



Rochester Hills

Minutes

City Council Regular Meeting

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

*Greg Hooper, Nathan Klomp, Adam Kochenderfer, James Rosen, Mark Tisdel,
Michael Webber and Ravi Yalamanchi*

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."*

Monday, August 12, 2013

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

*President Hooper called the Regular Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order
at 7:01 p.m. Michigan Time.*

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - Greg Hooper, Nathan Klomp, Adam Kochenderfer, James Rosen, Mark
Tisdel, Michael Webber and Ravi Yalamanchi

Others Present:

*Ron Crowell, Acting Fire Chief
Ed Anzek, Director of Planning and Economic Development
Bryan Barnett, Mayor
Tina Barton, City Clerk
Scott Cope, Director of Building/Ordinance Compliance
Kurt Dawson, Director of Assessing/Treasury
Pamela Gordon, Director of Human Resources
Bob Grace, Director of MIS
Mike Hartner, Director of Parks and Forestry
Captain Michael Johnson, Oakland County Sheriff's Office
Tara Presta, Chief Assistant
Keith Sawdon, Director of Finance
Charnele Sanders, Youth Council Liaison
Allan Schneck, Director of DPS/Engineering
Leanne Scott, Deputy Clerk
John Staran, City Attorney
Christine Wissbrun, Administrative Aide*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Yalamanchi, seconded by Webber, that the Agenda be Amended to move 2013-0283 Presentation and Discussion relative to the Older Persons' Commission (OPC) programs, activities, and governing structure to follow Legislative File 2013-0266 Swearing in Ceremony - 2013/2014 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lorraine McGoldrick, 709 Essex, stated that safety should be the focus of any discussions regarding the relocation of a realigned Eddington Drive rather than what the resulting development might be. She commented that decisions should be data-driven and suggested that all partners along that route should be engaged to determine whether any closure or consolidation of driveways could be done as she has heard and read that the only way to increase safety is to close an access point along the roadway. She commented that some of the long wait times for turns reported are not true.

Anil Patel, 1566 Farnborough Drive, commented that suggestions for a re-routing of Eddington Drive to align with Drexelgate would require a true 90-degree turn in the roadway and he stated that this turn would not be safe for ambulances or fire trucks.

Cynthia Zalewski, 920 Little Hill Court, stated that she resides in Avon Hills Cooperative, which has 197 shareholders. She explained that the development has many children residing there, and has no sidewalks. She commented that while the lights may slow down traffic on Rochester Road, relocating Eddington Boulevard and adding a light at Drexelgate will make their development a thoroughfare and provide a cut-through all the way to John R Road. She added that there are too many vacancies in malls and there is no need for more commercial development.

James Coons, 707 Tewksbury Court, noted that several studies show that an Offset-T intersection is much safer than a four-way cross intersection. He provided two articles which he stated confirmed the safety of an Offset-T and commented that the developer of the property adjacent to Eddington should put in his own private drive.

Carol Hannah, 846 Dahlia, stated that her house backs up to Drexelgate and commented that she has seen a large increase in the traffic volume on that road. She mentioned that when the bridges on Livernois and Avon were being reconstructed, the roadway seemed like a German Autobahn, with cars regularly traveling 40 to 45 miles per hour in a 25 mile per hour zone. She pointed out that there is no stop sign anywhere along the route and cars frequently cross the double-yellow line to pass. She stated that speeding will get worse when the new development adjacent to Eddington goes in.

Adam Drankhan, 373 Huntington Court, stated that his home is in Winchester Village and he has been passed on Drexelgate when driving. He commented that he is frightened for his children to play in the backyard.

Judy Vannocker, 937 Medford, stated that there is a cost associated with the loss of peace and quiet and increased traffic. She noted that a development adjacent to Eddington Farms will add to light pollution.

LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

President Hooper responded to Public Comment noting that the developer of the proposed City Place Planned Unit Development (PUD) adjacent to Eddington Farms Subdivision requested changes to the PUD at the June 24, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting. At that meeting, Council instructed the developer to prepare plans showing the proposed relocation of Eddington Boulevard to review with the Eddington Farms Homeowners Association (HOA) prior to his return to Council. He noted that the HOA met with the developer on August 5th and Council is currently awaiting input from the HOA prior to putting this item back on an agenda.

Mr. Webber noted that last Monday's meeting between the developer of the City Place PUD and the HOA did not have a quorum of HOA Board Members attending. He commented that while the meeting was productive, a relocation configuration will be dependent upon what the Michigan Department of Transportation will approve.

Mr. Klomp stated that he attended the meeting last Monday between the developer and the HOA and commented that it was productive. He encouraged residents to stay involved and keep Council updated as to any concerns that arise.

Mr. Kochenderfer stated that the Public Comments made tonight infer that there might already be a traffic issue on Drexelgate, and he questioned whether any speed studies had been completed on that portion of roadway. He noted that while the City does not have the legal power to stop a development, it may have some say to place limits on it. He requested that current and potential traffic concerns on Drexelgate be reviewed individually.

Mayor Barnett commented that he is very familiar with speeds on Drexelgate as he lives nearby. He noted that the roadway is recognized as a viable cut-through from Livernois to Rochester Road, and cautioned that any speed study would likely yield an increase to the speed limit. He stated that he would request that the Oakland County Sheriff's Department look into speeding on that road and commented that speed carts have been placed in the vicinity. He made the following announcements:

- Crews are gearing up for road work on Firewood and Falcon. The project includes pedestrian improvements and will start on August 19.
- Concrete repairs are continuing on Livernois just south of Walton.
- Asphalt and concrete work is continuing on subdivision roads.
- Work is progressing on the new Taco Bell on Walton, as well as development across the street where an additional building is being added.
- Groundbreaking activities will be occurring soon for the new Holiday Inn Express.

- Park attendance at Spencer is closing in on 90,000. Attendance is weather-dependent.
- Borden Park has a new playground.
- The results of a bi-annual survey conducted by the Oakland University Public Affairs Research Laboratory are in:
 - * Staff received outstanding scores - 97 percent of those responding were satisfied or very satisfied with any contact they have had with City Staff.
 - * Ninety-nine percent of those responding note that they are satisfied with their decision to live in Rochester Hills. Respondents highlighted the school districts and the reputation of the community as the primary reasons for their satisfaction.

ATTORNEY MATTERS

City Attorney John Staran had nothing to report.

PRESENTATIONS

2013-0267 2012/2013 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) Final Report to City Council

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)

Jacqueline Markey, Chairperson, and **Michelle Thorpe**, Vice Chairperson, Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC), gave the year-end report for the group, and highlighted their accomplishments for the second half of the year:

- Subcommittees were in full swing.
- The Green Committee sold reusable grocery bags and proceeds from the sale purchased four trees for Bloomer Park.
- Members planted the RHGYC's plot at the Community Garden and will donate the yield to Neighborhood House's food bank.
- The Helping Hands Committee has been busy volunteering doing yard clean-up for seniors. The committee volunteers at the Older Persons' Center and held a Senior Prom at American House.
- The Education and Public Relations Committees combined to participate in the Strive 4 A Safer Drive Safe Driving Campaign through Ford Motor and AAA. The RHGYC's campaigns focused on no texting and driving and included several events and activities.
- The annual 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Troy was once again sponsored by Beaumont and Sola. In all, \$18,414 was raised, allowing for a \$16,100 donation to the Boys and Girls Club of Troy to be used for programs benefitting many Rochester Hills' youth.

RHGYC members have fond memories of the year, and expressed their thanks to City Council, the Mayor and City staff who donated their time to work with the group.

Presented.

2013-0266 Swearing in Ceremony - 2013/2014 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC)

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)

Mr. Tisdel explained that 20 candidates were interviewed for the 2013-2014 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council. City Clerk Tina Barton, Deputy Clerk Leanne Scott, Youth Council Liaison Charnele Sanders and he participated in the interview process, reviewed their essays and letters of recommendation, and independently scored each applicant's interview answers to select this year's Youth Council. He noted that this ceremony brings much deserved attention to fifteen young talented adults and noted that each has earned his or her appointment. He introduced a video highlighting the past year.

After the video, Mr. Tisdel invited graduating seniors to the front of the auditorium to be recognized, and noted their plans for the future:

- Sean Kosecki, Rochester High School, will attend the University of Michigan
- Jacqueline Markey, Adams High School, will attend Butler University
- Eric LaRose, Notre Dame Preparatory, will attend Vanderbilt University
- Michelle Thorpe, Adams High School, will attend Western Michigan University

He introduced the outgoing and incoming RHGYC members.

Clerk Barton administered the Oath of Office to the incoming RHGYC members:

- Jasneet Aulakh, Rochester High School, District 3
- Pranita Balusu, Rochester High School, District 1
- Kara Cendrowski, Rochester High School, District 3
- Scott Difilippo, Rochester High School, District 1
- Dhruva Govil, Rochester High School, District 1
- Jordan Akil-Hunter, Rochester High School, District 3
- Hannah Kowalski, International Academy, District 2
- Sharanya Pai, International Academy, District 4
- Shreya Reddy, Rochester High School, District 4
- Chris Russell, Rochester High School, District 3
- Scott Schlagel, Rochester High School, District 3
- Alexis Ann Smith, Stoney Creek High School, District 2
- Taylor Thorpe, Adams High School, District 2
- Ashish Tripathi, Adams High School, District 2
- Michelle Zabat, Stoney Creek High School, District 4

Presented.

**(Recess 7:49 p.m. to 8:12 p.m.)
(Mr. Yalamanchi re-entered at 8:16 p.m.)**

2013-0283 Presentation and Discussion relative to the Older Persons' Commission (OPC) programs, activities, and governing structure; Marye Miller, Executive Director, and Dr. Pierre Atallah, OPC Chairman, presenters

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Presentation.pdf](#)

Marye Miller, Executive Director, and **Dr. Pierre Atallah**, Board Chairperson, Older Persons' Commission (OPC), were in attendance.

Dr. Atallah noted that the OPC would celebrate thirty years in existence on October 16, 2013. He gave a presentation which highlighted OPC's history, funding, facilities, programs and services then-and-now that strive to improve the level and quality of life for seniors. The presentation highlighted revenues and fund raising activities, and the cost expended for its facilities over the years, noting the following breakdown:

- 2012 Revenue:
 - * 34 percent from the Millage, including 25 percent General Fund Millage and 9 percent from the Transportation Millage.
 - * 28 percent from fees for services and programs.
 - * 27 percent from fund raising and donations.
 - * 11 percent from grants.

The presentation highlighted the current Inter Local Agreement (ILA), and a proposed New Governance Structure:

- OPC would have an independent board.
- OPC would operate as a non-profit entity similar to any other non-profit.
- Have by-laws that will articulate its governance structure and appointment of board of directors.
- OPC will submit an annual audit to the three communities and file a 990 Federal tax return.

Dr. Atallah noted that since 1982, there has been no increase in the OPC Millage. He stated that the OPC is at a crossroad today. Current parking is not able to satisfy the needs of seniors. Construction of a parking deck was explored; however, it was determined that it would be an expensive project. Instead, a "Park-It" project designed by architects French & Associates will be undertaken this year and will provide 120 parking spaces at a cost of less than \$200,000 to \$300,000. He added that the OPC Board is going before the Rochester Planning Commission for site plan approval.

He mentioned that additional communities have expressed an interest in becoming a part of the OPC, with the potential for contributing to its funding.

He stated that Executive Director Marye Miller has announced her desire to retire, and stated that the OPC Board has decided to begin a national search. He mentioned that Ms. Miller has promised to stay on until the new director is in place.

He thanked Council for its continued support. He mentioned that while he is speaking as Chairman of the Board, he is not speaking on an official basis.

President Hooper questioned which other communities have expressed an interest in joining the OPC.

Ms. Miller responded that Addison Township has expressed interest.

President Hooper questioned whether Shelby Township had approached OPC.

Ms. Miller responded that Shelby Township has its own program. Current Shelby Township residents pay an extra fee to use OPC facilities as non-residents. She mentioned that the OPC currently serves Addison Township through its Meals On Wheels program, and the Township has expressed its interest for the last two years, offering that they might put up a millage of up to a quarter mill to allow their residents to become a part of the OPC membership communities. She noted that OPC's meals program serves six other communities, and noted that these communities pay \$5,000 toward the nutrition program.

President Hooper questioned what other communities have residents that participate and pay a non-resident fee.

Ms. Miller responded that Troy, Lake Orion, and Sterling Heights have residents who pay \$175 to participate. Sterling Heights has the most participants, at about 600. She commented that while other communities may have their own facilities, some programs run through their respective parks and recreation areas and are not at the level of the OPC.

President Hooper commended Ms. Miller for her dedicated years of service.

Council Discussion:

Mr. Kochenderfer offered his thanks for Ms. Miller's years of dedication. He stated that he was open to ideas on how to take the next step toward a non-profit board, and commented that he would need to have his questions on how the structure of the OPC would change before committing to anything.

Mr. Webber thanked Dr. Atallah for the presentation. He commented that Ms. Miller's leadership is why the OPC is so strong in the community. He noted that the ILA has been discussed before; and should changes be warranted to the benefit of everyone, they should be made.

Mr. Rosen thanked Ms. Miller for her years of service. He commented that the ILA is an actual masterwork which resulted 30 years ago from three communities working together to provide services to seniors. He stated that any changes should be made through very cautious decisions. He suggested a study committee comprised of members from the three participating communities be formed and offered to serve on such a committee.

President Hooper stated that those who have spoken so far are open to exploring the ILA. He commented that he has always preferred a governing board and stated that it keeps politics out of it. He stated that if Council wants to explore it, he would be in support.

Dr. Atallah stated that some individuals expressed concerned how his Chairmanship would affect the OPC. He mentioned that the idea was advanced and supported by Mr. Yalamanchi. He commented that it would not make sense to explore the ILA if the three communities indicate that they are not interested. He mentioned that if the three communities express interest, the governing board can undertake the studies and present proposed changes. He stated that while the ILA is a great document, it is vague in many areas, particularly budgets.

Mayor Barnett thanked Dr. Atallah for his leadership, and stated that the OPC team does fantastic work. He suggested that changes need to emanate from the governing board, and they should determine what the OPC is looking for and engage the three communities. He cautioned that no one should assume what the result will be at this stage.

Mr. Klomp stated that he would encourage the Board to think outside the box. He commented that he shares Mr. Rosen's concerns, noting that the OPC has a history of success operating within the confines of the ILA. He noted that while he is resistant to opening that up, he recognizes the need to evolve.

Mr. Tisdell commented that a thriving community depends on a growing and strong base of seniors. A community's professional class cannot rely upon the business of the 18 to 49 year old demographic. He pointed out that seniors provide volunteer manpower to a community, and mentioned that 70 percent of disposable income in the United States is held by those 60 years of age and older. He commented that if the OPC is a magnet that draws and enhances population, it should stay viable.

Ms. Miller added that sometimes people forget that the OPC operates as a non-profit organization. She noted that Mr. Yalamanchi is behind the creation of a non-profit.

President Hooper commented that he looks forward to OPC's return to Council for future discussion.

Presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion, without discussion. If any Council Member or Citizen requests discussion of an item, it will be removed from Consent Agenda for separate discussion.

2013-0260 Approval of Minutes - City Council Regular Meeting - June 24, 2013

Attachments: [CC Min 062413.pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0169-2013

Resolved, that the Minutes of a Rochester Hills City Council Regular Meeting held on June 24, 2013 be approved as presented.

- 2013-0276** Request for Acceptance of an Amendment to the Watermain Easement granted by Rochester Hills Hotels, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company for Holiday Inn Express

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Watermain Easement \(amended\).pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0170-2013

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council, on behalf of the City of Rochester Hills, hereby accepts an amended watermain easement granted by Rochester Hills Hotels, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, 1040 West Hamlin, Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309, for Holiday Inn Express, for the construction, operation, maintenance, repair and/or replacement of a watermain, over, on, under, through and across land more particularly described as Parcel No. #15-30-176-007.

Further Resolved, that the City Clerk is directed to record the easement with the Oakland County Register of Deeds.

- 2013-0277** Request for Approval of the Storm Water System Maintenance Agreement between the City of Rochester Hills and Rochester Hills Hotels, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, for Holiday Inn Express

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Agreement.pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0171-2013

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the storm water maintenance agreement, relative to the details of the development and use, repair and maintenance of the storm water system, from Rochester Hills Hotels, LLC, for Holiday Inn Express, for City File #12-011, for Parcel No. 15-30-176-007.

- 2013-0279** Request for Purchase Authorization - MIS: Blanket Purchase Order for Annual Support and Maintenance for the City's Asset Management Software in the amount not-to-exceed \$38,800.00; Lucity, Inc., Overland Park, KS

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Lucity Invoice.pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0172-2013

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a Blanket Purchase Order for Annual Support and Maintenance for the City's Asset Management Software to Lucity, Inc., Overland Park, Kansas in the amount not-to-exceed \$38,800.00 through September 30, 2014.

Passed the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Webber, seconded by Tisdell, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

NEW BUSINESS

2013-0293 Presentation and recommendation to revise the Green Space Advisory Board scope of authority

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[GSAB Presentation.pdf](#)
[072313 GSAB Minutes \(draft\).pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

Gerry Carvey and **Tim Gauthier**, members of the Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB), were in attendance.

Mr. Carvey noted the other GSAB members in attendance and stated that Mr. Gauthier would give the presentation.

Mr. Gauthier's presentation highlighted the following:

- The 2005 Millage wording authorizing the formation of the Green Space Advisory Board.
- Current GSAB members.
- The Natural Features Inventory highlighting Green Space properties, City Parks, Conservation Easements, and Wildlife Habitats.
- The GSAB's request to set up future Stewardship for significant natural resources in Rochester Hills.
- The GSAB's request for consideration of a Ballot Proposal to allow the use of Green Space Millage Funds for the protection, care and maintenance of green spaces and natural features owned or acquired by the City, in addition to funding the purchase of land and interests in land. It was noted that no additional or extended millage was being requested.
- A draft Stewardship Vision Statement.
- A Value Statement, highlighting GSAB activities.
- A Recommendation to revise the GSAB Scope of Authority to include stewardship.
- A Recommendation for a Ballot Proposal.
- Draft language for a Ballot Proposal.

Public Comment:

Sandra Nix, 2179 Willow Leaf Court South, stated that her property in the Whispering Willows Subdivision backs to a woodlot. She noted that invasive species such as garlic mustard and buckthorn displaces native plants and commented that it takes active participation to control invasive species and allow native plants to support the fauna and flora in the area. She commented that she supports the change to allow funds to be used to maintain properties.

Council Discussion:

Mr. Kochenderfer stated that Council has an opportunity to do something historic. He commented that natural spaces attract residents to the City. He noted that Green Space funds protect properties from development; however, no funds are provided to maintain the properties. He suggested that a small endowment could be set up to generate funds in perpetuity. He expressed support for the proposed changes.

Mr. Klomp concurred, stating that he sees the amount of work needed to care for these properties.

Mr. Yalamanchi commented that he is very supportive of both proposals.

Mr. Rosen questioned whether agreeing to change the scope of the GSAB would be affected should the Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee's suggestion of a proposal to repurpose Green Space millage for roads be successful.

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

Aye 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0173-2013

Whereas, the Rochester Hills City Council established the scope of authority for the Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB) on August 24, 2005 to serve solely in an advisory capacity and make recommendations on acquisitions to City Council; and

Whereas, GSAB has been diligently working to acquire open space per the Green Space and Natural Features Millage approved in 2005; and

Whereas, GSAB has undertaken a steady effort to research elements of a good stewardship program to protect the City residents' investment in city-owned green spaces that included obtaining a baseline assessment study, placing boundary markers on green space parcels, hosting "discovery hikes" to educate the public, and conducting several pilot stewardship projects on city-owned green spaces to determine the scope of stewardship needs; and

Whereas, GSAB has had several discussions to define stewardship and develop a mission statement, vision statement and value statement regarding a future stewardship management plan for significant natural resources within Rochester Hills;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that Rochester Hills City Council hereby revises the scope of authority of the GSAB to include creating a vision and plan for future stewardship in order to protect, care and maintain green spaces and natural features owned, acquired or controlled by the City of Rochester Hills; and

Further Resolved, that GSAB make annual priority recommendations to City Council for possible inclusion into the City's annual budget process.

2013-0294 Presentation and recommendation to approve a ballot proposal to revise permissible uses of Green Space Millage

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Ballot Language - Admin \(Updated\).pdf](#)
[081213 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Green Space Ballot Proposal.pdf](#)
[081213 Draft Resolution.pdf](#)

Tim Gauthier and Gerry Carvey, Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB) Members, were in attendance.

Mr. Gauthier noted that in order to place the proposed Ballot Question on the November ballot, it must be passed by Council tonight, as this is the last Regular Meeting before the deadline. He stated that it is the consensus of the GSAB that stewardship of Green Space properties could be accomplished while still maintaining a fund balance available for potential future acquisitions.

President Hooper noted that City Attorney John Staran provided the proposed ballot language.

Mayor Barnett distributed alternative ballot language, and stated that the Administration would encourage Council to consider adding the words "and to improve accessibility to and within" in two places in the proposal.

President Hooper questioned whether this proposal would only apply to the next two years of levy or also to the monies in Fund Balance.

John Staran, City Attorney, stated that as drafted the proposal would apply to future years of revenue as well as to the current balance.

President Hooper questioned whether an allowable use of funds would be for improvements to or maintenance of the Clinton River and/or Paint Creek.

Mr. Staran responded that as drafted, it would include those additional properties and not be limited to properties purchased with Green Space monies.

Public Comment:

Erin Howlett, 3597 Aynsley, commented that the GSAB has done much work and expressed appreciation for those efforts. She stated that her opinion is that the scope of authority is vague and she questioned why a Public Hearing was not held to consider this matter.

Council Discussion:

President Hooper responded that City Council Meetings along with all board and technical review committee meetings are open to the public. He noted that public hearings typically do not attract additional attendance.

Mr. Carvey noted that the GSAB meetings are open as well.

Mr. Klomp commented that he does not believe that significant monies would be involved and questioned what types of cleanup projects would be done.

Mr. Carvey responded that the GSAB has done a number of work projects. He stated that the GSAB would propose to come before Council annually with a plan of work to be done for the year. He commented that if approved tonight, the GSAB would be working toward a proposal for the coming year.

Mr. Yalamanchi stated that he believes the language should focus on Green Space, and commented that if it is broad, it can get into the area of use for park properties.

Mr. Gauthier stated that the GSAB's intent is to use funds for properties such as the area behind City Hall.

Mr. Carvey added that there are problems on the City Hall property and if not maintained they keep expanding.

Mr. Yalamanchi questioned how to ensure the funding focuses on green spaces.

Mr. Gauthier noted that they direct this to focus on natural features and would make recommendations from the GSAB to Council. Council would take the recommendations under advisement.

Mr. Carvey added that the funds would be limited to deal with City-owned natural features only identified as Priority Areas One, Two and Three in the Natural Features Inventory prepared in the Niswander Report.

Mr. Staran stated that he did not mean to suggest that as drafted the Millage would be made available to fund the maintenance of any City park. It would still be limited to green spaces and natural features. He commented that the City owns other green spaces and natural features beyond those acquired in the last few years. He mentioned that it would not be used to spruce up Borden Park or the trail system. He reiterated that as drafted it is intended to be restricted to green spaces and natural features.

Mr. Yalamanchi questioned how to focus the GSAB's purpose on green space exclusively for the future.

Mr. Staran noted that reference to green spaces and natural features in the ballot proposal is identical to the language in the original ballot proposal. He stated that the concern is with the action words. He pointed out that the prior ballot question did limit the use of funds for seed money for acquisitions. While the ballot proposal had language referring to preservation, the action words for the use of funding was to acquire green spaces.

Mr. Yalamanchi questioned whether the City owns the Clinton River Trail and the Paint Creek Trail.

Mr. Staran responded that typically, trailways are owned by their respective Trailways Commissions. He mentioned that the Clinton River Trail is owned by the City; however, it is maintained by the non-profit group.

Discussion ensued regarding the Administration's suggested addition of a reference to access.

Mr. Staran stated that the Administration's alternate version adding wording regarding improving accessibility broadens the purpose further to allow people to get into the space. Parking, improvements for those who are physically challenged, signage, cautionary directional or other, would be included. Park improvements would not.

Mr. Tisdell suggested additional changes to the wording which he commented would further specify the use of funds.

Mr. Webber stated that while the Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee has discussed suggesting a repurpose of the Green Space Millage when it expires, it would not be done at the present time. He noted that there is currently a substantial fund balance and additional funds to be brought in.

Mr. Rosen commented that while he is in favor of doing work to clean up the City Hall site, he does not believe the money should come out of Green Space funds. He stated that this work should be funded through the City's Facilities Fund. He commented that he is in favor of doing what needs to be done to maintain City Green Spaces and open spaces purchased through the millage; however, he is not comfortable for Green Space monies to be used to fund other property improvements in non-Green Space owned facilities.

Mr. Kochenderfer stated that the City should proceed cautiously; however, it is creating options and not requirements.

President Hooper questioned what the deadline for a ballot question would be for the November election.

Tina Barton, City Clerk, responded that the ballot question must be submitted to Oakland County by August 27th.

President Hooper questioned whether a decision by Council at the August 26th Special Meeting would be acceptable.

Clerk Barton noted that draft minutes must accompany the proposal.

Lynn Loebs, GSAB Member, pointed out that there is a green space property that was donated and not purchased with green space funds. She stated that the proposal would not allow work on subdivision-owned properties or private properties. She commented that it makes perfect sense to do the stewardship on City property and added that the GSAB utilizes volunteer labor.

Beth Tilove, GSAB Member, expressed concern over the Administration's additional wording regarding accessibility. She pointed out that the GSAB never intended for paths to be built within a property. She added that the GSAB did not review or vote on the Administration's addition.

President Hooper stated that Council has three options, which included approving the language submitted in the meeting packet, approving the Administration's option, or deferring consideration to another meeting. He suggested that the GSAB and the Administration return after considering the suggestion.

Mr. Yalamanchi suggested that this item be set over to the August 19th Special Meeting.

Mr. Staran suggested that a Special Meeting of the GSAB could be held with 18 hours of public notice.

Mr. Carvey stated that he could poll the GSAB members.

Mr. Staran cautioned that the GSAB is subject to the Open Meetings Act and could not deliberate in that manner.

Mr. Carvey stated that if a GSAB meeting was noticed tomorrow morning, it could be held on Wednesday.

Mr. Rosen suggested that property donated to Green Space could also be maintained. He commented that he would not have any problem if portions of City-owned property were formally designated as Green Space. He noted that this would mean that the City would not be able to do anything else with that particular portion of property.

It was determined that this item would be deferred to August 19th.

Discussed.

2013-0301 Presentation by the Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee on its recommendations to City Council; Dale Hetrick, Chairperson and Tom Stephens, Vice-Chairperson, presenters

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Presentation.pdf](#)

Dale Hetrick, Chairperson, and Tom Wiggins, Member, Police and Road Funding Technical Review Committee (PRFTRC), were in attendance to present the PRFTRC's suggestions for a Local Road Overhaul and Replacement Initiative (Local ROAR), and highlight a synopsis of the accomplishments of the PRTRC. Mr. Hetrick detailed the following:

- Successful campaigns were held to renew an expiring Local Road Millage in 2010, repurpose a Drain Millage in 2010 and a millage to simplify and fully fund Police Services in 2012.
- Current emphasis is on maintenance, with limited implementation of 2008 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) recommendations.
- Capital outlay falls \$30 million short of 2008 CIP recommendations.
- Emerging opportunities include a potential repurposing of the expiring Green Space Millage on the August 2014 Ballot, maximizing capacity to manage capital projects, and short-term leveraging of General Fund Balance recommended for the 2014 Budget.
- A path was detailed to a long and proactive Local Road Program.
- Draft Ballot Language was included for the repurposing of the Green Space Millage. Discussion included potential means to educate residents regarding the proposal.

President Hooper noted that the main recommendations of the PRTRC include repurposing the Green Space Millage when it expires, and recommending \$5 million be utilized for capital improvements, up from the \$3.5 million proposed.

Mr. Yalamanchi expressed his appreciation for the recommendations, and questioned whether the additional capital funding would use General Fund Balance to leverage additional work.

Mr. Hetrick responded that it would.

Mr. Yalamanchi expressed his support for the idea and questioned the capacity of the City to do certain types of projects in-house versus utilizing a contractor.

Mr. Webber noted that budget discussions should zero in on what can be accomplished in a particular year.

Discussed.

2013-0284

Mayor's 2014 Proposed Budget

a. Presentation

b. Adoption of Resolution acknowledging receipt of the 2014 Proposed Budget and 2015 and 2016 Projected Budget and setting the Budget Public Hearing for September 16, 2013

Attachments: [Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[081913 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[082613 Budget Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[081213 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Suppl Presentation.pdf](#)
[081213 Resolution.pdf](#)

Mayor Barnett introduced the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 and projected 2015 and 2016 Budget. His presentation highlighted signs of economic recovery and pointed out that the City has been recognized as being in the top two percent of cities statewide in financial position. He mentioned that the City led all of Oakland County in development in 2012, and stated that indicators are that 2013 will also be strong. He noted the following:

- A recent survey completed by the Oakland University Public Affairs Research Laboratory reported that 99 percent of residents are happy to live in Rochester Hills. He mentioned that this is borne out by the recent passage of the Police Millage by over 65 percent of those voting.

- The Budget proposes to deliver services within revenue resources, keeping the City Millage at 9.7060. This is the same as FY 2013, it is the 15th consecutive year that the Millage has remained at this amount, and is the lowest in Oakland County.

- Taxable values are projected to increase approximately 1.38 percent. No Headlee roll back is projected.

- Expenditures proposed to increase 0.6% over the FY 2013 Amended Budget;

Governmental Funds - Expenditures are proposed to decrease by 3.1 percent.

- The Administration has actively moved to bring personnel costs in line with available funding. Since 2006 full-time staffing has been reduced by 20 percent. The same staffing level is proposed for 2014.

- The proposed Budget highlights \$13.6 million in Capital Projects in 2014, with a proposed Capital Outlay for Local Streets of \$3.3 million and for Major Roads of \$2.2 million.

- FY 2014 Proposed Citywide Revenues are projected to increase by 0.2 percent. 13.6 million in capital related projects are proposed to be funded in part with \$8.5 million in Fund Balance.

- Increases in proposed Revenues come from Taxable Values (1.38 percent) and State Shared Revenue (1.0 percent). ACT 51 Revenue remains unchanged from FY 2013.

- A list of 2013 accomplishments was presented.

Mayor Barnett noted that Budget Workshops would be held on August 19th and 26th beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Yalamanchi questioned whether the schedule of presentations would be forthcoming.

Keith Sawdon, Director of Finance, noted that the full schedule of presentations would be available for the August 19th meeting.

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

Aye 7 - Hooper, Klomp, Kochenderfer, Rosen, Tisdell, Webber and Yalamanchi

Enactment No: RES0174-2013

Whereas, the City of Rochester Hills City Council have worked to develop City goals for the Fiscal Year 2014; and

Whereas, based on these City goals, the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2014 Proposed Budget and 2015 and 2016 Projected Budget was developed; and

Whereas, at the August 12, 2013 City Council Meeting, the Mayor delivered the 2014 Proposed Budget Plan for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2014.

Be It Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council acknowledges receipt of the 2014 Proposed Budget and the 2015 and 2016 Projected Budget and hereby gives notice of Public Hearing to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 2013 at the Rochester Hills City Hall, 1000 Rochester Hills Drive, for the purpose of discussing the 2014 Budget and providing opportunity to all interested parties to present comments thereon prior to formal adoption by the Rochester Hills City Council.

Be It Further Resolved, that the publication of the Notice of Public Hearing is hereby authorized.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Older Persons' Commission (OPC):

Mr. Webber reported that the OPC Board met and adopted their FY 2014 Budget unanimously.

Mr. Yalamanchi noted that he would like to see Council review the structure of the OPC Board. He stated that recent proposals to change the Inter-Local Agreement have not progressed. He commented that politics can be damaging and affects the morale of OPC's employees. He stressed that structuring a nonprofit board is not a difficult task and stated that he wants Council and the Mayor to seriously consider moving in that direction.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Special Budget Meeting - Monday, August 19, 2013 - 5:30 p.m.; Special Budget Meeting - Monday, August 26, 2013 - 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, President Hooper adjourned the meeting at 10:57 p.m.

*GREG HOOPER, President
Rochester Hills City Council*

*TINA BARTON, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills*

*MARY JO PACHLA
Administrative Secretary
City Clerk's Office*

Approved as presented at the September 16, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting.