



Rochester Hills

Minutes

City Council Regular Meeting

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

*David J. Blair, Susan M. Bowyer Ph.D., Ryan Deel, Dale A. Hetrick, Stephanie Morita,
Theresa Mungoli and David Walker*

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, May 4, 2020

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

President Deel called the Regular Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Michigan Time.

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - David Blair, Susan M. Bowyer, Ryan Deel, Dale Hetrick, Stephanie Morita, Theresa Mungoli and David Walker

Others Present:

*Bryan Barnett, Mayor
Tina Barton, City Clerk
Scott Cope, Building/Ordinance/Facilities Director
Paul Davis, Deputy Public Services Director/City Engineer
Ken Elwert, Parks and Natural Resources Director
Pamela Gordon, Human Resources Director
Sara Roediger, Planning and Economic Development Director
Allan Schneck, Public Services Director
Leanne Scott, Deputy Clerk
Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer
John Staran, City Attorney
Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungoli and Walker

COUNCIL AND YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORTS

Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB):

Vice President Bowyer reported that people are getting out and enjoying the City's parks and green spaces. She stated that the City's green space properties are natural habitats for many animals including deer and coyotes; and she reminded visitors that they should leave their pets at home to avoid any aggression by the animals who call the green spaces home. She noted that baby deer should be left alone, and the City's naturalist should be contacted if there are any concerns. She added that possums are out right now and commented that they are beneficial to have around as they eat ticks and rarely carry rabies.

Older Persons' Commission (OPC):

Mr. Hetrick reported that the OPC's Annual 5K run will be virtual this year, making it great for anyone to participate and support Meals on Wheels. He commented that participants can register online for the virtual run and take a photo of themselves participating.

Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA) and Rochester Area Youth Assistance (RAYA):

Ms. Mungoli reported that both RARA and RAYA are meeting by Zoom. She noted that RAYA's Board meeting was held last week, and RARA's meeting will be held next week. She mentioned that RARA will be discussing plans for how the organization might be able to open up this summer.

PRESENTATIONS

2020-0153 Request for Acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) presented by the audit firm of Yeo & Yeo, PLLC

Attachments: [05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Presentation.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, introduced **Alan Panter** and **Mike Rolka**, representing the City's auditors Yeo and Yeo PLLC.

Mr. Panter thanked the City for the opportunity to present the audit information virtually. He noted that this is Yeo and Yeo's second year conducting the City's audit, and he stated that the City's excellent staff made it easier for the auditors to get the job done. He mentioned that the majority of the audit was completed prior to the onset of COVID. He stated that common threads running throughout the audit process is that the City is best-in-class, in the top five percent, and is a forward-thinking community; which shows up in its budgeting, forecasting, and best practices. He thanked the Accounting and Fiscal staff, noting that Mr. Snyder and City Accountant Pam Lee are top-notch professionals. He stated that he will address a number-one question on everyone's mind as to the direction that COVID-19 will be taking the City.

He noted that the auditor's purpose is to give an opinion on the financial statements, and it is the City's management that has the responsibility to prepare a fair presentation in accordance with GAAP standards. He stated that the auditors present an unmodified or clean opinion, which is the best that it can be.

Mr. Rolka summarized the presentation with the following:

- *Governmental Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balances:*

* *The last five years were reviewed, and transfers-in and transfers-out were added in.*

* *2019 numbers were high due to the new Fund Balance Policy.*

* *Total revenues and expenditures are close to last year.*

* *Capital outlays were high for 2019, \$20 million up from \$15 million in 2018.*

This indicates that there has been a significant investment made in the city.

* *Fund Balance has been stable, moving up over the last five years.*

- *Sources of Governmental Revenues:*

* *Nearly every area is consistent year over year, with the exception of capital outlay. Outlay in 2019 was the largest in ten years, and increased significantly due to several road projects, including Auburn Road, Livernois Road and John R.*

* *Most revenue sources have been consistent year-over-year. Property taxes are up approximately \$1.5 million in 2019, other sources of revenue are higher due to grants to help with road projects from the Michigan Department of Transportation and Oakland County, and investment earnings are up as a result of favorable rates.*

* *Governmental Fund Balances are consistent year-over-year. Unassigned Fund Balance is approximately \$19.7 million, only a small decrease of the previous year.*

- *Water and Sewer Fund Activity:*

* *The net investment in capital assets has fluctuated anywhere from \$100 million to \$110 million and has been fairly consistent over the past several years.*

* *Revenues and expenditures are fairly close year-over-year, and is a good representation that rates are being set appropriately to meet expenses.*

* *Unrestricted net position allows the City to have the latitude to cover an unforeseen major break or overhaul water and sewer lines in a particular area.*

Mr. Panter stated that the Governance letter discusses the implementation of three new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards: GASB 84 is relative to fiduciary activities; GASB 87 deals with leases and for the City recognized the lease receivable for the Pine Trace Golf Course; GASB 88 was relatively minor, and dealt with formatting changes for long-term debt. Upcoming GASB statements are not anticipated to have a significant impact on City reporting. The letter points out significant estimates on capital assets such as buildings, sewer and water lines, actuarial information regarding Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) liabilities, and current liabilities for estimated absences. The remainder of the letter reports any management comments, difficulties or misstatements. This year none of these are reported and he noted

that this is a testament to the City staff.

He reviewed future challenges the City may face, including the economic outlook of COVID-19. He noted that their staff and Joe Snyder have attended many meetings and webinars hosted by various entities sharing much good information. He stated that as of right now it appears that the next State Shared Revenues and Act 51 payments, which are based on sales and gas tax, could be reduced by as much as 50 percent, rebounding to a possible decrease of approximately 25 percent for the remainder of the year. He commented that it will be difficult to predict actual numbers as it will depend on revenues at the State level and the progression of the virus to a possible second wave. He explained that the State hosts a revenue estimation conference twice a year, in January and in May, which is the basis for their budgetary process. He noted that Mr. Snyder will provide an update at a Council meeting in two weeks on how the Coronavirus is affecting the City financially, and will provide information on the outcome of the revenue conference. He commented that while there is much uncertainty, he would assure Council that the City is in a very good financial position to weather the storm through its careful planning, management and conservative budget approaches.

Mr. Hetrick *stated that he was looking for information regarding whether the City's structural surplus at the end of 2019 would provide sufficient clearance going into the COVID challenge to help weather a revenue shortfall.*

Mr. Panter *responded that the City operates with a structural surplus where the revenues of the City are intended to and generally do exceed the operating expenditures. He commented that this puts the City in an advantageous position; while it does not guarantee that each year Fund Balance will continue to go up. He pointed out that there was a redistribution of funds at the end of 2019 between the various funds under the City's Fund Balance Policy. He commented that the City is currently operating at a Fund Balance level of 80 percent of annual expenditures which is a healthy percentage of annual expenditures.*

Mr. Hetrick *commented that as the City implemented the new Fund Balance Policy at the end of last year, it provides another tool going forward to navigate through the financial challenges that lie ahead.*

Ms. Mungoli *questioned what overall percentage of the City's annual budget will be impacted by COVID.*

Mr. Panter *responded that while State Shared Revenue and Act 51 monies are sources of the City's revenues, the most significant source is Property Taxes. He explained that the property tax calendar is unchanged, Taxable Value and Millage Rates are in place, and taxes will be levied and paid. He noted that Act 51 Funds go to Major Roads and Local Streets and do not go into the General Fund.*

Ms. Mungoli *commented that grants that may or may not be made available to the City would go toward projects.*

Mr. Panter confirmed that was correct.

Ms. Mungioli encouraged residents to review the summary document, noting that gives a comprehensive view of what is going on in the City.

Mr. Blair expressed appreciation for the presentation, noting that it is good to hear that the City is well-positioned. He questioned how the auditors determined that the City is well-positioned to weather COVID-19 and what assumptions were made.

