

**Rochester Hills Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting**

April 9, 2024

- I. The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library held a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. The President called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm in the boardroom of the library. The presiding officer was Melinda Deel.

A quorum of the board was present including Bob Bonam, Melinda Deel, Anne Kucher, Madge Lawson, and Julianne Reyes.

Harper West was absent with prior notice given.

Guests included Library Director Juliane Morian, City of Rochester Liaison Alice Moo, and Oakland Township Library President, Michael Tyler. Greg Soule, Principal at the audit firm Andrews Hooper Pavlik, PLC was also present.

One member of the public was present.

- II. Public Comments – Reg Brown, a resident in Oakland Township, and said he wanted to attend the RHPL library board meeting to learn more about how the Board governed and to learn more about the library.
- III. Presentation of the 2023 RHPL Audit
 - A. Mr. Soule presented a clean audit opinion for RHPL’s fiscal year 2023. Mr. Soule left the meeting at 7:20 pm.
- IV. Minutes
 - A. On a motion by Mr. Bonam, which Ms. Lawson seconded, the board unanimously approved the regular meeting minutes from March 12, 2024 as presented.
- V. Treasurer’s Report was reviewed and filed.
- VI. Monthly Bills
 - A. On a motion by Mr. Bonam, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board unanimously approved the monthly bills for March 2024, which totaled \$389,816.09
- VII. Communications
 - A. The board reviewed and filed the communications with no significant discussion.
- VIII. Director’s Report and Statistical Report
 - A. The board reviewed and filed the director’s report and statistical report, with no significant discussion.

- B. On a motion by Mr. Bonam, that was seconded by Ms. Kucher, the board unanimously approved closing the library at 5pm on Friday, August 9th to prepare for the summer reading finale party at 6pm that evening.
- IX. Committee Reports
- A. Finance Committee – the Finance Committee met on April 1, 2024 with the audit team for an in-depth review of audit documents.
 - B. Policy Committee – the Policy Committee conferred over email for one minor change to the Bylaws to include a sentence that stipulates that signs are not permitted during a board meeting at any time.
 - i. The board completed a second reading of the following:
 - 1. Rochester Hills Public Library Board of Trustees Bylaws – second reading
 - 2. GSV-4 Makerspace Policy – second reading
 - 3. GSV-4 Makerspace Release Form – second reading
 - ii. On a motion by Mr. Bonam, which Ms. Lawson seconded, the board unanimously approved the policies as presented.
- X. Other Business
- A. Ms. Morian presented an update with visuals for the furniture refresh planned for the Adult Services area.
 - B. The board engaged in a discussion regarding future funding needs for the library and a possible millage request.
 - 1. Ms. Morian reported that she and Ms. Deel, as President of the RHPL Library Board, met with Mr. Tyler as the President of the Oakland Township Library Board to discuss a possible formula for determining new contract fees, should the Board submit a millage increase request, and should the voters in Rochester Hills approve it.
 - 2. Based on the future funding conversation that took place at the prior board meeting, Ms. Morian presented a one-sheet summary of what a .39 millage increase for library funding would generate for revenue needs.
 - 3. The board engaged in a discussion regarding an equitable formula for determining contract fees for the City of Rochester and for Oakland Township. Noting that since Rochester Hills Public Library is not a district library, which necessitates a uniform millage rate be applied across all three communities, the Rochester Hills Public Library can determine a different, yet fair formula for charging for library services to neighboring communities, should the voters in Rochester Hills approved a new, additional millage. Discussion ensued on merits of using the revenue per capita in Rochester Hills as a benchmark for computing an identical per capita result in the two neighboring communities that contract with RHPL.
 - C. On a motion from Ms. Lawson, that Ms. Reyes second, the board unanimously approved a resolution authorizing and directing the Rochester Hills City Clerk to place a question on

the August 6, 2024 ballot asking for an additional levy of .39 mills for library funding for 10 years. The full copy of the resolution is appended to the minutes.

- D. On a motion from Mr. Bonam, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board unanimously approved delegating authority to Ms. Morian to pursue updating agreements with each of the contract communities in order to enumerate contract fees commensurate with the whole dollar per capita amount for library service in Rochester Hills, should the new millage be approved on the August 6, 2024 election. If agreements need to be updated, they will be presented at a future date.
- E. On a motion Mr. Bonam, which Ms. Lawson seconded the board unanimously approved the following statement:

The Board of the Rochester Hills Public Library adopted a resolution on April 9, 2024 to place an increase in the millage rate in Rochester Hills on the ballot in August 2024 that will yield, if adopted, approximately \$64 per capita. It now requests that the Rochester City Council and the Oakland Township Library Board place the ballot question before their voters in August 2024 that will result in a total yield of approximately \$64 per capita.

XI. Board Comments

- A. Ms. Lawson asked for an update on any commemorative art pieces or statues being pursued to honor the library's 100-year anniversary. Ms. Morian stated that the Friends of the Library had expressed a desire to contribute something meaningful to the story time room renovation this summer in honor of the centennial, but there were no other major art pieces planned for the library building or grounds.

XII. Questions from the Liaisons

- A. Mr. Tyler expressed appreciation that the RHPL Board heard the concerns expressed by representatives of the Oakland Township Library Board regarding a uniform millage rate, and is hopeful that the two boards can collaborate on an equitable formula for funding moving forward.

XIII. The regular meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Anne Kucher, Secretary

RESOLUTION SUBMITTING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

County of Oakland, Michigan

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library, County of Oakland, Michigan, held in the Library, on the 9th day of April, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Bob Bonam, Melinda Deel, Anne Kucher, Madge Lawson, and Julianne Reyes

ABSENT: Harper West

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Madge Lawson and supported by Trustee Julianne Reyes.

WHEREAS, the Rochester Hills Public Library has been established pursuant to Act 164, Public Acts of Michigan, 1877, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library, County of Oakland, Michigan (the "Library") determines that it is necessary for the health and welfare of the City of Rochester Hills (the "City") and its residents that the limitation on taxes which may be imposed each year for library purposes upon taxable property in the City be increased in an amount not to exceed \$0.39 per \$1,000 of taxable value (0.39 mills) for a period of ten (10) years, commencing in 2024, on all taxable property in the City in order to provide funds for library purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The following proposition be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the City of Rochester Hills, County of Oakland, Michigan, at the primary election to be held by the City on Tuesday, August 6, 2024:

Library Millage Proposal

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property within the City of Rochester Hills, County of Oakland, Michigan, be increased by \$0.39 per thousand dollars (0.39 mills) of the taxable value on all taxable property in the City of Rochester Hills for a period of ten (10) years, beginning in the year 2024 and ending in the year 2033, inclusive, as new additional millage for the purpose of providing library funds for the Rochester Hills Public Library? It is estimated that 0.39 mills would raise approximately \$1,724,195 when first levied with the December 1, 2024 levy.

2. The Secretary is directed to request the clerk of the City of Rochester Hills to post and publish notice of registration and of the election in the manner required by law.

3. The Treasurer is hereby directed to pay the costs of publishing and posting the notices required with respect to the submission of the proposition set forth above at the primary election.

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are rescinded.

AYES: Bob Bonam, Melinda Deel, Anne Kucher, Madge Lawson, and Julianne Reyes

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Anne Kucher, Secretary, Board of Trustees