



# Rochester Hills Minutes City Council Work Session

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Home Page:  
[www.rochesterhills.org](http://www.rochesterhills.org)

*John L. Dalton, Bryan K. Barnett, Jim Duistermars, Melinda Hill,  
Barbara L. Holder, Linda Raschke, Gerald Robbins*

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Wednesday, March 31, 2004

7:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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## CALL TO ORDER

*President Dalton called the Rescheduled Rochester Hills City Council Work Session Meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Michigan Time.*

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** Dalton, Duistermars, Hill, Holder and Raschke

**Absent:** Barnett and Robbins

*Council Member Barnett provided previous notice that he would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.*

## OTHERS PRESENT:

*Pat Somerville, Mayor  
John Staran, City Attorney  
Bev Jasinski, City Clerk  
Paul Davis, City Engineer  
Julie Jenuwine, Acting Finance Director  
Raymond Leafdale, General Superintendent  
Roger Rousse, Director of DPS/Engineering*

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## ATTORNEY MATTERS

**2004-0334** Adoption of Resolution to set Closed Session at the conclusion of tonight's work session for the purpose of discussing the possible purchase or lease of real property

**Attachments:** Agenda Summary.pdf; 2004-0334 Resolution.pdf

*Item 2004-0334 was removed from the Agenda.*

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Ms. Barbara Ensminger, 1458 Brians Way, distributed a letter written by the Older Persons' Commission (OPC) to the City of Rochester City Manager Kenneth Johnson at his request outlining the reduction in participation in programs at the OPC facility since the January 1, 2004 inception of a \$150 non-resident participation fee. Ms. Ensminger noted several occurrences of decreased participation in programs compared to the same time period in 2003. While she acknowledged that a fee is necessary, she asked that the City Council reconsider the current fee and resolve this issue "in the best interest of everyone."*

Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton Road, made the following comments:

- 1) Asked residents to send their thoughts and comments regarding the single waste hauler issue to rhfreedom03@yahoo.com.
- 2) Noted that the City's ambulance service has generated fifty percent (50%) more in revenue than was originally anticipated.
- 3) Suggested that if non-residents are unwilling to pay to participate in the taxpayer supported OPC facility, then they should remain in their own communities.

## ADMINISTRATION

2004-0290

Crooks Road Boulevard Project - Street Lighting Options

**Attachments:** Agenda Summary1.pdf; Agreement.pdf; 2004-0290 Master Report.pdf; Summary Sheet2.pdf

Mr. Paul Davis, City Engineer, requested direction from City Council with regard to the street lighting on the Crooks Road Boulevard project. He briefly described three (3) suggested options as follows:

Option 1:

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- \* 250 watt high pressure sodium luminaries
- \* Mounting height = 40 feet
- \* Pole spacing down median = 160 feet
- \* Poles per mile = 33
- \* Total construction cost = \$224,000

Option 2:

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- \* 250 watt high pressure sodium luminaries
- \* Mounting height = 30 feet
- \* Pole spacing down median = 120 feet
- \* Poles per mile = 44
- \* Total construction cost = \$280,000

Option 3:

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- \* 100 watt high pressure sodium luminaries
- \* Mounting height = 15 feet
- \* Poles spacing on outside back of curb = 100 feet
- \* Poles per mile = 100
- \* Total construction cost = \$490,000

Mr. Davis suggested that Council consider such issues as consistency and the new gateway design. He also noted that this project will be expensive and will likely require funding from the City's road fund. He indicated that, as the stretch of road under consideration presents two distinct settings--residential and commercial--he suggested that two separate lighting styles be considered to compliment these distinctions.

Council discussion resulted in the following design preferences:

- \* Tear drop luminaries
- \* Poles shorter than 30 feet
- \* Poles placed in the median
- \* Fewer poles with further distance between them
- \* Pole styles that distinguish between commercial and residential

Mr. Davis acknowledged that lighting could be added at a later date following boulevard construction, however, this option would be more expensive.

**Discussed**

2004-0335

Status Report on 2004 and 2005 Local Road Program

**Attachments:** Agenda Summary.pdf; Rehmann Presentation 022604.pdf; local road funding information.pdf; 2004-0335 Master Report.pdf

Mr. Roger Rousse, Director of DPS/Engineering, and Mr. Raymond Leafdale, General Superintendent, presented information regarding the Local Roads Program, including the following information regarding road maintenance:

2004 LOCAL ROAD BUDGET UPDATE  
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Expenses:

- \* Local Road Construction - 13.08% of budget expensed
- \* Local Road Routine Maintenance - 11.71% of budget expensed
- \* Local Roads Traffic Services - 20.51% of budget expensed
- \* Local Roads Winter Maintenance - 47.77% of budget expensed
- \* Local Roads Administration - 21.52% of budget expensed

Upcoming Expenses Related to Routine Maintenance:

- \* Dust Control Program - Option #1:
  - Grade gravel roads 5 times over the summer season
  - Apply chloride following grading at a rate of 1,500 gallons per mile
  - Also includes additional applications for high traffic roads or weather
  - 191,250 gallons at .40 per gallon - \$75,500
  - Budget balance provides \$7,500 for unexpected road maintenance related to sewer or water repairs and road washouts
- \* Dust Control Program - Option #2:
  - Grade gravel roads 5 times over the summer season
  - Apply chloride following grading at a rate of 1,000 gallons per mile
  - 127,500 gallons at .40 per gallon - \$51,000
  - Does not provide any additional dust control

The cost to grade one mile of gravel road is \$318.08 times 25.5 miles = \$8,111.04 per application times 5 applications = \$40,555.20

Mr. Rousse explained that the primary benefit of a chloride program is to protect and stabilize the road gravel. He noted that a single car traveling over the same road on a daily basis in a single year will displace one ton of dust. He contended that the current chloride program could be scaled back, saving the City approximately \$25,000 in the process.

Mr. Rousse then discussed some of the accomplishments of the DPS department with regards to the City roads:

2002 PERFORMANCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE DPS FIELD OPERATIONS  
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\* Roads / Traffic Areas:

- Concrete Road Repairs - 49,150 sq. ft. removal / replacement
- Asphalt Road Repairs - 40,027 sq. ft. removal / replacement
- Cold Patching - 188.44 tons solvex patching material

- Crack Sealing - 4,225 lbs. crack seal material
- Street Sweeping - 308 miles of all curb and gutters
- Gravel Road Maintenance - 2,568 tons of road gravel
- Ditching - 7,579 feet
- Road Signs Installed - 737
- Signs Fabricated - 1,388
- Guard Rails Installed - 24 feet
- Pavement Marking Cross Walks / Stop Bars - 2,626 feet
- Traffic Surveys - 282 hours
- Winter Maintenance (salt) - 2,805.95 tons

Mr. Rousse, displaying a page from the City's actual budget, stressed that, while currently the funding is stable, it will diminish over the upcoming years. He noted that "we're looking at a short fall in the Local Road budget" and the City will "have to make some difficult decisions in the upcoming months about what level of service we hope to maintain in this program."

#### SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

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#### 203 - Local Road Fund: Statement of Revenues / Expenditures and Changes in the Fund Balance

##### Total Revenues:

- 2002 Audited Actual = \$9,517,148
- 2003 Amended Budget = \$7,900,743
- 2004 Adopted Budget = \$2,776,597
- Percent Change = -64.9%

##### Total Expenditures:

- 2002 Audited Actual = \$8,823,881
- 2003 Amended Budget = \$2,697,087
- 2004 Adopted Budget = \$4,669,152
- Percent Change = -49.9%

##### Fund Balance - Ending:

- 2002 Audited Actual = \$4,112,892
- 2003 Amended Budget = \$2,697,087
- 2004 Adopted Budget = \$804,532
- Percent Change = -70.2%

#### Discussed

## CITY COUNCIL - Item 2004-0153 was removed from the Agenda.

### 2004-0153

Presentation regarding Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET) Program

**Attachments:** Agenda Summary.pdf; PS Minutes Reg 011204.pdf; 2004-0153 Master Report.pdf

President Dalton read a statement into the record noting that Mayor Somerville had asked Lt. Joe Quisenberry, Command Officer of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET) Program, to leave the building, thus preventing him from making a presentation to Council regarding the NET Program. President Dalton stressed that the Council sets the agenda for these meetings and it is inappropriate for the Mayor to interfere with the proceedings of Council's meetings. He noted that, while Council rules prevent them from taking action during a Work Session meeting, the Mayor does hold veto power in the event that Council did make a decision regarding the NET Program.