Mr. Panter responded that his statement of the City's position was not made with any assumptions of the duration or severity of the pandemic. He commented that he does not know of anyone that would say with any certainty what the City will see over the next few months. He noted that the Fund Balances of the City are in place to meet the needs of the City's residents for a good amount of time. He stated that the City's responsibility to meet the needs of the residents should not be affected over the short term.

Vice President Bowyer expressed her thanks to the auditors for assuring Council that the City is in good shape. She commented that Mr. Snyder and Ms. Lee have done a great job.

Mayor Barnett expressed appreciation for Council's comments, and noted that there are many challenges that no one is sure about. He commented that Mr. Snyder and Ms. Lee and their teams have worked exceptionally hard, and stated that it is great to know that the City has one of the best teams in the business.

President Deel expressed his thanks for the presentation this evening. He noted that the City had a significant year in capital investments in 2019. He commented that the fact that the City was able to undertake these projects and still maintain a healthy fund balance that will allow the City to weather an unforeseen emergency is impressive. He thanked the City's team and noted that while Council votes to approve, it shows their excellent financial stewardship.

Ms. Morita stated that she remembers comment made by former Councilmember Adam Kochenderfer; what is important is not how you spend your money when you do not have it, but how you do not spend your money when you do have it. She stated the fact that the City has been able to engage in the amount of capital improvements it has in the last year is reflective of Councils-past and their decision to not spend money when they could have. She commented that Council has been conservative and does not borrow money to undertake projects and saves money to pay for them in cash, which gives the City more cash flow to pay for things later. She noted that while the Administration is a part of the process, credit must be given to the Councils that have come before for their financial planning and good leadership.

A motion was made by Mungioli, seconded by Hetrick, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0102-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby acknowledges receipt of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) from City Administration and the auditing firm of Yeo & Yeo, PLLC for the 2019 Fiscal Year.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

2020-0157 Request for Acceptance of First Reading - an Ordinance to Amend Section 30-29 of Chapter 30, Community Development, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rochester Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, to update the owner's name for the Cliffview Tax Exemption; repeal conflicting Ordinances, and prescribe a penalty for violations

Attachments: [05182020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Ordinance.pdf](#)
[05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Loomis et al Email Request.pdf](#)
[Purchase Agreement.pdf](#)
[05042020 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director, stated that the next two agenda items coming before Council are for the same basic reasons. She explained that the properties either have changed ownership or will be changing ownership. She noted that this particular item amends the Ordinance that grants taxation exemption for the Cliffview community. She explained that The Cliffview Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership has secured a new MSHDA loan and in order for them to receive the tax exemption bond financing, the Internal Revenue Code requires that the property is sold to a new owner. To meet this requirement they have entered into a purchase agreement with Cliffview II Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership. In order to close on the new MSHDA loan, MSHDA is requiring that the pilot Ordinance be amended. Council is requested to accept the first reading of the amended Ordinance.

Ms. Munglioli thanked Ms. Taylor for responding to her email over the weekend regarding this and the next agenda item in ensuring that the city still has low incoming housing available for the residents who want to live in Rochester Hills.

A motion was made by Munglioli, seconded by Bowyer, that this matter be Accepted for First Reading by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Munglioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0114-2020

Resolved, that an Ordinance to Amend Section 30-29 of Chapter 30, Community Development, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rochester Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, to update the owner's name for the Cliffview Tax Exemption; repeal conflicting Ordinances, and prescribe a penalty for violations is hereby accepted for First Reading.

2020-0158 Request for Acceptance of First Reading - an Ordinance to Amend Section 30-32 of Chapter 30, Community Development, of the Code of Ordinances of

the City of Rochester Hills, Oakland County, Michigan to update the owner's name for the Danish Village Tax Exemption; repeal conflicting Ordinances, and prescribe a penalty for violations

Attachments: [05182020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Ordinance.pdf](#)
[05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Regulatory Agreement.pdf](#)
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)
[05042020 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director, stated that this item is to update the name for the Danish Village Tax Exemption in the Ordinance. She explained that the original owner of the property was the Lutheran Housing Corporation, doing business as Danish Village. The City recently discovered that the property transferred ownership to Danish Village Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership and is doing business as Samaritas Affordable Living of Rochester Hills. Council is requested to accept the first reading to amend the Ordinance to recognize the name and ownership.

