nominated Dale Hetrick.

Ms. Morita nominated Thomas Blackstone.

Seeing no further nominations, President Hooper Closed the Floor for Nominations.

President Hooper noted that as there were four nominees, Council would reconvene tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. to conduct interviews.

Discussed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Special Meeting - Tuesday, January 6, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting - Monday, January 12, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, President Hooper adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

GREG HOOPER, President
Rochester Hills City Council

TINA BARTON, MMC, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills

MARY JO PACHLA
Administrative Secretary
City Clerk's Office

Approved as presented at the (insert date, or dates) Regular City Council Meeting.