

Fiscal Team

DATE: September 3, 2004

TO: City Council

RE: September 2, Budget Issues

The following are questions/answers and changes regarding the Mayor's 2005 Proposed budget from the budget workshop held on Wednesday September 2, 2004.

1. Council questioned if the Fire Department License for burning charge is suppose to be offset by burning education costs. Is there money in the budget for the education?
 Chief Walterhouse has indicated that the previous ordinance required literature to be provided on burning and composting, but this requirement was not included in the current ordinance. There is a one page informational sheet that describes the burning guidelines that is duplicated very inexpensively via a City copier.
2. Dispatch Service to Oakland Township will be changed from \$28,000 in the Mayors proposed budget to \$38,000. FY2005 will be the final year for a discounted rate. FY2006 revenue is projected to be approximately \$50,000-\$60,000.
3. Regarding the Community Alert System – As requested Chief Walterhouse found that the following about other communities systems:

	Age	Start-up	Annual Operating Maintenance	
Riverview	14 mos.	\$20,000	\$0	\$1200
Southfield	6 mos.	\$21,000	\$0	\$ 0
Sterling Hts	3 mos.	\$16,500*	\$0	\$ 0
Westland	5 years	\$18,000	\$0	\$ 100

*Does not include antennae installation
 A FCC license is required at a cost of \$495. License renewals are no charge. Repair service is \$95 per hour plus materials. System includes 4 day battery back-up.

4. As requested by Council, Chief Walterhouse researched the below wage information:

National Maximum Averages for 2002		
State	Basic EMT	Paramedic
Illinois	N/A	\$24,000
Indiana	\$22,000	\$40,000
Kentucky	\$22,000	\$29,000
Minnesota	\$30,000	\$47,000
Wisconsin	\$25,000	\$30,000
Average	\$24,750	\$34,000

NOTE: Idaho, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania – Information not available for these states.

An analysis of other states reveal a wide variation in compensation; however, the difference between the BEMT and Paramedic averages is consistent at approximately \$10,000.

Rochester Hills

Firefighter/Paramedic
\$98,000 - \$117,000

Basic EMT
\$45,000 - \$55,000

Paramedic
\$55,000 - \$65,000

5. What is the total of all Legal expenditures budgeted in the 2005 Proposed budget?
\$569,000
6. Remove one of the ten months Rochester officers from the Police Fund Liaison program (account 207.807001).
After further discussion with President Dalton, it was determined that the proposed budget would remain as proposed by the Mayor, yet City administration would meet with the participants of the liaison program prior to next spring to discuss some potential changes with the City of Rochester Hills' representation in the school program.
7. Bring 203.940000 down closer to 50% of the 2004 budget, to mirror the personnel costs. This will be performed in the final budget.
8. In account 244.724000, \$1000 was added for tuition reimbursement at Councils request.
9. In account 510.724000, \$1000 was added for tuition reimbursement at Councils request
10. In account 510.802206 - Interfund charge for Dispatcher service by Fire Department, was questioned as the appropriateness of the charge.
Communications division has indicted that here has been no scientific tracking of the exact time allocated by Dispatcher towards the DPS function but
Communications division has indicated that the Dispatchers do the following:
monitor SCADA system, answer phones and dispatch after hours DPS business, monitor radio traffic for DPS, after hours answer point for MISS DIG, monitor weather conditions for DPS, after hours contact for sewer backups, watermain breaks, storm water issues etc.
11. In accounts 510.977000 and 530.977000 the Radio Read System (WM-30) was placed in the budget for \$693,355 (split between Water and Sewer departments), as Council requested. Bonding will be the source of funding.

12. Water Storage (WS-22) was placed in the budget into account 530.972000 for \$8,000,000, as requested by Council. Bonding will be the source of funding.
13. In accounts 631.699420 and 631.974000, PK-05F Borden Park Soccer Field #4 renovations for \$75,000, PK-18 Outdoor ADA Site Compliance project for \$100,000 and FA-01C City Hall erosion control for \$40,000 have been removed from the budget.
14. In account 636.748000 eliminated two laptops for City Council, bringing the line item down to \$12,500 from \$17,500.
15. In 636.980000 remove IS-10D Microsoft Office for \$100,000.
16. In 808.589000 change revenue to \$516,870
17. In 808.590000 round the number
18. In 808.703000 change expense to 317,170
19. In 820.589000 change revenue to 790,880
20. In 820.740000 change revenue to 125,830

OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Transfer from the Major Road Fund to the Local Road Fund
Fire Funds staffing
Fire Funds millage
Fire Funds Community Alert System

NEW INFORMATION

Request to withdraw the elimination of the FT Computer Publishing Specialist position. This request will add \$31,721 to the Mayor's Department budget (General Fund).