President Deel noted that this was discovered by staff. He questioned how long it had been since the facility changed ownership.

Ms. Taylor responded that it had been quite a while since the ownership changed; however, the facility was still carrying on business as Danish Village and all paperwork came through as such. The change was discovered when research was undertaken for an easement.

Ms. Munglioli expressed her thanks to Ms. Taylor and her team for following this through.

A motion was made by Munglioli, seconded by Blair, that this matter be Accepted for First Reading by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Munglioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0115-2020

Resolved, that an Ordinance to Amend Section 30-32 of Chapter 30, Community Development, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rochester Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, to update the owner's name for the Danish Village Tax Exemption; repeal conflicting Ordinances, and prescribe a penalty for violations is hereby accepted for First Reading.

PUBLIC COMMENT for Items not on the Agenda

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion, without discussion. If any Council Member or Citizen requests discussion of an item, it will be removed from Consent Agenda for separate discussion.

2020-0173 Approval of Minutes - City Council Regular Meeting - December 2, 2019

Attachments: [CC Min 120219.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0103-2020

Resolved, that the Minutes of a Rochester Hills City Council Regular Meeting held on December 2, 2020 be approved as presented.

2020-0152 Request for Acceptance of the Subrecipient Agreement between Oakland County and the City of Rochester Hills for the allocation of grant funding under the 2020 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant

Attachments: [05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[HIDTA Subgrant Agreement 2020.pdf](#)
[HIDTA Exhibits A-E.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0104-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby accepts the Subrecipient Agreement between Oakland County and the City of Rochester Hills for the allocation of grant funding under the 2020 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant and further authorizes the Mayor to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City.

Passed the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Hetrick, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungiolli and Walker

LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

President Deel stated that this is an era of social distancing, and he stressed the importance of checking in with family members. He mentioned that last weekend's weather was great, and he displayed some family photos taken at Innovation Hills, commenting that it was absolutely beautiful. He noted that the City's parks are there for everyone to enjoy.

Vice President Bowyer made the following announcements:

- While many of the Outdoor Engagement programs are on hold right now, the River Float is scheduled for July 26. A Teen River Float is set for August 30. Register via the City's website.
- May is Mental Health Month. With the current widespread anxiety and fear over COVID-19, anyone needing help can reach out to the North Oakland Health Center at 248-858-1280.
- Sunday is Mother's Day.

- *Neighborhood House has been stepping up to help with food and shelter to those in need in the City. Monetary donations are needed.*

Mayor Barnett provided the following update:

- *The City has received great feedback on Innovation Hills.*
- *COVID cases continue to rise; however, the curve is flattening.*
- *Per the Governor's orders, construction activities can resume on Thursday. There is cautious optimism that things will begin to return to normal. Restaurants, theaters, and gyms, however, are still closed through May 28.*
- *The City received 15,000 masks approximately one week ago through the US Conference of Mayors. Thanks go to the Mayor's team for their efforts in distributing over 10,000 masks to date. Five masks were delivered to every senior citizen in a bed in a senior, assisted-living or memory care unit in the city.*
- *An acquaintance through the US Conference of Mayors volunteered a semi-truck full of bleach, which will be split between the city and Detroit's Mayor Duggan.*
- *City leadership is staying engaged with leaders of the organizations in the community, including the Rochester Avon Recreation Authority, Older Persons' Commission, the Rochester Hills Public Library, Avondale and Rochester Schools, and Ascension Health. Ascension leadership is expressing gratitude for the help of the community in delivering food, supplies, and support.*
- *Today is International Firefighters Day. The City is grateful for its emergency personnel and their efforts during this time. Chief Canto is currently recovering from COVID-19, and several other firefighters are in various stages of being diagnosed and recovering.*
- *Every week he hosts various leadership meetings; and Jovita Carranza, Administrator of the US Small Business Administration (SBA) participated in last Friday's meeting. The SBA has gone through 14 years of loan monies in 14 days. About 90 percent of small businesses still have not received any funding.*
- *The City is working on enhancing its virtual experience for the residents.*
- *Festival of the Hills will be postponed. It is impossible to imagine a scenario to assemble over 40,000 people in a park and keep them safe.*
- *The city's Census response is at 77.3 percent. Efforts are in plan to get the city's numbers over 90 percent.*
- *Chief Assistant to the Mayor, Maria Willett was selected for Crain's "20 in their Twenties"*

