



Rochester Hills

Minutes

City Council Special Meeting

1000 Rochester Hills Dr
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Home Page:
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*David J. Blair, Susan M. Bowyer Ph.D., Ryan Deel, Dale A. Hetrick, Stephanie Morita,
Theresa Mungioli, 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, August 23, 2021

5:30 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 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 23, 2021, to discuss the proposed 2022 budget.

CALL TO ORDER

President Deel called the Special Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Michigan Time.

ROLL CALL

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

Others Present:

*Bryan Barnett, Mayor
Sheila Brown, Deputy Clerk
Allan Buckenmeyer, Parks Manager
Sean Canto, Fire Chief / Emergency Services Director
Rogers Claussen, Battalion Chief
Scott Cope, Building / Ordinance / Facilities Director
Bill Cooke, Assistant Chief / Fire Marshall
Patrol Lieutenant Rich Cummings, Oakland County Sheriff's Office
Paul Davis, Deputy Public Service Director / City Engineer
Chelsea Ditz, Human Resources Director
Matt Einheuser, Natural Resources Manager
Jeff Fox, Roads and Pathways Operations Manager
Larry Gambotto, Captain / Training Officer
Lori Hamilton, Administrative Services Supervisor
Tim Hollis, Deputy Building Director
Tom Howley, Information Systems Director
Debby Hoyle, Senior Financial Analyst
Kristen Kapelenski, Planning Manager
Leon Luedeman, Water & Sewer Operations Manager*

*Rochelle Lyon, Deputy Information Systems Director
Tim Matz, Captain / EMS Coordinator
Denise McDonial, Financial Analyst
Pat McKay, Museum Manager
Gary Nauts, Facilities Manager
Sara Roediger, Planning & Economic Development Director
Allan Schneck, Public Services Director
Leanne Scott, City Clerk
Chris Shepherd, Field Services Manager
Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer
Karen Somerville, Deputy Assessing Director
Tom Talbert, Strategic Innovations Specialist
Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director
Bob White, Ordinance Manager
Captain Bart Wilson, Oakland County Sheriff's Office
Lieutenant Russ Yeiser, Oakland County Sheriff's Office*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

***Mr. Lee Zendel**, 1575 Dutton Road, stated that he read an eye opening article regarding health insurance and how much money insurance companies would allow for specific procedures. He added the insurance companies can approve what dollar amount they feel is necessary for these procedures and this can result in the patient paying high deductibles and co-pays. He suggested the City hire a consultant to look into various health insurance options for City employees, he stated the City employees are among the best and should have the best health insurance policy.*

LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

***Mayor Barnett** reminded everyone the State of the City Address will be held on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at Innovation Hills Park.*

PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, stated he is here to present before City Council the Older Persons' Commission (OPC), Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA) and City of Rochester Hills Proposed 2022-2024 Three-Year Budgets.

He introduced **Renee Cortright**, OPC Executive Director, and **Tim Soave**, OPC Finance Director.

Ms. Cortright started by recognizing representatives on the OPC governing board, including Mr. Dale Hetrick and Mr. David Walker, as well as Mr. Jack Dalton and Ms. Micheline Sommers. She read several testimonials written by residents thanking the OPC volunteers for their assistance, especially during the past year. She added the OPC was able to socially distance during the last year to provide services for all its members, and in May they welcomed four hundred newly registered members during Spring into Action Week. She explained in February of 2020 there were 17,000 check-in's a month and in November of 2020 there were 3,500 check-in's; today the OPC averages around 8,100 check-in's a month for activities. She expressed her appreciation to the Rochester Hills community for their support over the last year.

Mr. Soave stated the 2022-2023 OPC Budget has been a challenge coming out of COVID. He noted they do not fully anticipate a full recovery of participants in activities until next spring or summer. He added the operating revenues in total are anticipated to increase by 2.1 percent mostly due to the support of the communities involved with the OPC. He stated the expenditures are expected to increase by 1.2 percent, that includes a two (2) percent general increase to employees. He pointed out there was a number of staff that left during the past year, which resulted in eliminating some positions. He explained several years ago, the OPC Board passed a policy that at least twenty-five percent of the OPC revenues must remain in Fund Balance, the rest of the funds were undesignated. He noted after some discussion between current board members, the board decided to get a clear plan for the fund balances, and decided on three designations: target Fund Balance of twenty-five percent, Capital Improvement Fund, and Budget Stabilization Fund.

Council Discussion:

Vice President Bowyer thanked Ms. Cortright and Mr. Soave for staying fiscally responsible, she referred to the eliminated positions and questioned whether they will be able to provide the same services or are they short staffed.

Ms. Cortright responded they are short staffed and currently looking to fill positions. She explained that they are currently offering limited hours due to being short staffed and are hoping to increase hours as they hire more staff.

Discussed: O.P.C. Millage Fund.

2021-0310 Discussion - O.P.C. Operating Fund (820) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [09272021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[09132021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)
[08232021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[08162021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[FY 2022-24 OPC Budget Package.pdf](#)
[08162021 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(.\).pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: O.P.C. Operating Fund.

Enactment No: RES0236-2021

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHF D Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Dave Word, Assistant Recreation Director for Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA), thanked Ms. Munglioli for her services on the RARA Board and mentioned there is currently a vacancy on the RARA Board that they are hoping to fill very soon. He displayed some photos from some of RARA's events this past year and spoke about the following items:

- 610 activities were offered in 2020 with 540 of these activities held in-person
- There was a total of 5,681 participants in 2020; this does not include special events
- Tons of Trucks 2021 had over 3,000 participants
- In 2020, Trunk of Treat, Easter Egg Hunt, and Middle School XC Championships were all successful events
- Some sports events offered this year included the Mayor's Play Ball Event, Summer Volleyball League, and High School Basketball Championship
- Babysitting Safety & CPR is a highly attended course that sells out quickly
- RARA's dance program was hit the hardest in 2020 and all classes had to transition to virtual teaching, and then to outside tents
- Summer 2021 camps sold out completely with nearly 1,200 participants, even with hiring shortage obstacles
- Participation trend is increasing from 2020 and they are hopeful participation will continue to increase

