



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

City Council Work Session

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Home Page:
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*Erik Ambrozaitis, Jim Duistermars, Barbara Holder, Greg Hooper,
Linda Raschke, James Rosen, Ravi Yalamanchi*

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

7:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

President Rosen called the Rochester Hills City Council Work Session Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Michigan Time.

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Jim Duistermars, Barbara Holder, Greg Hooper, Linda Raschke, James Rosen and Ravi Yalamanchi

Absent 1 - Erik Ambrozaitis

Others Present

*Ed Anzek, Director of Planning/Development
Bryan Barnett, Mayor
Dan Casey, Manager of Economic Development
Julie Jenuwine, Director of Finance
Pam S. Lee, City Accountant
Jane Leslie, City Clerk
David Levett, Financial Analyst
Leanne Scott, City Council Coordinator
Paul Shumejko, Transportation Engineer
Joe Snyder, Senior Financial Analyst
John Staran, City Attorney*

Council Member Erik Ambrozaitis provided previous notice he would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REVIEW OF AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Chris Hughes, 1408 New Life Lane, praised the Clerk's Office Staff and the Poll Workers for their outstanding professionalism during the November 6, 2007 Election.

Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton, gave credit to all who ran in this election; stating if they failed, they did so trying.

LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

Ms. Holder thanked the residents who took the time to vote in the General Election on November 6, 2007. She noted that there are 47,918 registered voters in the City, but only 12,870 voted in the recent election. She commented that this was only 26.86 percent of the registered voters. She encouraged all residents in the City to vote. She advised that she is the new Secretary for the Holiday Helpers organization. She emphasized this organization's need for donations in the form of monetary gifts, gift cards, or residents could "adopt" a family for the Christmas Holiday. She advised that this organization helps seniors, children, and families in need to have a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Duistermars expressed his appreciation to the Clerk's Office Staff for all of their hard work in the recent election. He congratulated all candidates who ran for public office in the November Election.

Mr. Hooper congratulated the Clerk's Office Staff on their job performance in the recent General Election.

Ms. Raschke expressed "bitter sweet" feelings regarding her departure as a City Council member. She advised that she would be joining the Holiday Helpers Organization with Ms. Holder. She thanked Ms. Jane Leslie, City Clerk, and her staff for their work at the November 6th Election.

PRESENTATIONS

2007-0762 Adoption of Resolution for the *Brooksie Way Half-Marathon* scheduled for Sunday, October 5, 2008.

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Race Announcement.pdf](#)
[UofM Flint Study.pdf](#)
[Proposed Route.pdf](#)
[Draft Website.pdf](#)

A Presentation was given by **Mr. Doug Smith**, Oakland County Director of Economic Development, **Ms. Deb Kiertzner**, Crim Race Director, and **Mr. Mike Hall**, Operations Manager for the upcoming race.

Mr. Doug Smith stated the Crim Fitness Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides year round health and fitness programs for children and adults, has partnered with Oakland County to establish the first half-marathon race in Oakland County. He further stated that the race was named in honor of the son of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. He commented that they had looked at many different areas in the region and even considered Woodward Avenue, which is 26 miles long, the exact length of a marathon. He added that with the guidance of the Crim Fitness Foundation, and Ms. Deb Kiertzner, they learned that the half-marathon has become a very popular race. He noted that the start of the race will be at Oakland University at either Meadowbrook Hall, or at the Meadowbrook Festival grounds. Their objective was to highlight the many communities that are in Oakland County. He asked Council for their permission and partnership in approving this race to go through the City of Rochester Hills. He stated that they would like to hold the race on October 5, 2008.

This matter was Presented

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2007-0728 2008-2009 Plan Year / Annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Application

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Attachments: [Minor Home Repair Program Guidelines.pdf](#)

[Agenda Summary.pdf](#)

[Ltr Requesting CDBF Funding.pdf](#)

[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)

President Rosen Opened the Public Hearing at 8:22 p.m.

President Rosen asked if there were any members of the Public that wished to speak. Seeing none **President Rosen Closed the Public Hearing at 8:23 p.m.**

Mr. John Dalton, Avondale Youth Assistance, provided copies to Council of how the Avondale Youth Assistance utilized the previous years' funds. He reported that the organization was able to provide assistance to 41 children. He encouraged Council to continue with the \$3,500 donation that they previously allocated to this organization in 2007.