President Deel expressed his wishes for Chief Canto's quick recovery. He commented that it is truly impressive how the City has been able to pivot over to provide digital services. While he is sad that the Festival of the Hills has been postponed, it is truly the right decision.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney John Staran had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

2020-0159 Request for Acceptance of the Certified Assessment Roll for Bolinger Street

Paving Special Assessment District

Attachments: [05182020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Standard Roll Report 808.pdf](#)
[Memo to Mayor 04232020.pdf](#)
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)
[05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[CERTIFICATE Bolinger Street Paving SAD.pdf](#)
[Certified Special Assessment Roll.pdf](#)
[05042020 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director, stated that on October 7, 2019, City Council held a Public Hearing of Necessity and adopted a resolution to proceed with the public improvement and establish a Special Assessment District (SAD) for the Bolinger Street paving project. On December 2, 2019, City Council held the public hearing to consider objections to the draft special assessment roll. The project was approved on March 16, 2020. Tonight the request is for Council to accept the Certified Assessment Roll for Bolinger Street, direct the roll be filed with the City Clerk for public examination, and set the public hearing on May 18, 2020 to confirm the SAD roll and command that the special assessment be spread.

Public Comment

Robert Hall, 992 Bolinger Street, participating via Zoom, noted that he was told by Paul Davis that sprinklers would not have to be relocated. He questioned when the decision was made that Bolinger residents would have to pay for their sprinkler removals, while others would not have to pay.

Paul Davis, Deputy Public Service Director/City Engineer, stated that he would follow up Mr. Hall regarding his sprinklers. He explained that typically residents are asked to pull their sprinklers out of the right-of-way so they are not damaged and reinstall them after completion. He noted that for some projects, residents are responsible for their sprinklers and for others it is included in the bid amount.

A motion was made by Hetrick, seconded by Bowyer, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0110-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby accepts the Certified Assessment Roll for the Bolinger Street Paving Special Assessment District (SAD); directs the roll be filed with the City Clerk for examination, and sets the Public Hearing to confirm the Bolinger Street Paving SAD for May 18, 2020; and

Further Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council intends to adopt a resolution following the Public Hearing for the Bolinger Street Paving SAD on May 18, 2020 to: bill and collect; setting of the interest rate; and, setting of the date interest begins.

2020-0160 Request for Acceptance of the Certified Assessment Roll for Michelson Road Paving Special Assessment District

Attachments: [05182020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Standard Roll Report 813.pdf](#)
[Memo to Mayor 04232020.pdf](#)
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)
[05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[CERTIFICATE Michelson Road Paving SAD.pdf](#)
[Certified Special Assessment Roll.pdf](#)
[05042020 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director, stated that on October 7, 2019, City Council held a Public Hearing of Necessity and adopted a resolution to proceed with the public improvement and establish a Special Assessment District (SAD) for the Michelson Road paving project. On December 2, 2019, City Council held the public hearing to consider objections to the draft special assessment roll. The project was approved on March 16, 2020. Tonight the request is for Council to accept the Certified Assessment Roll for Michelson Street, direct the roll be filed with the City Clerk for public examination, and set the public hearing on May 18, 2020 to confirm the SAD roll and command that the special assessment be spread.

A motion was made by Bowyer, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Munglioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0112-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby accepts the Certified Assessment Roll for the Michelson Road Paving Special Assessment District (SAD); directs the roll be filed with the City Clerk for examination, and sets the Public Hearing to confirm the Michelson Road Paving SAD for May 18, 2020; and

Further Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council intends to adopt a resolution following the Public Hearing for the Michelson Road Paving SAD on May 18, 2020 to: bill and collect; setting of the interest rate; and, setting of the date interest begins.

2019-0124 Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Authorization to increase the existing contract/blanket purchase order between the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the City of Rochester Hills for the construction of Auburn Road Phase I road reconstruction project in the amount of \$182,000.00 for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$6,300,000.00; Michigan Department of Transportation, Lansing, MI

Attachments: [05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[032519 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Contract.pdf](#)
[Email Staran.pdf](#)
[032519 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Allan Schneck, Public Services Director, stated that Council is requested to approve increasing the Blanket Purchase Order with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for Auburn Road Phase 1. He explained that on March 25, 2019, Council approved entering into an agreement with MDOT for approximately \$6.1 million, prior to the actual bid through MDOT. The low bid

was read April 5, 2019 and was \$6.26 million, and the Administration feels that the project will come in at \$6.26 million. The request is to increase the budget to \$6.3 million, which leads to a budget shortage of approximately \$50,000. As there are funds remaining from unexpended geotechnical services in the amount of \$95,000, fund reserves will not be needed to cover the increase.

He commented that delivering a project of this magnitude and delivering it at the bid amount without the typical ten percent contingency request is noteworthy. He stated that Mr. Davis, as the City's point person on the project, has done an outstanding job to keep this project in budget.

He noted that Dr. Bowyer had submitted questions regarding the project scope, and explained that this is deemed Phase I of the project, consisting of Auburn Road from right-of-way to right-of-way. The alleyway and the plaza projects are both separate.

President Deel commented that it is impressive that on a project of this size that it comes in as bid, and stated that it is great work by the City's team.

Vice President Bowyer expressed her congratulations that the project was able to be kept to the bid amount. She commented that Mr. Davis did a fabulous job and she thanked him for seeing this project through. She stated that the result is beautiful.

Mr. Schneck commented that there was much discussion regarding supporting small businesses, and pointed out that Brain Freeze opened last Saturday.

A motion was made by Bowyer, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0107-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes an increase to the existing contract/blanket purchase order between the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the City of Rochester Hills for the construction of Auburn Road Phase I road reconstruction project in the amount of \$182,000.00 for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$6,300,000.00.

2020-0151 Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Cost Participation Agreement approval between the Board of Road Commissioners (BOARD) and the City of Rochester Hills for the Environmental Assessment Study for the widening of Adams Road from Hamlin Road to Walton Boulevard in the amount of \$250,000.00; Road Commission for Oakland County, MI

Attachments: [05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[RCOC BUILD Grant Info.pdf](#)
[RCOC Options and Evaluation Summary.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Allan Schneck, Public Services Director, stated that a feasibility study was undertaken for the options that may be available for widening Adams Road from Hamlin to Walton. He mentioned that approximately two weeks ago, he forwarded an email with the study report and supporting documentation to

Council from a Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) representative. He explained that the next step to possibly widening Adams Road would be through an Environmental Assessment. He stated that if the RCOC was awarded a Build Grant in the amount of \$2 million, the City would be asked to split the \$500,000 match between the City and the RCOC, committing the City to \$250,000 for a possible \$2,250,000. He noted that Build Grants used to be called Tiger Grants under the Obama administration, and noted that in 2017 the RCOC secured a Tiger Grant for North Holly Road. Council is being asked to approve the commitment of \$250,000 if the RCOC is awarded a Build Grant.

President Deel noted that it appears that the RCOC has had success in securing funds.

Mr. Schneck responded that it has, and commented that the City has garnered support from the State Representative and from the two Oakland County Commissioners, who are writing letters in support of the project.

Mr. Hetrick stated that this is great news. He commented that it has been well-known for years that this stretch of Adams Road is a traffic bottleneck, and to have Oakland University, the RCOC, and the City collaborate to arrive at a game plan is another example of forward-thinking. He stated that the program in place to develop an Environmental Assessment is exactly what needs to be done.

Mr. Blair questioned whether the project could remedy the steep grade on Adams just south of the University traffic light.

Mr. Schneck responded that guidelines are used to design roads and include stopping sight distances for vertical grades based upon speed. He stated that he would anticipate that the hills would be cut. He commented that as Ms. Morita has always advocated for other modes of transportation, he would expect that pathways would also be incorporated along that section of road.

Ms. Mungoli commented that most of the work on this precedes her time on Council, and stated that she will be giving Mr. Schneck a call to discuss the prior work that has been done. She noted that she is not a big fan of roundabouts and would like more information on why they would be the recommended option.

Ms. Morita stated OU has an interest in exploring Adams Road as they have a significant amount of traffic backups during times when people leave campus. She commented that her District #1, includes both sides of Adams Road, north and south to both ends of the city; and she noted that one of the biggest issues raised by her constituents is traffic and pedestrian safety along Adams. She stated that the result will be a safer roadway for the residents. She added that over the last 16 years that she has been in her current home traffic has gotten bad and some sort of traffic remediation is needed along this road. She commented that she looks forward to what the report will have to say and hopes that any environmental impacts will be able to be mitigated.

President Deel commented that the data included many rear-end collisions,

supporting Mr. Blair's comments regarding the steep grade. He stated that he appreciates the collaboration between the stakeholders, and believes that a project will result that will benefit everyone involved.

Ms. Mungoli stated that she drove that section today and reviewed the proximity of the homes to Adams Road, and expressed her hope that the residents will be kept aware of the progress and the impact of any project. She noted that she drives that section twice a day and the need is there; however, she wants to understand the project and its impact to the residents.

Mayor Barnett stated that collaboration moving forward is key. He commented that while this project is a long way from anything happening, this step must be taken first. He noted that OU has some historic stone fencing along the roadway and this discussion would not have been held without their interest and input. He stressed that there will be much discussion, meetings and input as the project progresses. He mentioned that the City's recent resident survey yielded that Adams Road was the road that needed to be widened most by a two-to-one margin of respondents.

A motion was made by Hetrick, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungoli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0108-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the cost Participation Agreement between the Board of Road Commissioners (BOARD) and the City of Rochester Hills for the Environmental Assessment Study for the widening of Adams Road from Hamlin Road to Walton Boulevard in the amount of \$250,000.00 and further authorizes the Mayor to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City.

2020-0155 Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Cost Participation Agreement approval between the Board of County Road Commissioners (BOARD) for the County of Oakland and the City of Rochester Hills for the widening and reconstruction of Dequindre Road from north of Utica Road to north of Auburn Road in the amount of \$189,425.00; Road Commission for Oakland County, Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Attachments: [05042020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Cost Participation Agreement.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Allan Schneck, Public Services Director, stated that the project has been let for bid by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), will be administered by the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), and will hopefully start in late May or early June. He explained that funds have been leveraged and grants obtained, and Tri-Party dollars will be used on the City's participatory share. He noted that the City's original share of the project was in excess of \$400,000 and it is now \$189,425.

President Deel stated that he has observed that preparatory work has already begun on the project.

A motion was made by Hetrick, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0109-2020

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the Cost Participation Agreement between the Board of County Road Commissioners (BOARD) for the County of Oakland and the City of Rochester Hills for the widening and reconstruction of Dequindre Road from north of Utica Road to north of Auburn Road in the amount of \$189,425.00 and further authorizes the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the City.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Regular Meeting - Monday, May 18, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, it was moved by Walker and seconded by Mungioli to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

*RYAN DEEL, President
Rochester Hills City Council*

*TINA BARTON, MMC, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills*

*MARY JO PACHLA
Administrative Assistant II*

Approved as presented at the August 24, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.