Mayor Somerville stated that she did not ask Lt. Quisenberry to leave the building. Rather, she "asked him not to address this issue tonight."

Ms. Raschke, noting that she is a member of the Public Safety Committee, the body that brought this issue before Council, expressed her disappointment that the NET Program would not be examined further.

Ms. Hill stressed that the Mayor attends Council meetings as a guest of the City Council. She described the Mayor's actions as "unfair" and "inexcusable."

Ms. Holder stated she felt the issue was "getting blown out of proportion." She acknowledged concerns regarding the budget and the possible addition of more police officers, and noted the recent failure of the proposed police millage at the polls.

Mr. Duistermars, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, stated that he was "dismayed" when he learned a guest his committee had recommended to appear before Council "was not welcome at this meeting." He stressed that the request for this presentation came at the request of residents who serve on the Public Safety Committee. He expressed concern that committee volunteers may be discouraged from serving if their efforts appear pointless.

**(Recess 8:46 p.m. - 8:56 p.m.)**

**2004-0032**

**False Alarm Program**

**Attachments:** Agenda Summary.pdf; 020204 False Alarm info.pdf; PS Minutes Reg 020204.pdf; 2004-0032 Master Report.pdf; 040204 Smith Capt R.pdf

Mr. Dan Clark, 7608 Sweetbriar, West Bloomfield, identified himself as the former False Alarm Officer for the City of Troy Police Department. He described in detail the program he implemented in Troy to contend with excessive false alarms which result in a waste of public safety officer's time and resources. The program, as he described it, uses the following techniques:

- The City ordinance is written to require that all homeowners and businesses with monitored alarm systems register these systems with the City and pay an annual registration fee.
- The ordinance clarifies that the City and its Police Department are under no obligation to respond to alarms, especially in the case of repeated false alarms.
- The ordinance defines a fine structure to be implemented in the case of repeated false alarms. For example, a \$100 fine for the third and fourth false alarm, \$200 for the fifth and sixth false alarm, \$500 for every false alarm thereafter.
- A sworn officer should be assigned to this program to add authority and weight to the implementation of the program.
- A clerk may be needed to build and maintain a data base of alarm system registrants.
- A properly maintained data base will also function as documentation to be presented in court were litigation brought by a homeowner or business in the event of the police not responding to an appropriate alarm.
- The program, after approximately five (5) years of consistent implementation, will yield significantly fewer false alarms.

Mr. Clark noted that the average amount of time law enforcement officers spend answering false alarms is thirty (30) minutes and approximately 60% of all police calls are the result of false alarms.

*PUBLIC COMMENT:*

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*Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton Road, noting that he sat in on the false alarm presentation at the Public Safety Committee meeting, voiced his support for the system, but suggested that the registration fee be increased as well as the fines resulting from non-compliance.*

*COUNCIL DISCUSSION:*

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*Mr. Clark, addressing specific questions from Council members, made the following observations:*

*\* The intention of the program is not to generate revenues to offset the salaries of additional officers, but rather to reduce the occurrences of false alarms to the extent that the current roster of police officers are free to respond to legitimate calls.*

*\* The program is most effective in communities that maintain a high level of diligence to the program's procedures.*

*\* Rochester Hills' current false alarm problem substantiates the implementation of this type of program.*

*The consensus of City Council was to return this issue to the Public Safety Committee for further examination and to consider issues of customization specific to the Rochester Hills community.*

**Discussed**

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Ms. Holder announced the recent death due to illness of DPS employee Scott Lubman stating , "our hearts and prayers go out to his family."*

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*None*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

*Regular Meeting - Wednesday, April 7, 2004 at 7:30 p.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business before Council, President Dalton adjourned the meeting at 9:36 p.m.*

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*JOHN L. DALTON, President  
Rochester Hills City Council*

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*BEVERLY A. JASINSKI, Clerk  
City of Rochester Hills*

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*MARGARET A. STRATE  
Administrative Secretary  
City Clerk's Office*

*Approved as presented at the May 19, 2004 Regular City Council Meeting.*