



# Rochester Hills

## Minutes - Draft

### City Council Special Meeting

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

*David J. Blair, Susan M. Bowyer Ph.D., Ryan Deel, Dale A. Hetrick, Carol Morlan,  
Theresa Mungoli 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."*

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Monday, August 21, 2023

5:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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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 21, 2023, to discuss the proposed 2024 budget.

## CALL TO ORDER

*President Deel called the Special Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Michigan Time.*

## ROLL CALL

**Present** 5 - Ryan Deel, Dale Hetrick, Carol Morlan, Theresa Mungoli and David Walker

**Absent** 1 - David Blair

## Others Present:

*Dennis Andrews, Parks Manager  
Tracey Balint, Public Utilities Engineering Manager  
Bryan Barnett, Mayor  
Sheila Brown, Deputy City Clerk  
Chief Sean Canto, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Director  
Margaret Casey, Information Systems Administrator II  
Esther Chirodea, Building Tech - Permits  
Lieutenant Jason Dalbec, Oakland County Sheriff's Office  
Paul Davis, Deputy Public Services Director/City Engineer  
Darrin Dobbs, Grounds Maintenance Manager  
Ann Echols, Captain/Assistant Fire Marshall  
Matt Einheuser, Natural Resources Manager  
Ken Elwert, Parks & Natural Resources Director  
Bill Fritz, Public Services Director  
Larry Gambotto, Captain/Training Officer  
Todd Gary, Deputy Fire Chief  
Lori Hamilton, Administrative Services Supervisor  
Debby Hoyle, Senior Financial Analyst*

*Tim Hollis, Deputy Director*  
*Leon Luedeman, Water & Sewer Operations Manager*  
*Rochelle Lyon, Information Systems Director*  
*Denise McDoniel, Financial Analyst*  
*Pat McKay, Museum Manager*  
*Gary Nauts, Facilities Manager*  
*Sue Rehse, Human Resources Associate*  
*Sara Roediger, Planning & Economic Development Director*  
*Jeff Schultz, Manager of Inspection Services*  
*Leanne Scott, City Clerk*  
*Lieutenant Eric Shimmell, Oakland County Sheriff's Office*  
*Karen Somerville, Deputy Assessing Director*  
*Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer*  
*Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director*  
*Leslie Turnbull, Interim Human Resources Director*  
*Pam Valentik, Economic Development Manager*  
*Kelly Varner, Admin Services Supervisor*  
*Mike Viazanko, Building/Ordinance/Facilities Director*  
*Jodi Welch, Manager of Ordinance Services*  
*Christine Wissbrun, Admin Associate II*  
*Captain Russ Yeiser, Oakland County Sheriff's Office*

**(Mr. Blair entered at 5:32 p.m.)**

**Present** 6 - David Blair, Ryan Deel, Dale Hetrick, Carol Morlan, Theresa Mungoli and David Walker

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Mungoli, that the Agenda be Approved as Presented. The motion **CARRIED** by the following vote:

**Aye** 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungoli and Walker

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*None.*

**LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2023-0336** Request for Approval of the Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA) 2024 Proposed Budget and 2025-2026 Projected Budget

**Attachments:** [082123 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[081423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[FY 2024-26 RARA Budget.pdf](#)  
[081423 Resolution.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**Joe Snyder**, Chief Financial Officer, introduced **Dave Word**, Executive Recreation Director for Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA).

**Mr. Word** provided the following information regarding RARA's programming and services over the past year:

- Three new staff members starting by September 11
  - Adaptive Services Supervisor
  - Sports Supervisor
  - Marketing & Events
  
- In 2023, RARA tackled major projects, taking care of much needed updates:
  - Invested in security upgrades to make our residents more safe
  - Invested in ADA improvements to help our most deserving participants
  - Upgraded the website to be mobile optimized and information easier to find
  - Enlisted a new registration platform to make signing up faster and communication with participants more efficient
  - Added classroom space to create more programs
  - Purchased equipment to engage more residents at special events
  - Updated fitness and dance studio technology and aesthetics
  - Put a fresh coat of paint on just about everything
  
- Updates in progress/forthcoming:
  - New HVAC system in the Fieldhouse
  - Covered entryway
  - Parking lot replacement
  
- The Studio and Fitness area underwent renovations that included:
  - Roof replacement
  - Upgraded monitors for class viewing
  - Two new dressing rooms
  - A study area with locker storage for students
  - The painting of studio halls, rooms, and ceilings
  - New classroom signage
  
- The Exterior building underwent renovations that included:
  - Wayfinding signage installed throughout the community center to help residents navigate the 36,000 sq. ft. facility
  - ADA mechanical doors installed on bathrooms and entrances to assist those with special needs and residents with strollers
  - Upgraded drinking fountains with bottle-filling stations that are accessible to all abilities
  - Exterior repainted
  - New gutter systems installed
  - Upgrades to both lighting and security systems in the parking lot

- *The Lobby underwent renovations that included:*
  - *Repainted and remodeled to add a café space*
  - *Reception office moved to create an additional classroom space*
  - *Glass doors installed to add privacy to the dance and fitness studio area*
  - *Artwork added to glass and signs with RARA branding*
  
- *The Reception Area was redesigned and included a new home for the Rochester Kaleidoscope Keys, the street piano that spent the summer outside of Paint Creek Center for the Arts*
  
- *In 2022, averaged 19.25 rooms used for parties each month. In 2023, averaging 36.5 rooms used each month*
  
- *Proud to be a part of many partner events including:*
  - *Oak in the Hills*
  - *Tons of Trucks*
  - *Kris Kringle Market*
  - *Rochester's Annual Easter Egg Hunt*
  - *The Greater Rochester Open*
  - *Milk & Cookies with Santa*
  - *Greater Rochester Middle School Cross Country Championships*
  - *Heroes vs. Villains 1 Mile Kids Run*
  - *RARA Boo Bash*
  - *The Tall & Small Ball*
  - *RARA Daddy Daughter Dance*
  - *The Mom Prom*
  - *Mayor's Play Ball*
  - *MLB Pitch, Hit, & Run*
  - *RARA's Mom2Mom Sales*
  - *Family Bingo Night*
  - *Library Summer Reading Kickoff*
  - *RARA Craft & Vendor Shows*
  - *SCamp Bowling Fundraiser*
  - *Firehouse Pancake Breakfast*
  - *SCamp Cornhole Tournament*
  - *RARA Mother & Son Date Night*
  - *Rochester Middle School Lock-In*
  - *The Light Bright Bike Parade*
  - *Festival of the Hills*
  - *RH Take Your Kids to Work Day*
  - *The Rochester Memorial Day Parade*
  
- *By the Numbers:*
  - *874 Activities (+105 more than 2022)*
  - *8,206 Participants (+1,939 more than 2022)*
  - *167 Tournament Registrations*
  - *672 Adult League Participants*
  - *690 Youth League Participants*
  - *1,026 Registered for Adaptive Services*
  - *1,091 Participants in Performing Arts & Fitness*
  - *1,726 Registered for Sports Camps & Clinics*

- 1,950 Event Guests
- 2,082 Children in Day Camps
  
- Soccer continues to grow at RARA with the help of partners Magic Soccer Club and Vardar Soccer Club. Soccer activities will exceed 1,000 participants in 2023.
- Oak in the Hills saw the introduction of Nerf Wars
- Milk & Cookies with Santa has sold out every year
- Adding more Daddy Daughter Dances
- 2023 Rochester Area Youth Cycling Club had 250 kids registered
- Tons of Trucks event at Borden Park was historically a bi-annual event and it will now be held annually
- Programs in the arts have been growing over time, which is why a third classroom has been added
- Seven new dance teachers this year to meet the growing demand of the performing arts students
- Two new Summer Camps were added for five to nine year old's in 2023
- Registrations are up in 2023 compared to 2022
- Anticipated to hit over 10,000 participants this year

**Mr. Snyder** expressed that he appreciates how Mr. Word manages the RARA budget in a conservative nature. He shared that there is about \$100,000 per year in the budget for annual Capital items. He announced that the RARA budget is in great shape.

**Mr. Word** thanked the community for investing in RARA and stated that RARA is the backbone of the community. He introduced **Sam Lunt** as the new Assistant Director for RARA.

**Council Discussion:**

**Ms. Mungoli** expressed that the staff at RARA has been great and stated she appreciated Mr. Lunt's help in putting together policy manuals, making sure software changes are made, and following up on contract requests. She added that she looks forward to the three new staff members coming in and thanked the staff at the City for their support to RARA.

**Mr. Hetrick** remarked that under the guidance of Mr. Word, RARA is on the right track. He added that it is good news that the fund balances are growing and stated he appreciates the conservative efforts regarding the budget.

**Vice President Bowyer** thanked Mr. Word for how he is running RARA and questioned if there is a lot of interest in the new adult events that are planned at RARA.

**Mr. Word** responded that it is harder to get adults involved, because they are usually invested in their children's activities, however, there is some adult programming being introduced in the future.

**President Deel** inquired how the current participation levels compare to the pre-pandemic participation levels and if there were any changes in the

marketplace for these programs.

**Mr. Word** explained that 2017, 2018, and 2019 were the highest years at RARA because there were 6,000 kids in the dance program. He added that excluding the dance program, the participation levels for all the other programming has exceeded the pre-pandemic levels. He expressed that the hardest program to acquire back has been basketball because the majority of that programming has gone to the private sector. He shared that RARA has made the biggest impact on the non-traditional sports like cross country, biking, arts, and engineering.

**Mayor Barnett** explained that a few years ago RARA was not in the best financial shape but with the leadership of Mr. Word, RARA is back on solid ground.

**Mr. Word** stated that they could not have been as successful without the support of the staff at Rochester Hills.

**A motion was made by Hetrick, seconded by Morlan, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0223-2023

**Whereas**, at its August 14, 2023 meeting the Rochester Hills City Council acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal Year 2024 Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority (RARA) Budget Plan; and

**Whereas**, at its August 21, 2023 meeting RARA staff presented the FY 2024 RARA Budget Plan before the Rochester Hills City Council.

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the FY 2024 RARA Budget in the amount of \$3,111,580.

## PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

**2023-0339** Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0336 for Council Discussion.**

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

**2023-0345** Discussion - Component Units (800's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0336 for Council Discussion.**

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

**2023-0334** General Budget Overview - 2024 - 2026

**Attachments:** [092523 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[091123 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[2024-26 Proposed Budget Q&A.pdf](#)  
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)  
[082123 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)  
[SUPPL FY 2024-26 Budget Presentation.pdf](#)  
[081423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[081423 Resolution.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**Joe Snyder**, Chief Financial Officer, and **Denise McDoniel**, Financial Analyst, were present.

**Mr. Snyder** shared the components in developing the City of Rochester Hills 2024-2026 Proposed Budget. He stated that the components include the following:

- The City of Rochester Hills three-year adopted Budget Plan includes Fiscal Years 2023-2025
- The City of Rochester Hills Capital Improvement Plan for 2024-2029
- The City of Rochester Hills Seven-Year Financial Forecast for 2024-2030
- The Rochester Hills City Council Strategic Planning Technical Review Committee
  - Fiscal Year 2024 Goals and Objectives
  - Governmental Fund Balance Reserve Policy

He stated that this is the 14th consecutive year that the City has presented a three-year budget plan and noted the overview of the Proposed 2024-2026 Budget included the following:

- Continuing to present a three-year budget
- Budgets presented based on best estimates and projections for the future
- Conservative estimates of both revenues and expenditures

He spoke about the 2024 Budget/Proposed Expenditures and noted the following:

- A total budget of \$209,103,790 in expenditures, which represents a less than one percent reduction as compared to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, comprised largely of:

- Public Service at 25 percent of the budget expenditures
- Capital Outlay at 23 percent of the budget expenditures
- Transfer-Out at 18 percent of the budget expenditures
- Public Safety at 15 percent of the budget expenditures
- General Government at 14 percent of the budget expenditures
- Parks and Recreation at three percent of the budget expenditures
- Economic Development at one percent of the budget expenditures

- Debt Service at one percent of the budget expenditures
- Capital Outlay Proposed Projects for 2024 total \$49,018,560, and are largely made up of the following:
  - Major Roads and Local Streets consist of 35 percent, including the following:
    - Walton Boulevard rehabilitation from Adams Road to Livernois Road
    - Barclay Circle reconstruction
    - Marketplace Circle rehabilitation
    - Avon Industrial Drive reconstruction
    - Local Street Rehabilitation Program
    - Leach Road reconstruction
  - Water and Sewer consists of 31 percent
    - Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Program
    - Judson Park and Brabach Orchard Subdivision watermain replacement
    - Avon Industrial watermain replacement
    - Hook-Truck structure and oil-separator replacement
  - Facilities consists of 30 percent
    - Rehabilitations to the parking lot, courts, and pathways at Spencer Park
    - New parking lot at Avondale Park
    - New splashpad improvements at Brooklands
    - Replacement of some bridges at the Museum
    - Development at Innovation Hills
    - New material storage building at Borden Park
    - Replacement of picnic tables at all parks
    - Roof replacement, locker room upgrades, a new generator, and a fire training structure at Fire Station No. 1
    - Interior upgrades and lobby security enhancements at the Oakland County Sheriff Substation
    - Reconfiguration of the Building Department space and front entrance sign electronic screen replacement at City Hall
  - Fleet consists of two percent
  - MIS consists of one percent
  - Pathways consists of one percent
  - Capital Improvement Fund consists of less than one percent
  - Fire Capital consists of less than one percent

He stated the City Budget is proposing \$168,217,670 in revenue with major sources of proposed revenue consisting of the following:

- Service Charges bringing in 30 percent; these charges consist of Water and Sewer charges, Building Department fees, etc.
- City Taxes bringing in 21 percent; there is a millage rate decrease being proposed from 10.5510 mill to 10.4573 mill
- Fund Balance bringing in 20 percent; proposing \$49,000,000 in Capital Outlay, which equates to a \$9,000,000 structural surplus for 2024.
- Transfer-In bringing in 17 percent; this represents the flip side of the Transfer Out expenditures

- Intergovernmental Fund bringing in nine percent; includes the State-Shared revenue and Act 51 Gas Tax
- Investment Earnings bringing in two percent
- Other Revenues bringing in one percent

He explained that the Parks Millage Fund is proposed to receive \$720,000 and these funds are proposed for the following in 2024:

- Spencer Park: Pathways - \$140,000
- Spencer Park: Court Renovations - \$450,000
- Brooklands Plaza: Splash Pad Improvements - \$100,000
- Dog Park: Preliminary Engineering - \$30,000

He stated that the General Fund Budget is proposed at \$31.5 million, which includes the addition of two full-time positions: (1) Parks Department Groundskeeper and (1) Parks Department Administrative Assistant. He explained that the City's Fund Balance Policy states that any funding above the 80 percent of annual operating expenditures target balance is transferred out to the Capital Improvement Fund.

He noted that the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) is proposed at \$11.2 million and primarily includes the projects previously mentioned under the Facilities portion of Capital Outlay discussion. He added that approximately \$5.8 million is proposed from the CIF next year to fund these projects. He explained that Capital Improvement Projects projected for 2025 and beyond will continue to be reviewed and reassessed.

He shared that the Major Road Fund is proposed at \$12.9 million and some of the significant projects include: Walton Boulevard rehabilitation from Adams Road to Livernois Road, Barclay Circle reconstruction, Marketplace Circle rehabilitation, and Avon Industrial Drive reconstruction. He noted a draw of \$4.9 million dollars from the Major Road Fund balance is proposed to fund the \$8.4 million in Capital Projects. He added that the Major Road, Local Street, Water and Sewer Budgets will include one additional full-time position: a GIS Technician, which is proposed to be funded by a split of 25 percent from each of the budgets.

He explained that the Local Street Fund is proposed at \$14.1 million and some of the significant project include: the annual Local Street Rehabilitation Program (proposed at \$5.5 million for 2024, which is increased from \$5.25 million in 2023) and the paving of Leach Road (funded entirely by the LDFA). He noted that there is a reduction in the Local Street Fund balance proposed, but this is to set the Local Street Fund at its target next year. He added that the annual transfer into the Local Street Fund from the General Fund will be an amount to maintain the Local Street Fund at its target balance level of 25 percent.

He stated that the Fire Operating Fund is proposed at \$14.9 million and that the Fire Millage is proposed to be kept status quo at 2.7 mill. He noted that this budget includes the addition of ten full-time Firefighter/Paramedics. He added that the annual transfer out from the Fire Operating Fund to the Fire Capital Fund will be an amount to maintain the Fire Operating Fund at its target balance

level of 25 percent.

He shared that the Fire Capital Fund is proposed at \$4.5 million and includes the additional gear for the ten new firefighters, a public safety education trailer, a new fire training structure, and improvements at Fire Station No. 1. He added that \$3.9 million from the Fire Capital Fund balance is proposed to fund these projects. He stated that the Special Police Fund is proposed at \$11.5 million and includes the addition of two deputies. The Special Police Millage is proposed to be gradually set to get the Special Police Fund balance at its Fund balance target of 25 percent over the next three years.

He announced that the State of Michigan allotted Rochester Hills \$75 million to clean up contaminated sites in the City and that these funds are not currently included in the Proposed 2024-2026 Budget. He added that over the next few weeks City staff will be meeting with representatives from the State to see how these funds will be dispersed and that a budget amendment will be added in the future, if needed.

He shared the following 2024-2026 Budget Highlights:

- Reduction in City Millage Rate
- Structural Surplus Maintained
- Fund Balance Maintained
- \$49 million in Capital Projects Proposed
- No Debt Proposed
- Ten additional Firefighter/Paramedics
- Two additional Oakland County Sheriff's Office Deputies
- Three additional City Staff including a Groundskeeper, an Administrative Assistant, and a GIS Technician

**Council Discussion:**

**Ms. Mungoli** inquired about the rate of inflation increase set at five percent and if residents will see that on their next tax bill.

**Mr. Snyder** stated that they will see that increase on their next Winter tax bill and the increase comes from Proposal A, which sets the annual change in taxable value as going up no more than the rate of inflation or five percent. He added that Laurie Taylor, Assessing Director, has stated that she has never seen it hit the five percent level before, until now.

**Ms. Mungoli** requested more information regarding the 4.4 percent estimated rate of inflation increase for next year.

**Mr. Snyder** explained that the number used for inflation is generated from a 24-month rolling average and that the 4.4 percent number is a conservative estimate and will likely be higher.

**President Deel** remarked that there is still a large difference between the assessed value and the taxable value.

**Discussed: General Budget Overview.**

Enactment No: RES0260-2023

**2023-0338** Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 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, Community Programs; GENERAL FUND TRANSFER-OUT.**

**2023-0339** Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Parks Infrastructure Millage Fund, A.R.P.A. Fund.**

**2023-0340** Discussion - Debt Services Fund (300's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Debt Funds.**

**2023-0341** Discussion - Capital Funds (400's) - 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Capital Improvement Fund.**

**2023-0342** Discussion - Water and Sewer Funds (500's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Solid Waste Fund.**

**2023-0343** Discussion - Internal Service Funds (600's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Insurance Fund.

2023-0344 Discussion - Trust and Agency Funds (700's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0334 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Retiree Healthcare Trust Fund.

2023-0338 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**Assessing Department:**

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

**Ms. Taylor** explained that over the past 12 years the City has experienced a bright economic outlook and that the conservative approach to budgeting has paid off. She stated that the 2024 estimated taxable value was anticipated to increase by 4.4 percent, however, the actual increase was 7.2 percent. She noted that the 2025 taxable value is estimated to increase by 4.4 percent and by 2.5 percent for 2026. She added that the spread between assessed value and taxable value continues to grow, and is currently at \$1.2 billion.

**Ms. Somerville** shared that residential properties make up about 80 percent of the assessment roll. She added that assessments represent 50 percent of market value and that the City continues to experience a strong residential real estate market. She remarked that residential sales indicate that the City's 2024 assessed values will increase on average by 12 to 13 percent and that the current spread between assessed and taxable values is an average of 28 percent per household. She explained that as the real estate market remains strong, the Board of Review Appeals remain low at 24 appeals this year.

**Ms. Taylor** stated that they have filled three vacant positions with new employees over the past two years and that each member of the team is certified with the State of Michigan.

**Council Discussion:**

**President Deel** stated that the gap between the assessed values and the taxable values provides some predictability for City.

**Mr. Hetrick** expressed that the \$1.2 billion gap between the assessed values and the taxable values provides some flexibility for the City going forward.

**Planning and Economic Development Department:**

**Sara Roediger**, Planning and Economic Development Director, and **Pam Valentik**, Economic Development Manager, were in attendance to review the

*Planning and Economic Development Department.*

**Ms. Roediger** stated that the Planning and Economic Development (PED) Department continues daily to strive to Preserve, Enhance, and Diversify the City of Rochester Hills. She added that the PED Department works hard along with a number of departments, boards, commissions, and agencies to ensure that the City continues to preserve its high quality of life and diversify its options for living, working, and raising a family in Rochester Hills.

She shared that the Gateways & Streetscape Master Plan was recently approved and that the Flex Business Districts were updated. She added that all of the City's non-residential districts were also reevaluated and the permissible uses were refined.

**Ms. Valentik** expressed that the Economic Development in the City seeks to:

- Support Property Owners and Developers
- Foster Entrepreneurship
- Boost International Business Development
- Welcome Talent/Workforce
- Attract National Movers and Shakers

She noted that they have attended targeted industry conferences to bring businesses to the City. She explained that all events have been in partnership with our strategic partners:

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- Oakland County, Michigan
- Detroit Regional Partnership

She stated that last Fall they sent a Workforce Needs Survey out to the businesses and found that 85% of Rochester Hills companies have open positions and that 56% of businesses recruit outside of Metro Detroit.

She provided the example of the Bebout family, a family in Rochester Hills who moved from Germany to the City and currently reside in the Brooklands District. She expressed that it is because of families like this that they will be starting a campaign sharing success stories to attract more families to the City.

**Ms. Roediger** announced that the State will disburse \$100 million to municipalities to clean up contaminated sites, including \$75 million that lawmakers earmarked specifically to Rochester Hills.

**Council Discussion:**

**Ms. Mungoli** inquired as to when the Master Plan will be updated and questioned how much the Department works with Rochester Regional Chamber.

**Ms. Roediger** explained that updating the Master Plan is in this year's budget and that the process will begin next month and should be completed next year.

**Ms. Valentik** shared that she is the Treasurer for the Rochester Regional Chamber and that the City works with them a great deal.

**Mr. Blair** welcomed Ms. Roediger back and shared that the Department did a phenomenal job during her absence.

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

**2023-0345** Discussion - Component Units (800's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0338 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed:** Historic District Commission, Brownfield Revolving Fund, Brownfield Redevelopment/Legacy, Local Development Finance Authority.

**2023-0338** Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**Clerk's Department:**

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

**Ms. Scott** announced that there are significant changes taking place in the Clerk's Office including staffing, elections, records management, and the Cemetery.

**Ms. Brown** shared that Governor Whitmer signed legislation implementing Proposal 2, the most significant changes to election law since 1955. Some of the changes include:

- Nine days of early voting
- One drop box installed for every 15,000 residents in the City (Four Total)
- Prepaid postage on all applications and ballots returned to the City
- One application to receive a ballot for all future elections
- Changes to precincts and locations
- Changes to Military ballots

**Ms. Scott** announced that they have started the process to digitize City documents with the implementation of Laserfiche software. She added that they have collaborated with all of the City departments to review record retention schedules. She stated that this software can not only help store records, but it can also create forms and workflow processes.

**Ms. Brown** explained that the department is passionate about preserving the significant landmark that is the Cemetery. She added that they will continue to review the rules and regulations at the Cemetery, promote lot sales, and look for

ways to increase efficiencies in the care of the grounds.

**Ms. Scott** shared that the department strives to foster a culture of mutual respect, open communication, and common goals.

**Council Discussion:**

**President Deel** remarked that the Clerk's Office has partnered with Oakland County and the Rochester Hills Public Library to implement the early voting. He appreciated that Ms. Scott collaborates locally and on State level to implement these changes. He added that having documents digitized will help with FOIA requests and providing information to the public. He shared that he is familiar with the Laserfiche software and that it is a fantastic product that is very customizable.

**Mr. Hetrick** applauded the department for the digitization of documents, implementing the changes in the election law, and for doing so with only modest changes in the budget.

**Ms. Mungoli** questioned if the \$167,000 increase to the Elections Budget will occur in every election.

**Ms. Scott** explained that it is hard to predict the money that will be needed every year because they do not know what the State will contribute for the early voting requirements and once things are streamlined, the amount may change.

**Mr. Snyder** added that they have forecasted two elections per year, aside from Presidential election years, where there will be three elections.

**Ms. Mungoli** inquired if the \$167,000 increase is to implement Proposal 2 and when residents will be notified if they want to be on the permanent ballot list.

**Ms. Scott** stated that the increase is not just for Proposal 2, but also for the extra election in 2024. She added that costs are also being shared with the County and another local municipality due to partnering up with them for early voting.

She shared that they are working on an informational postcard right now that should be going out in the next couple of weeks to every registered voter.

**President Deel** noted that the Youth Council Coordinator position will have to be filled due to a vacancy. He remarked that the Cultural Fair is an event that he loves because it is youth-driven, and announced that he will be requesting a straw poll for \$5,000 to be allocated to the Youth Council to conduct the Cultural Fair.

Discussed: CLERKS: City Council, Elections, Clerk's Department, Cemetery.

2023-0344 Discussion - Trust and Agency Funds (700's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

See Legislative File 2023-0338 for Council Discussion.

Discussed: VHJSC Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust.

2023-0345 Discussion - Component Units (800's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

MIS Department:

**Rochelle Lyon**, Information Systems Director, and **Margaret Casey**, Information Systems Administrator II, were in attendance to review the MIS Department.

**Ms. Lyon** explained that MIS is a department dedicated to solving puzzles within the City. She shared that Christy Bell, Administrative Specialist, fields calls and requests, maintains departmental processes, and keeps subscribers up-to-date on the latest meetings, news, and events. She added that Margaret Casey, Information Systems Administrator II, Eric Krause, Information Systems Administrator II, and Sarah Olson, Information Systems Administrator I, work to provide a stable and secure computing environment, maintain the network infrastructure, manage hardware and software systems, cultivate a resident-focused website, and provide technical support to City staff. She continued that Doreen Groth, GIS Manager, and Linda Kuhn, GIS Specialist, are responsible for the GIS Enterprise systems.

She noted that cybersecurity is the trickiest part of their puzzle and budget and that on average, nearly 30% of all digital traffic to the City is halted by MIS. She added that 57% of the 11,000 daily emails are not delivered, since they are blocked by MIS.

She announced that the IT Strategic Plan has been completed and approved by City Administration and that implementation has already begun.

Council Discussion:

**Ms. Mungioni** requested some interpretation in the budget numbers in regards to GIS.

**Mr. Snyder** explained that the GIS budget was divided into four equal parts: Major Road Traffic, Local Street Traffic, Water, and Sewer. He added that the decrease in MIS will see a corresponding increase in each of those four cost areas.

**Ms. Mungioni** questioned how the new GIS employee was accounted for and who they are reporting to.

**Mr. Snyder** stated that the new GIS employee was funded through an equal share of each of the four cost areas.

**Ms. Lyon** discussed that the new employee will be reporting to the DPS Director, Mr. Fritz. She added that DPS owns the infrastructure that GIS uses, so it made sense to align the GIS employees with that department. She expressed that it will be a strategic partnership between DPS and MIS to provide GIS services for the City.

**Mr. Blair** commented that four of the five Fire Stations in the City are on a broadband connection, which is less robust than a fiber connection. He questioned if there is a need to look for better service at those stations.

**Ms. Lyon** shared that she spoke with Vince Foisy at the Fire Department and that with the amount of service they are providing, the current system works well and there is not a current reason to change it over to fiber.

**Discussed: MIS: MIS Fund.**

**2023-0338** Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**Human Resources Department:**

**Leslie Turnbull**, Interim Human Resources Director, and **Sue Rehse**, Human Resources Associate, were in attendance to review the Human Resources Department.

**Ms. Turnbull** remarked that Human Resources is a new adventure every day. She shared that she has recruited 54 new employees in the last 12 months. She added that Leslie VanGieson, Human Resources Coordinator, leads the City's Leave and Benefit Administration efforts. She continued that Celeste Mansour, Human Resources Coordinator, leads the programming and that Shannon Smith, Administrative Specialist, leads employee engagement projects and Human Resources Administrative functions. She remarked that Sue Rehse, Human Resources Associate, is an organizer who helps to keep the team on track.

She discussed that Chelsea Ditz was the previous Human Resources Director who recently left the City and helped the team navigate the return to in-person work, standardizing and modernizing practices and processes, and leading the Human Resources department forward. She announced that they are in the process of recruiting for the next Human Resources Director.

She shared the following information regarding the City's recruitment efforts:

- 1,230 Applications Received in the Last 12 Months
- 54 Employees Onboarded (17 Filled by Internal Promotions)
- Top 4% of Applicants Hired

She remarked that the team at the City shares their talents outside of work

*including: engagement in Employee Committees, participation in the RH Leadership Program, giving back to the community through 30 Days of Giving, expressing creativity through the Annual Christmas Decorating Contest, and displaying athletic skills in Kickball. She added that behind every engagement effort is the City's focus on Culture.*

**President Deel** expressed that this is one of the most talented and dedicated workforces of any organization he has seen.

**Public Comment:**

**Bruce Fealk**, 1474 Oakstone Drive, was not present when called for public comment.

Discussed:       **HUMAN RESOURCES: Human Resources Department.**

**Building/Ordinance/Facilities Department:**

**Mike Viazanko**, Building/Ordinance/Facilities Director, **Tim Hollis**, Deputy Building/Ordinance/Facilities Director, **Jeff Schultz**, Manager of Inspection Services, **Jodi Welch**, Manager of Ordinance Services, and **Gary Nauts**, Facilities Manager, were in attendance to review the Building/Ordinance/Facilities Department.

**Mr. Viazanko** thanked the City Council for their continued support which allows the City to have the best Building Department in the State of Michigan. He discussed that last year, Council supported the conversion of a part-time electrical position to full-time, as well as the addition of another inspector. He shared that this has led to a 85% reduction in overtime and a 27% improvement in turn-around time for plan reviews.

**Mr. Hollis** explained that the department participates in Ribbon Cuttings and promotes building safety through events at Home Depot, Lowes, the Older Persons' Commission, and classes at Stoney Creek High School and Rochester Adams High School. He added that a customer survey was conducted and resulted in the following favorable responses:

- "Streamlined the Process!!!"
- "Your turn-around time is faster!"
- "Friendliest and easiest City to work with"
- Appreciation of the new Virtual Inspection Program

**Mr. Schultz** shared the following larger projects currently under construction in Rochester Hills:

- Redwood Apartments: Avon/Dequindre
- Grace Senior Living: Walton/West of Brewster
- TRIO - Mixed Use Building: Auburn/Livernois
- Multi-Tenant Building: Avon/Rochester

**Ms. Welch** discussed that the most common violations identified in the

*Ordinance Division are:*

- Overgrown Grass/Weeds
- Blight/Property Maintenance
- Recreational Vehicles/Trailers
- Trash/Cart Placement

*She continued that they have completed 2,800 inspections for the first half of this year. She announced that the Enforcement Closure Rates are 79% in 2021, 88% in 2022, and 95% in 2023. She added that they will continue to assist and educate the community through the new Fall HOA and New Resident Showcase on September 21, 2023.*

**Mr. Nauts** shared the following projects that the Facilities Division has undertaken within the past year:

- DPS L.E.D. Upgrades
- Replacement of the Borden Park Office Shades
- Installing Fire Station No. 1 Bay Heaters
- Removal of the old Borden Park Office Water Meters
- Replacement of the Overhead Bay Doors at Fire Station No. 1
- Replacement of the Restroom Floors
- Setting up Tables and Chairs for City Events
- Replacement of the Cement at Borden Park
- Painting the Exterior Boathouse Walls
- Repairing the Bathroom Stalls

*He announced the following upcoming Capital Improvement Projects that the Facilities Division will be working on in 2024:*

- Oakland County Sheriff's Office Upgrades
- Fire Station No. 1 Roof and HVAC Replacement

**Mr. Viazanko** shared photos of some events the department shared in to promote workplace culture.

**Council Discussion:**

**President Deel** stated that as a Vice President of an HOA himself, he appreciates the HOA Showcase because it provides a place for people to go to get their questions answered.

**Ms. Mungoli** questioned why the Blight numbers are so high.

**Ms. Welch** explained that Blight is a very general term and that some of the violations are very minor in nature. She added that since they are now full-staffed, they are able to be more proactive.

**Ms. Mungoli** inquired as to what the reconfiguration of the Building Department offices will consist of.

*Mr. Viazanko stated that some of the office cubicles will be redesigned to become more user-friendly.*

*Ms. Mungoli remarked that she is thankful the department will be conducting a Maintenance Study in the future to analyze the City's needs, especially related to mowing around the City.*

*Mr. Viazanko shared that the mowing contract is currently under one blanket contract and that they will work with other departments to determine what is best moving forward. He added that the Maintenance Study will help them be more proactive in taking care of the City's current facilities.*

*Vice President Bowyer thanked Ms. Welch for her efforts, as she has assisted her with various Ordinance Enforcement issues.*

**Parks and Natural Resources Department:**

*Ken Elwert, Parks and Natural Resources Director was in attendance to review the Parks and Natural Resources Department.*

*He shared that five years ago, department visits were under one million and that they are projected to be 1.4 million this year, which represents over 50% growth. He explained that the Grounds Crew supports City-wide landscaping and that there will be a Ground Maintenance Study conducted next year to improve effectiveness.*

*He announced that there are over 10,000 partnership hours with the Rochester-area Farm and Garden Club, which maintains the Children's Garden and drop-in hours at the Museum. He added that the City of Rochester agreed to a \$40,000-a-year service agreement to support a shared presentation of history at the Museum. He continued that the Archive Program plays a major function in preserving the City's history and that Representative Bill Broomfield's archival materials have recently become available through a partnership with his family. He discussed that the Outdoor Engagement Team presented Oak in the Hills Outdoor Adventure Kickoff as a partnership between Oakland County Parks, Moosejaw, and many outdoor-related vendors. He explained that the event was in May and had over 1,000 people in attendance. He remarked that the Forestry Division planted 633 trees in 2022, a 76% increase from five years ago. He announced that they have signed a Trail Access Agreement with Consumer's Energy and have submitted a request to the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office to provide access to the trails that would connect Avondale Park with the Auburn Green Space.*

*He provided the following information related to the City's parks:*

- Supporting a trial program of Food Trucks within the City's park system*
- Construction of a restroom at Innovation Hills*
- Construction of the Bloomer Park Parking Lot*
- Opening of new basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts at Avondale Park*

*He shared the following Google Review comments from some of the Parks'*

customers:

- *Spencer Park*

- *"Reminds me of Baywatch - you and your children are in great hands"*
- *"Loved this park for 20 years and it keeps getting better"*

- *Borden Park*

- *"Pretty much what you would expect for a RH park. Great campus, extremely well maintained"*
- *"Almost every sport possible!"*

- *Museum*

- *"A little gem of saved history for all ages"*
- *"Learned school history here, took my senior pictures here and just had my wedding here"*

- *Bloomer Park*

- *"Only place I've seen with outdoor stairs to exercise"*
- *"An Oasis"*

- *Innovation Hills*

- *"The most beautiful and clean park I've ever been to"*
- *"They built a park too fun for my kids to leave"*

*He noted the following comments from employees within the Parks and Natural Resources Department:*

- *"I love that every day at work is different - keeps it fresh and exciting"*
- *"It is great to work in a place where what we do is supported by the community and the City Council - we walk the talk!"*
- *"It is great seeing our resident's appreciation when we can fulfill their request - I know I made a difference"*
- *"The spontaneity keeps me on my toes"*
- *"We work in the happy place"*
- *"Great coworkers"*
- *"I love seeing the same families come in every January 1 to rent their traditional pavilion"*

**Council Discussion:**

**President Deel** remarked that the 2024 budget shows that it will be a busy year for the Parks and Natural Resources department. He added that it is because this is what the City residents have stated that they want and that Council has adopted this in their priorities.

**Mr. Blair** stated that he would like to be kept up-to-date on how the proposed

*staffing levels are working.*

**Mr. Hetrick** questioned what the expectation from the Ground Maintenance Study is.

**Mr. Elwert** shared that they have requested in the budget one additional Groundskeeper and that this study will help them allocate that labor in the future. He added that the study should provide some guidelines to increase the effectiveness of the staff in the future.

**Mr. Hetrick** commented that the Parks Millage has allowed them to do a lot more, since the residents have ranked Parks very high on their list of priorities.

**Ms. Mungoli** requested clarification as to which four parks the Parks Millage will be allocated to.

**Mr. Elwert** stated that the main focuses are Bloomer Park, Spencer Park, Nowicki Park, and the Brooklands Splash Pad.

**Ms. Mungoli** commented that the Rochester/Rochester Hills Sister City Committee has inquired as to what the plans are for a dog park in the City because they may be willing to partner on that.

**Mr. Elwert** remarked that a key part of that discussion will be the potential locations of the dog park.

**Vice President Bowyer** noted that since the Parks have grown so much over the years, she wants to make sure that as time goes on, there is adequate staffing to handle it.

**Discussed: BUILDING/ORDINANCE/FACILITIES: Building Department, Ordinance Compliance, Weed Control, Facilities Fund.**

**2023-0345** Discussion - Component Units (800's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0338 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Museum Division.**

**2023-0339** Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0338 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Tree Fund, Green Space.**

**2023-0344** Discussion - Trust and Agency Funds (700's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0338 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Green Space Perpetual Care Trust.

2023-0345 Discussion - Component Units (800's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0338 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: RH Museum Foundation Trust Fund.

2023-0339 Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**Department of Public Services:**

*Bill Fritz, Public Services Director, Paul Davis, Deputy Public Services Director/City Engineer, Tracey Balint, Public Utilities Engineering Manager, Leon Luedeman, Water & Sewer Operations Manager, and Lori Hamilton, Administrative Services Supervisor, were in attendance to review the Department of Public Services.*

*Mr. Fritz announced the results of a recent survey that showed that residents believe the City has clean and reliable drinking water and well maintained streets and roads.*

*Mr. Davis stated the following Capital Projects are being completed this year by the DPS:*

- Drexelgate Parkway Road Diet & Pathway
- Annual Asphalt Program
- Annual Concrete Program
- Adams Road Pathway
- Great Lakes Water Authority 96-Inch Water Main Replacement & Roundabout Construction

*Ms. Balint shared that they are currently replacing three miles of water main along Drexelgate Parkway. She discussed that the City continues to test for lead and copper annually and that to date, they have not had any results that exceed the approved action level by the EPA. She announced that this year they will be completing a Drinking Water Asset Management Program that will require the inspection of approximately 400 water service lines throughout the City. She added that the intent of this Program is to demonstrate that the City has no lead water service lines.*

*Mr. Luedeman commented that the department has had some new equipment upgrades including a Trackless Municipal Tractor, a Spin Doctor, and a Camera Truck.*

*Mr. Fritz thanked the City Council for their continued support.*

**Council Discussion:**

*Ms. Mungoli questioned if the \$464,000 budgeted for the Auburn Road Pathway includes the purchase of right-of-ways that the City doesn't currently own.*

*Mr. Davis stated that he is not sure what the cooperation from the residents will be for this project and that the City's hope is that the residents would be willing to donate the easements.*

*Ms. Mungoli explained that she would like them to obtain the right-of-ways first before a significant amount of money is spent on this project.*

*Mr. Davis remarked that they will not waste any money and provided an example of a pathway on Crooks Road that initially did not have support from some residents and then eventually did. He added that the City does not want to be involved in any type of court proceedings to obtain right-of-ways.*

*Ms. Mungoli reiterated that she does not want to see a pathway that will not be able to be constructed to full completion. She added that there are various spots in the City where the pathways end abruptly and it presents a safety issue because residents then have to cross the street.*

*President Deel questioned what would happen if there was a single resident that did not want to give up right of way access.*

*Mr. Davis presented the example of a pathway along Avon Road where two residents did not want to give up right of way access. He expressed that he did not believe that it was a waste to continue with the construction of the pathway because there may be an opportunity in the future to fill in those gaps.*

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

**2023-0341** Discussion - Capital Funds (400's) - 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0339 for Council Discussion.**

**Discussed: Pathway Construction Fund.**

**2023-0339** Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0339 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Water Resources Fund.

2023-0342 Discussion - Water and Sewer Funds (500's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0339 for Council Discussion.**

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

2023-0343 Discussion - Internal Service Funds (600's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0339 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Fleet Fund.

2023-0339 Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**Captain Russ Yeiser**, Oakland County Sheriff's Office (OCSO), **Lieutenant Eric Shimmell**, and **Lieutenant Jason Dalbec**, were in attendance to provide an overview of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

**Lieutenant Dalbec** shared that the OCSO currently employs 65 personnel that includes the following:

- 1 Captain
- 2 Lieutenants
- 6 Patrol Sergeants
- 1 Detective Sergeant
- 1 School Resource Sergeant
- 8 Detectives
- 1 Community Resource Deputy
- 4 School Resource Deputies
- 39 Deputy II
- 2 Administrative Assistants

**Lieutenant Shimmell** shared that the OCSO Total Calls for Service have increased to over 39,000 calls per year, which amounts to an increase of 3,000 calls per year or nine percent. He stated that Group A Crimes have decreased to historically low levels and that the two most frequent crimes are retail fraud and theft incidents. He encouraged residents to lock their cars and take their keys with them. He announced that the false alarm calls have leveled out to just under five percent of calls received.

**Captain Yeiser** presented the following information regarding the request for two new Patrol Deputies:

- One assigned to the Road Patrol - Afternoon Shift
  - Improve response times
- One assigned as a full-time Desk Deputy - Afternoon Shift
  - 3pm to 11pm, Monday - Friday
  - Currently only open until 6pm
  - This will allow the public easier access to the Sheriff's Office
  - Improve customer service

He announced the following renovations planned for the Substation:

- Add a Soft/Victims Interview Room
- Updated Locker Rooms
- New Report Writing Room with Updated Technology

**Lieutenant Dalbec** shared the following new purchases in 2023:

- Smart Carts
  - Purchasing Two of them with Updated Technology
  - Cloud Connectivity with Bluetooth
  - Vehicle Counts and Speed Data
- New Traffic Unit Patrol Vehicle
- Flock
  - UDAA Vehicle Crook and Enterprise
  - Counterfeit Money able to Identify Vehicle leading to State and Federal Charges

**Captain Yeiser** announced that 98% of City residents feel safe in their homes and 97% feel safe living and doing business in Rochester Hills.

**Council Discussion:**

**President Deel** stated how helpful the Sheriff's Ops was that the City Council participated in and it helped them to understand the updates needed at the Substation.

**Ms. Mungoli** inquired how they are going to manage their everyday tasks with the construction work at the Substation.

**Captain Yeiser** shared that they have thought about doing the construction in phases to remain fully operational.

**Mr. Hetrick** remarked that during Sheriff's Ops he was able to see that the Substation does need to be updated. He expressed that he is glad that the Flock system is working well.

*Vice President Bowyer questioned if the Fitness Area will be a part of the Substation renovations.*

*Captain Yeiser stated that it will be a part of the renovations.*

Discussed: SPECIAL POLICE FUND: Special Police Fund.

2023-0338 Discussion - General Fund (100's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0339 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Crossing Guards.

2023-0339 Discussion - Special Revenue Fund (200's) - FY 2024 Budget

Attachments: [082123 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

*Sean Canto, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Director, Todd Gary, Deputy Fire Chief, Kelly Varner, Admin Services Supervisor, Ann Echols, Captain/Assistant Fire Marshall, Tim Matz, Captain/EMS Coordinator, and Larry Gambotto, Captain/Training Office, were in attendance to provide an overview of the Rochester Hills Fire Department (RHFD).*

*Captain Yeiser presented a video which provided the following information:*

- Requesting ten new Fire Suppression positions
- Requesting the replacement of the Fire Training Tower at Fire Station No. 1
- Decisions are based on Three Ideals

- What is Best for the Community
- What is Best for the Department
- What is Best for the Member

- This Year, the RHFD will respond to approximately 8,000 incidents including:

- Structure Fires
- Vehicle Accidents
- Technical Rescues
- EMS Incidents

- The Implementation of the PStrax system has allowed the department to go to a paperless system

- Since the new, proposed Training Facility will be located at Fire Station No. 1, it allows staff to respond quickly to incidents within the City

- The Community Risk Reduction Division continues to provide a proactive approach to fire and life safety education

- Requesting the purchase of a new Fire Extinguisher Training Simulator
- Requesting the purchase of a new Fire & Life Safety Trailer

**Council Discussion:**

**Ms. Mungoli** thanked the Fire Department for the answers to her previous questions regarding the ten new employees.

**Vice President Bowyer** stated she is glad they are adding the ten new employees.

**President Deel** expressed that the number one priority for City Council is Public Safety and this budget reflects that.

**Additional Questions/Comments from Staff:**

**Mayor Barnett** expressed that he is proud of this budget because it invests in Public Safety, Infrastructure, Nature, Parks, MIS, and the Team Members.

**Ms. Mungoli** suggested the paving of Dutton Road as a potential straw poll item.

**President Deel** questioned what the City's involvement is in regards to Dutton Road since it is owned by the Road Commission for Oakland County.

**Mr. Fritz** stated that the City would have to enter into an agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County.

**Mr. Davis** added that even though the road is owned by Oakland County, the City usually has a local share of any project costs and would likely take the lead on the project. He continued that the County has also informed them that they would not proceed with the paving of Dutton Road without support from Oakland Township as well.

**President Deel** expressed that he wants the DPS to explore the possibility of paving Dutton Road.

**Mr. Davis** noted that they have already begun to do so.

**Mayor Barnett** remarked that he does not believe a straw poll is needed for this item is because it is already being reviewed.

**Vice President Bowyer** inquired if a SAD would be a source of funding for the paving of Dutton Road.

**Mr. Davis** stated that he does not believe that the Road Commission for Oakland County would accept that.

**Vice President Bowyer** expressed how the separation of the Capital Improvement Fund and General Fund has improved the budgeting process.

**Mr. Hetrick** also shared how the separation of the Capital Improvement Fund and General Fund has improved the budgeting process.

**Mr. Snyder** stated that there is one Straw Poll item for the allocation of \$5,000 to the Youth Council for the Cultural Fair and that the language will be drafted and sent to Council via email to vote on.

He announced that the Public Hearing on the budget is set for September 11, 2023, and that it will provide another opportunity for public input. He added that the budget's tentative adoption is schedule for September 25, 2023.

**Mayor Barnett** suggested voting on the Straw Poll item right away rather than voting through email.

**Mr. Snyder** announced that since no one objected to the Straw Poll item, it will be added to the budget.

**President Deel** expressed his appreciation for all of the staff members and the preparations of their budgets and budget presentations. He shared that Council received the budget in early August and the majority of their questions were answered in a 32 page document leading up to the budget meeting.

Discussed: FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Department Fund.

2023-0341 Discussion - Capital Funds (400's) - 2024 Budget

**Attachments:** [2024 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)

**See Legislative File 2023-0339 for Council Discussion.**

Discussed: Fire Capital Fund.

**NEXT MEETING DATE - Regular Meeting - Monday, August 28, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business before Council, it was moved by Mungioli and seconded by Walker to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.*

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*RYAN DEEL, President  
Rochester Hills City Council*

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

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*AARON GEER  
Administrative Coordinator  
City Clerk's Office*

*Approved as presented at the (insert date, or dates) Regular City Council Meeting.*