



# Rochester Hills Minutes

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## City Council Regular Meeting

*David J. Blair, Susan M. Bowyer Ph.D., Ryan Deel, Dale A. Hetrick, Stephanie Morita,  
Theresa Mungioli 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, July 13, 2020

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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### CALL TO ORDER

*President Deel called the Regular Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Michigan Time.*

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 6 - Susan M. Bowyer, Ryan Deel, Dale Hetrick, Stephanie Morita, Theresa Mungioli and David Walker

**Absent** 1 - David Blair

### Others Present

*Bryan Barnett, Mayor  
Tina Barton, City Clerk  
Ann Christ, City Attorney  
Matt Einheuser, Natural Resources Manager  
Ken Elwert, Parks and Natural Resources Director  
Allan Schneck, Public Services Director  
Leanne Scott, Deputy Clerk  
Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer*

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

**Aye** 6 - Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

**Absent** 1 - Blair

### COUNCIL AND YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Older Persons' Commission (OPC):**

Approved as presented at the October 19, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.

*Mr. Hetrick announced that OPC is working on a phase reopening plan for the entire facility and encouraged those who would like more details to contact OPC or drop him an email. He stated that OPC is holding exercise and enrichment programs outside and that this is working out quite well.*

**Rochester Area Youth Assistance (RAYA):**

*Ms. Mungioli reported that RAYA has taken time off for the summer as they typically do.*

**Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARA):**

*Ms. Mungioli reported that RARA is getting back up and active and she encouraged those who use RARA services to go to their website and Facebook page to look for the latest updates. She stated they are providing youth services this summer and observing social distancing and other measures issued under Executive Orders.*

**Deer Management Committee:**

*Ms. Mungioli reported that the Deer Management Committee met in late June and a report will be forthcoming in August.*

## RECOGNITIONS

2020-0197 Proclamation in Recognition of C. Neall Schroeder

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Proclamation.pdf](#)

**Mayor Barnett** stated that Mr. Schroeder has the tremendous gratitude of current and past Councils, current and past Planning Commissions, himself and past Mayors. He stated that the City thrives and survives on volunteers like Mr. Schroeder who bring their expertise and donate and dedicate their time to provide value to the community.

**Mr. Schroeder** thanked the Mayor, City Council and the Planning Commission. He stated that 45 years ago Avon Township hired him to be the Township Engineer and when Avon Township became the City of Rochester Hills in 1984, he became the first City Engineer. He gave a brief historical narrative on how the ten percent contingency was added to contract changes and how the site plan for the construction of the township hall would have to be altered were it to be built today. He stated that 15 years ago Mayor Pat Somerville appointed him to the Planning Commission and, while he values the years he has served on this Commission and would consider serving in the future in another capacity, it is now time for a new individual to be selected and serve.

**Mr. Hetrick** thanked Mr. Schroeder for the wealth of knowledge and meticulous preparation he brought to the Planning Commission.

**President Deel** thanked Mr. Schroeder for all his years of service to the City.

**Presented.**

**Whereas**, C. Neall Schroeder and his wife, Dorothy, have been residents of Rochester Hills for over four decades, since before the city even became incorporated as the City of Rochester Hills; and

**Whereas**, with a career in civil engineering and an interest in bettering municipalities, Neall has used his knowledge and passion to serve our city for decades, as an Avon Township employee, as the Director of Engineering at the City of Rochester Hills, and later serving on key committees, boards and commissions; and

**Whereas**, Neall has served on Rochester Hills' Construction/Fire Prevention Board of Appeals, the Economic Development Corporation, the Building Authority, the Planning Commission, the Cemetery Citizen Advisory Technical Review Committee and the Water System Advisory Council; and

**Whereas**, Neall has been a dedicated and respected member of the Planning Commission for 15 years, and on the occasion of his retirement from this role, the Mayor and City Council wish to express their sincere appreciation to Neall for his extensive commitment and contribution to the City of Rochester Hills.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Mayor and City Council of Rochester Hills hereby recognize and thank C. Neall Schroeder for the immeasurable impact he has had on the City of Rochester Hills, and wish him health, happiness, and the very best life has to offer.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT for Items not on the Agenda**

*None.*

## **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.

**2020-0253** Approval of Minutes - City Council Regular Meeting - April 27, 2020

**Attachments:** [CC Min 04272020.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0156-2020

**Resolved**, that the Minutes of a Rochester Hills City Council Regular meeting held on April 27, 2020 be approved as amended/presented.

### **(The following six Legislative Files relate to Brewster Village Condos)**

**2020-0243** Request for Acceptance of the Watermain Easement granted by Danish Village  
Approved as presented at the October 19, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.

Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership, a Michigan limited partnership, for Brewster Village Condos

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Watermain Easement.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0157-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council, on behalf of the City of Rochester Hills hereby accepts a Watermain Easement for the construction, operation, maintenance, repair and/or replacement of a watermain on, under, through and across land more particularly described as Parcel #15-08-376-016, granted by Danish Village Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership, a Michigan limited partnership, whose address is 8131 E. Jefferson, Detroit, MI 48214, for Brewster Village Condos.

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

**2020-0244** Request for Acceptance of the Sanitary Sewer Easement granted by Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, for Brewster Village Condos

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Sanitary Sewer Easement.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0158-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council, on behalf of the City of Rochester Hills hereby accepts a Sanitary Sewer Easement for the construction, operation, maintenance, repair and/or replacement of a sanitary sewer on, under, through and across land more particularly described as Parcel #15-08-376-015 and #15-08-331-041, granted by Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, whose address is 6905 Telegraph Road, Suite 200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301, for Brewster Village Condos.

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

**2020-0245** Request for Acceptance of the Watermain Easement granted by Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, for Brewster Village Condos

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Watermain Easement.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0159-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council, on behalf of the City of Rochester Hills hereby accepts a Watermain Easement for the construction, operation, maintenance, repair and/or replacement of a watermain on, under, through and across land more

particularly described as Parcel #15-08-376-015 and #15-08-331-041, granted by Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, whose address is 6905 Telegraph Road, Suite 200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301, for Brewster Village Condos.

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

- 2020-0246** Request for Acceptance of the Warranty Deed for Brewster Road public road right-of-way granted by Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, for Brewster Village Condos

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0160-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council, on behalf of the City of Rochester Hills hereby accepts a Warranty Deed granted by Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, whose address is 6905 Telegraph Road, Suite 200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301 for Brewster Village Condos, Parcel #15-08-376-015 and #15-08-331-041.

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

- 2020-0247** Request for Approval of a Maintenance Agreement for Maintenance and Repair of Private Road between the City of Rochester Hills and Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, for Brewster Village Condos

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Maintenance Agreement.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0161-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the Maintenance Agreement for Maintenance and Repair of Private Road between the City of Rochester Hills and Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, whose address is 6905 Telegraph Road, Suite 200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301, for Brewster Village, Parcel #15-08-376-015 and #15-08-331-041.

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

- 2020-0248** Request for Approval of a Storm Sewer System Maintenance Agreement between the City of Rochester Hills and Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, for Brewster Village Condos

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Storm Sewer System Maint Agmnt.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: RES0162-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the Storm Sewer System Maintenance Agreement between the City of Rochester Hills and Robertson Brewster Village, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, whose address is 6905 Telegraph Road, Suite 200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301, for Brewster Village Condos, Parcel #15-08-376-015 and #15-08-331-041.

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

### Passed the Consent Agenda

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

**Aye** 6 - Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

**Absent** 1 - Blair

### LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

**Ms. Mungioli** stated she has been getting many emails from residents regarding masks and types of masks in the City. She mentioned that because of COVID she has not been working in the office for the last four months and while she is grateful for the opportunity to be able to work from home, she recognizes that it can be very quiet and lonely. She stated she would like to reach out to residents who are having challenges with staying at home during the pandemic. She requested they contact her and she would put them in touch with the many different services that are available to help them with a particular challenge or situation. She stated she will be at Innovation Hills Friday, July 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and she encouraged all constituents to come and meet and talk to her outdoors. She stated she would be going to different parks within the community over the next several weeks and urged residents to feel free to come see her at a park. She encouraged residents to email her at [mungiolit@rochesterhills.org](mailto:mungiolit@rochesterhills.org) if they needed information on support services within the community.

**Ms. Morita** thanked the Mayor for reaching out to DTE on behalf of the constituents. She mentioned the west side of the City has been having many power outages and that the Hamlin/Adams area has been impacted several times for no discernable reason. She noted many subdivisions are between 30-40 years old and are trying to make due with a failing electrical infrastructure that has a lifespan of about 25 years. She stated DTE has been contacted many times to address the numerous power outages but, to date, they have not been able to offer any satisfactory solution.

**Mayor Barnett** confirmed he has met with Jennifer Whitaker of DTE and that he would stay on this problem and keep Council informed.

**Mayor Barnett** provided the following update:

- The Clinton River is moving in a different direction than it has historically and this is creating some challenges that have required EMS to respond to paddlers. He stated the public should know that it is not safe to use the Clinton River for canoeing or kayaking from downtown Rochester toward Lake St. Clair until getting past Yates Dam. He noted there is signage in many places warning people about this.
- A kayak launch is being put in place in Innovation Hills and should be completed between this month and the first two weeks of next month. He mentioned trailers will be used to help get the kayaks out to the launch.
- The City still has several face masks which it will be providing to the residents for free. He urged those who would like one to contact the Mayor's Office. He asks that everyone abide by the order to use face masks.
- The City has been working with several different vendors to make sure the right Personal Protection Equipment is purchased that will keep Council, employees and visitors safe. He stated some prototypes are en route to City Hall and should be here by the end of this week.
- Regarding the Census - Michigan is third in the country, sitting behind Minnesota and Wisconsin. He stated the City has an 82.1 percent completion rate and is close to leading, or is actually leading, cities of our size. He noted 18% of our population has not yet been counted and he encouraged everyone to help get the word out to complete the census.
- The Council team and Clerks' team have been working very hard in preparing for the upcoming election and in hosting City Council in Zoom meetings.

**Deputy Clerk Leanne Scott** introduced the new City Council Coordinator, Mary Fronczak.

## ATTORNEY'S REPORT

*City Attorney Ann Christ had nothing to report.*

## NEW BUSINESS

- 2020-0236** Request for approval for City's participation in the Arbor Day Foundation Community Canopy Program for up to three (3) one-year terms in the yearly project budget amount of up to \$15,000.00 or a total not-to-exceed \$45,000 over three years; The Arbor Day Foundation, Lincoln, NE

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Program Information.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**Ken Elwert**, Director of Parks & Natural Resources, experienced technical difficulties with Zoom audio and was not able to make his presentation.

An Arbor Day video was shown.

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

**Aye** 6 - Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker



**Absent** 1 - Blair

Enactment No: RES0163-2020

**Resolved**, that the City of Rochester Hills hereby waives Section 2-275(b), of the information competition requirement for purchases between \$2,000 and \$25,000, under Section 2-281, which allows City Council the authority to waive any regulation or procedure pertaining to purchasing, deeming it to be in the best interest of the City.

**Further Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes the approval of the City's participation in the Arbor Day Foundation Community Canopy Program for up to three (3) one-year terms in the yearly project budget amount of up to \$15,000.00 or a total not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000 over three (3) years and further authorizes the Mayor to execute agreement on behalf of the City for participation in this program.

**2020-0242** Request for Approval of the pre-payment of the City of Rochester Hills assessment for the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain 2020A Project

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[OMID 2020A Community Ltr.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**Joe Snyder**, Chief Financial Officer, reported that this item is an assessment from the Oakland County Water Resources Commission for the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain 2020A Project. He stated the City of Rochester Hills received notice on June 23, 2020 from the Oakland County Water Resources Commission that the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drainage District will soon commence the next construction segment of improvements to the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain (OMID). He stated there are two projects included in this construction segment with the total cost being up to \$84 million: 1) Replacement of electrical and mechanical equipment at the north east sewer pumping station which is 50 years old and in need of repair; and 2) Rehabilitation of approximately seven (7) miles of the north east arm interceptor.

**Mr. Snyder** stated that the Drainage Board must be informed of the City's intent to pre-pay a portion of the bond assessment prior to July 22, 2020. He noted the total would be just over \$6.7 million and is due by September 1, 2020. He reported that if the City chooses not to pre-pay a portion of the bond assessment, the total amount of debt service including financing costs and interest over 20 years would total just over \$8.5 million. He stated that the Oakland County Water Resources Commission anticipates that the day-to-day operational savings associated with this project will be large enough to offset the additional cost associated with the potential debt service on the project which ranges from \$350 to \$450 thousand dollars per year and would have little to no impact on sanitary sewer rates for the community. He noted that by pre-paying assessments, the City has potential to have its sanitary sewer charges reduced by the lower day-to-day operational costs with no additional offsetting service charges over the next 20 years. He added that this would potentially reduce sanitary sewer charges to the City customers.

He reported that interest rates on the bond are anticipated at 2.25 percent and with the recent reduction in interest rates due to COVID, he does not see the



City earning anywhere near the 2.25 percent for quite some time. He explained that the ten year treasury is yielding .62 percent today and even the 30-year treasury is yielding 1.3 percent, so rates look like they will be low for quite some time. He stated that City staff has reached out to Oakland County Water Resources Commission staff to confirm that the apportionate percentage between both Oakland County and Macomb County, as well as the apportion of communities within the Oakland County segment is still accurate. He stated this project has been included in the City's Capital Improvement Plan for several years and the funds are included in both the 2020 and 2021 budget. He stated that Oakland County has decided to combine these two projects into one bond issue both to reduce bond underwriting costs and to have the ability to begin the north east intercept project a few months early.

**President Deel** questioned if by doing this a previously scheduled portion of the work that was supposed to be done in 2021 is being brought into the 2020 bond.

**Mr. Snyder** responded affirmatively and stated that initially the seven (7) miles of rehab work on the north east arm interceptor was going to happen in early 2021, but with COVID, the pump station was delayed slightly and Oakland County decided to combine the bonds and tie them in with the sale on the bond service. He stated that he will bring a budget amendment to Council in the second quarter and will have the monies available by September 1, 2020 if City Council chooses to move forward.

**President Deel** inquired if a portion of what was already budgeted for 2021 would be brought into 2020.

**Mr. Snyder** confirmed that it would and added that this would effectively lower the amount needed in 2021 because it is being brought into 2020.

**President Deel** questioned if by combining the two bonds, the overall cost would be lowered as well.

**Mr. Snyder** confirmed his statement and explained because, if the City chooses to pre-pay, it would not incur any underwriting costs so the bulk of the overall cost would be less.

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

**Aye** 6 - Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Mungioli and Walker

**Absent** 1 - Blair

Enactment No: RES0164-2020

**Whereas**, pursuant to the petitions received by the Charter Township of Waterford, Oakland County, and the City of Sterling Heights, Macomb County (collectively, the "Petitions") requesting the Maintenance, Extension and Improvement of the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain (the "Drain") pursuant to Section 535 of Michigan Public Act 40 of the Public Acts of 1956 ("Drain Code" or Act 40), as amended, MCL §280.535 and filed with the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, proceedings have been carried out by the Augmented Drainage Board and Drainage Board for the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain Drainage District (the "Drainage District") to

acquire, finance, construct, improve, and replace certain wastewater facilities (the "Project") as set forth in Attachment A, and said Project having been determined to be necessary for the public health; and,

**Whereas**, on August 21, 2019, the Drainage Board for the Drainage District confirmed and adopted a Final Order of Apportionment and cost of the Project has been apportioned against the following public corporations in the counties of Oakland and Macomb as follows: (in Oakland County) City of Auburn Hills (4.9705%), Independence Township (includes City of Clarkston) (2.4213%), City of Lake Angelus (0.0185%), City of Rochester (1.9526%), City of Rochester Hills (8.1106%), Oakland Township (1.0393%), Orion Township (3.1494%), Oxford Township (1.2468%), Village of Lake Orion (0.3409%), Village of Oxford (0.5928%), Waterford Township (7.6159%), West Bloomfield Township (1.6414%); (in Macomb County) Chesterfield Township (4.7983%), City of Fraser (2.7237%), City of Sterling Heights (20.8080%), City of Utica (1.1036%), Clinton Township (14.1538%), Harrison Township (4.1556%), Lenox Township (0.6353%), Macomb Township (9.4344%), Shelby Township (6.6490%), Village of New Haven (0.5475%), and Washington Township (1.8907%) (the "Public Corporations"); and,

**Whereas**, on June 17, 2020, the Drainage Board approved and adopted Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain 2020 Special Assessment Roll No. 1 Relating to Series 2020A Bonds with respect to the costs of the second segment of the Project not to exceed \$84,000,000, for the improvements to the Northeast Sewage Pumping Station and North Interceptor East-Arm in accordance with the Final Order of Apportionment; and,

**Whereas**, pursuant to the authorization provided in Section 528 of Chapter 21 of the Drain Code (MCL §280.528), the Drainage Board of the Drainage District expects to provide for the issuance of one or more series of bonds to finance the costs of the Project, and the costs of issuance of such bonds, in anticipation of the collection of assessments to be made pursuant to the Drain Code, and to pledge the full faith and credit of the Drainage District for the prompt payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon; and

**Whereas**, such bonds will be payable from the collection of special assessments against the Public Corporations, said special assessments to be duly confirmed as provided in the Drain Code; and

**Whereas**, prior to the issuance of said bonds for the first segment, the Drainage Board has notified the City of Rochester Hills, to permit, should the City of Rochester Hills determine expedient, to prepay the assessment and avoid interest and finance charges associated with the anticipated Series 2020A Bond issue for this Project segment; and,

**Whereas**, the Drainage Board has requested that the *City of Rochester Hills* adopt a resolution and affirming its intention to prepay its Series 2020A drain special assessment for this Project segment, and forward same by July 22, 2020, and make full payment of the assessment by September 1, 2020.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the *City of Rochester Hills* hereby confirms that it will pay in full, its drain assessment in the amount of \$6,741,704.45, pursuant to the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain 2020 Special Assessment Roll No. 1.

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the City/Township Treasurer is directed to notify the Drainage Board for the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain Drainage District by July 22, 2020 and of its intention to submit payment to the Drainage District no later than September 1, 2020.

**Be It Further Resolved**, that all resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

**2020-0249** Request for Purchase Authorization - CLERKS: Increase to the existing blanket purchase order for miscellaneous election printing and addressing (not ballots) in the amount of \$15,000.00 for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$40,000.00 through January 31, 2021; Printing Systems, Inc., Taylor, MI

**Attachments:** [07132020 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**Tina Barton**, City Clerk, announced that the Clerks' Department has met with two election-related expenses this year that were not anticipated when the budget was put together: the COVID pandemic and being unaware that the Secretary of State was sending out absentee voter applications to all registered voters within our community. She stated that the permanent absentee list has between 15,000 - 16,000 people on it who would receive an application and that is what was budgeted for. She stressed that this was insufficient because over 55,000 absentee voter applications were sent out which increased printing costs dramatically. She stated that for this upcoming Primary just under 18,000 absentee ballots were issued compared to the Presidential election in November 2016 when just under 13,000 absentee ballots were issued. She stressed that there are still three (3) weeks to go before this Primary Election and she anticipates exceeding a record-setting 20,000 absentee voter ballots being issued for the City of Rochester Hills. She stated that the \$25,000 in the blanket for printing needs is no longer sufficient with these unanticipated costs associated with the rise in volume. She asked that the blanket be increased by \$15,000 which would get them through to January 31, 2021.

**Ms. Mungioni** asked how many ballots have been returned.

**Clerk Barton** replied that just under 3,000 ballots had been returned, which leaves 15,000 still outstanding.

**Ms. Mungioni** suggested to Mayor Barnett that as the City is encouraging people to get counted in the Census, they should also be encouraged to return their ballots.

**Clerk Barton** shared what she believes to be the two reasons why only 3,000 ballots have currently been returned: 1) There are many people voting in this Primary that do not normally vote in Primary elections, and there might be a bit of education that has to take place for them to vote their Primary ballot; and 2) When looking at the ballot you can see just how contested so many of the races are within their own parties and because of this, people are holding onto their ballot and doing research.

**Ms. Morita** stated that after the Primary, it will be interesting to see how many people did not return their ballot and how much money was spent mailing them if they are not coming back.

**Clerk Barton** stated that election workers are needed badly as many of the election inspectors call off because the COVID numbers are beginning to rise and they have concerns. She added that even workers who initially said they would work a precinct or the absentee room are now saying they are not comfortable doing so. She asked everyone to recruit friends and even

*volunteer themselves to be election inspectors.*

**President Deel** also encouraged everyone to volunteer to work the election.

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

**Aye** 6 - Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morita, Munglioli and Walker

**Absent** 1 - Blair

Enactment No: RES0165-2020

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes an increase to the existing blanket purchase order for miscellaneous election printing and addressing (not ballots) to Printing Systems, Inc., Taylor, Michigan in the amount of \$15,000.00 for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$40,000.00 through January 31, 2021.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Ms. Morita** asked if Council got any communications from constituents regarding the backflow protector inspection and the costs involved. She pointed out it is \$175.00 just for the inspection and \$850.00 if you need a new backflow protector. She stressed not to be surprised if angry neighbors do not understand why it needs to be done. She stated even though the letter comes from the City, it is not the City but a State timeline that the City is required to comply with. She noted this could not have come at a worse time as many people are out of work or have had their salary cut because of COVID and all of a sudden they are looking at a \$1000.00 plumbing bill because the City sent them a notice. She stated City Council could contact Allen Schneck, Public Services Director, for more information.

**Mayor Barnett** added that he would send City Council a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet outlining some of the questions they might be asked by constituents. He confirmed that this is not a City requirement, but a follow-through on the requirements set forward by the State. He cautioned residents to be aware of price gouging and to check out different contractors before having the work done.

**Vice President Bowyer** stated they are going around to communities a little at a time and are in her neighborhood now. She noted that she has already received a letter from the City that was outdated.

**Mayor Barnett** reiterated that he is working to get accurate information out to the residents and City Council about this State water testing requirement. He stated that so much more water testing has to be done in this post-Flint era and instead of testing just a few locations in the City monthly as was done in the past, the City now has to test 40-50 locations twice a week.

**President Deel** mentioned that this inspection came through his neighborhood about two (2) years ago and his neighborhood Home Owners' Association negotiated with the contractor providing the inspections to get a price reduction for their residents.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

*- Regular Meeting - Monday, July 27, 2020 - 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 8:01 p.m.*

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*RYAN DEEL, President  
Rochester Hills City Council*

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*TINA BARTON, MMC, Clerk  
City of Rochester Hills*

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*MARY FRONCZAK  
Administrative Coordinator - City Council  
City Clerk's Office*

*Approved as presented at the October 19, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.*