



# Rochester Hills Minutes

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## Community Development & Viability Committee

*Ed Anzek, Bryan Barnett, Scott Cope, Frank Cosenza, Jim Duistermars, Barbara Holder,  
Kristina Hurst, Michael Kaszubski, Elise Pawlowski, Roger Rousse*

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Thursday, November 17, 2005

5:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Chairperson Barnett called the CDV Committee meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.*

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Bryan Barnett, Jim Duistermars, Frank Cosenza and Michael Kaszubski

**Absent:** Barbara Holder

*Non-Voting Members Present: Ed Anzek, Scott Cope, Roger Rousse, Kristina Hurst and  
Elise Pawlowski*

*Non-Voting Members Absent:*

*Committee Member Barb Holder provided previous notice she would be unable to attend  
and asked to be excused.*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*None Presented*

### COMMUNICATIONS

*Distributed Handouts:*

*December CDV Special Meeting Notice Date Change  
Revised Proposed Street Lighting Policy  
Updated CDV Bylaws*

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**2004-0163**

Proposed Street Lighting Policy

**Attachments:** 021606 Draft Street Lighting Policy.pdf; Street Lighting Policy.pdf; 2nd  
Revision Street Lighting Policy.pdf; Street Lighting Policy FS 101305.pdf

*Roger Rousse, DPS Director, presented the Proposed Street Lighting Policy Changes noting  
the following:*

*\* Original proposed policy recommended approval of street lighting requests by City  
Council.*

*Ms. Hill requested she would like the proposed policy to state that approval would come*

from the Advisory Traffic Safety Board and Engineering and not City Council. She further requested she would also like included in the Street Lighting Policy instructions for SAD process clarified with a procedure and a time table for implementing an SAD for Street Lighting.

Mr. Rouse reiterated that the City does not have a Street Lighting Policy and that a number of street lighting requests have come forward. He further stated that when a request comes in, there is a guideline but there is no formal policy. When considering these requests, the City looks at adjoining lighting, the need for lighting, school locations and if its a common benefit to all the City; the request is evaluated and considered for City funding.

Mr. Edward Anzek, Director of Planning Commission, stated that typically many communities fund their lighting through Public Safety Fund or Police Fund and are considered more of a crime prevention safety issue. He further stated that any lighting to improve school safety should be paid for by the schools.

### Discussed

2005-0300

### Conservation Easements

**Attachments:** Standard 11 Conservation Easement Stewardship.pdf; Memo to CDV Conservation Easement 106(ver2).pdf; Memo Roger Conservation Easements.pdf; Info Packet Conservation Easements.pdf; Oakland Land Conservancy Proposal.pdf

Roger Rouse, DPS Director, discussed Conservation Easements encroachments noting the following:

- \* Handout shows a detailed cost estimate for Committee review.
- \* Oakland Land Conservancy gave a presentation to the City.
- \* City is questioning who enforces encroachments and are they worth maintaining.
- \* First step is to do a City Wide inventory of Conservation Easements.

Mr. Rouse suggested initial funding would come through the Facilities Department Land Management Division and if the City decides to defend Conservation Easements, the funding would come from the Building Department Ordinance Enforcement.

- \* It was suggested to notify residents in writing.
- \* City runs the risk of losing Conservation Easements and/or can incur the risk of liability.
- \* Encroachments are not just Conservation Easements, its City owned park land, such as, one resident in Riverbend Park who placed an irrigation system on City owned land.
- \* Encroachments range from more permanent structures such as sheds, pools and swing sets to simply mowing and planting.
- \* It was suggested that the City do a phase in approach by subdivisions.
- \* It was suggested to prioritize Conservation Easements based on the level of importance, such as, steep slope setbacks protecting rivers vs. vegetative buffers.
- \* Committee member mentioned that when a property is on the market for sale, that the City has an opportunity to go in and see if there is an encroachment.

*Chairperson Barnett suggested formulating a City Council Policy that states the City's goal is to bring all of these Conservation Easements back into compliance.*

*Ed Anzek, Planning Commission Director, suggested placing a notice of new policy on channel 55/10 and in the Hills Herald.*

**Discussed**

2005-0608

Discussion regarding Road Millage

*Ed Anzek, Planning Commission Director, discussed the Local Road Millage noting the following:*

*Mr. Anzek requested the Youth Council Representatives to ask their parents if they were in support or against the road millage; which would help the City to better understand what the residents are thinking and to perhaps help the City to communicate the need of a road millage to the residents.*

*\* The City has worked with a citizens group since January 2005 to develop solutions for local road funding which includes construction, winter maintenance (snow plowing), administration, traffic services.*

*\* Citizens group looked at different scenarios, such as, how we fix roads, maintain roads, types of materials used, cost of materials etc.*

*\* It was the consensus of the Citizens group to ask residents to approve a graduated millage.*

*Mr. Anzek discussed the percentage difference between the failed millage of 2004 vs. the failed millage of 2005 noting the following:*

*\* Data shows that the City improved their position by 1.39% percent with more residents being in favor of the road millage.*

*\* Data shows that several precincts surprisingly went from favoring a local road millage to not favoring the millage.*

*\* City contracted a PR firm at \$13,500 to help educate the public with newspaper articles, flyers, mail outs, press kits etc.*

*\* Total education budget was \$50,000, City spent \$26,000 on educating the public with he local road millage proposal.*

*\* The "No New Tax" group attacked the City aggressively for wasting monies on this PR Firm Program.*

*Mr. Anzek stated received feedback from the Hills Herald article was very effective and well done.*

*\* PR firm recommended a phone survey because phone surveys get to the underlying cause and root of why there is such a strong element against the City government and the use of dedicated monies.*

*\* Road Committee Citizens group has decided to disband but stated that they will be in attendance at City Council meetings until they hear what the New City Council members plans are.*

*\* Road Committee Citizens group has a better understanding and good feeling on what*

*City Council has done in the past, what the Administration has done and what the Staff has done.*

*Mr. Anzek mentioned another strategy which came from Rapids City Iowa which had six (6) failed millages, the strategy included placing on the ballot 1) a maintenance reconstruction program 2) an SAD program which would cause the residents to research a SAD program possibly resulting in the passage of the millage.*

**Discussed**

## **YOUTH COMMENTS**

*Chairperson Barnett asked Youth Council to introduce themselves.*

*Kristina Hurst stated she is a sophomore at Adams High School.*

*Elise Pawlowski stated she is a senior at Adams High School and participates in the marching band as drum major and also plays french horn and flute.*

*Committee member Jim Duistermars inquired if any of their friends had made comments on what they want to see happen in the City.*

*Youths responded that most friends are not aware of what goes on in the City.*

*Committee members directed Youths to keep their friends informed on what is going on in the City.*

*Chairperson Barnett thanked the Youths and welcomed them to the CDV Committee.*

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Snow Policy**

*Roger Rouse, DPS Director, discussed Snow Policy noting the following:*

- \* Rochester Hills Snow Policy is identically modeled after the Road Commission Policy.*
- \* The level of service provided is comparable to what residents in adjoining communities are receiving.*
- \* 2005 snow plowing local roads has cost \$260,000 to date.*
- \* 2005 remaining budget at \$280,000.*
- \* Pathways will not be plowed until all the local roads are plowed.*

**Discussed**

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

*Next meeting date is Thursday, December 15, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. Michigan Time.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Barnett adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.*

*Minutes prepared by Sue Busam*