Ms. Pam Strzalkowski, Caseworker for the Rochester Area Youth Assistance (RAYA), stated the RAYA was participating in a program called "Camp Safari" that is operated by the Rochester Avon Recreation Authority. She thanked Council for supporting this program in 2007 and asked that Council consider RAYA's application again this year for funding.

Ms. Peggy White, Executive Director, Rochester Area Neighborhood House, asked Council for their continued support of the Clothes Closet Program with a donation of \$3,500. She noted that the Rochester Area Neighborhood House had served 350 families from Rochester Hills.

Ms. Sharon Everts, Residential Counselor Advocate for Haven, thanked Council for their previous donations and asked for their continued support of this program. She commented that in 2007 Haven was able to give aid to 204 individuals in Rochester Hills. She asked Council for a donation of \$11,000, which is an increase from the previous years amount.

Ms. Holder stated that she was thankful that the Rochester Area Neighborhood House was able to provide clothing for so many families in need.

Mr. Yalamanchi thanked all of the agencies for the various types of service they provided for the residents of Rochester Hills.

This matter was Discussed

ADMINISTRATION

2007-0384 Request for Purchase Authorization - CLERKS/Accounting Division: Professional Financial Auditing Services contract in the amount not-to-exceed \$265,397.00; Plante & Moran PLLC, Southfield, MI

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[New Auditing Standards.pdf](#)
[Letter to Purchasing.pdf](#)
[Eng Ltr and Prof Srvcs Agrmnt.pdf](#)

Ms. Pam Lee, City Accountant, stated she was requesting a three-year service agreement for professional services with Plante & Moran. She further stated that she had requested Plante & Moran representatives be present to explain to Council the new Accounting Standards and the financial impact that the implementation would have upon the City's Budget. She noted that the cost does include Rochester Area Recreation Authority (RARA) and the Older Persons Commission (OPC).

Mr. Joseph Heffernan, Plante & Moran representative, stated Plante & Moran has offered numerous seminars to their clients explaining the new Auditing Standards and informed Council that Pam Lee had attended their seminar. He explained that the auditing rules have changed and that the new rules are similar to the Sarbanes-Oxley rules that have impacted publicly held corporations in the past four years. He informed Council that the cost to the City for implementation of the

new Auditing Standards would be \$12,000 for the first year due to an increase in staff hours needed to implement the new audit process. He noted the charge for the second year would decrease to \$5,000, but to minimize the impact on the City's budget, he offered to spread the costs associated with this new program over a three year period.

Mr. Yalamanchi asked Mr. Heffernan if Plante & Moran could develop a form as an internal control guideline for small organizations such as RARA and OPC.

Mr. Heffernan stated that as the auditing forms are new this year they will be working closely with their clients. He asked that their clients complete the first form and then Plante & Moran will determine how much assistance they will require to complete the remainder of their forms for their audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton, asked Mr. Heffernan if he would be instructing the new Council members on City Budgets as has been done in the past.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mr. Heffernan replied that the new Council members would be given instruction on how municipal finances work.

President Rosen inquired as to how many years Plante & Moran has been the City's auditing firm.

Ms. Lee stated that Plante & Moran have been the City's Auditor for eight years.

President Rosen stated he was pleased with the service that Plante & Moran has provided this City and was comfortable using their services another year.

Ms. Lee stated that the City has formed a business relationship with Plante & Moran and will benefit from their knowledge in completing the necessary forms for the new Auditing Standards. She commented that it has taken her two days to complete one form in the new process.

President Rosen questioned the necessity of a three-year time frame for training City staff on the new auditing forms.

Mr. Heffernan stated Ms. Lee suggested the three-year time frame, as it would reduce the financial impact on the City's Budget.

This matter was Discussed

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Alicia Skillman, 28 N. Saginaw, Pontiac, Michigan, pointed out that she did not speak under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program item on the Agenda and requested to be allowed to do so now. She

stated that she was thankful for the opportunity to come before Council with information regarding the Fair Housing Center of Legal Aid and Defender Association to inform the residents of Rochester Hills as to what they have to offer. She further advised that this association has been active in this community for almost 100 years. She advised they have offices in Pontiac and Mt. Clemens. Ms. Skillman explained that she is attempting to advise cities and townships in Oakland and Macomb Counties of the services that this organization can provide in the areas of protecting race, religion, national origin, color, marital status, disability and age of their residents.