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, spoke about the RARA Fund Balance stating that it is projected to continue to increase. He added at the end of 2020 the RARA Fund Balance had \$539,000 which represents 32 percent Fund Balance coverage. He noted RARA is proposing a conservatively good year in 2022 with a modest increase in their Fund Balance. He stated this is impressive

because next year's budget includes \$284,000 in capital projects. He pointed out these Capital Improvement Projects are mainly the replacement of the HVAC units in each of RARA's buildings. He explained at the end of 2022, RARA is proposing \$570,000 Fund Balance; that equals 28 percent Fund Balance coverage. He explained in 2023 the Fund Balance is projected at \$50,000 mainly because of the \$375,000 roof replacements that are planned to take place; and in 2024 the Fund Balance coverage is \$96,000 due to \$428,000 worth of roof replacements. He noted the end of 2024 is projected to have a Fund Balance of \$420,000, which is exactly 20 percent fund balance coverage. He also added after the roof replacements there should not be any more planned major Capital Improvement Projects.

Council Discussion:

Ms. Mungoli thanked Mr. Word and Mr. Snyder and his team for their hard work and assistance with putting the Capital Improvement Plans into action.

Mr. Blair concurred with Ms. Mungoli and congratulated RARA on a remarkable turnaround during a global pandemic. He noted the summer programming this year was excellent and his kids enjoyed all the programs including Tons of Trucks. He stated he is glad that infrastructure improvements are in the future for RARA.

Mr. Hetrick mentioned he is happy to hear that many people are taking advantage of the special events and programs RARA has to offer. He commended Mr. Snyder and his team, and RARA, for overcoming the challenges from last year, stabilizing the budget, and building a capital plan.

President Deel added he joined the RARA Board in 2017 and there were some challenges then with the Fund Balance; however, it looks like those challenges have been overcome and the future looks bright for RARA. He believes the HVAC units will provide more value to RARA by allowing more of the facility to be usable and rentable throughout the year. He congratulated RARA's staff for being able to provide services and keep offering programs during the pandemic.

Discussed: R.A.R.A. Millage Fund.

2021-0311 Discussion - R.A.R.A. Operating Fund (808) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [09272021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[09132021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)
[08232021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[08162021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[FY 2022-24 RARA Budget Package.pdf](#)
[08162021 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(\).pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Discussion.

Discussed: R.A.R.A. Operating Fund.

Enactment No: RES0237-2021

2021-0308 General Budget Overview - 2022 - 2024

Attachments: [09272021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Budget Questions-Responses.pdf](#)
[09132021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)
[08232021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL General Budget Overview.pdf](#)
[08162021 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[08162021 Resolution.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(\).pdf](#)

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, introduced **Denise McDoniel**, Financial Analyst, and **Debby Hoyle**, Senior Financial Analyst.

Ms. Hoyle noted the key components in budget development included the following:

- The current 2021-2023 Budget Plan, adopted September 21, 2020
- The 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Plan, adopted April 20, 2021
- The Seven Year Financial Forecast for Fiscal Years 2022-2028
- The Strategic Planning Technical Review Committee's Fiscal Year 2022 Goals and Objectives, as well as the Governmental Fund Balance Reserve Policy

An overview of the proposed Budget included the following:

- Continue to present a three-year budget
- Budgets presented based on best estimates and projections for the future
- Conservative estimates of both revenues and expenditures ensures that service levels proposed in the budget can be delivered

Mr. Snyder spoke about the Fiscal Year 2022 proposed Budget Expenditures, noting the following:

- A total budget of \$172,486,890 in expenditures, which is a reduction of 2.5 percent from our 2021 budget, comprised largely of:
 - * Public Service at 27 percent of the budget expenditures, or \$47,300,000
 - * Public Safety at 16 percent of budget expenditures, or \$27,100,000
 - * Capital Outlay at 22 percent of the budget expenditures, or \$38,000,000
- Capital Proposed Projects for 2022; the largest amount is 38 percent or \$14,000,000 for water and sewer projects that include:
 - * Water main replacement along Auburn Road from Rochester Road to Culbertson
 - * Spring Hill subdivision plan
 - * Sanitary sewer rehabilitation program
- The City is in the process of replacing the old water and sewer infrastructure that was installed over fifty years ago, therefore this will be a large expenditure for the next ten years
- There is twenty-four percent, or \$9,000,000, is proposed for major road projects
- Thirteen percent, or \$5,100,000, is proposed for local street projects
- There are a number of projected projects for City facilities, designating

fourteen percent, or \$5,300,000, of the Proposed Capital Outlay towards these projects

- Six percent, or \$2,100,000, is projected for Fleet Vehicles
- Three percent, or \$1,300,000, is projected for Fire Capital
- Two percent, or \$900,000, is projected for Pathways including: the east side of Adams Road between Powderhorn and Tienken, as well as a pathway crossing along Adams Road at the Clinton River Trailway near Marketplace Circle

Mr. Snyder stated the City Budget is projecting \$142,938,270 in revenue with major sources of revenue consisting of:

- Service Charges bringing in thirty-four percent, or \$59,100,000
- City Taxes bringing in twenty-three percent, or \$38,900,000
- Fund Balance bringing in seventeen percent, or \$29,600,000
- Transfer-In bringing in thirteen percent, or \$23,000,000
- Intergovernmental bringing in eleven percent, or \$19,400,000

He added there is a millage proposal rate of 10.3850 for 2022 and this is a slight decrease from the current millage rate due to the expiration of the Older Persons' Building Debt. He added Council has unanimously supported placing the repurpose of the existing OPC Building Debt Millage towards Parks System Facility Improvements before the voters of Rochester Hills on the November 2, 2021 ballot. He noted this potential millage repurpose is not included in the proposed 2022-2024 Budget Plan. He pointed out if this millage repurpose passes the budget will be amended to incorporate the millage rate and brought before Council in the first quarter of 2022.

Mr. Snyder spoke about the General Fund projecting \$27 million in 2022. He reiterated any balance in the General Fund above eighty percent is transferred out to the Capital Improvement Fund. He stated the Capital Improvement Fund Budget is proposed at \$4.8 million in 2022, and there are a significant amount of Parks improvements that the Capital Improvement Fund will support. He mentioned the following Capital Improvements for Parks in 2022:

- Parking lot improvement at Borden Park
- Spencer Park tennis court and pickle ball rehabilitation as well as siding and shower replacements
- Bloomer Park has a sanitary sewer replacement and preliminary engineering for shelter restrooms and upgrades
- Innovation Hills
- Park roof replacements

He added other Capital Improvement Projects for 2022 include:

- Parking lot development at Auburn and Eastern
- Second Columbarium at Van Hoosen Cemetery
- Boiler replacements at City Hall

He noted Capital Improvement Projects for 2023 and beyond will continue to be monitored based on the Capital Improvement Fund balance and plan; if funds are available the projects will move forward, if funds are not available the project will remain on hold until funds become available.

Mr. Snyder stated the Major Road Budget for 2022 is proposed at \$12.9 million,

with \$9.1 million designated towards some significant road projects including:

- Auburn Road from Rochester Road to Culbertson
- Old Perch Rehabilitation
- Avon/Dequindre/23 Mile Road Project near Yates Cider Mill

He added the Local Street Budget for 2022 is proposed at \$10.2 million and highlighted that the main proposed project next year includes the Five Million Dollar Annual Local Street Rehabilitation Program.

Mr. Snyder spoke about the Fire Operating Fund for 2022 is proposed at \$13.1 million, and the Fire Millage is proposed to remain at \$2.7 million throughout the forecast. He stated the funds from Fire Operating flows into the Fire Capital Fund and that Budget is proposed at \$1.7 million. He noted significant Fire Capital Improvement projects for 2022 include the replacement of three ambulances, as well as the installation of car ports at Fire Station One.

He stated the Special Police Fund Budget for 2022 is proposed at \$10 million. He noted the Special Police Millage is proposed to reduce slightly through 2023 to gradually set the balance to twenty-five percent of its annual operating expenditures over the next three years.

Mr. Snyder ended the 2022 Budget overview by adding the following proposed personnel additions:

- Administrative Associate II / Clerks Office - Part-Time to Full-Time
- Department Assistant / Mayor's Office - Part-Time to Full-Time
- Part-Time Procurement Analyst / Finance
- Part-Time Museum Interpreter / Parks Museum
- Part-Time Administrative Associate II / Fire-CRR

He noted the proposed 2022 Budget projects and services are financially realistic and will improve and enhance the quality of life for the residents and guests of the City, and will not hinder the City's financial flexibility moving forward.

President Deel thanked Mr. Snyder and his team for their hard work. He added he is pleased to see the way the proposed budget has come together, including the fiscal conservative nature of the budget while maintaining and addressing the City's needs.

Discussed: General Budget Overview.

Enactment No: RES0235-2021

2021-0335 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Fiscal 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Assessing 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Planning 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Clerk's 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL HR 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Parks 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Building 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: **GENERAL FUND REVENUE; MAYOR'S DEPARTMENT:** Mayor's Department, Accounting, Legal Services, Treasury, Media Division, Building Authority, Street Lighting, Community Development Block Grant, Community Events; **GENERAL FUND TRANSFER OUT.**

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: **A.R.P.A. Fund.**

2021-0337 Discussion - Debt Services Funds (300's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: **Debt Fund.**

2021-0338 Discussion - Capital Funds (400's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: **Capital Improvement Fund.**

2021-0339 Discussion - Water and Sewer Funds (500's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: **Solid Waste Fund.**

2021-0340 Discussion - Internal Service Funds (600's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL MIS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Insurance Fund.

2021-0351 Discussion - Trust and Agency Funds (700's) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Retiree Healthcare Trust Fund.

2021-0335 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2022 Budget

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[SUPPL HR 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Parks 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Building 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Assessing Department:

Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director, and **Karen Somerville**, Deputy Assessing Director, were in attendance to review the Assessing Department.

Ms. Taylor stated the City's taxable value is moving in the right direction, in 2022. She explained that the estimated increase in taxable value was 2.5 percent, however, the actual increase was over three (3) percent. She added this is great news and the increase will help fund other budgets supported by the millage. She noted looking ahead to budget years 2023 and 2024 the estimated taxable value is estimated at 2.5 percent.

She exclaimed in the last decade the City has experienced a \$1 billion increase in taxable value. She mentioned there is also a \$1 billion spread between assessed and taxable value, which is the largest spread the City has ever experienced.

Ms. Somerville added Rochester Hills continues to experience a strong residential real estate market, the spread between the taxable and assessed values per household is twenty-eight percent. She pointed out that despite the pandemic, people continue to invest in Rochester Hills which is resulting in increasing values. She stated this is a great position to be in, the City is well prepared should the market flatten or take a down turn. She stated the average home sales price has increased over sixty percent in the last decade, and Board of Review Appeals have decreased over ninety percent.

Council Discussion:

President Deel stated if any Council members have a straw poll question, tonight would be a good night to address that concern. He added that emailing staff on policy related questions is still recommended unless it is a straw poll question.

Mr. Hetrick asked for confirmation that the spread between assessed value and taxable value is \$1 billion.

Ms. Taylor responded that is correct.

Planning and Economic Development Department:

Sara Roediger, Planning and Economic Development Director and **Kristen Kapelanski**, Planning Manager, were in attendance along with **Pam Valentik**, Economic Development Manager and **Michelle Carley**, Economic Development Specialist attending virtually to review the Planning and Economic Department.

Ms. Roediger explained the word "change" sums up the Planning and Economic Development team. She shared that they welcomed two new members to their team within the last year. She mentioned the Planning Department has worked on big projects such as transitioning the complete look and feel of Brooklands District, to transitioning processes such as taking the site plan review process digital.

Ms. Kapelanski spoke about Zeenat Plaza located in the Auburn Road Corridor, pointing out that the plaza will provide housing, retail, and office rentals. She added the Planning Department worked with applicants, Boards and Commissions to expand senior housing options.

Ms. Valentik, Economic Development Manager, stated Economic Development is always striving to meet the needs of small businesses. She stated during the recent pandemic, the City has helped over six hundred and fifty businesses in immediate and long term needs; this included assisting Oakland County in distributing \$532,000 in grant funding to local businesses. She mentioned the City has only five percent commercial vacancy rate which is only one percent higher than pre-pandemic. She pointed out that in January 2021, Council endorsed the New Economic Development Strategy that will foster entrepreneurship, welcome talent/workforce, support property owners and developers, boost international business development, and attract national movers and shakers.

Ms. Roediger closed stating the City of Rochester Hills Planning and Economic Department helps facilitate change in order to allow the City to move forward. She added the Brooklands District is a great example of change that has been implemented in the City.

Ms. Mungoli inquired about American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) mentioning it states that it helps households and businesses economically, specifically helping to retain jobs. She questioned how this will impact the City and how ARPA will fall into the Planning and Economic Budget.

Ms. Roediger responded the Economic Development Strategy was presented in January 2020 prior to COVID, and since that time has been adjusted due to the pandemic. She added there are lots of ideas for the ARPA funding however they want to collaborate with the County and State to ensure there are no duplications with the funding. She continued stating that there is a line in their budget for the Economic Development implementation and \$75,000 has been budgeted each year for the next three years.

Council Discussion:

Ms. Mungoli mentioned there is \$3 million budgeted for ARPA funds and asked where the rest of the funding is coming from.

Mr. Snyder stated the \$75,000 a year for the next three years is a small piece of the plans for ARPA funding. He added this is the only ARPA funding in the budget currently until they are aware of how the State and County are utilizing their ARPA funds so the City can maximize the best use for those funds.

Ms. Mungoli questioned what the proposed use is for the \$75,000 that is currently budgeted.

Ms. Valentik replied that the \$75,000 that is budgeted will be used to assist businesses in the City, by promoting job opportunities within the community and making connections. She added supporting commercial property owners, large businesses, small businesses, and entrepreneurs is their goal; therefore, the \$75,000 will be used to support these businesses. She mentioned that they want to explore all avenues that will help boost the workforce in the City and continue to market the resources the City can provide to local businesses. She stated their goal is to keep businesses in the City, as well as attract businesses to move into the City.

Ms. Mungoli responded she is very grateful for the international businesses in the City, however, she would like these tax dollars to first assist U.S. based companies. She noted her desire for the funds to support our local community and neighboring communities.

Mayor Barnett stated that international businesses offer local jobs that pay local wages that are spent locally. He added the City's largest business is Fanuc Robotics and is an international company that is located in the City and has created a lot of jobs. He pointed out that the ARPA dollars received do not all have to be used for Economic Development, and the best plan is to see how the State and County plan to use their funds in order to not duplicate actions.

Discussed: ASSESSING: Assessing, Board of Review; PLANNING DEPARTMENT: Planning Commission, Planning Department, Zoning Board of Appeals.

2021-0352 Discussion - Component Units (800's) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0308 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Historic Districts Commission, Brownfield Redevelopment / Legacy, Local Development Finance Authority.

2021-0335 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Fiscal 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Assessing 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Planning 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Clerk's 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL HR 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Parks 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Building 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Building Department:

Scott Cope, Building/Ordinance/Facilities Director, **Tim Hollis**, Inspection Services Manager, **Mike Viazanko**, Inspection Services Manager, **Gary Nauts**, Facilities Manager, **Bob White**, Ordinance Manager, were in attendance to present the Building Department Budget.

Mr. Viazanko stated that the construction industry has faced many challenges throughout the year, including the cost of lumber increasing 370 percent over the last year. He added that the average new home construction cost also increased by \$35,000, however, construction companies were unable to find supplies due to nationwide shortages. He pointed out despite these challenges in construction Rochester Hills has still been going strong this past year. He mentioned a few major ongoing projects including: Rochester Hills Trio, Von Maur, Legacy Rochester Hills Apartments, and Redwood Apartment Neighbors. He explained that the City is using a new type of construction for the first time called "tunnel form construction", that allows casting of walls and slabs in one operation. He stated the Legacy Rochester Hills Apartments is using the tunnel form construction to build 300 luxury apartments complete with a clubhouse and a pool. He added new home permits have increased by 156 percent in the first six months of 2021, stating the City is still a vibrant place to live. He pointed out that permits for all other building needs has increased over 80 percent, and total construction values have increased over 243 percent in the first six months of 2021. He stated the Building Department is now accepting online permit applications that allow for electronic plan reviews and online inspection request and scheduling.

Mr. White stated the Ordinance Staff continues to make a difference by encouraging homeowners and business owners to maintain their property to the standards set forth by City Council. He added the Ordinance Staff enjoys their partnership with the Homeowners Associations (HOA) Leadership and also enjoyed hosting the spring and fall HOA forums. He announced the next forum is scheduled for October 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Mr. Nauts explained Facilities has had a busy year including Fire Station sign installations, and renovations to both the Equipment Barn and the Dairy Barn. He added Facilities has worked hard maintaining a safe environment for Staff and visitors. He mentioned a few projects that will be completed by Facilities in

2022 include: Borden Park Office, Innovation Hills Ranger Station, Fire Station 1 carpools, restrooms and lockers, as well as new roofs on all the Parks buildings.

Mr. Cope stated he is proud of his team and what has been accomplished in the last six months. He added the proposed Building Budget reflects a conservative approach to revenues and expenses that will provide the Building Department the tools needed to continue to provide the best services to residents and customers. He ended with well wishes to Mr. White on his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his thirty-one years of service.

Council Discussion:

Ms. Mungoli congratulated Mr. White on his retirement. She inquired about personnel services increasing \$100,000 in the proposed budget. She referenced the projected Ordinance violations increasing from twelve hundred to sixteen hundred next year, and questioned why violations are projected to increase.

Mr. Cope responded the increase in personnel services is related to pension, health care and wages, confirming that there are no additional positions in the Building Department being proposed. He replied to the Ordinance violation increase stating in 2020 they had a conservative approach to enforcement and were more reactive, looking ahead they are expecting to have a proactive approach that would increase Ordinance violations.

Mr. Snyder added another increase to personnel services could be related to personnel splits, he stated the difference could be the allocation between personnel split between the cost centers.

Ms. Morita mentioned at the Museum Foundation Board meeting it was brought up that the Farm House at the Museum may require security cameras due to the increased use at the Museum. She asked how difficult it would be to cost out additional security for the Farm House and if that estimate could be ready in the short term to allow this to be added as a straw poll question.

Mr. Cope replied that he could meet with the Communication Specialist and come up with an estimate for security cameras at the Farm House. He added his only concern is whether the Farm House has wiring to allow for security cameras.

Mr. Hetrick congratulated Mr. White on his retirement and thanked him for his service to Rochester Hills.

Vice President Bowyer thanked everyone for their presentations and thanked Mr. White for his hard work the past thirty-one years at the City.

Mayor Barnett thanked Mr. White for being a great leader and friend, and for all his hard work and support throughout the years.

President Deel congratulated Mr. White on his retirement, and thanked him for his service.

Clerk's Department:

Leanne Scott, City Clerk, and **Sheila Brown**, Deputy Clerk were in attendance to present the Clerk's Department Budget.

Clerk Scott introduced Ms. Brown stating she joined the Clerk's Team in August of 2020 as the part-time Youth Liaison, and this past May she was promoted to Deputy Clerk. She added they have been working hard to put together a strong team consisting of creative, connected, and caring people that will grow and enrich the services offered to customers. She pointed out that 2020 was an unprecedented year for elections, holding two of the three elections during a global pandemic that resulted in absentee ballots being delivered to homes, senior facilities, and the hospital. She mentioned thousands of residents were served at the Clerk's counter, while maintaining the health and safety of the Clerk's Team. She stated this past year included a change in leadership as well as four new staff members joining the department. She explained that looking ahead there are many changes coming including proposed legislation, redistricting, and increased absentee voters.

Ms. Brown stated her work experience as well as being a mom has taught her the importance of building relationships and connections. She added the greatest challenge with the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) Program has been the turnover in leadership, the past eight years there have been five different adult advisors for the RHGYC. She mentioned the lack of continuity has made it very difficult for the youth to build relationships with their adult advisor. She explained the youth have a desire to be active and make an impact in their community, and the City needs to put the proper investment in the youth to ensure their desires and goals are met.

Clerk Scott added the Clerk's Team has made it through 2020 and into 2021 pulling from the reserve of strength, resilience, and endurance. She pointed out they are establishing their team during a pivotal time, and in order to address the future challenges and changes, they are requesting that the current part-time youth liaison position become full-time.

Council Discussion:

President Deel thanked Clerk Scott and Ms. Brown for their presentation. He added he had the pleasure of working with Ms. Brown and the Youth Council and could not have been more impressed, he stated the Clerk's Office has built a great team in a short amount of time.

Mr. Hetrick asked if moving one part-time position to full-time is enough to satisfy the elections and passport needs.

Clerk Scott concurred that one additional full-time employee should be enough to assist with elections and passports.

Ms. Mungoli asked what the cost would be to move the part-time position to a full-time position.

Mr. Snyder responded they will get that amount and get back to Ms. Munglioli.

Discussed: BUILDING / ORDINANCE / FACILITIES: Building Department, Ordinance Compliance, Weed Control, Facilities Fund; **CLERKS:** City Council, Elections, Clerk's Department, Cemetery.

2021-0351 Discussion - Trust and Agency Funds (700's) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0335 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: VHJSC Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust.

2021-0335 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Fiscal 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Assessing 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Planning 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Clerk's 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL HR 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Parks 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Building 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Human Resources Department:

Chelsea Ditz, Human Resources Director, was in attendance to present the Human Resources Department Budget.

Ms. Ditz expressed that 2020 was not anyone's day, week, month, or year. She emphasized 2021 was eagerly welcomed with City Hall re-opening and returning to in-person work. She pointed out looking forward to 2022, Human Resources is focusing on employee engagement, programming, and development opportunities for employees, as well as continued recruitment efforts. She stated the HR Team is dedicated to recruiting, developing and retaining the best people to service the City residents, businesses, and visitors. She introduced her team: Helen Sultana-Kelly, Safety and Benefits Analyst, Leslie Turnbull, Staffing Analyst, Shannon Smith, Administrative Specialist, and Charlotte Howell, HR Associate.

She mentioned over thirty new employees were hired between July 1, 2020 and July 1, 2021, with six additional employees since July 1, 2021. She noted Council's leadership and commitment to offer competitive wages and benefits is paramount to the successful recruitment of talented individuals. She stated with additional retirements expected in the future, they are focused on remaining "employer of choice" in 2022.

Council Discussion:

President Deel thanked Ms. Ditz for her presentation.

Ms. Mungoli asked if there was a total for each line item in the Human Resources Budget that would specifically state what is paid for training or benefits.

Mr. Snyder responded he could subtotal each line total for 2020 through 2022.

Mr. Hetrick questioned if the compensation study would be complete in 2021.

Ms. Ditz responded the compensation study is currently in the RFP process and is already budgeted for 2021; however, the study will be completed in 2022, with implementation in 2022.

Discussed: HUMAN RESOURCES: Human Resources Department.

2021-0340 Discussion - Internal Service Funds (600's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL MIS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

MIS Department:

Tom Howley, Information Systems Director, and **Rochelle Lyon**, Deputy Information Systems Director, were in attendance to present the MIS Department Budget.

Ms. Lyon introduced Mr. Howley as the new Information Systems Director. She stated that the MIS Department added some new employees to their team this past year. She spoke about cyber security and explained a virtual thief can enter a network on the back of something or someone and can steal information without removing or taking it. She mentioned they can enter multiple networks at the same time through multiple entry points. She pointed out security is not a marathon or a race where you reach a finish line and the journey is over, it is ongoing. She stated security needs to be constantly reviewed and evaluated in order to protect systems and data, multiple barriers and types of security are needed to protect the systems and data. She added continued ongoing training for all staff is necessary regardless of how often they use a system. She explained that the MIS Department is constantly working to prevent a cyber-security event, by being proactive instead of reactive giving the City the greatest possible advantage.

President Deel thanked Ms. Lyon and welcomed Mr. Howley.

Mayor Barnett thanked Ms. Lyon for her leadership during the transitions in the MIS Department. He added Mr. Howley was the first person to apply for the Information Systems Director out of over a hundred applications received.

Discussed: MIS: MIS Fund.

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Captain Bart Wilson, Oakland County Sheriff's Office, **Patrol Lieutenant Rich Cummings** and **Lieutenant Russ Yeiser** were in attendance tonight to present the Special Police Budget Fund.

Captain Wilson explained the Oakland County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) is proud to partner with the City of Rochester Hills, adding there are currently 62 Oakland County Sheriff Office staff members that make up the Rochester Hills substation. He mentioned of the 62 employees, 60 are sworn-in personnel, the staffing currently consists of the following:

- 1 Captain
- 2 Lieutenants
- 1 Detective Sergeant
- 6 Patrol Sergeants
- 8 Detectives
- 3 School Resource Deputies
- 39 Deputy II (no-fill)
- 2 Administrative Assistants

He stated the calls for service are back to 34,000 calls a year, which averages about 90 calls in a 24-hour period. He added the calls range from Part A Crimes, such as robbery, assault, and arson to Part B Crimes such as disorderly conduct, obstructing police, and liquor violations, both Part A and Part B Crime trends are going down. He explained false alarms are also declining which is good because it allows Officers to get to the more serious matters.

He mentioned overtime hours declined in 2020 due to COVID, however, they are anticipated to rise in the future.

He added in a public opinion survey the residents of Rochester Hills feel 97 percent safe in their home, 95 percent safe in their neighborhood and 96 percent safe in the City, and noted those are great numbers.

Council Discussion:

Ms. Mungoli inquired about the addition of a Directed Patrol Unit (DPU) that was proposed by Sheriff Bouchard at a prior Council meeting. She asked what needs to be done in order to consider adding the recommended additional personnel as part of the proposed budget. She suggested adding this item to the straw poll.

Mr. Snyder replied adding this to a straw poll would be appropriate. He added they would need to know exactly which type of officer would be added to the DPU, because each type of officer is on a different pay scale. He pointed out the more complicated part is the funding, with four additional officers at roughly around \$600,000. He stated funding would have to come from either a millage increase or from another fund. He recommended if approved by straw poll vote

to bring this to the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee to review and present a recommendation to Council.

Mayor Barnett stated the straw poll question should first identify if there is enough interest from Council to add the additional officers. He added that if there is, then it can go to the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee for their review and recommendation.

Mr. Hetrick inquired about the decrease in overtime last year and if the proposed budget includes the decreased overtime amount or the higher overtime amount from previous years.

Captain Wilson stated overtime has maintained a steady line over the last three years and he does not foresee any spike in the need for overtime, therefore, the overtime budget will remain the way it has in previous years.

Vice President Bowyer thanked the OCSO for keeping the City safe. She mentioned the Part A and Part B Crimes are both trending down and questioned what metric was used to request adding additional personnel.

Captain Wilson stated Sheriff Bouchard's vision is to add a Directed Patrol Unit (DPU) to keep the City safe as population increases.

Ms. Morita pointed out she is in support of a straw poll for the additional officers, but is not in support of sending this to the Public Safety and Infrastructure Technical Review Committee. She added the technical review committee process would be too long, and too involved. She suggested a subcommittee of Council members be formed if there is any interest in pursuing the additional personnel to give explicit direction on what Council needs to see to justify the additional personnel. She explained with the proposed police millage expecting to decrease, the dollars available would be limited to pay for additional personnel and transfers into the Capital Improvement Fund after the additional personnel are paid for. She stated she would volunteer to be on the subcommittee if there is interest in adding the additional officers.

President Deel mentioned Council's number one goal and objective is public safety and the OCSO is a big part of that. He thanked them for their hard work in keeping the City a safe place.

Mr. Lee Zendel, 1575 Dutton, stated in the year 2000 the Census recorded the city population at 68,825 and in the year 2020 the population was recorded at 76,300. He noted this reflects a little over a ten percent increase resulting in more homes, subdivisions and cars on the streets. He added, however, the City has the same number of deputies as they did twenty-one years ago. He pointed out the number of deputies in the City has not kept up with the growth of the City, and that the first job of government is public safety therefore more deputies should be added.

Discussed: SPECIAL POLICE FUND: Special Police Fund.

2021-0335 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Fiscal 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Assessing 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Planning 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Clerk's 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL HR 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Parks 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Building 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Crossing Guards.

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFHD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Chief Sean Canto, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Director, **Bill Cooke**, Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshall, were in attendance to present the Proposed Fire Budget.

Chief Canto reported that the Rochester Hills Fire Department does all it can to ensure the best possible service to residents through smart, well-trained, dedicated and hard-working members. He explained the needs of the Community and Department have changed and evolved over the last few years, especially during a global pandemic. He stated the Department's decisions are based on:

- 1) What is best for the Community
- 2) What is best for the Department
- 3) What is best for the members of the Department

He thanked Council for prioritizing Public Safety by continuing to monitor Fire's Funding Structure and implementing the Fire Department Strategic Plan. He pointed out the run volume for 2020 declined, however, the run volume is increasing back to pre-pandemic numbers. He added in 2020 the average response time was five minutes and twenty-six seconds, this year the average is five minutes and sixteen seconds.

He mentioned the Fire Department is an all hazard responder, and responds to every call received. He stated currently the biggest challenge is hiring firefighter/paramedics. He expressed the Fire Department is committed to remain the best equipped and trained department in the area regardless of what the future brings.

He reported that all the members of the Department will be issued state of the art turnout gear and thermal imaging cameras as well. He pointed out the

Firefighter's health and safety is very important, therefore, they are utilizing decontamination packs on site to decontaminate their equipment and gear. He added two new ambulances have been purchased that have disinfecting features inside.

He stated some goals for 2022 include continuing to provide the highest training for all members, focus on community risk assessment, and adoption of the International Fire Code. He thanked Council for their support of the Fire Department and stated their support has helped move the Fire Department forward.

***President Deel** thanked Chief Canto for the presentation and expressed his appreciation of the Department's data-driven approach. He credited the Fire Ops Training that several Council members participated in as being eye opening to see what the Firefighters experience on a daily basis.*

Discussed: FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Department Fund.

2021-0338 Discussion - Capital Funds (400's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Fire Capital Fund.

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

***Allan Schneck**, Director of Public Services, **Paul Davis**, City Engineer/Deputy Director of Public Services, **Tracey Balint**, Public Utilities Engineering Manager, **Lori Hamilton**, Administrative Services Supervisor, **Jeff Fox**, Roads and Pathways Operations Manager, **Chris Shepard**, Field Services Manager, and **Leon Luedeman**, Water and Sewer Operations Manager, were in attendance to present the Proposed DPS Budget.*

***Mr. Schneck** stated budgeting is the essential and keystone process that allows DPS to act on their mission of providing optimal citizen service and the seamless delivery of Capital projects. He mentioned a few of the Department accomplishments in 2021:*

- \$8.6 million in Roadway Investment
- \$2 million Build Grant - Adams Road
- Completion of the Transportation Master Plan
- PASER Ratings and Sign Inventory Migration to ROADSOFT
- Completion of the Water System Emergency Response Plan
- \$5.2 million in Pipe Bursting/Water Main Replacement in Grosse Pines and Tienken Manor

He added that DPS has been a regional leader in ensuring clean, safe, and reliable water to the City, and has continued working with NOCWA to allow a zero percent rate increase to residents.

He reported that DPS is Future Ready regarding challenges and opportunities, and will continue to collaborate with local road commissions and state commissions to achieve project goals. He stated technology advancements are happening across all of DPS including GIS, GPS, and utilizing tablets for electronic work orders in the field. He added plan reviews are being completed electronically and they are continuing to implement the latest technology to provide more efficient services to customers.

He explained under the supervision of Nick Watterson the new Fleet Services Manager, the fleet services continue to excel delivering timely, safe and high-quality service. He stated the Fleet Team have also embraced new and progressive ways such as the mobile column lifts to maximize the use of floor space in fleet services.

He spoke about Strategic Partnerships including the Avon Road, Dequindre Road, 23 Mile Road Reconstruction project that involves the Road Commission of Oakland County, the Great Lakes Water Authority, Shelby Township, and Macomb County. He explained this \$15 million investment will positively change this area with the construction of two roundabouts, non-motorized facilities and aesthetic installations.

He mentioned the importance of personnel and employee engagement and stated the pandemic presented challenges to continue employee engagement, however, they successfully found ways to gather and celebrate their team. He thanked Council for their past, present, and future support of the Department of Public Services.

Council Discussion:

Mr. Blair stated the replacement of the water main in the Rochester Knolls subdivision is right near his home. He mentioned driving through the subdivision one would never know that over a mile of piping had been installed and that this is a prime example of how the investment of infrastructure improvements in the City are being handled in a safe and precise manner. He commended Mr. Schneck and his team for their great work and stated he is looking forward to the future improvements.

Ms. Mungoli concurred with Mr. Blair and thanked Mr. Schneck and his team for their hard work. She referenced the flooding in the community, and questioned whether there is anything additional the City can do to prevent the flooding. She asked about the homeowners' associations' responsibility to maintain those areas that are not City-owned to prevent flooding.

Mr. Schneck replied that storm sewers are designed to last for ten-year rain events; however, DPS does vector clean catch basins, sweep the streets, and perform ditching throughout the City all of which help mitigate some of the flooding. He also shared that the City discusses ways homeowners can

manage flooding at the City hosted HOA meetings.

Ms. Munglioli questioned if there are any areas that are downstream that need to worry about the effects of the bridges and dams giving out.

Mr. Schneck responded that the Oakland County Water and Resources Division Commission typically manages the dams, however, the City has quarterly meetings with them to discuss any issues. He added the bridges are evaluated every other year by the City and the conditions are recorded in the Michigan Bridge Inventory System. He pointed out the Department does rely on residents to call when they see any infrastructure problems and they will investigate the problem.

President Deel thanked Mr. Schneck and his team for the presentation and for their hard work making sure the City maintains a strong infrastructure.

Discussed: D.P.S.: Major Road Fund, Local Street Fund, Pathway Maintenance Fund.

2021-0338 Discussion - Capital Funds (400's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Pathway Construction Fund.

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Water Resources Fund.

2021-0339 Discussion - Water and Sewer Funds (500's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Sewer - Operating Division, Water - Operating Division, Water & Sewer - Capital Fund, Water & Sewer - Debt Fund.

2021-0340 Discussion - Internal Service Funds (600's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL MIS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0336 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Fleet Fund.

2021-0335 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Fiscal 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
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[SUPPL HR 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Parks 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Building 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

Pat McKay, Museum Manager, **Matt Einheuser**, Natural Resources Manager, and **Alan Buckenmeyer**, Parks Manager, were in attendance to present the Proposed 2022 Parks and Natural Resources Budget.

Mr. McKay explained that a recent Google survey revealed people rated the Rochester Hills Parks with an average rank of 4.6 out of 5, the Rochester Hills Museum with an average rank of 4.7 out of 5, the Museum Programs had an internal customer satisfaction of 4.9 out of 5 and the Outdoor Engagement had an internal customer satisfaction of 4.9 out of 5. He added there were over one million visits annually to the Parks and Museums. He explained the Museum at Van Hoosen Farm has been rebuilt thanks to the generosity of Council, the support of over four hundred donors, and a grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. He highlighted other partnerships, such as the City of Rochester, the Rochester Avon Programming Authority, and the Cranbrook Science Museum. He added the proposed part-time program coordinator position will add support to the Museum's ever changing programs. The Museum maintains the City's archives that includes online access to complete newspaper collection as well as thousands of photographs and articles.

He pointed out the Department's multiple division's work well together, collaborating on most items to get things done. He added a key division, often behind the scenes is the Grounds Maintenance Team stating they are up early every day keeping the City's trails, parks, and landscaping safe and well-groomed.

Mr. Einheuser explained the Natural Resources division includes forestry and they continue to manage thousands of trees throughout the City, and will add over seven hundred trees through different tree planting programs. He added they remain proactive when it comes to tree trimming, and addressing issues such as Gypsy Moth. He pointed out the City continues to grow the Outdoor Engagement Programs that allows people to make connections to natural resources and outdoors. He stated these programs are very popular and that eighty percent of the programs offered reach capacity.

Mr. Buckenmeyer mentioned parks like Avondale Park and Veterans Memorial Pointe provide day-to-day outdoor connections right here in the City. He spoke about Spencer Park, and stated it attracts thousands of visitors on a daily basis during the summer. He added Spencer Park opened in 1981 and its buildings, restrooms, and parking lot infrastructure are beginning to show their

age. He spoke about Bloomer Park, and stated it has over two hundred acres and is the City's largest park with a variety of group and individual activities. He mentioned Bloomer is the City's oldest park and is in need of upgrades to parking lot, bathrooms and facilities. He referenced Borden Park, and stated it is a very active park with over 350,000 visitors a year, and added the farmhouse office is in need of replacement and the batting cages are operating well beyond their expected life. He spoke about Innovation Hills, and stated with Council's support as well as support from many partners this park will be full of activity next year with a three acre nature themed playground, boardwalk, and ponds. He thanked Council for their continued support of the Parks and Natural Resources Department.

Mr. Blair stated he is very impressed with the proposed Capital Improvement Projects for next year. He mentioned the importance of performance indicators in regards to the proposed budget and asked about the switchboard having 40,000 calls in 2020 and in 2021 there has been 22,000 as of June. He questioned what has spiked the significant increase in calls, and if there is enough staff to answer the influx of calls.

Mr. Buckenmeyer responded a lot of the calls are to inquire whether the parks are open. He stated with the variety of divisions in the Department there are also calls for forestry, deer, and for shelter rentals as well. He added they are well equipped to handle the increase in calls.

Mr. Hetrick commended the Parks and Natural Resources Department for creating ways for people to be active outdoors. He referenced the Cricket Pitch Development in the Capital Improvement Plan and stated it is a million dollar project, however, there is no agreement with the semi-pro cricket team to partner with them. He questioned why \$50,000 is budgeted for the Cricket Pitch Development with no agreement.

Mr. Buckenmeyer responded there is no agreement right now, there is just initial conversations with the semipro team. He explained that in order to start the project in 2022 there needs to be something in the budget now to start the process.

Mr. Hetrick requested a straw poll to remove the Cricket Pitch Development from the budget.

Ms. Morita stated she was very grateful to learn there is a strong population in the community that utilizes the Cricket Pitch. She asked if the Cricket Pitch is currently functioning or if it is in need of repair.

Mr. Buckenmeyer responded it is functioning, however, it does need repair. He mentioned that in the early spring only two-thirds of the field is usable due to draining issues.

Ms. Morita stated she would be in support of repairing the Cricket Pitch in order to provide a more inclusive recreational variety within the City. She added she is not in support of the semipro team coming into the City and taking over one of the Parks. She agreed with Mr. Hetrick's request for a straw poll regarding the

Cricket Pitch. She inquired if there is a need for more security at the Parks, and questioned if cameras should be placed in trees at the Parks as added security.

Mr. Buckenmeyer responded they will always have vandalism in Parks to some extent. He added it is easier to put cameras on buildings as opposed to open spaces like Parks, however, they have been exploring options to add more security to the Parks.

Mr. McKay added the City does have some security cameras that can be placed in trees and could be rotated around the different Parks within the City, as needed for added security.

Ms. Morita addressed the immediate need to get security cameras at the Museum given the investment put into the Museum over the last seven years. She also stated Council asked this year specifically for a Strategic Plan from the Parks Division and she recommended as a part of that plan adding an area that deals with security issues and measures that not only keep our residents safe, but also the City's assets safe as well.

Ms. Mungoli stated she loves the evidence and data that drives the budget, and asked what evidence can back up the requested additional part-time employees for the Parks and Natural Resources Department.

Mr. McKay responded the Museum used to rely heavily on volunteers to help the six thousand children that would come tour the Museum, however, due to COVID most of the volunteers have left. He added having a permanent part-time employee would allow them to plan their events in advance. He pointed out they also need part-time staff to accommodate the Museum rentals that can be available to show the property to interested customers and not have to rely on a volunteer for this service.

Ms. Mungoli added RARA has expressed an interest in beach volleyball courts at Spencer Park, and she inquired about adding lights to the Pickle Ball Court.

Mr. Buckenmeyer responded there are volleyball courts at Spencer Park, they would just need to set up a program. He also stated lights would be a significant expense to the Pickle Ball Court due to no electricity in that area. He also shared that they have approached the neighbors in the past about adding lights and they were not very fond of the idea.

Mayor Barnett stated the hope is the residents believe in our Parks, like our Parks and will support our Parks. He added DPS and Parks are one of the more expensive and forward facing Departments in the City, and he appreciates the strong leadership in both Departments. He mentioned the Cricket Pitch and stated it is a unique regional asset, and the closest Cricket Pitch aside from the City's is in Farmington Hills. He pointed out there is not a relationship or agreement for a semipro Cricket Pitch team, the thought process is whether the idea should be explored.

President Deel thanked Mr. Buckenmeyer, Mr. McKay, and Mr. Einheuser for

their presentation. He stated he is pleased to see the continued investment in the Parks and he appreciates the Department's hard work.

Discussed: PARKS & NATURAL RESOURCES: Parks Department, Grounds Maintenance Division, Natural Resources Division.

2021-0352 Discussion - Component Units (800's) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0335 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Museum Division.

2021-0336 Discussion - Special Revenue Funds (200's) - FY 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RARA 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL OCSO 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL RHFD Budget Presentation.pdf](#)
[SUPPL DPS 2022 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0335 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Tree Fund, Green Space.

2021-0351 Discussion - Trust and Agency Funds (700's) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0335 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: Green Space Perpetual Care Trust.

2021-0352 Discussion - Component Units (800's) - 2022 Budget

Attachments: [08232021 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2021-0335 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: RH Museum Foundation Trust Fund.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Regular Meeting - Monday, August 30, 2021 - 7:00 p.m. - CANCELLED

- Regular Meeting - Monday, September 13, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, it was moved by Mungioli and seconded by Hetrick to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

*RYAN DEEL, President
Rochester Hills City Council*

*LEANNE SCOTT, MMC, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills*

*AMBER BEAUCHAMP, Administrative Coordinator
City Clerk's Office*

Approved as presented at the October 11, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting.