



# Rochester Hills

## Minutes

### City Council Work Session

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

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

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Wednesday, September 19, 2007

7:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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## CALL TO ORDER

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

## ROLL CALL

**Present** 4 - Erik Ambrozaitis, Barbara Holder, Greg Hooper and James Rosen

**Absent** 3 - Jim Duistermars, Linda Raschke and Ravi Yalamanchi

## Others Present:

*John Anderson, RARA  
Ed Anzek, Director of Planning and Development  
Bryan Barnett, Mayor  
James Bradford, Deputy Fire Chief  
Dan Casey, Manager of Economic Development  
Scott Cope, Director of Building/Ordinance Compliance  
Ron Crowell, Chief, Fire Department  
Derek Delacourt, Deputy Director of Planning  
Bob Grace, Director of MIS  
Mike Hartner, Director of Parks & Forestry  
Dalina Ivezaj, Youth Council Representative  
Julie Jenuwine, Director of Finance  
Jane Leslie, City Clerk  
Linda Osiecki, Deputy Treasurer  
Leanne Scott, Council Coordinator  
Robert Smith, Captain, O.C.S.O.  
Roger Rousse, Director of D.P.S.  
Doug Walther, Deputy Director of Assessing  
Robert White, Supervisor of Ordinance Services*

*Council members Duistermars, Raschke and Yalamanchi provided previous notice that they would be unable to attend tonight's meeting and asked to be excused.*

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## REVIEW OF AGENDA

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Lee Zendel**, 1575 Dutton, announced that IBM released a word processor to rival Word, a spreadsheet to rival Excel, and a business presentation to rival PowerPoint at no cost to download from [ibm.com/symphony](http://ibm.com/symphony).

**Fred Hartman**, 532 E. Avon, expressed his concern with the location of Shades of Green and the fact that they continue to expand. He stated they have removed trees which were his sound and dust barriers.

**President Rosen** responded that he would ask Mr. Scott Cope, Director of Building/Ordinance Compliance to look into this matter.

## LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

**Ms. Holder** expressed her gratitude to Council for sending flowers to her sister-in-law's Memorial Service this past Saturday.

**Mr. Ambrozaitis** referred to a piece of property in his District called the Gibbs Property stating that there are some alleged ordinance issues, specifically Ordinance Number 138-1143. He expressed his concern about some alleged contamination bordering up to the property by Spencer Park and asked City Attorney Staran to look into this matter on behalf of the City. He also requested Mr. Staran research the issue of grandfathering and if the ordinance protects the alleged situation.

**City Attorney Staran** responded that he would look into the matter and discuss it with City Staff.

**Ms. Ivezaj**, Rochester Hills Government Youth Council Representative, reported that Monday, September 17, 2007 was their first Youth Council Meeting. The Youth Council had discussed the upcoming charitable projects for the year and election of officers.

**Mayor Barnett** made the following announcements:

- This Saturday Rochester College is having their annual Fall Festival and big pre-event; there will be entertainment all day.

- Senior Flu Clinic is scheduled for October 11 and October 12 at City Hall. He encouraged anyone interested to contact the Mayor's Office for more information and to schedule an appointment. The City encourages all Senior Citizen residents to come and get their flu immunizations.

He then asked Mr. Cope to give City Council the update on the Gibbs Property.

**Mr. Cope**, Director of Building/Ordinance Compliance, reported that the Building Department had received a complaint from Ms. Dodd on June 25, 2007 of strong fumes coming from the property next to hers. She was asked to keep a

log of the specific times of day she had experienced the fumes and fuel concerns that she had indicated. He stated that this information would then be forwarded to the City Attorney for his opinion as to how they may proceed. Mr. Cope stated that an Ordinance Inspector has been out to the property to conduct an investigation. He noted that the Building Department is waiting for the documentation requested from Ms. Dodd so that a meeting can be set with the City Attorney to see what remedies and solutions are available. The Building Department is also looking into the landscaping business located there and the alleged grandfather clause that appears to be in place.

**Ms. Holder** expressed her thanks to Mr. Cope for this update as she had been following up with e-mails and conversing with several people about this problem on Emmons. She had also spoken with Ms. Dodd a few times and had contacted former neighbors regarding the growth of the business.

**Mr. Cope** responded that the Building Department is checking into the whole situation and consulting with a historian as Council Member Holder had suggested.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

**2007-0617** Public Hearing and Request for Adoption of the City of Rochester Hills Fiscal Year 2008 Budget

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)  
[Budget Recap Memo.pdf](#)

This matter was Discussed.

**President Rosen Opened the Public Hearing for both Items 2007-0617 and 2007-0616 at 7:41 p.m.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Melinda Hill**, 1481 Mill Race, stated that she continues to hear how the City has not raised taxes and that the City is keeping the bottom line. She commented that what appears to be happening is that the City has taken from every fund possible to place money into local roads. She stressed that in doing this the City is only postponing the inevitable; they cannot sustain this. She commented that she would like to hear Truth in Taxation; the City is overspending and raising taxes. She stated that if the proposed 2008 Budget is compared to the 2006 Budget, there has been an increase in spending.

**President Rosen Closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m.**

### **COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

**Mr. Ambrozaitis** echoed Ms. Hill's comments and stated he has been on the record about sharing these same concerns.

**Mayor Barnett** also commented on Truth in Taxation. He stated that it should

*be noted that this is the same millage rate that the City has had for eight years in a row with the exception of voter approved millages. He stated that one cannot look at the increased funds and not mention the decreased funds; there is an equal amount of taxes being raised and taxes being lowered. He stressed that the net result is that the tax rate is not changing from last year to this year.*

**Ms. Holder** agreed with Ms. Hill's comment about the City not being able to sustain this type of spending. She applauded the staff and the Mayor for sustaining the same levy and the same Budget amounts.

**President Rosen** questioned if the preliminary engineering and construction for Dutton Road, was the only change other than the Blue Cross and Blue Shield issues.

2007-0616 Public Hearing and Adoption of 2007 Millage Rates (for FY2008)

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

## ADMINISTRATION

2007-0422 Request for Approval of Conditional Land Use - Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a proposed 24,640 square-foot church on approximately seven acres, located on the north side of Hamlin, west of Rochester Road, zoned R-3, One Family Residential, Scott Barnes, Merritt, McPherson, Cieslak, P.C., applicant.

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Map.pdf](#)  
[Site Plans.pdf](#)  
[Staff Report 080707.pdf](#)  
[PC Minutes 080707.pdf](#)  
[PC Minutes 032007.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

**Ronald Cieslak**, Architect for Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church and **Del Stanley**, representative of Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church were present.

**Mr. Cieslak** stated that Faith Evangelical Church has just over seven acres on the north side of Hamlin Road, between Rochester Road and Livernois. The site is long and narrow and in the middle of the site there is a drain that crosses it. He stated that the drain is literally 12-18 inches wide, noting their goal is to leave the drain and to enhance it. The plan is to use it as an area for storm water detention. He mentioned that a lot of engineering has gone into taking what is now just a drain and making it a nice feature; a nice wetland area. Mr. Cieslak pointed out that Phase One is a two-story structure with a lower level walkout with parking behind it. He stated the drive curves around and crosses the drain on the west side of the property.

**President Rosen** questioned the drawings for Phase Two.

**Mr. Cieslak** stated that Phase Two is for the permanent worship center and it will sit on the south side of the drain. He clarified what is being constructed now in Phase One is a multipurpose room, noting the permanent worship center would be approximately the same size.

**President Rosen** commented that buffering was a big issue at the Planning Commission and requested that Mr. Delacourt comment more on this issue.

**Mr. Delacourt**, Deputy Director of Planning, explained that a Type B buffer is required any time a residential property is developed for non-residential use. He stated there is a full Type B buffer required on the northeast and west sides of the property. He commented that the applicant did do an extensive amount of work with both the residents to the north and on both sides of the property. Mr. Delacourt further stated that on the east portion of the property, north of the channel, the Planning Commission approved the modification on the conditions that the applicant has agreed that if a residential development is constructed they will provide the necessary plantings to meet the full intent of the buffer. He noted that until that happens the applicant as asked that this be waived and the Planning Commission did grant the waiver.

**Mr. Ambrozaitis** shared a comment from one homeowner on the north side of this property, stating that they were concerned about the possibility of flooding in their backyard.

**Mr. Delacourt** stated that on the north side of the buffer there is a berm that is being installed and it does appear to block what would be a drainage course. He explained that engineering is aware of this and are considering two options: one is a break in that berm with some additional landscaping that would allow the water to flow through; the other would be a culvert through the berm that would have to be maintained that would allow the water to pass through. He stated that once the engineering plans are submitted with the final topography and grading, they will be better able to make the final decision as to how to resolve that issue.

**Mr. Hooper** commented that when the homes to the north of the property were built, a swale was installed as part of the original plat to take care of the rear yard drainage. He stated that over time, the neighbors have filled in that swale and now it flows directly onto the church's property. He noted that there will be provisions made so that there will not be a drainage block on the north end of this property.

**President Rosen** questioned what the time frame was for Phase Two.

**Mr. Cieslak** responded that it would most likely be ten years.

**2007-0471** Request for Approval of Wetland Use Permit - Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church, located on Hamlin Road between Livernois and Rochester Roads, to construct a detention pond in front of the proposed church building.

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[WUP Notice.pdf](#)  
[062107 Letter ASTI.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

**2007-0585** Request for Purchase Authorization - FIRE: Purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and associated equipment in the amount of \$291,173.08; Argus-Hazco, Chesterfield, MI

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[SCBA Proposal Summary.pdf](#)  
[SCBA Supplemental Proposals.pdf](#)  
[Proposals Tabulation.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

**Chief Crowell** explained that his Department formed a committee with the City of Auburn Hills and the City of Rochester to evaluate the breathing apparatus. He stated that the one chosen just received the 2007 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) approval. Chief Crowell commented that because the City of Auburn Hills was also taking this to their City Council as a joint purchase, the price they were quoted from the company allowed them to add some very significant safety features, such as fire fighter locators. He explained that the firefighters will have a sending unit device mounted on their air pack; if somebody runs into trouble, the Department will have a unit that can check the building from the outside and it will get louder and brighter as the unit gets closer to that sending device. He stated that the Department is very happy with it.

**President Rosen** asked the Chief to define what he meant by joint purchase.

**Chief Crowell**, responding to Mr. Rosen, explained that the three cities received a better price by combining their orders, however the City will be placing its order first, then Auburn Hills will be submitting their order with the City of Rochester. He stated this is being done because Auburn Hills cannot take delivery until 2008. He noted that currently, the City of Sterling Heights' Fire Department is reviewing the equipment. He stated that if more cities get involved, the purchase price will be better. However, by the same token, if Auburn Hills had to pull out, it would not increase the price the City has committed to pay.

**Ms. Holder** questioned what will happen with the old air packs.

**Chief Crowell** responded that he was looking into the possibility of selling them if the purchasing fire department upgrades them to meet the current NFPA standard. He mentioned that the packs have reached the service life for the City's Fire Department to use, but they would give it their best effort to turn them around in some manner.

**President Rosen** inquired if there was a donation program in place for used equipment.

**Chief Crowell** responded that it would be his preference to donate or sell used

equipment as long as the City would not be held liable if something were to fail. He stated he would research whether or not this would be a possibility if the receiving fire department were to get them certified and updated.

- 2007-0582** Request for Purchase Authorization - FIRE: Waiver of Section 2-273(b) of the Purchasing Ordinance; 5-Year Contract for Ambulance Billing; Blanket purchase order for ambulance billing services through December 31, 2008 in amount of \$90,000; AccuMed Billing, Inc., Riverview, MI

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Proposal Tabulation.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

**Chief Crowell** gave a brief history of the Fire Department's experience with AccuMed Billing for the last five years and stated that the City has had exceptional service with this company. He stated the City is currently paying AccuMed ten percent of what is collected. He commented that AccuMed has agreed to seven and a quarter percent for a five-year contract, or eleven percent for a one-year contract. Chief Crowell responding to a comment made about the City doing EMS billing in-house, stressed that it would be a very involved, expensive project.

**President Rosen** questioned if the City signs a contract for services that could change in three years, what recourse would they have.

**City Attorney Staran** responded that the contract, as presented before Council this evening, does not contain any opting out or early termination language; it is a solid five-year term that is terminable early only in the event that the other party is in default or enters into bankruptcy.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Mr. Lee Zendel**, 1575 Dutton, stated it his understanding that AccuMed bills the insurance company or Medicare for the ambulance. Once AccuMed receives a check and deducts their percentage, the rest is remitted to the City. If AccuMed cannot collect on a particular invoice then the City is not obligated to pay them.

**Chief Crowell** responded that the City only pays seven and a quarter percent of what it earns in billing service.

**President Rosen** stated that its a misnomer to say that the City is paying AccuMed; what really happens is that AccuMed is taking their portion of what they collect. He further stated that if AccuMed does not collect, their effort is wasted but it does not cost the City anything.

**City Attorney Staran** reminded Council that if the City decides somewhere between now and the end of year five, they would like to utilize another vendor, this contract obligates the City for as long as it is in the EMS business to use AccuMed. However, if the City gets out of the EMS business altogether and goes in a different direction, then the City is not incurring any liability.

**Chief Crowell** responding to Mr. Hooper's question, stated that approximately



thirty percent of what is billed is uncollectible. He noted that it is his opinion that the bad debt ratio percentage is not the result of AccuMed not making the collection but rather a result of the economy.

**Ms. Holder** commented on how extraordinary the service has been since the City provides its own ambulance service. She stated the City provides this as a service to the residents; to get them to the hospital quicker and to save their lives. She stressed that the City is not in this to see how much money they can make in a day.

**2007-0584** Request for Purchase Authorization - FIRE: Purchase Order for field data capture software, web-hosting services and first year annual support in the amount not-to-exceed \$47,536.65; AccuMedWeb, Riverview, MI

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Cost Tabulation.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

**Chief Crowell** stated that the Fire Department received a grant for this project and is considering AccuMed Web which is a division of AccuMed Billing. He stated that this software will allow for data to be collected at the scene and, upon the crew's return to the station, to be downloaded to a server maintained by AccuMed. Chief Crowell pointed out that once the necessary wireless technology becomes available, they will be able to transfer the data to AccuMed right from the scene. He listed the following benefits of this software:

- It meets all HIPPA requirements.
- This software will electronically meet the reporting standards for the Oakland County Medical Authority and is in compliance with the new State of Michigan emergency medical services electronic run reporting requirements; fulfilling an unfunded State mandate making it mandatory for EMS agencies to begin electronic data submission.
- This software is National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) gold certified as a field data capture solution.
- AccuMed will maintain the software.
- It will substantially reduce the time it takes staff to process paper copies for billing and reporting purposes.
- The City can access the reports instead of having to keep them filed.
- It improves the turn around time for billing and revenue collection.
- The software is user friendly; and the Fire Department will have one hundred people using this software.

**President Rosen** questioned if the rate AccuMed quoted for billing was dependent on the City purchasing this software.

**Chief Crowell** responded yes, to a certain extent although the City may have been able to get a better rate than ten percent if they did not purchase their software.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Lee Zendel**, 1575 Dutton, stated he met with representatives from AccuMed. He noted that one of the major problems AccuMed came across was trying to



*decipher the handwriting of the crew on site, and how this had an impact on the collection rate. He stated by converting to a computerized system, the report would be more accurate and would have a positive impact on collections.*

- 2007-0583** Request for Purchase Authorization-FIRE: Purchase Order for two Toughbook 30, nine Toughbook 19, one External DVD-ROM/CD-RW and eleven DC Adaptors in the amount of \$35,406.22; CDW-G, Vernon Hills, IL

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Proposal Summary.pdf](#)  
[Tabulation.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

*Chief Crowell gave a brief introduction about the use of computers in the field and mentioned that the Fire Department received a grant which will pay for eighty percent of this expense. He explained that nine of the computers will be placed on the EMS vehicles allowing for EMS personnel to produce patient care reports and billing sheets on hand-held tablet computers used directly on emergency scenes. He further explained that the other two computers will be used on-scene for command functions and accountability of personnel on the scene. He commented that the Department will use Pictometry and wireless internet service to obtain information on scene. Chief Crowell stated that this is the first step in a plan to place computers in essential vehicles within the Department.*

- 2007-0623** Discussion regarding proposed amendments to the Sign Ordinance

**Attachments:** [091907 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Proposed Sign Ordinance.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

*Mr. Scott Cope, Director of Building/Ordinance Compliance, and Mr. Bob White, Supervisor of Ordinance Services, came forward for this matter.*

*Mr. Cope offered to answer any questions Council may have.*

*Mr. Ambrozaitis stated his support in moving this item forward.*

**(Councilman Hooper departed at 8:43 p.m. and re-entered at 8:44 p.m.)**

## **CITY COUNCIL**

- 2007-0624** Policy Discussion regarding Municipal Building Debt Payments and Future City Hall Building Replacement Funding

**Attachments:** [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Discussion Points.pdf](#)

**This matter was Discussed.**

**Ms. Jenuwine** gave a presentation on the elimination of transfers from General Fund to the Municipal Debt Retirement Fund for future City Hall building replacement funding. Following is a brief synopsis of that presentation:

### **INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS**

Activities that produce goods or services to be provided to departments within a governmental unit on a cost-reimbursement basis may be accounted for by internal service funds to assist with the management of resources.

- User charges need not cover the full cost (City's internal service funds do recover the full cost).

- Proprietary Funds, not governmental funds, use accrual basis of accounting - like a business. Depreciation is booked because fixed assets are held as an asset in the fund. Depreciation = the cost of the asset\* charged off (prorated over the estimated life) as an expense. \*minus salvage value

- Depreciation may be included in the internal service charge to finance capital purchases - it is not a requirement (City is collecting the depreciation in addition to the General Fund paying the current bond payments).

- GASB and State of Michigan do not require budget appropriations for proprietary funds.

- City Charter requires budget appropriations for all funds (except Trust & Agency Funds). No money shall be drawn from the Treasury of the City nor shall any obligation for the expenditure of money be incurred except pursuant to the budget appropriation.

### **MUNICIPAL BUILDING BOND PAYMENT**

The payment of the Municipal Building bond is recommended to be funded by way of the Facilities Fund 'occupancy charge' as opposed to the General Fund transferring the monies directly to the debt retirement fund in addition to the occupancy charge collecting monies from all departments for future replacement costs of the City Hall building.

Change is based on the following:

- Taxpayers are currently funding the existing (newly constructed) City Hall building by way of the debt payment funded by the General Fund **in addition** to funding for future replacement costs for the City Hall building through the Facilities 'occupancy charge'. City Charter Section 4.2 provides "The annual ad valorem tax levy shall be sufficient to provide funding to adequately cover only budgeted expenditures for the fiscal year....."

Additional facts to consider:

- Approximately \$155,000 for original City Hall building will continue to be moved to the Facilities Fund for future City Hall building replacement costs.

- Under the current methodology, in 2004 and 2005 alone, approximately \$1,600,000 has already been moved to the Facilities Fund for City Hall building's future replacement costs.

- Fourteen (14) years the debt will be retired, at that time the occupancy payments should continue, but to be directed to the Facilities Fund to support future City Hall building replacement costs.

- The Capital Improvement Fund is projected to have \$3,500,000 undesignated in fund balance at year-end to possibly fund any early building failures (significant).  
\*Currently has \$3,400,000

- Under the new method, all user departments will pay toward the City Hall debt retirement as opposed to just the General Fund.

**Ms. Jenuwine** responded to questions raised by Council Members stating that both cash and bonds were used for the addition/renovation to the City Hall building in 2002/2003. She stated the City has already collected the equivalent of what it has paid in cash and is now at the point of collecting the \$9,000,000 that it has bonded for. She stated that she felt this would be a good point to stop that depreciation. She explained that the current methodology is that because the City paid cash, the City is prefunding because the taxpayers of yesteryear set away money so that the City could pay for assets with cash. She further explained that under this methodology it is only fair that the current taxpayers replenish that money. She noted that this has been the philosophy for this depreciation.

**Mr. Hooper** questioned why is this not a more common practice with the City's other assets, such as roads. He stated that the City does not collect anything for roads, it relies on Act 51 monies and the General Fund. He further stated that the roads are depreciating and this is creating a large expenditure.

**Ms. Jenuwine** stated that it is typical that roads are not depreciated, or put into any of the proprietary funds and depreciated in that way. She commented that in 2001 and 2002, the City sold bonds for road repairs. She explained, however, because roads have been looked at as a perpetual problem it was determined that selling bonds was not the answer.

**Mr. Ambrozaitis** questioned if it would be possible to have an independent party give Council another explanation and/or opinion on this matter.

**President Rosen** responded that could be done, however, he believed that there should be rules or guidelines as to how Cities do these things; laws held by the State of Michigan, or GSAB. He commented that what he is hearing is that each municipality proceeds in the way they choose to handle it.

**Ms. Jenuwine** stated that there are many communities that do not use internal service funds; therefore, do not collect depreciation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Melinda Hill**, 1481 Mill Race Road, supported Ms. Jenuwine's presentation stating that there is no problem in the accounting portion of this. She commented that what is being suggested is that the City pay the bond debt and not depreciate for the next fourteen years. She explained that in doing this the City would not have saved any money. She mentioned that in order to know if the City is depreciating or saving enough for all of the capital assets, a facilities assessment would have to be done. She stated that whether you move it from one fund to another, the City will have to pay the debt service and save, which is depreciation for future needs. The other option is to pay the debt service and stop saving for awhile and then get back to saving. She suggested that if the City does not want it to come out of the General Fund, then charge each department more so the City is getting some future savings or savings depreciation and the City is then covering the debt payment. Referring to an earlier comment, she stated that the City could not bond for roads as the City could not afford to pay the debt service; the City does not have the money to do that.

**Lee Zendel**, 1575 Dutton Road, stated Public Act 2 of 1968, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act as amended, is what the City should be following. He further stated that the City sets aside depreciation but that is based upon the original cost. He noted that the idea that the City is setting aside enough money to replace this building in forty years is not logical since no one can forecast that far in the future.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Ms. Jenuwine**, responding to Mr. Rosen's questions, stated that currently the debt service on the City Hall building is approximately \$675,000.00, but that amount will increase annually, and in the final year will be \$900,000.00. She listed MIS, Fleet, and Facilities as the main internal service funds but pointed out that only the Facilities Fund would have to increase for the debt service.

**President Rosen** concluded that the debt service has to be paid and it does not matter whether it is collected by the Facilities Department from all the other groups and operations or given directly from the General Fund. He noted that what was being proposed that the savings depreciation was being discontinued.

**Mr. Ambrozaitis** stressed that he wants to make sure the City is saving something.

**Mayor Barnett** referred to his recent straw poll in which five Council Members either strongly disagreed or were indifferent, and two Council Members were in agreement with changing it back to the way it has been done in the past, and questioned whether this would stay in the budget as proposed or not.

**President Rosen** stated that he understood they did not have much time before needing to approve the budget, but feels that a policy change such as this calls for more discussion.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Ms. Hill concurred that this is a serious policy issue of whether the City cares to save or depreciate. She stated that it would not be a difficult change if the City cares to leave it the same until the facilities assessment is done this year or in 2008.*

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*President Rosen mentioned that the Mayor provided Council with a status update from REI. He also mentioned that Council has been provided a copy of the letter received from George Heitsch, Superintendent of Avondale Schools.*

*Mayor Barnett stated that he had a meeting with Mr. Heitsch, after receiving this letter, and informed him of what was presented to Council in light of one additional deputy and what that deputy would have assigned to him and the possibility of time spent on juvenile crimes and specifically those related to both Avondale and Rochester school districts. He stated that Mr. Heitsch expressed his appreciation and felt they could get their percentage of the cost through their budget.*

*Mr. Hooper commented that back in February, he had asked for an attorney opinion on specific examples of Charter Amendment vs. Charter Revisions, and what the threshold is between those two. He had also asked for a legal opinion on transfer of fund balances from one account to another, and what the legality of that is.*

*City Attorney Staran stated he had provided the Charter Amendment vs. Charter Revision information to the City several times, but will be happy to send it again. He commented that he would have the rest of the information to Mr. Hooper by Council's next meeting.*

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

*- Regular Meeting - Wednesday, September 26, 2007 - 7:30 PM*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business before Council, President Rosen adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m.*

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*JAMES ROSEN, President  
Rochester Hills City Council*

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*JANE LESLIE, Clerk  
City of Rochester Hills*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*CHRISTINE A. WISSBRUN*  
*Administrative Secretary*  
*City Clerk's Office*

*Approved as presented at the April 28, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting.*