2006-0899 Adoption of Resolution for the Designation of Major Road Fund Balance.

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Major Road Forecast - Attachment A.pdf](#)
[Major Road Forecast - Attachment B.pdf](#)

Ms. Julie Jenuwine, Director of Finance, stated that at the August 15, 2007 Work Session Council requested a mandated project list. She stated that she combined all projects that Council wanted to designate funds for, and included an inflationary fund forecast for their projected costs in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton, asked what inflationary factor was used to calculate the fund forecast.

Ms. Jenuwine responded that she calculated 2.5% for construction.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mr. Yalamanchi stated he was in favor of designating funds for projects. He questioned if Raintree Road was City or County owned and inquired whether it could be sustained until 2015. He stated he was aware of the projected construction date of 2013.

Mr. Paul Shumejko, City Transportation Engineer, stated that Raintree Road had been in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for approximately two years and it is proposed as a full reconstruct. He further stated that if the City chose to defer the road reconstruction there would be higher maintenance costs charged to the Road Fund for the upkeep of Raintree Road.

Ms. Raschke stated concern for the excessive speeds that cars are traveling at on Dutton and Washington Road. She asked Mr. Shumejko if the City had plans to pave additional portions of Dutton Road.

Mr. Shumejko informed Council of the revised speed limits on Dutton Road and noted that with the continuation of paving Dutton Road some of the crests in the hills would have to be reduced as part of the road project.

Ms. Raschke asked what would happen to the driveways of the three residents that reside on one of the hilltops of Dutton Road.

Mr. Shumejko stated that the issue of the resident's driveways would be addressed during the preliminary Engineering process.

Ms. Raschke asked if the City would have more jurisdiction over the speed limit on Dutton Road once it is asphalted.

Mr. Shumejko responded that once the road is asphalted a speed study would be completed and a speed would be posted according to the 85th percentile.

Mr. Hooper asked why Meadowfield Drive was not listed as a projected road reconstruction project as he feels it is a "must do" project.

Mr. Shumejko stated that the City considered it an "optional" construction project.

Ms. Jenuwine stated that her definition of "mandated" projects were those required by the County and State and all other projects were at the desire of the City.

President Rosen clarified that when Council designates funds for certain projects they are not obligated to use them for that particular project.

This matter was Discussed

CITY COUNCIL

2007-0758 Creation of a Charter Millage Technical Review Committee

Attachments: [110707 Agenda Summary](#)
[Charter Millage Cmte Composition](#)

After discussing this item, it was the consensus of Council to postpone this item in order to allow the new Council to further discuss the creation of a Charter Millage Technical Review Committee, and the creation of a Charter Non-Structural Technical Review Committee.

This matter was Set Over to a Future Meeting of the City Council

2007-0900 Creation of a Charter Non-Structural Technical Review Committee

Attachments: [110707 Agenda Summary](#)
[Charter Millage Cmte Composition](#)

This matter was Set Over to a Future Meeting of the City Council

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Yalamanchi asked President Rosen, Mayor Barnett, Mr. Staran, and Ms. Jenuwine to review the Legacy Development Project and questioned how to become one of the sister communities involved with that project. He stated there were numerous benefits to the Legacy Development Project and that it would add tremendous value to the region of Rochester Road, as well as restaurants and businesses in the City of Rochester Hills. He commented that he was hopeful that some innovative ways would be discovered so that Rochester Hills could partner with the other communities involved with this project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Eric Sturgis, 72 Roanoke Lane, thanked City Clerk Leslie for running a very efficient election in the City of Rochester Hills and also thanked her for making the election results readily available to the public. He thanked Council Members Raschke, Holder and Duistermars for their years of service to the City of Rochester Hills.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Regular Meeting - Wednesday, November 14, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, President Rosen adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

*JAMES ROSEN, President
Rochester Hills City Council*

*JANE LESLIE, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills*

*SUE SMITH
Administrative Secretary
City Clerk's Office*

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