

**Rochester Hills Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 10, 2025**

- I. The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library held a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the boardroom of the library. The presiding officer was Bob Bonam.

A quorum of the board included Melinda Deel, Anne Kucher, Madge Lawson, Julianne Reyes and Harper West.

Guests included Library Director Julianne Morian, Oakland Township Library Board Liaison Jim Kiefer, and City of Rochester Liaison Lauren Coleman.

Two members of the public were present.

II. Public Comments

- A. Chuck Jacobs, a resident of Rochester Hills, asked about expenses at grocery stores and restaurants on the credit card statement for the month.
- B. Mr. Bonam directed Ms. Morian to provide any additional details in response to public comments. Ms. Morian stated that some expenses were related to food, beverages, and flowers purchased for the Volunteer Recognition held at the library on May 16th. Other expenses were related to working lunches conducted as part of the interview process for the prospective Head of Adult Services. Each of the four candidates interviewed were asked to join senior leadership for lunch (paid for by RHPL) and evaluating a candidate's interpersonal skills for a senior leadership role was a necessary and reasonable expense. Ms. Morian also shared that this part of the RHPL budget is underwritten donations from the Friends of the RHPL as part of their designation of funds.

III. Approval of the Agenda

- A. On a motion by Ms. Lawson, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board discussed the agenda as presented. Ms. West suggested that under "Other business" the wording change from "Approve language in a new contract" to "Discussion of a proposed contract between RHPL and City of Rochester." Ms. Lawson amended her motion to include the change and the board unanimously approved the agenda as amended with no additional changes.

IV. Minutes

- A. On a motion by Ms. West, which Ms. Deel seconded, the board unanimously approved the meeting minutes from May 13, 2025 with no changes or additional discussion.

V. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and filed.

VI. Monthly Bills

- A. On a motion by Ms. Deel, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board discussed approving monthly bills in the amount of \$714,257.52.

1. Mr. Bonam asked for more details on why the bills were higher for May.
 2. Ms. Morian relayed that May had three pay periods that month, which was atypical (usually there are only two), and there was a single expense for the balance due on the new early literacy bus.
- B. Mr. Bonam ended discussion of the bills and called for a vote which the board unanimously approved paying the monthly bills for May in the amount of \$714,257.52.

VII. Communications

- A. The board reviewed and filed the communications with no major discussion.

VIII. Reports

- A. The board reviewed and filed the director's report and the statistical report.
1. Ms. Morian provided a review of the furniture that has been identified for replacement as part of the Phase II refresh of the Adult Services area. The board supported the plan but provided feedback that it may be prudent to refrain from remodeling the adult services' desk at this juncture and wait until an architect can provide consultation for long-term space planning needs.
 2. Ms. Morian presented on key dates over the next two months and recommended that the board consider a date change for their August meeting since the Oakland Township ballot proposal on Tuesday, August 5th will impact RHPL.
 - a. On a motion from Ms. Deel, seconded by Ms. Reyes, the board unanimously approved moving the date of the August board meeting to Wednesday, August 6th at 7:00pm.
 3. Ms. Deel asked about the attendance drop for teen programs in May and Ms. Morian said she would look into it and provide additional details.

IX. Committee Reports - none

- A. Ms. Morian stated that committees should convene soon – the Finance committee will need to review a draft of the 2026 budget before the end of June and the Policy committee should convene to review some policies related to library card policy and professional development.

X. Other Business

- A. Ms. Morian presented the short term contract that RHPL could present to the City of Rochester that provides continuation of service until the end of 2025 so that the details of the long-term contract are finalized. Ms. Morian said that this approach was consistent with the short-term agreement presented to Oakland Township. It aligns the long-term agreement to commence on January 1, 2026 for both contract communities, which was one of the stated goals of initiating new contracts as well.
1. Discussion ensued on broad points in the long-term agreement so that Ms. Morian could work with the library's attorney to finalize terms and present the long-term contract for approval by the RHPL board at the July 8th meeting.
- B. On a motion by Ms. Kucher that was seconded by Ms. Lawson, the board unanimously approved the short-term contract for continuation of old contract terms with the City of Rochester with no further discussion (contract is attached at the end of the minutes.)

XI. Board Comments

- A. Ms. Reyes apologized for missing the last board meeting and the Volunteer Recognition on May 16th. She inquired about how the Volunteer Recognition went. The general consensus of board members was to continue with a similar event for next year, however it was suggested that having a program with semi-formal remarks as opposed to an open-house style of event would be a positive change. Ms. Morian said they would plan on that enhancement for 2026. Ms. Reyes also asked about the Facilities Condition Assessment and discussion around unisex bathrooms as opposed to traditional communal (gendered) restrooms. Discussion ensued and the group felt that an architect would be necessary for an expert recommendation.
- B. Ms. Deel commented that the Volunteer Recognition was lovely and agreed with the comments around the success of the event and plans to make it even better next year. Ms. Deel also mentioned that she attended the Afterhours Library and considered it a delightful event, stating that partnering with Dessert Oasis for coffee was a nice touch, and thanked the staff for their effort in making it possible.
 - 1. Ms. Morian said that RHPL will offer another Afterhours Library in fall and added that not only does it fulfill a programming goal it is a way to evaluate self-service hours where staffing levels are lighter than the traditional open hours, which could lead to creative staffing options in the future (opening earlier or staying open later).
- C. Ms. Kucher stated that she also attended the Volunteer Recognition and shared high praise for including the Friends of RHPL in the volunteer recognition and wanted to see that continue. She felt the catering was nicely done and should continue.

XII. Questions and Comments from the Liaisons

- A. Ms. Coleman commented that she was happy to see things progress with contract negotiations with the city of Rochester. She also thanked Ms. Morian for shepherding the negotiation process and felt it would result in a win-win for all parties.
- B. Mr. Kiefer commented that things are progressing with the ballot proposal for Oakland Township residents. He said that Oakland Township Library board plans to send out a mailer to residents sharing information about the two propositions – a renewal of existing millage and an additional millage. Ms. Morian stated that RHPL had developed a webpage to answer questions that may arise regarding the millage proposal in Oakland Township and/or questions from City of Rochester residents regarding their contract.

XIII. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Julianne Reyes, Secretary

**ADDENDUM TO THE CONTRACT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES
BY AND BETWEEN
THE ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY
AND
THE CITY OF ROCHESTER**

THIS ADDENDUM to the Contract for Library Services By and Between the ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY, located at 500 Olde Towne Road, Rochester, MI, 48307 and the CITY OF ROCHESTER, a Michigan municipal corporation with its township offices located at 400 Sixth Street, Rochester, Michigan 48307 , dated June 10, 1985, does hereby amend its contract (Attachment "A"), to extend the term and all provisions, including its contract fees until December 31, 2025. The contract fees expected for the remainder of 2025 for CITY OF ROCHESTER is as follows: \$317,856.30 billed in two (2) equal installments (due on August 1 and October 1).

All other provisions of the Contract for Library Services by and between the ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY, and the CITY OF ROCHESTER dated June 10, 1985 shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement by their respective officials thereunto duly authorized, the date and year hereinafter written.

CITY OF ROCHESTER

Dated: _____

By: _____

Its: _____

Dated: _____

By: _____

Its: _____

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Dated: _____

By: Robert Bonam

Its: Board President

Dated: _____

By: Julianne Reyes

Its: Board Secretary

ATTACHMENT A

CONTRACT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this 10th day of June, 1985, between the Rochester Hills Public Library (hereinafter referred to as "Library") and the City of Rochester, a Michigan municipal corporation (hereinafter referred to as "City").

WHEREAS, the Library is an independent municipal body corporate, having responsibility for the control and operation of all public library services for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the City of Rochester Hills; and,

WHEREAS, the Library is located within the corporate limits of the City and, prior to its incorporation, the area now covered by the City of Rochester was included within the service jurisdiction of the Library; and,

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the incorporation of the City of Rochester, it became necessary for the City to contract with the Library to provide library services for the inhabitants of the City; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Library and the City to continue to provide full library services to the residents of the City, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of powers granted by Act 92 of the Public Acts of Michigan for 1952, as amended, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Commencing on the first day of July, 1985, and continuing on a yearly basis thereafter, except as provided in the section on termination, the Library agrees to permit all residents of the City to use the facilities, book collection and other services of the Rochester Hills Public Library on the same basis as residents of Rochester Hills.

2. Upon application and proper identification, residents of the City shall be issued library cards and shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as are residents of Rochester Hills.

BEBOUT, POTERE, COX & HUGHES, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
MEADOWBROOK PROFESSIONAL PLAZA
1000 WEST UNIVERSITY DRIVE
ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN 48063
651-4114

3. The amounts paid for library services are based on a commitment by the City to pay one (1) mill for library services but shall reflect the impact of Article IX, Sections 6 and 25 through 34 of the Michigan Constitution, hereinafter referred to as the Headlee Amendment.

4. In consideration of the foregoing, the City shall pay to the Library (in addition to any and all funds received for library services from state penal fines and state aid with respect to the residents of the City) the following sum:

- a. For each year of this contract, commencing July 1, 1985, an amount equal to \$.001 (1 mill) for each dollar of the total state equalized assessed valuation for all real and personal property in the City of Rochester, excluding the Downtown Development Authority's captured value for tax increment financing. For purposes of this Agreement, the valuation represented by Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates and Commercial Facilities Exemption Certificates shall be included in the computation for payment based upon the State Statute which provides for a formula of full value for rehabilitation and one-half (1/2) of the rate for new construction.
- b. Said amount shall be payable in three (3) equal installments on July 1, October 1, and January 1 during the term of this contract.

5. If during the term of the contract the Rochester Hills Public Library Board should voluntarily reduce the operating millage rate levied on Rochester Hills, the appropriate percentage reduction will also apply to the one (1) mill contracted by the City of Rochester to the Library.

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6. This Contract shall not be terminated except by mutual agreement of the parties, as set forth below, and all rights and responsibilities hereunder shall inure to the benefits of the parties hereto, their successors and assigns.

7. Either party may terminate said contract as of 11:59 p.m. June 30th of a given year, provided the party wishing to terminate said contract provides written notification of the termination to the other party on or before January 1 of the year in which the termination is to be effective.

8. The Library shall provide the City with a copy of the final financial audit of the library operating accounts as soon as possible after it has been certified by its independent accountants after the close of the fiscal year of the Library during the term of this Contract. The Library shall also furnish at the close of the Library's fiscal year during the term of this Contract the annual report which includes circulation usage data for the City of Rochester.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this contract has been formally approved and executed on behalf of each of the parties hereto by their duly authorized representatives on the day and year above first written.

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Margaret S. Christina
Robert O. Brown

ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

BY: Linella A. Neldum
President

BY: Jan Kwiechowski
Secretary

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Mary Lynn McCrindle

Mary Lynn McCrindle

Judith A. Cook

Judith A. Cook

CITY OF ROCHESTER, a Municipal Corporation

BY: Roger L. Knapp
Roger L. Knapp, Mayor

BY: Maxine Ross
Maxine Ross, Clerk