



**City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS**

**1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
248.656.4630
www.rochesterhills.org**

Legislative File No: 2007-0136

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: James Rosen, City Council President
DATE: February 16, 2007
SUBJECT: Newly Elected Salary Committee

At the January 24, 2007 meeting, Mr. Ambrozaitis asked whether it was possible to establish a separately elected committee to review and decide the salaries of the Mayor, executives, and members of Council.

Mr. Staran, City Attorney, has provided the attached letter in response to a request from me at a following meeting. Mr. Staran's letter is clear that it would be necessary to have a Charter amendment, and it is possible to develop a Charter amendment that would roughly accomplish that goal. I wanted to share some additional thoughts on the matter.

Setting up a separate group of elected officials to determine the compensation of City Officials and executives would effectively establish a "shadow" government that would have effective control over City government. Because that group would control the pay of the decision makers in the community, those decision makers would, in their own self-interest, answer to that group's wishes. As a practical matter, employees do what the person that sets their pay wants them to do.

As I consider the likely intent of the suggestion (to oversee the compensation of City Officials) I reflect that doing exactly that is what the City Council is elected to do (among many other things) on behalf of the residents and taxpayers of the City.

RESOLUTION

NEXT AGENDA ITEM

RETURN TO AGENDA
