

Oakland Township Sentinel

Monthly Report – May 1, 2019

Information about the Charter Township of Oakland, Michigan

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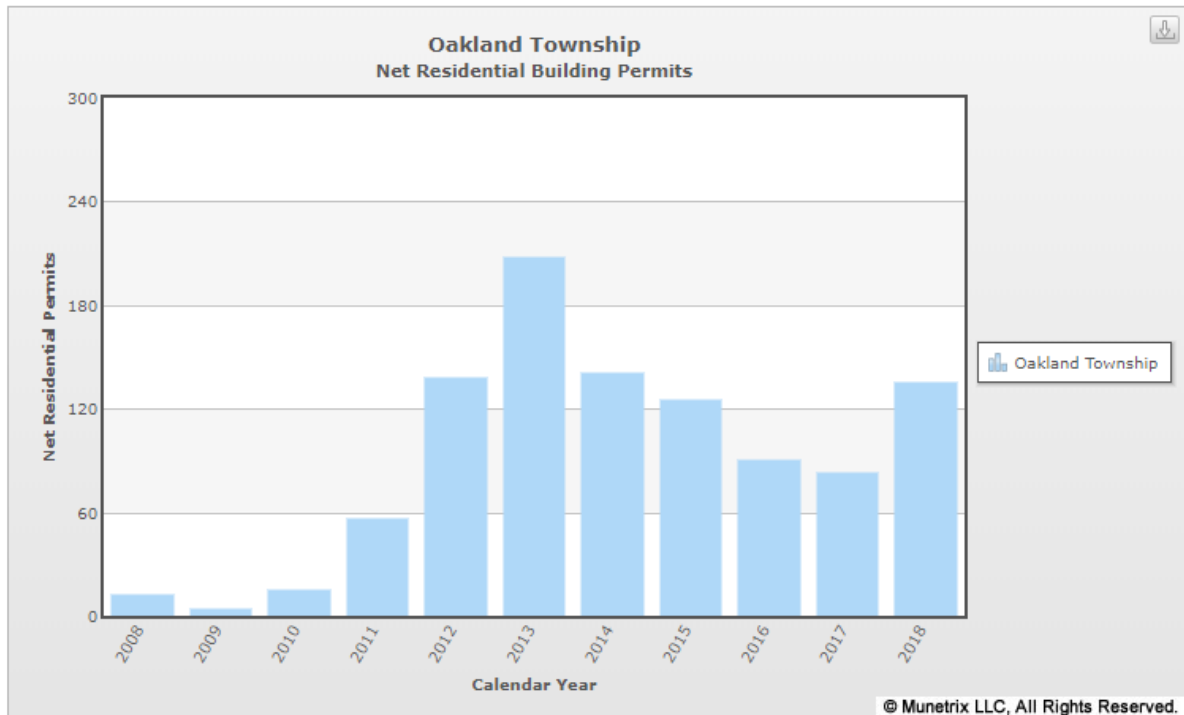
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Building Department



Why it Matters: Residential housing is a significant factor for determining enrollment. A net increase in residential building permits can translate to positive changes in enrollment. Conversely, a decrease (through demolitions) or stagnant growth can translate to negative changes in enrollment. (n131) (o346)

Data Source: The historical data presented has been loaded from information provided by the US Census Bureau or by the State Treasurer or Comptroller's office. Current and future year data has been entered by the municipality based on current budget and forecast information, or by Munetrix from available audited or budget information found in the public domain or provided by the jurisdiction itself. (n032)

<https://secure.munetrix.com/sections/charts/chbuildingpermits.php?MunID=1055>

Developments

Nothing new on Jensam on Clarkston Road. There was a meeting with judge on 3/28 to review status of mediation – no word on that yet.

Facts – Miscellaneous

Some interesting facts I stumbled over while looking for something else.

- Oakland Township was organized in 1837 and chose to become a Charter Township, August 30, 1988.
- Township Hall built in 1998 cost about \$1,800,000.
- The 2005 auditor considered Parks & Recreation and Library Board to be legally separate from the Township and left them out of Revenues and Expenses in his report.
- Paint Creek Cider Mill was donated in 2005. The land and buildings were valued at \$1,600,000.

Fire Department

Fire Department Aids Auburn Hills with U.S. Farathane Fire



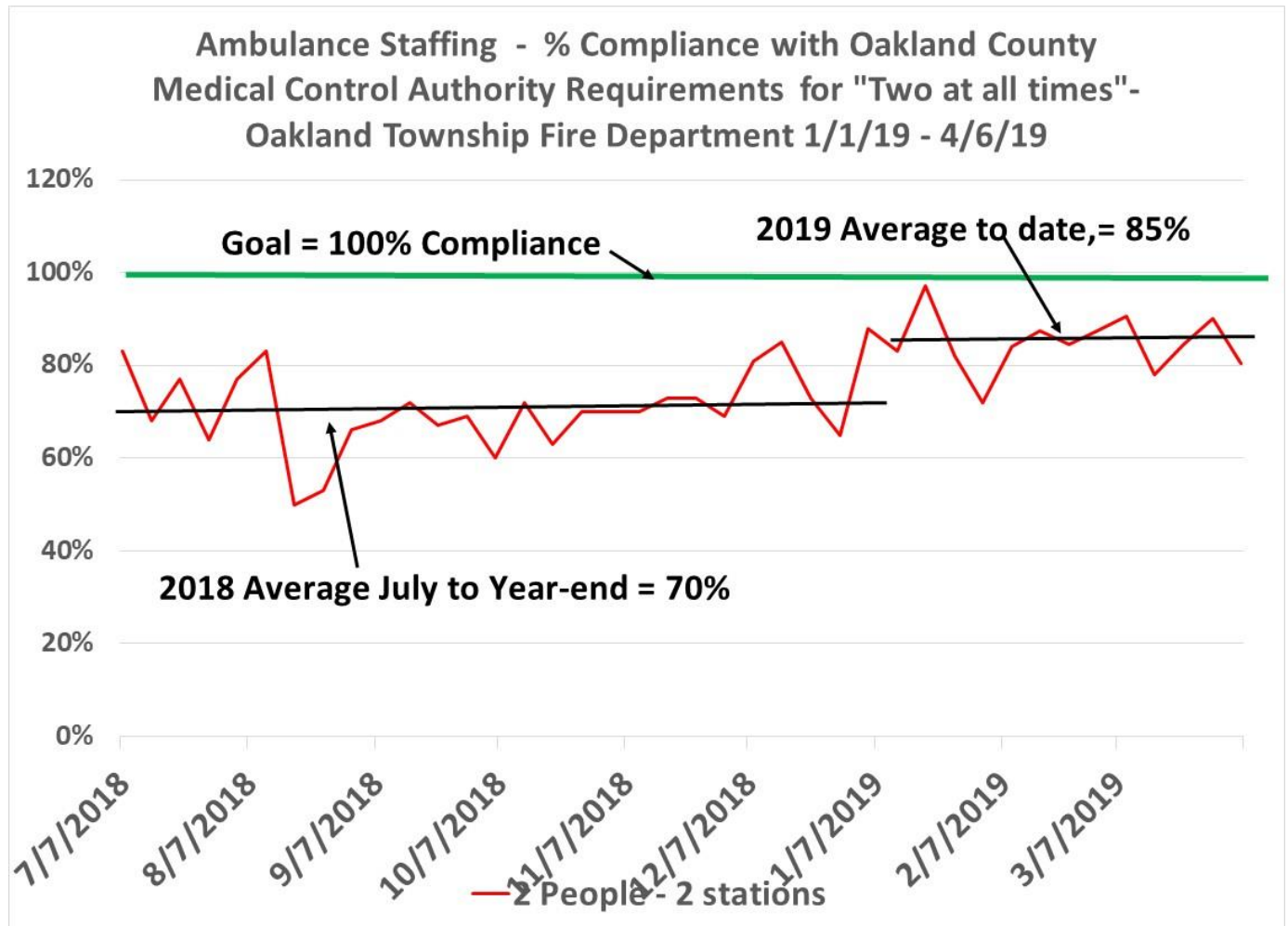
Channel 7 News Video Photo



Photo from Chief Paul Strelchuk

Ambulance Staffing Issue

2019 Year-to-date (4/6/19) Data Still Shows Average Compliance of 85% with Oakland County Medical Control Authority Ambulance Staffing Requirements



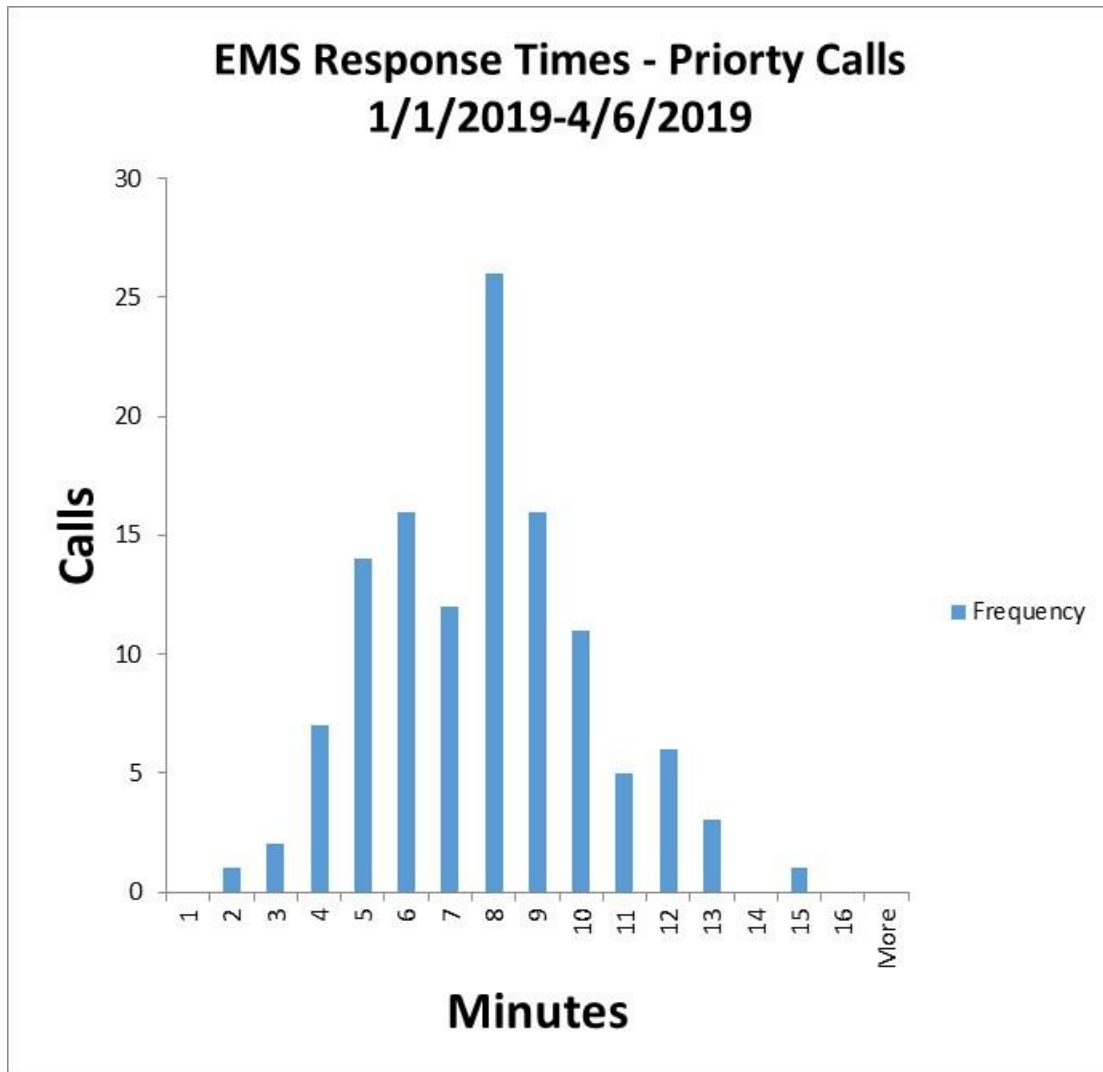
Background information on this ambulance staffing issue was reported in the 4/1/2019 Monthly report.

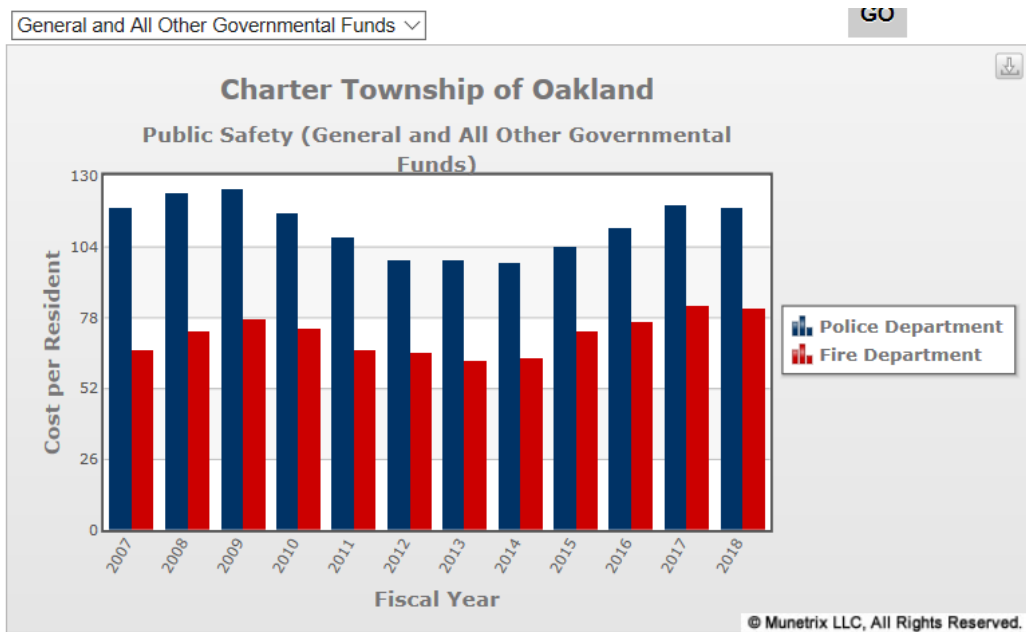
Ambulance Response Time Issue

OTFD 2019 Year-To-Date Response time 10.5 minutes versus standard of 8 minutes.

On December 14, 2018, OTFD received a letter below (see 4-1-2019 News Report) requesting a letter “...*explaining how you plan to address the lack of compliance with the response time standard*”. OTFD had said in their annual certification letter that they were unable to meet the 8 minute standard and had achieved 9 min, 5 sec in 2017.

There has been no discussion of this issue at Board of Trustee Issues. Recently I set an email expressing concern that our response time has increased in 2019. We are 2.5 minutes slower than the standard of 8 minutes and one minute plus slower than reported last year to OCMCA. (See 4/1/19 Monthly Report).





Why it Matters: Just like you, expenses pay the bills. As a service provider for the community, expenses cover the costs associated with running the government and keeping the city clean, safe and to maintain the quality of life we enjoy as residents. (n037) (o16)

Data Source: Historical Revenue & Expense data has been loaded from state available public data that each municipality files annually, and includes all fund types. Future Year data is loaded from the community's own budget or forecast projections and typically only includes General and other Governmental Funds. (n016)

<https://secure.munetrix.com/sections/charts/chpublicsafety.php?MunID=1055&Orientation=Function&FundCode=-1>

Historic District Commission

On 4/9/2019 the Board of Trustees reappointed John Sanderson and Bruce Parkinson to the Historic District Commission for three terms ending May 2022. Trustee Frank Ferriolo took time to read the summaries of their dedication to HDC outlined in their modest letters requesting reappointment on the following two pages. We are fortunate to have such outstanding commissioners on HDC.

March 11, 2019

Oakland Township Board of Trustees
4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306

John Sanderson
[REDACTED] Oakland MI 48363

 COPY

Re: Historic District Commissioner Renewal, Term Ending 2022


Dear Oakland Township Board of Trustees,

I have served with the HDC for 2 terms, 6 years. I have helped with every public event the HDC ran and have never missed a meeting of the Commission. I have helped promote the wonderful township asset of Cranberry Lake Farm, at every opportunity, and worked on numerous projects there to upgrade, improve, and maintain, this historic property. This included a standby generator, fieldstone barbecue restoration and more. I drove the erection of the Rochester Road CLF Farm and park road signs and maintain them for events, while saving the HDC a couple of thousand dollars on their cost from the Road Commission of Oakland County and sign updates. Much effort has been expended to secure the best use and good stewardship of HDC monies for the best value, to our taxpayers.

I have kept up my preservation education by attending county and state conferences for preservation and planning, also presenting at the Michigan State Historic Preservation Conference.

I have enjoyed serving the HDC in its goals to promote the values of preserving the areas that are important to the citizens of Oakland Township. I still wish to help on the preservation, restoration, and upgrading of Cranberry Lake Farm to be an area-recognized destination for public historic activities and the promotion of this Oakland Township asset.

Please accept this letter as my intent to continue to serve my community. I am requesting your support in renewing my term on the Historic District Commission.


Respectfully,

John Sanderson

March 4, 2019

Oakland Township Board of Trustees
4393 Collins Road
Rochester, MI 48306

 **COPY**

Mr. Bruce Parkinson


Rochester, MI 48306

Re: Historic District Commissioner Renewal Term Ending 2022

Dear Oakland Township Board of Trustees,

I have enjoyed serving the HDC in its goals to promote the values of preserving the areas that are important to the citizens of Oakland Township. I have served with the HDC for thirteen years volunteering for the historic district study committee, generator and maintenance committees, Budget subcommittee, Electrical needs, and participated in events and programs over the years.

I have kept up my preservation education by enrolling annually in Michigan Historic Preservation Network conference sessions and commissioner trainings. I am a retired journeyman electrician and consistently volunteer my expertise with many of the projects at Cranberry Lake Farm. I also live in a historic farmhouse in the Township.

Please accept this letter as my intent to continue to serve my community. I am requesting your support in renewing my HDC term for three years until 2022.

Respectfully,

Bruce Parkinson



Letters to the Editor

Another attempt to hunt Sandhill Cranes in Michigan.

Hi, everyone,

The Michigan House and Senate are again proposing a hunting season for Sandhill Cranes. (This came up to 2 years ago! Here we go again!) Please consider writing your House Rep and Senator, whether they are Republicans or Democrats, and letting them know your views. You can find their email addresses easily by typing their name and state of Michigan in Google and it only takes a few minutes. Reg's and my Representative in the Michigan House is John Reilly and his email is JohnReilly@house.mi.gov. Our senator is Rosemary Bayer and her email is senrbayer@senate.mi.gov. Thanks!

Cam Mannino and Reg Brown

Library

Rochester Hills Library Director Christine Lind Hage Addresses Questions and Concerns

NEWS & VIEWS PAGE 15

From the Director: Christine Lind Hage



RHPL Proposed Millage Increase Ahead

The Rochester Hills Public Library is faced with a blessing in disguise. We have unprecedented demands for the services provided by the library and the communities we serve want more! That's the blessing—people in Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Oakland Township like what their library is providing, and they are asking us to expand the services we currently provide. While we would love to expand our services our budget is barely allowing us to maintain them. Our library is funded by a charter millage that was approved by voters almost a century ago, in 1924! The library has never had an increase to that millage and, in fact, today the millage is levied at .75 due to Michigan constitutionally-mandated Headlee rollback. Over 83% of the library's budget is generated through this voted millage.

This was a sufficient operating millage in 1924, but demands for library service have grown, stretching our budget to the limit.

In 2018, the number of printed and digital items borrowed exceeded 2 million. Program attendance reached an all-time high, with over 500,000 visitors last year, but our building is aging and in need of major infrastructure and safety improvements.

The library staff, Board and I, have been looking at our operations for ways we can reduce costs while maintaining services. We have implemented many options including staff reductions and the subsequent outsourcing of work, increased fundraising, grants, and collaborations. We have taken that endeavor about as far as it can go without reducing service. We continue to deal with a balance between improved and expanded resources, quality programming, and appropriate staffing levels.

We hear your requests for more services and resources. You are asking for:

- Reduced wait times for in-demand items
- More hours of access
- Better services for a diverse population
- No fines
- More meeting rooms
- Refreshed public restrooms
- Reliable bookmobiles
- Much-needed repairs to the library's building and equipment

The bottom line is that the library cannot afford to continue providing our current level of

services with a century-old millage. Expanding to provide services our patrons want will call for additional expenditures for which there is insufficient revenue. That's why the Library Board has decided to put a 0.31 millage proposal on the ballot later this year.

If approved by voters in Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Oakland

Township, the additional millage will support current services while increasing our print and digital access, providing more hours of access, and eliminating fines as a source of revenue.

We have a world-class, 21st century library in Rochester. It is an important cornerstone of the diverse and well educated communities we serve. Rest assured that we will continue working to do all we can to serve you well in 2019 and beyond.

“The library has not had an increase to our millage since 1924. In fact, today that mil is levied at .75 due to Michigan constitutionally mandated Headlee rollback...”

”

Christine Lind Hage
Christine.Hage@rhpl.org
248-650-7122



In our March 1, Monthly Report we published this article

Director Christine Lind Hage Announces Intent to Place 51% Library Tax Increase on 2019 Ballot.

On the last page (attached below) of the spring 2019 glossy newsletter “*News and Views*”, Rochester Hills Public Library Director Christine Lind Hage announced plans to place a 0.31 mill increase on the ballot “later this year”. This year we were taxed at 0.5923 mills.

The effect is shown in this table.

Tax Bill (December of)	Library Millage	Average Homeowner (\$187,254 taxable value)(2)	Oakland Twp. (7531 residential, 57 commercial and 15 industrial properties)	Total Twp. Tax Bill Increase from 2018	Total Twp. Tax Bill %Increase from 2018
2018	0.5923	\$ 110.91	\$ 861,600 (1)		
2019	0.5923	\$ 115.00 (3)	\$ 943,000 (1)	\$ 81,400 (1)	9.4% (1)
2019 (with tax increase)	0.9023 (3)	\$ 168.96 (3)	\$ 1,300,000 (3)	\$ 438,400 (3)	51% (3)

- (1) Source “*Charter Township of Oakland Preliminary Budget, Budget Workshops – January 2019*” meeting packet at this link:
<https://www.ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/475590999.pdf>
- (2) “*Manager’s Report*” – Oakland Township Board of Trustees Meeting 2/22/19 meeting packet, page 92,
<https://www.ecode360.com/documents/OA3183/public/479434212.pdf>
- (3) Estimate by Sentinel since exact effect of future Hedley amendment reductions are unknown.

To vote for this estimated 51% increase in contribution from Oakland Township I would need a lot of information.

- Budgets showing when it happened and why it is that spending went beyond means.
- Budgets showing costs of various non-book and non-media lending programs.
- Lost revenue from forgiving fines.
- Estimated costs of “much needed repairs to the library’s building and equipment” and why these are not best handled by a one-time expiring millage such as is usually done for schools.
- Cost of bookmobile and justification for this expense. For example, it sits in Oakland Twp. Paint Cider Mill parking lot. Almost anyone using it likely drives there. What service is this providing?
- Cost per patron (card holder) and / or visitor over the years, adjusted for inflation.
- Resident survey data supporting list of “you are asking for” list presented below.
- A presentation of the logic to justify the implied claim that a 1924 millage rate must automatically be too low.

Then we got this letter to the editor in early March.

Mr. Blust’s Letter to the Editor Published 4/1/2019

“I have to say the library asking for a millage increase is certainly a surprise. The use of public libraries in my view have greatly decreased since I was a kid in the 80’s when there was no google search engines or internet that brings, 100 times the information than the library could ever store, to you home computer within seconds.

Their newsletter request the 50% millage increase for an increase of requested additional services and no late fees. Late fees are only in place to get people to bring the current resources back to the library so that others may use them. Get rid of the late fees then they will have even more need to raise the millage rate because no one will be in a hurry to bring anything back.

Your note about the Book Mobile is spot on. Though the Book Mobile might have been a good idea to expand interest in the Rochester Library outside of Rochester, it is rarely used while it sits at the Paint Creek Cider Mill. Maybe if

Rochester Library wants to do more they need to cut some items like the Book Mobile that has not met the cost verse benefit to the residents.

Like the news industry did, our libraries need to evolve and reinvent themselves to be, a lower operating cost online service for the residents to enjoy, with less concern for growing the brick and mortar based programs or their usefulness will end like the printed newspaper.

For this reason if this current proposed 50% millage increase makes it onto a ballot in the future I know I will be voting no.

Thank you,

Craig Blust”

On March 28, 2019 we sent his email

Christine Hage

Director

Rochester Hills Public Library

Re: 2013-2014 Renovation / Addition

Is there a report available that explains what the benefits of this project were?

To the library user, which I have been since 1992, it appears that we users got a resurfaced parking area and a drive-up book drop. The rest of the improvements seem to be more work areas for library staff. I'm putting together a story on library finances that will contain the information below from Audited Annual Financial Statements from 2004 to present. I believe most who read this, will question the wisdom of the \$3,000,000 renovation / addition is light of the fact it virtually wiped out the fund balance.

Robert A. Yager

Editor

Oakland Township Sentinel

www.oaklandtownshipsentinel.com

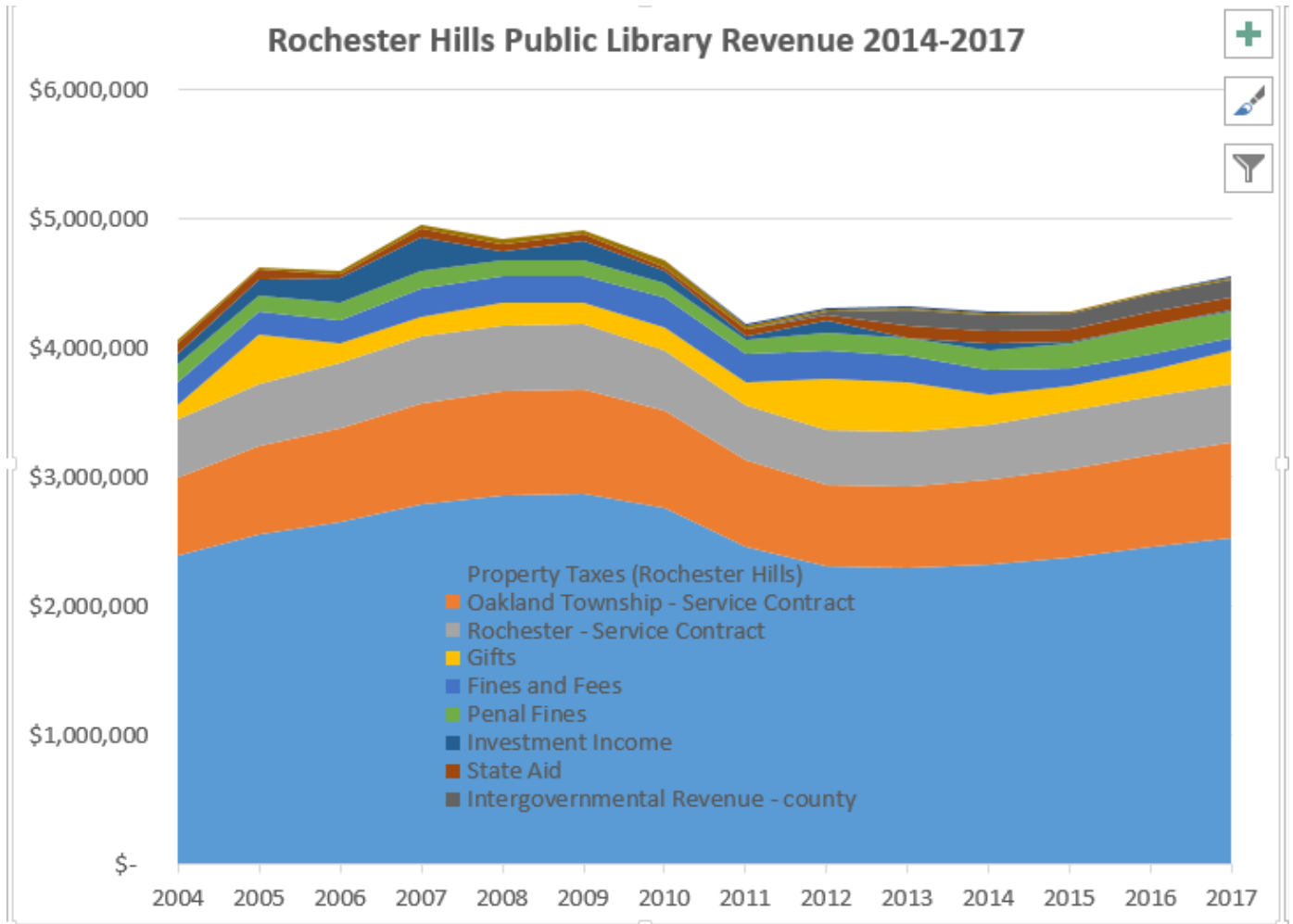
We published the Craig Blust letter-to-the-editor above and this information below in our April 1, 2019 issue.

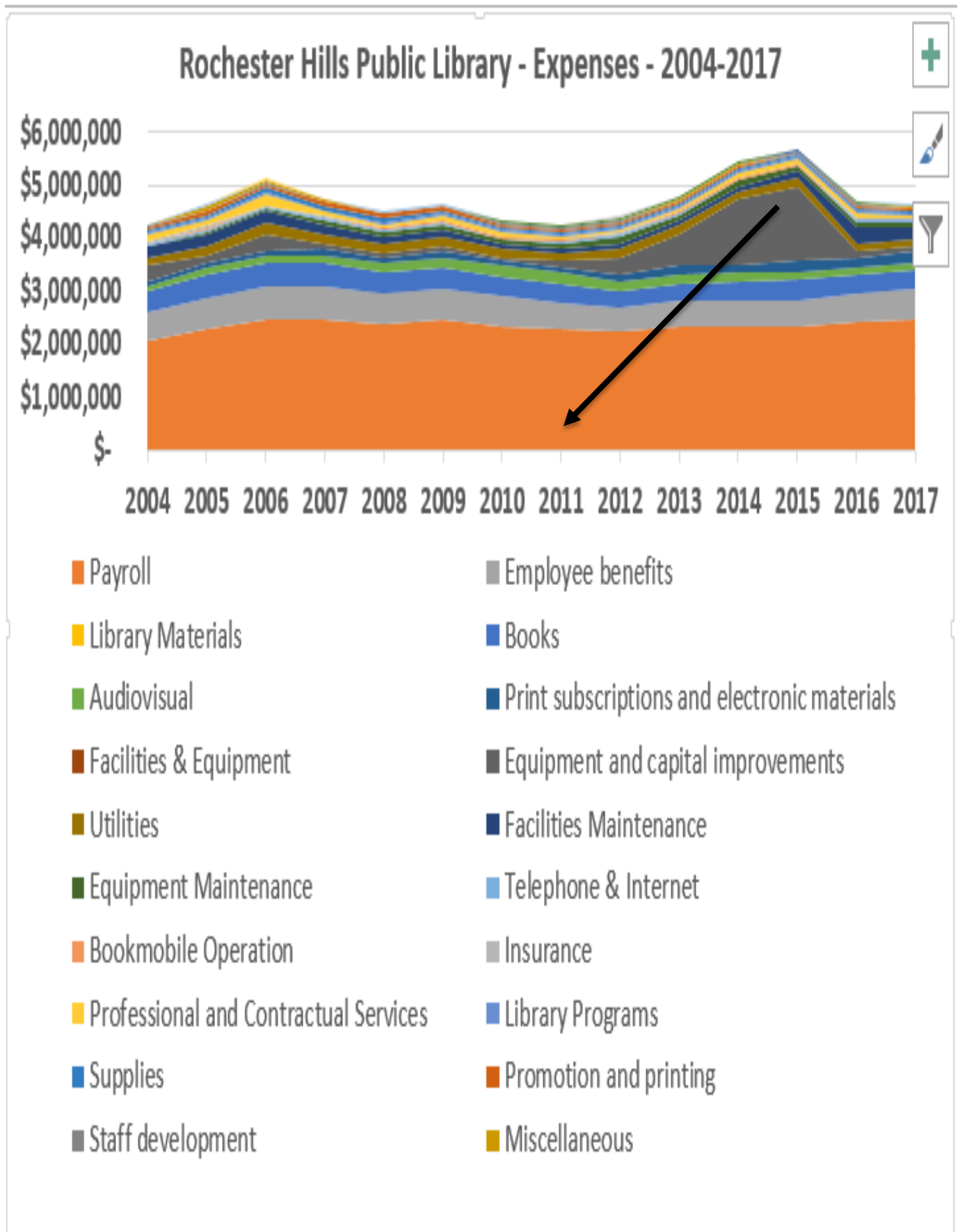
Some facts about Rochester Hills Public Library Finance

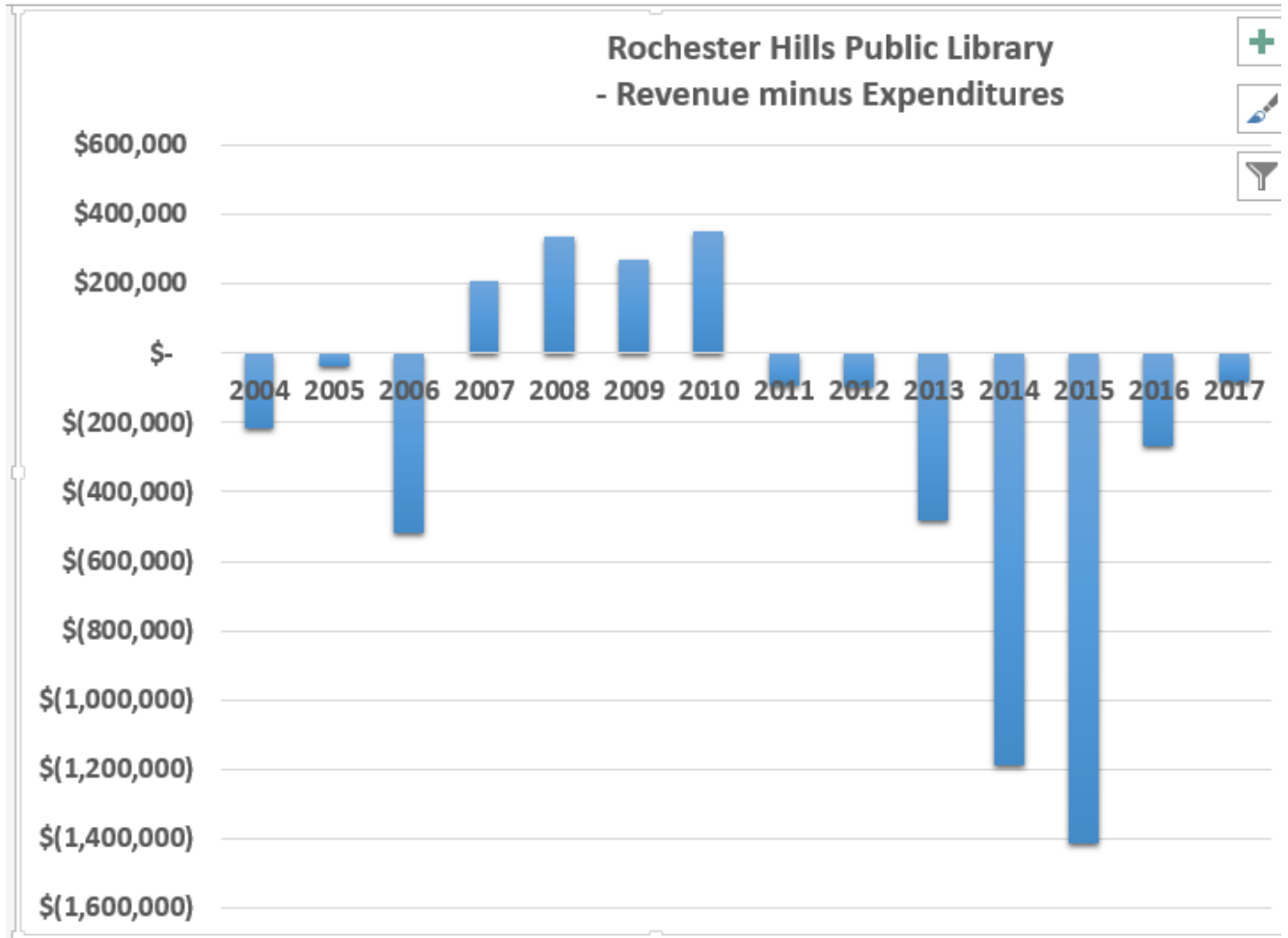
The source of the information below are the annual “Audited Basic Financial Statements” for years 2004-2017 available on line at this link: <https://treas-secure.state.mi.us/LAFDocSearch/>

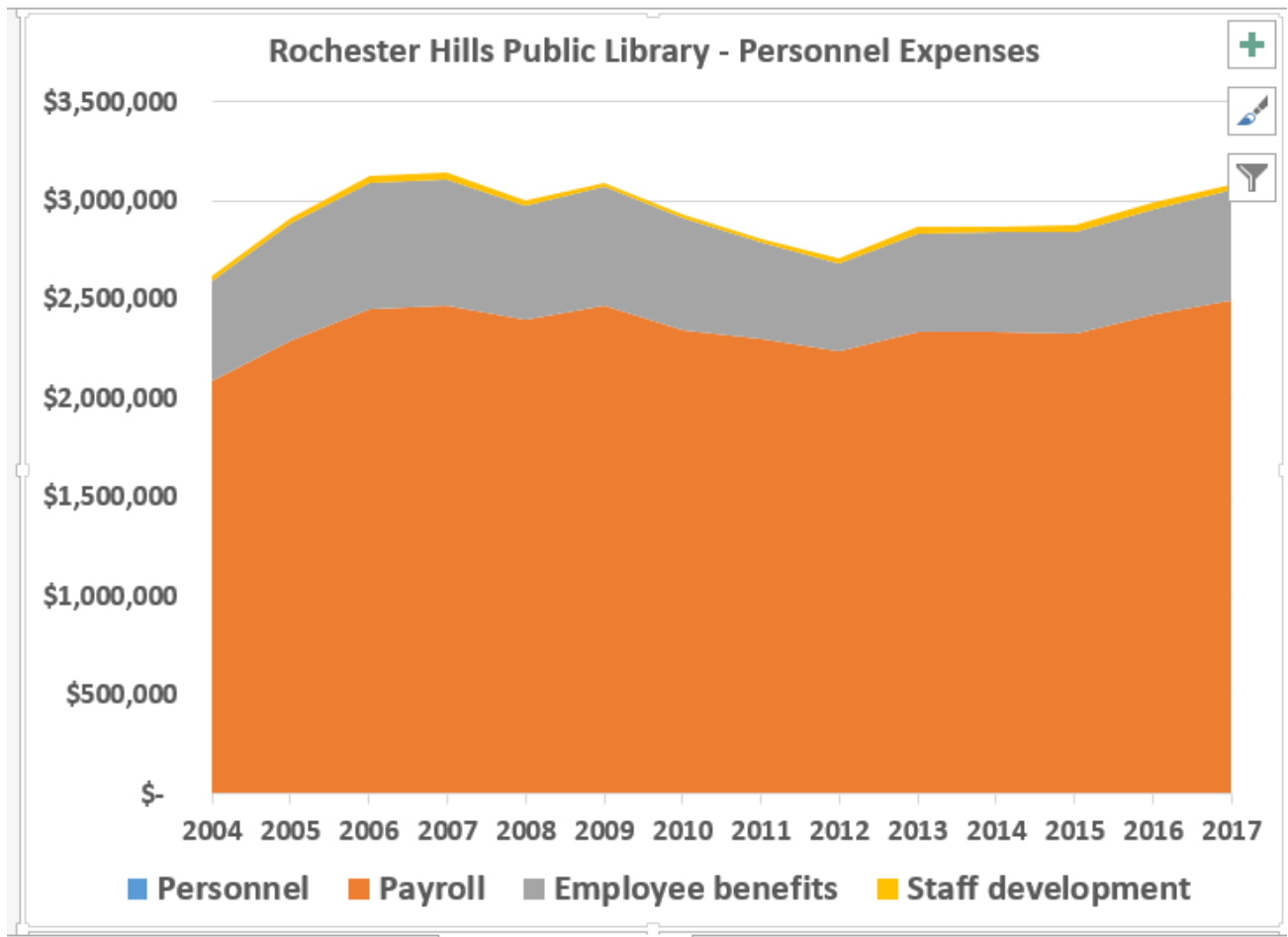
1. For years 2005 to 2017 the library expenses have exceeded revenues by a total of \$3,250,427
2. During this time (2005 to 2017) the fund balance (money in the bank and investments) has decreased about \$3,000,000 to about \$186,000.
3. The biggest expense item during that period was the building renovation/addition of 2013-2015 costing about \$3,000,000. This accounts for most of the drop in fund balance.
4. As far as I can determine the \$3,000,000 +renovation/addition added
 - a drive-up book-drop for customers,
 - staff-only space inside the library on lower floor
 - staff-only upstairs except when opened for used book sales.
 - parking lot repaving

The seven charts that follow were made from the detailed spreadsheet that follows the charts in four pages.

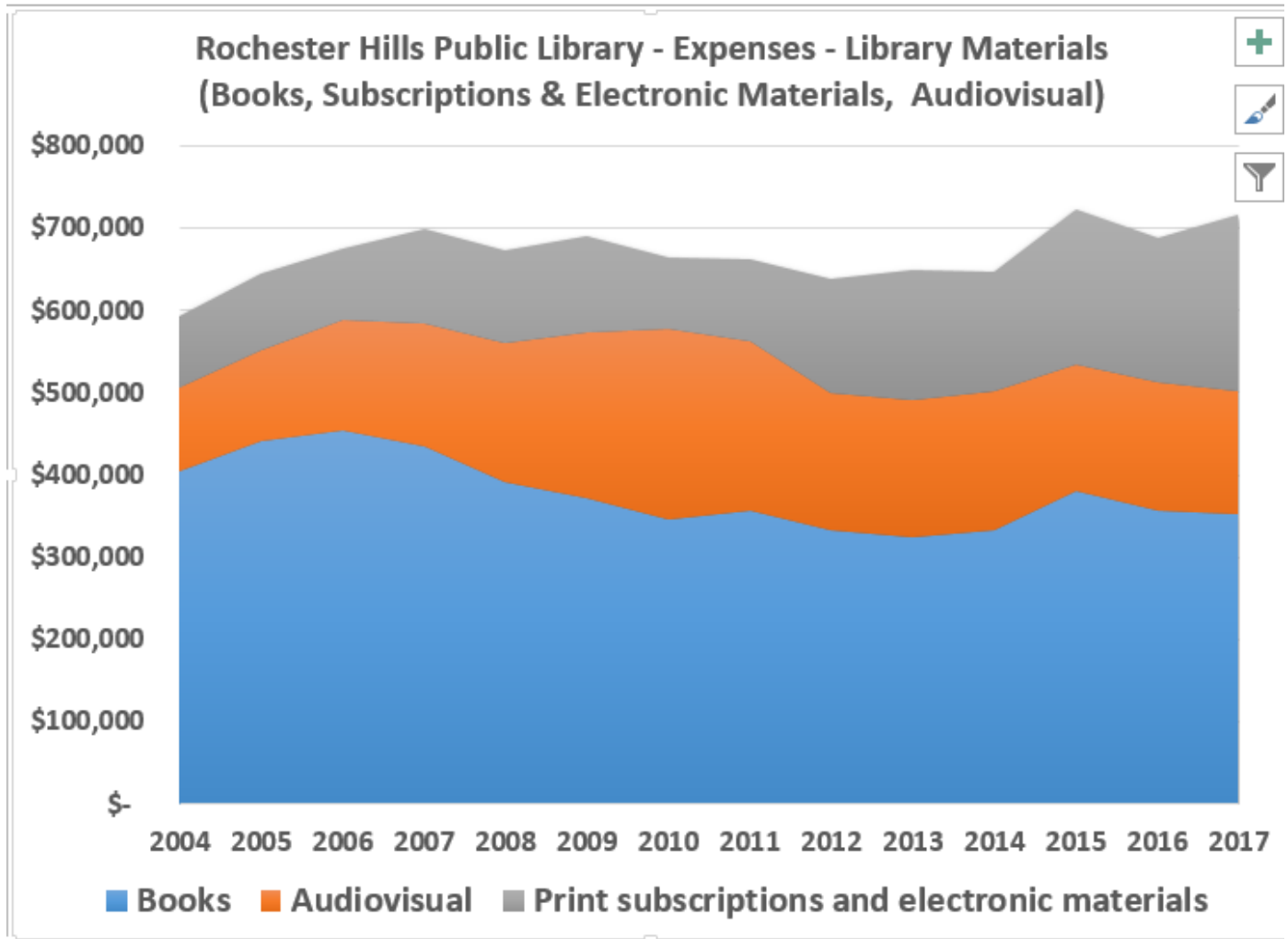


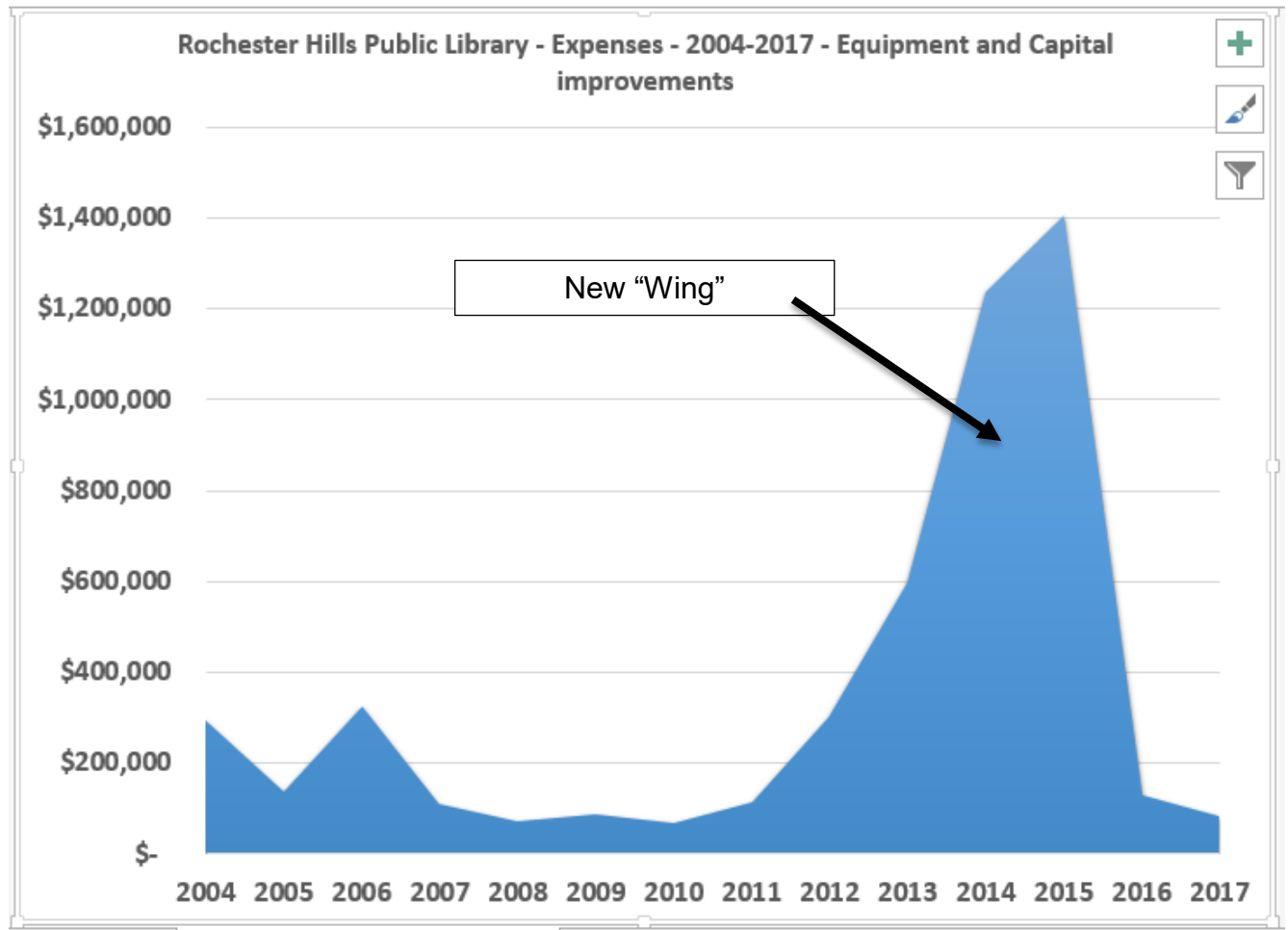




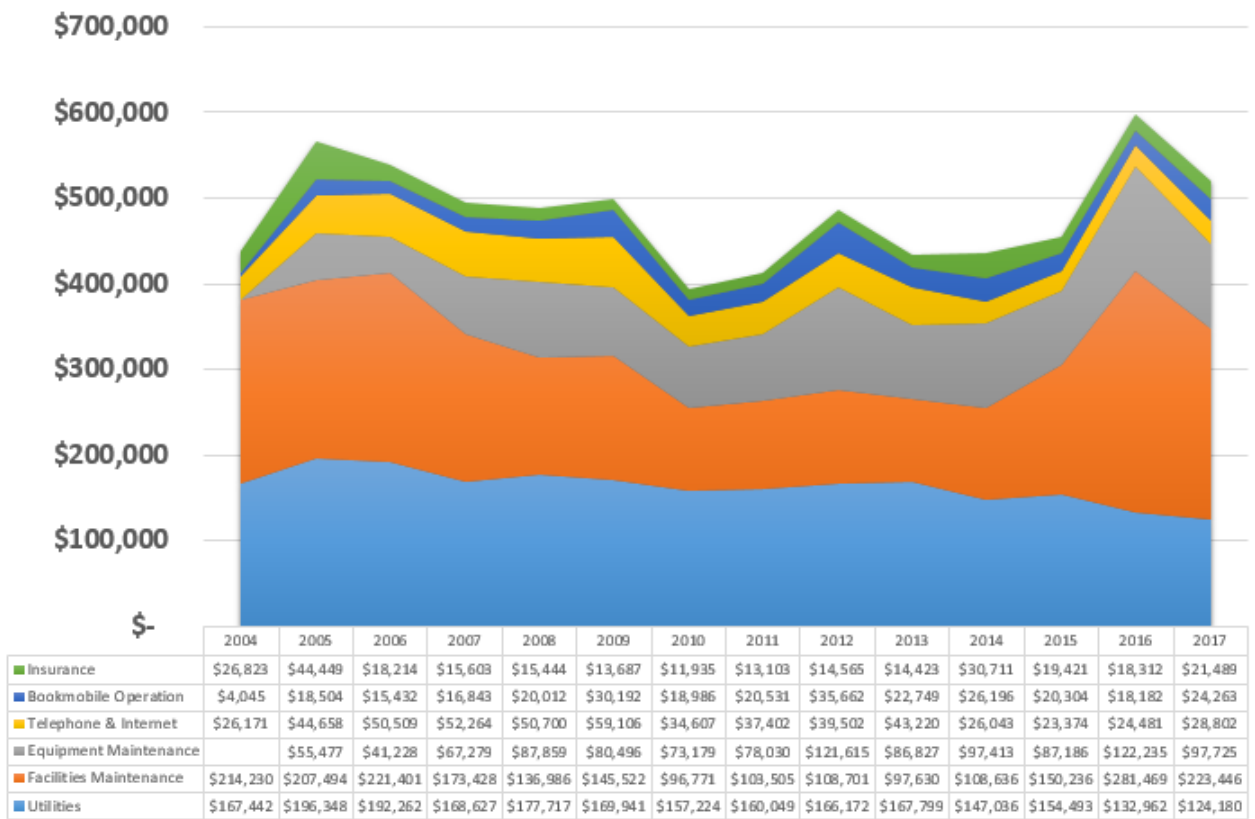


Note: In 2011 defined contribution pension contributions were permanently decreased from 10% to 6%.





Rochester Hills Public Library - Expenses 2004-2017 - Facilities and Equipment - Operation and Maintenance



Library					
Revenue	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Property Taxes (Rochester Hills)	\$ 2,387,792	\$ 2,559,819	\$ 2,652,356	\$ 2,792,407	\$ 2,863,567
Oakland Township - Service Contract	\$ 600,922	\$ 684,473	\$ 731,351	\$ 780,529	\$ 805,396
Rochester - Service Contract	\$ 454,458	\$ 475,112	\$ 498,503	\$ 515,876	\$ 509,059
Gifts	\$ 117,205	\$ 384,796	\$ 146,750	\$ 157,507	\$ 174,538
Fines and Fees	\$ 172,954	\$ 176,944	\$ 183,029	\$ 207,308	\$ 198,925
Penal Fines	\$ 132,382	\$ 123,439	\$ 144,477	\$ 139,179	\$ 132,503
Investment Income	\$ 88,134	\$ 126,657	\$ 184,057	\$ 259,935	\$ 63,846
State Aid	\$ 80,598	\$ 80,323	\$ 30,067	\$ 73,008	\$ 60,300
Intergovernmental Revenue - county					
Miscellaneous	\$ 21,550	\$ 9,094	\$ 27,599	\$ 26,995	\$ 32,122
Grants			\$ 3,250	\$ 2,645	\$ 300
Total Revenue	\$ 4,055,995	\$ 4,620,657	\$ 4,601,439	\$ 4,955,389	\$ 4,840,556
Expenditures	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Personnel					
Payroll	\$ 2,093,233	\$ 2,291,135	\$ 2,454,973	\$ 2,472,307	\$ 2,396,515
Employee benefits	\$ 502,460	\$ 597,854	\$ 632,160	\$ 635,102	\$ 579,514
Library Materials					
Books	\$ 405,247	\$ 440,618	\$ 453,529	\$ 434,425	\$ 392,096
Audiovisual	\$ 101,251	\$ 111,137	\$ 135,959	\$ 149,827	\$ 167,484
Print subscriptions and electronic materials	\$ 87,043	\$ 94,270	\$ 86,776	\$ 115,458	\$ 113,879
Facilities & Equipment					
Equipment and capital improvements	\$ 294,821	\$ 137,718	\$ 326,794	\$ 110,424	\$ 71,234
Utilities	\$ 167,442	\$ 196,348	\$ 192,262	\$ 168,627	\$ 177,717
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 214,230	\$ 207,494	\$ 221,401	\$ 173,428	\$ 136,986
Equipment Maintenance		\$ 55,477	\$ 41,228	\$ 67,279	\$ 87,859
Telephone & Internet	\$ 26,171	\$ 44,658	\$ 50,509	\$ 52,264	\$ 50,700
Bookmobile Operation	\$ 4,045	\$ 18,504	\$ 15,432	\$ 16,843	\$ 20,012
Insurance	\$ 26,823	\$ 44,449	\$ 18,214	\$ 15,603	\$ 15,444
Professional and Contractual Services	\$ 135,125	\$ 115,466	\$ 216,510	\$ 86,737	\$ 54,955
Library Programs	\$ 44,663	\$ 43,055	\$ 40,139	\$ 38,851	\$ 40,218
Other Operating Expenditures					
Supplies	\$ 58,778	\$ 55,198	\$ 67,497	\$ 81,714	\$ 95,064
Promotion and printing	\$ 51,702	\$ 55,163	\$ 71,379	\$ 61,163	\$ 57,457
Staff development	\$ 20,703	\$ 22,031	\$ 37,362	\$ 34,131	\$ 27,678
Miscellaneous	\$ 22,602	\$ 100,013	\$ 48,851	\$ 15,842	\$ 10,863
Postage					
Gift and Grant Expense				\$ 8,744	\$ 749
Mileage	\$ 4,379	\$ 6,540	\$ 7,361	\$ 8,671	\$ 5,369
Property tax refunds					
Oakland Talking Book Service					
Computer Software	\$ 11,897	\$ 20,766	\$ 2,909	\$ 955	\$ 825
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,272,615	\$ 4,657,894	\$ 5,121,245	\$ 4,748,395	\$ 4,502,618
Revenue minus expenditures	\$ (216,620)	\$ (37,237)	\$ (519,806)	\$ 206,994	\$ 337,938
Expenses as % of revenue	105%	101%	111%	96%	93%
Fund balance - beginning of year	\$ 3,260,553	\$ 3,043,933	\$ 3,167,449	\$ 2,647,643	\$ 2,854,636
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 3,043,933	\$ 3,006,696	\$ 2,647,643	\$ 2,854,636	\$ 3,192,574

Library					
Revenue	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Property Taxes (Rochester Hills)	\$ 2,873,216	\$ 2,766,235	\$ 2,462,551	\$ 2,309,730	\$ 2,297,640
Oakland Township - Service Contract	\$ 800,874	\$ 755,400	\$ 666,798	\$ 629,000	\$ 630,372
Rochester - Service Contract	\$ 514,313	\$ 465,259	\$ 431,343	\$ 419,765	\$ 423,747
Gifts	\$ 164,032	\$ 175,463	\$ 170,416	\$ 403,509	\$ 385,804
Fines and Fees	\$ 199,067	\$ 223,873	\$ 215,792	\$ 217,342	\$ 208,295
Penal Fines	\$ 123,511	\$ 117,882	\$ 113,297	\$ 135,266	\$ 133,450
Investment Income	\$ 152,995	\$ 87,896	\$ 35,030	\$ 93,122	\$ (1,201)
State Aid	\$ 58,023	\$ 36,437	\$ 43,993	\$ 45,002	\$ 92,098
Intergovernmental Revenue - county				\$ 30,000	\$ 120,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 20,190	\$ 45,013	\$ 28,348	\$ 16,729	\$ 23,040
Grants	\$ 1,100	\$ 5,605	\$ 13,982	\$ 12,000	\$ 8,800
Total Revenue	\$ 4,907,321	\$ 4,679,063	\$ 4,181,550	\$ 4,311,465	\$ 4,322,045
Expenditures	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Personnel					
Payroll	\$ 2,471,168	\$ 2,342,851	\$ 2,300,384	\$ 2,235,785	\$ 2,341,457
Employee benefits	\$ 599,203	\$ 572,088	\$ 488,880	\$ 447,428	\$ 494,721
Library Materials					
Books	\$ 371,211	\$ 346,296	\$ 356,284	\$ 333,487	\$ 324,682
Audiovisual	\$ 202,659	\$ 231,741	\$ 205,559	\$ 165,913	\$ 165,900
Print subscriptions and electronic materials	\$ 116,488	\$ 87,170	\$ 101,080	\$ 139,585	\$ 157,948
Facilities & Equipment					
Equipment and capital improvements	\$ 89,092	\$ 66,790	\$ 113,521	\$ 301,632	\$ 598,605
Utilities	\$ 169,941	\$ 157,224	\$ 160,049	\$ 166,172	\$ 167,799
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 145,522	\$ 96,771	\$ 103,505	\$ 108,701	\$ 97,630
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 80,496	\$ 73,179	\$ 78,030	\$ 121,615	\$ 86,827
Telephone & Internet	\$ 59,106	\$ 34,607	\$ 37,402	\$ 39,502	\$ 43,220
Bookmobile Operation	\$ 30,192	\$ 18,986	\$ 20,531	\$ 35,662	\$ 22,749
Insurance	\$ 13,687	\$ 11,935	\$ 13,103	\$ 14,565	\$ 14,423
Professional and Contractual Services	\$ 67,476	\$ 70,035	\$ 58,325	\$ 63,181	\$ 54,326
Library Programs	\$ 37,840	\$ 34,128	\$ 50,274	\$ 45,245	\$ 43,002
Other Operating Expenditures					
Supplies	\$ 88,057	\$ 84,473	\$ 52,819	\$ 48,900	\$ 36,329
Promotion and printing	\$ 47,113	\$ 43,143	\$ 34,485	\$ 30,520	\$ 36,733
Staff development	\$ 21,331	\$ 20,133	\$ 17,532	\$ 22,494	\$ 31,458
Miscellaneous	\$ 13,890	\$ 21,029	\$ 6,375	\$ 9,469	\$ 19,294
Postage			\$ 21,384	\$ 23,790	\$ 23,768
Gift and Grant Expense	\$ 5,993	\$ 11,947	\$ 16,181	\$ 15,634	\$ 16,717
Mileage	\$ 6,441	\$ 3,058	\$ 4,936	\$ 4,501	\$ 5,232
Property tax refunds			\$ 33,254	\$ 20,124	\$ 10,204
Oakland Talking Book Service				\$ 16,286	\$ 10,729
Computer Software					
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,636,906	\$ 4,327,584	\$ 4,273,893	\$ 4,410,191	\$ 4,803,753
Revenue minus expenditures	\$ 270,415	\$ 351,479	\$ (92,343)	\$ (98,726)	\$ (481,708)
Expenses as % of revenue	94%	92%	102%	102%	111%
Fund balance - beginning of year	\$ 3,192,574	\$ 3,462,989	\$ 3,814,468	\$ 3,722,125	\$ 3,623,399
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 3,462,989	\$ 3,814,468	\$ 3,722,125	\$ 3,623,399	\$ 3,141,691

Library				
Revenue	2014	2015	2016	2017
Property Taxes (Rochester Hills)	\$ 2,327,900	\$ 2,382,755	\$ 2,458,321	\$ 2,523,827
Oakland Township - Service Contract	\$ 648,262	\$ 679,678	\$ 719,666	\$ 750,397
Rochester - Service Contract	\$ 433,384	\$ 445,863	\$ 450,955	\$ 452,621
Gifts	\$ 223,083	\$ 195,082	\$ 204,662	\$ 254,938
Fines and Fees	\$ 200,668	\$ 133,759	\$ 122,119	\$ 98,361
Penal Fines	\$ 150,989	\$ 203,042	\$ 212,538	\$ 203,499
Investment Income	\$ 50,935	\$ 5,726	\$ 5,531	\$ 6,519
State Aid	\$ 101,914	\$ 101,227	\$ 107,621	\$ 107,113
Intergovernmental Revenue - county	\$ 123,600	\$ 127,308	\$ 131,127	\$ 135,060
Miscellaneous	\$ 7,379	\$ 6,445	\$ 14,498	\$ 14,114
Grants	\$ 11,848	\$ 1,500	\$ 6,300	\$ 7,000
Total Revenue	\$ 4,279,962	\$ 4,282,385	\$ 4,433,338	\$ 4,553,449
Expenditures	2014	2015	2016	2017
Personnel				
Payroll	\$ 2,339,554	\$ 2,325,302	\$ 2,421,311	\$ 2,495,926
Employee benefits	\$ 502,524	\$ 519,130	\$ 533,099	\$ 554,585
Library Materials				
Books	\$ 332,216	\$ 379,899	\$ 356,063	\$ 351,649
Audiovisual	\$ 169,096	\$ 153,889	\$ 157,483	\$ 151,337
Print subscriptions and electronic materials	\$ 146,616	\$ 188,842	\$ 175,681	\$ 214,097
Facilities & Equipment				
Equipment and capital improvements	\$ 1,235,583	\$ 1,404,625	\$ 131,228	\$ 82,871
Utilities	\$ 147,036	\$ 154,493	\$ 132,962	\$ 124,180
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 108,636	\$ 150,236	\$ 281,469	\$ 223,446
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 97,413	\$ 87,186	\$ 122,235	\$ 97,725
Telephone & Internet	\$ 26,043	\$ 23,374	\$ 24,481	\$ 28,802
Bookmobile Operation	\$ 26,196	\$ 20,304	\$ 18,182	\$ 24,263
Insurance	\$ 30,711	\$ 19,421	\$ 18,312	\$ 21,489
Professional and Contractual Services	\$ 59,803	\$ 63,444	\$ 84,739	\$ 55,970
Library Programs	\$ 54,966	\$ 49,549	\$ 57,013	\$ 49,891
Other Operating Expenditures				
Supplies	\$ 42,078	\$ 38,916	\$ 60,010	\$ 41,002
Promotion and printing	\$ 38,033	\$ 31,919	\$ 33,839	\$ 35,932
Staff development	\$ 29,376	\$ 35,063	\$ 34,818	\$ 30,380
Miscellaneous	\$ 7,546	\$ 7,060	\$ 7,163	\$ 9,386
Postage	\$ 26,768	\$ 24,413	\$ 22,808	\$ 21,454
Gift and Grant Expense	\$ 34,159	\$ 11,547	\$ 16,486	\$ 13,390
Mileage	\$ 5,488	\$ 5,741	\$ 4,643	\$ 5,920
Property tax refunds	\$ 2,010	\$ 353	\$ 93	\$ 370
Oakland Talking Book Service	\$ 6,553	\$ 3,485	\$ 7,274	\$ 2,552
Computer Software				
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,468,404	\$ 5,698,191	\$ 4,701,392	\$ 4,636,617
Revenue minus expenditures	\$ (1,188,442)	\$ (1,415,806)	\$ (268,054)	\$ (83,168)
Expenses as % of revenue	128%	133%	106%	102%
Fund balance - beginning of year	\$ 3,141,691	\$ 1,953,249	\$ 537,443	\$ 269,389
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 1,953,249	\$ 537,443	\$ 269,389	\$ 186,221

Library					
Revenue	Average 2005-2017	Total 2005-2017			
Property Taxes (Rochester Hills)	\$ 2,559,256	\$ 35,829,580			
Oakland Township - Service Contract	\$ 714,015	\$ 9,996,211			
Rochester - Service Contract	\$ 464,292	\$ 6,500,092			
Gifts	\$ 233,891	\$ 3,274,471			
Fines and Fees	\$ 183,499	\$ 2,568,981			
Penal Fines	\$ 148,698	\$ 2,081,770			
Investment Income	\$ 82,388	\$ 1,153,436			
State Aid	\$ 72,087	\$ 1,009,213			
Intergovernmental Revenue - county	\$ 111,183	\$ 778,278			
Miscellaneous	\$ 20,890	\$ 292,456			
Grants	\$ 6,194	\$ 80,524			
Total Revenue	\$ 4,536,048	\$ 63,504,667			
Expenditures	Average 2005-2017	2017			
Personnel					
Payroll	\$ 2,376,051	\$ 33,264,719			
Employee benefits	\$ 550,484	\$ 7,706,772			
Library Materials					
Books	\$ 374,804	\$ 5,247,259			
Audiovisual	\$ 166,768	\$ 2,334,752			
Print subscriptions and electronic materials	\$ 133,684	\$ 1,871,574			
Facilities & Equipment					
Equipment and capital improvements	\$ 359,240	\$ 5,029,357			
Utilities	\$ 162,678	\$ 2,277,488			
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 158,094	\$ 2,213,319			
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 84,350	\$ 1,180,899			
Telephone & Internet	\$ 39,590	\$ 554,258			
Bookmobile Operation	\$ 22,143	\$ 309,999			
Insurance	\$ 19,335	\$ 270,691			
Professional and Contractual Services	\$ 80,844	\$ 1,131,811			
Library Programs	\$ 44,936	\$ 629,107			
Other Operating Expenditures					
Supplies	\$ 60,927	\$ 852,984			
Promotion and printing	\$ 44,375	\$ 621,254			
Staff development	\$ 27,984	\$ 391,771			
Miscellaneous	\$ 21,291	\$ 298,072			
Postage	\$ 23,484	\$ 187,869			
Gift and Grant Expense	\$ 13,777	\$ 165,324			
Mileage	\$ 5,685	\$ 79,586			
Property tax refunds	\$ 9,487	\$ 75,895			
Oakland Talking Book Service	\$ 7,813	\$ 54,692			
Computer Software	\$ 6,364	\$ 31,819			
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,768,237	\$ 66,755,320			
Revenue minus expenditures	\$ (232,190)	\$ (3,250,654)			
Expenses as % of revenue	105%				
Fund balance - beginning of year			Note: 2006 beginning of year fund balance restated \$160,753 higher than end of 2005.		
Fund balance - end of year					

Here is a link to the Library Board page on the Township website -

http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards_and_commissions/library_board/index.php

We received the letter below on April 3, 2019 from Director Hage



500 Olde Towne Road
Rochester, Michigan
48307-2043

248-656-2900
Fax 248-650-7121
www.rhpl.org

Christine Lind Hage
Director

Board of Trustees
Robert Bonam
Ryan Deel
Anne Kucher
Madge Lawson
Charles Stouffer
Douglas Tull

A community library
for Rochester,
Rochester Hills and
Oakland Township

April 3, 2019

Mr. Robert Yager
1146 Bear Creek Ct.
Oakland Township, MI 48306

Dear Mr. Yager:

I just read the April 1, 2019, issue of the Oakland Township Sentinel and appreciate your interest in the Rochester Hills Public Library (RHPL). However, I want to call your attention to several factual errors in the letter from Craig Blust that appeared at the very beginning of the section dealing with the library.

In the first paragraph, Mr. Blust states that he believes that library use has decreased since he was a kid and prior to the Internet in the early 1980s. In fact, the opposite is true. The Rochester Hills Public Library checked out 316,931 items in 1981. By 1989, that number had risen to 490,884 items borrowed from the library. In 2018, we checked out 2,017,647 items.

In his second paragraph, Mr. Blust says the library is asking for a 50% increase in taxes. This is not true. In fact, we will be asking for a 0.31 mill increase. All three communities served by the RHPL pay 1 mil (Headlee) adjusted. If voters approve the 0.31 mill request, after the first year the new 0.31mill will be Headlee adjusted as well.

In the same paragraph, Mr. Blust states that the increase will be used to cover "requested additional services and no late fees." We do not plan to eliminate late fees. In addition, we will continue sending multiple notices to delinquent borrowers and use a collection agency to get the materials back and to collect accumulated fines. In short, we take our role as the stewards of the public's library seriously.

In his third paragraph, Mr. Blust focuses on our bookmobiles. In the past, our bookmobiles have been the busiest in the state of Michigan with usage exceeding 100,000 loans annually. As the vehicles have aged, they have been off the road for repairs. In fact, last year our original bookmobile was off the road for several months. Ultimately, we were told that this bookmobile was not repairable so we purchased a used bookmobile to pick up the service. Even with the bookmobile being off the road for several months we still checked out over 66,000 items from the bookmobiles. The bookmobiles are very popular with Oakland Township residents as it saves them trips to the library. We closely monitor and track usage at each bookmobile stop and make adjustments as necessary. Mr. Blust incorrectly states that the Paint Creek bookmobile stop is rarely

used. In fact, it is well used, particularly in the summer when it is our busiest stop in Oakland Township.

In his next paragraph, Mr. Blust talks about how the library needs to reinvent itself. In fact, we have reinvented ourselves and will continue to do so. We have a large collection of digital materials that are very popular with our users. When new items are published or released we purchase them in multiple formats, both print, audio and electronically. Our Hoopla service is very popular and allows users to get materials on the first day they are published with no waits. Library users appreciate that we have shifted resources to meet the high demand for e-books, streaming videos, and music.

Mr. Blust is certainly entitled to his opinion, but I wanted to make sure you and your readers have accurate information.

In your comments about the library's finances, I acknowledge that we did spend down our fund balance. The RHPL Board intentionally did make much-needed building updates and improvements. We saved for 25 years so we would have money to make the improvements. After a quarter-century in the building with over 500,000 visitors a year, we re-carpeted the public areas of the building, re-upholstered furniture in the public areas, and replaced failed boilers and HVAC systems. We corrected the drive-up window to make it easier for people to return library materials without hitting the building. We installed equipment that checks in materials 24/7 in 30 seconds rather than the former 48 hours it took us to check in the material. This faster turnaround on returned materials means shorter waiting periods for readers and fewer staff members needed to manage returned materials.

On the sheet detailing library expenses from 2004 – 2017, you will note a drop in expenses. We lost 16% of our revenue during the recession and still have not reached our previous levels of funding. During that low period we froze wages for 3 years, we reduced health care benefits, reduced our defined contribution to our employee's pension, eliminated life insurance and cut continuing education opportunities for staff. During the same period, we did **not** cut services to the public. We still pay our employees less than many area libraries and have some trouble keeping staff due to the pay discrepancies.

I hope that you will report these accurate facts to your readers. If there any information that you need to assure accurate reporting, please contact me. RHPL is here to serve you and all residents of Oakland Township.

Sincerely,



Christine Lind Hage
Library Director

On April 11 went sent this letter via email.

Christine Lind Hage
Director Rochester Hills Public Library

Cc: Michael Tyler – Oakland Township Library Board President
Henry Carels – Oakland Township Library Board Member
Jeanne Langlois – Treasurer, Oakland Township

Re: Questions from Residents about RHPL

Director Hage:

In your letter of April 3, 2019. You say, "If there is any information you need to ensure accurate reporting please contact me." I have some requests for information that have originated with our Township residents.

I have numbered them for convenience.

With reference to your April 3. 2019 letter.

In the second paragraph you cite circulation numbers for 1981, 1989, 2018.

1-Can you give me any data for the 29 years between 1989 and the present; in particular annual data for that period?

I have been a library user since 1992. For the last few years, when I have failed to return a book on-time, I receive an "automatic renewal notice" instead of the former "overdue notice."

2 - What is the reason for this change in practice?

3 - How much does this practice reduce income from fines?

4 - Is my automatic renewal counted as a new "item borrowed"?

5 - If so, does this not inflate circulation data unrealistically?

6 - Doesn't this policy of automatic renewal reduce availability of materials as it encourages me to keep a book I don't really need any longer instead of promptly returning it?

7 - Isn't this automatic renewal policy in effect somewhat countering your possible goal of "Reduced Wait for In-demand Items"?

I have prepared the table below for publication which shows the current and projected taxes and \$ / resident based on 2018.

8 - If you have substantially different data, please let me know

Rochester Hills Public Library - Projected Tax Revenue for 2018 and with added 0.31 mil Levy											
Municipality	Projected 2018 Library Tax Revenue	Tax Base 2018 (2)	2018 Millage Rate (1)(3)	Proposed Rate (+0.31)	Proposed Future Library Tax Revenue	Tax Increase	% Increase	Population Estimate(2)	\$/ resident - 2017	Proposed \$/ Resident	% Increase per resident
Rochester Hills	\$ 2,635,406	\$ 3,466,727,480	0.7602	1.0702	\$ 3,710,092	\$1,074,686	41%	74,334	\$ 35	\$ 50	41%
Oakland Township	\$ 814,692	\$ 1,375,472,510	0.5923	0.9023	\$ 1,241,089	\$ 426,396	52%	19,154	\$ 43	\$ 65	52%
Rochester	\$ 457,308	\$ 737,090,950	0.6204	0.9304	\$ 685,806	\$ 228,498	50%	13,029	\$ 35	\$ 53	50%
Total	\$ 3,907,407				\$ 5,636,987	\$1,729,580	44%	106,517	\$ 37	\$ 53	44%
(1) Millage	SEMCOG	Rochester Hills	https://secure.munetrix.com/sections/charts/chmillages.php?MunID=74								
	SEMCOG	Oakland Twp.	https://secure.munetrix.com/sections/charts/chmillages.php?MunID=1055								
	SEMCOG	Rochester	See (3) below								
(2) Tax Base & Pop.	SEMCOG	Rochester Hills	https://secure.munetrix.com/Michigan/Municipalities/01-SEMCOG/Oakland-County/City/Rochester-Hills								
	SEMCOG	Oakland Twp.	https://secure.munetrix.com/Michigan/Municipalities/01-SEMCOG/Oakland-County/Township/Oakland-Township								
	SEMCOG	Rochester	https://secure.munetrix.com/Michigan/Municipalities/01-SEMCOG/Oakland-County/City/Rochester								
(3) Rochester - 2018 audited financial report on line p. 55				https://treas-secure.state.mi.us/LAFDocSearch/t141R01.aspx?&lu_id=3869&doc_yr=2018&doc_code=							

9 – Which items on this list below from Spring News and Views is it your intent to make goals for RHPL?

We hear your requests for more services and resources. You are asking for:

- Reduced wait times for in-demand items
- More hours of access
- Better services for a diverse population
- No fines
- More meeting rooms
- Refreshed public restrooms
- Reliable bookmobiles
- Much-needed repairs to the library's building and equipment

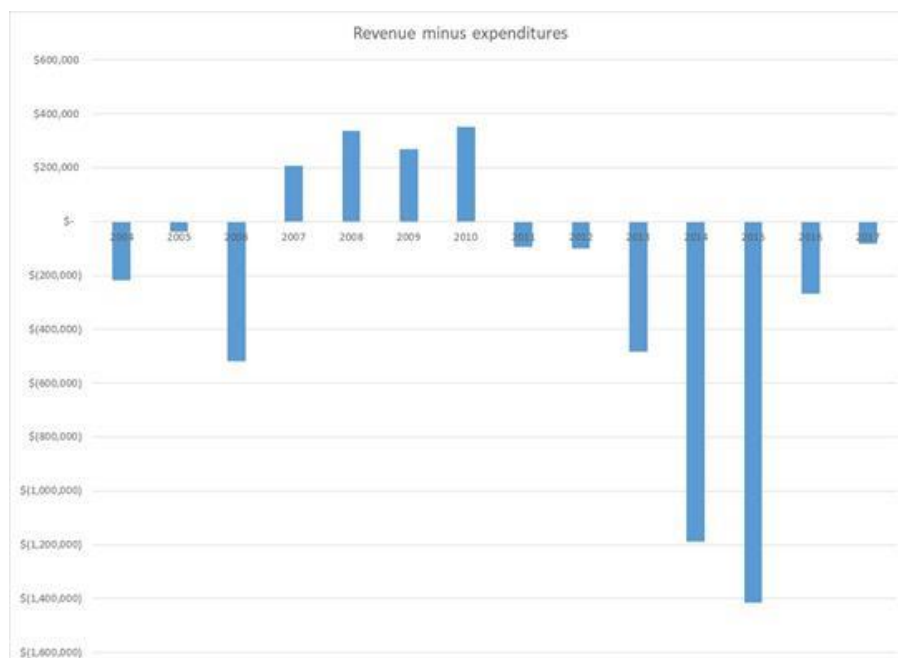
10 - In that regard, how does one become a “delinquent borrower”? Stated another way, how many automatic renewals does one receive on a given item?

In the eighth paragraph you state, “We saved for 25 years so we would have money to make improvements” This is difficult to prove from 2004-2017 reports where expenses exceeded revenues for all years except the four real-estate bubble years of 2007-2010. (See chart below).

11 -What 25 year period are you referring to?

12 - Do you have audited financial reports for 1992-2003 that might help residents see how much savings has occurred?

13- May I review them and copy key pages?



14 – What exactly are the functions of the upper and lower floors of the recent library additions? The lower level says “Administration”. The upper level is closed off by a door.

Thank you for your willingness to be transparent.

Robert A. Yager
Editor
Oakland Township Sentinel

On April 17, we received this email

From: Christine Hage [<mailto:christine.hage@rhpl.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 7:41 AM
To: Robert Yager <yagera@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Seeking More Information

Mr. Yager:

I'm not ignoring you, but I've been so busy. I can answer some of your questions right now, but will not be able to research the back audits, etc for some time. During the recession, we lost some positions including my full-time administrative assistant and a half time bookkeeping job. I'm starting to work on the 2020 budget and am working closely with our bookkeeper before she goes on leave for a knee replacement next week. I need to focus on that right now.

On the issue of the automatic renewals. Our software vendor made this option available about a year and a half ago. It is a great convenience to our users as they need some additional time to finish reading something they can without penalty as long as no one else is waiting for the item. So it does not counter our goal of goal of “Reduced Wait for In-demand Items”. If someone is waiting for it, it may not be renewed and will begin to generate fines. It is true that it did decrease fine revenue, but it also decreased the amount of time staff had to spend counting nickels and times, rolling them and taking them to the bank. Since more of the fines were paid in case there were a lot of coins. In fact, we had to use male staff to make the bank deposits as they were too heavy for the women on our staff. So we saved money on staff costs, added a much-appreciated service to our readers, and

did not impact those waiting for popular items, even if we lost some revenue. Pretty much a wash financially, but good service to our users.

By state and national definition, libraries do have to count renewals as circulations. They are reported on a separate line in our state reports but do figure into the total. This is true of all public libraries nationally.

If the millage passes, we will refresh our public restrooms, which are in bad shape right now. The finishes and fixtures are failing and look as if we are not cleaning them, when in fact they are cleaned at least once a day if now twice a day.

We would increase our materials budget so that people would not have to wait as long for items. I am currently on hold for a book and have more than a 3-month wait ahead of me. We need more copies of popular materials.

We will most likely quickly place an order for a new bookmobile, which takes a year to come in. It would be paid for in three installments which would likely be spread over two fiscal years. Our bookmobiles serve users who live a distance from the library (northwest Oakland Township, southeast and southwest Rochester Hills). Our early literacy bookmobile go to children in daycare who have working parents that are not able to bring them to the library during the day or before bedtimes.

We would likely extend hours on Sunday evenings from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. when students fill the library. This would only be done during the school year. Sunday hours during the summer are popular in many local libraries, but we would not do that until other needs are met.

Other maintenance jobs in the lineup include repairs of our west parking lot, which is failing after 27 years, and exterior caulking of our windows, which now leak.

We have an extensive maintenance list, but at least for the first few years, we will focus on the most essential repairs.

I'm sorry I can't answer all of your questions at this time.

Christine Lind Hage

Director, Rochester Hills Public Library

Division Councilor, United for Libraries

500 Olde Towne Road
Rochester, MI 48307-2043
248/650-7122



The E's of Libraries®: Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship,
Empowerment, Engagement

Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation

Bear Creek Nature Park – Our First Park - Purchased in 1977 with \$305,000 Parks Millage Funds

I often walk in this 107 acre park as it is within easy walking distance of our house. This was our first township park. 47 acres are under a conservation easement which protects these acres from development and keeps them in a natural state (as it was per original surveyor's notes in about 1817) as long as Dr. Ben Vanderweide and his volunteers keep the invasive plant species out – an ongoing job. When invasive plant species take over, native birds and animals leave as the invasives do not provide cover and food they desire. This work by Dr. Ben is part of the preservation of the land. Just buying it and not touching it does not preserve it.

Originally the park had mowed paths only. Then a few years ago, improved gravel paths were added in many areas. There are still bare earth paths in the far north

conservation easement end, which is nice. One can almost totally escape civilization there, unless you are accosted by some off-leash dogs which has been an ongoing problem. This year I may carry Bear Mace.

Then at the south end there is a playfield (also used for outdoor concerts) a playground, picnic pavilioned (can be rented) and portable toilets. So this makes a nice blend of nature park and recreation park. Upgraded modern toilets are planned. Parks Directors Mindy Milos-Dale has applied for Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund Grant (MNRTF) to help fund these. MNRTF is funded by oil and gas lease revenues on state land. The existence of this fund and its uses is enshrined in the Michigan Constitution and is part of the reason my 25 cousins and uncountable nieces and nephews from various states including Indiana, Maryland, Ohio, Oregon, Washington & Virginia are envious of our Michigan state parks.

Parks Foreman, Doug Caruso has been working lately on upgrading the steep trail that leads from Township Hall Parking lot up to the Park. A few spots needed drainage improved and larger gravel to make a good base in often wet spots. Here are a few photos of work in progress on April 9, 2019. I did not photograph all the areas on this trail that were being worked on. These are just examples.



#1, Top of trail



#2, New drainage pipe at often-wet spot near the top



**#3, New ditching along very steep trouble spot
(camera angle disguises steep slope)**



**#4, Ditch in previous photo leads to this culvert pipe;
note large size gravel for trail base.
This is then covered with smaller gravel
as shown in the next photo (#5)**

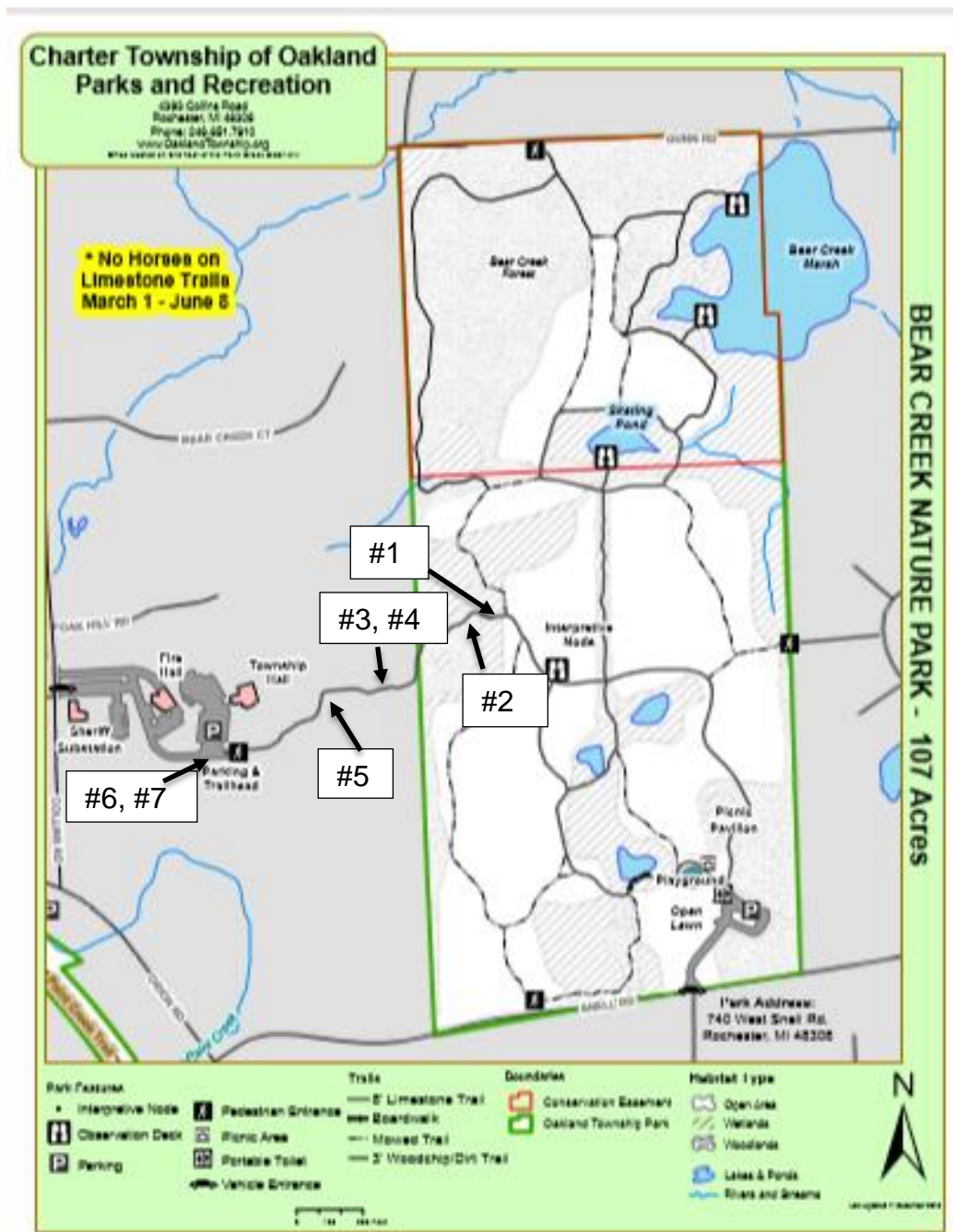




**#6, Lower end of trail at Township Hall Parking lot
– piles of gravel for Doug Caruso’s use on this project.**



#7, Dogs on leash



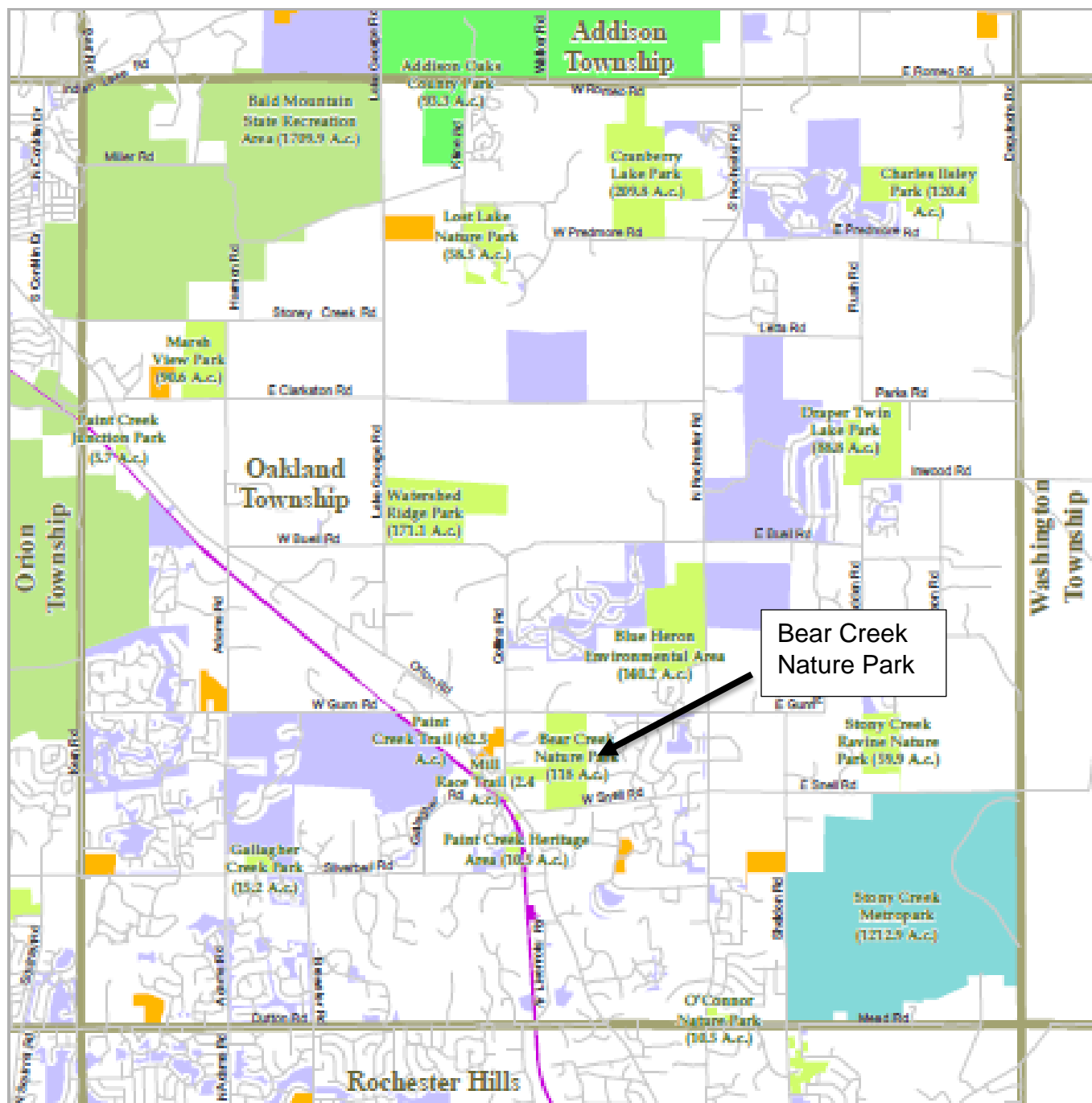
The above map is from the Parks and Recreation webpage where there is more information on Bear Creek Nature Park

http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards_and_commissions/parks_and_recreation/docs/BCNP_Update_20181211.pdf

For background information on Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation see their extensive informative webpages on the Township website. You can find maps and amenities available at all parks among other information.

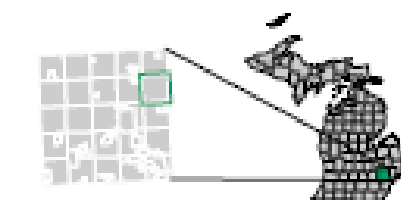
You can also find the newsletters on the webpages if you misplaced your hard copy.

http://www.oaklandtownship.org/boards_and_commissions/parks_and_recreation/index.php



The information provided herewith has been compiled from recorded deeds, plats, tax maps, surveys and other public records.

It is not a legally recorded map or survey and is not intended to be used as one. Users should consult the information sources mentioned above when questions arise.



History Created on October 25, 2011

Recreational Land

Oakland Township, Michigan

- | |
|--|
| County (93.3 Acres) |
| State of Michigan (1,709.9 Acres) |
| Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (1,212.9 Acres) |
| Municipality (1,104.4 Acres) |
| Multi-Jurisdictional Trail Lands (62.5 Acres) |
| Educational Facility (159.0 Acres) |
| Private Owner (1,885.1 Acres) |



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
& COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

Executive Office Building

L. Brooks Patterson County Executive

2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Bldg. 41W

Waterford, MI 48186-0412

www.AthanasiaofOakland.com

Cam Mannino's latest postings on *Natural Areas Notebook*

<https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/2019/04/12/photos-of-the-week-a-birthday-gift-of-vultures/>

Planning & Zoning Department

Copied from the Township website:

The Planning and Zoning Department provides support to the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals to assist in making land use and development decisions for the Township, in addition to creation of the Master Plan and review and amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.



Contact Donald Mende, Planning Coordinator at 248-651-4440 ext. 216 or by email dmende@oaklandtownship.org. Regular working hours Tuesday - Thursday 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

Editor's note: Mr. Mende's salary is split 80% Planning Commission, 20% Zoning Board of Appeals

Roads

[A Fifth Resident Encourages Board to Consider How to Better Maintain Hilltop, a Main gravel/dirt Access Road to Baldwin Elementary School](#)

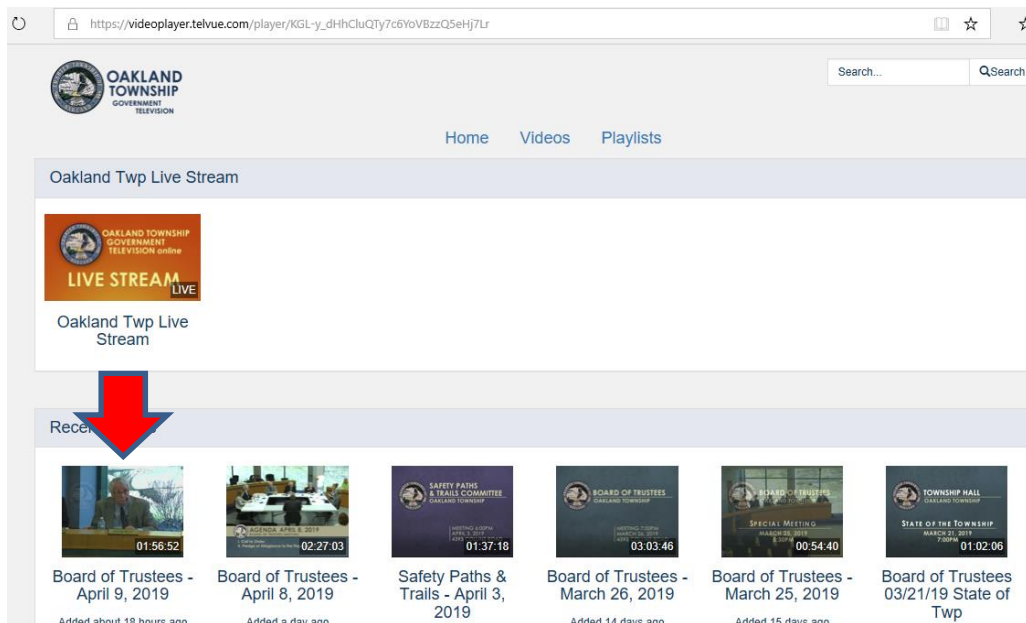
After patiently waiting almost 2 hours for the opportunity, new resident Kim Herman addressed the Board on 4/9/2019 at second public comment about the conditions on Hilltop and how Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) phone contact personnel refused her requests to talk to supervisors about it. She finally called County Commissioner Mike Spisz. After that the road was graded. She asked the Board to consider this road in their upcoming strategy discussions with RCOC.

At the 4/17/19 meeting with RCOC Managing Director Dennis Kolar told Kim Herman that an SAD (Special Assessment District) would be needed to pave Hilltop. My understanding is that this would mean that property owners along Hilltop, including Rochester Community Schools, would have to agree to divide up the cost of paving.

See her complete comments are on video at this link:


https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/KGL-y_dHhCluQTy7c6YoVBzzQ5eHj7Lr

Then click here where the red arrow points.



Then scroll down and click where the red arrow points (agenda 8). It may take a few minutes for the video to start. When it does you will first hear 3 minutes of comments from resident John Markel followed by Kim Herman.

Chapters

	agenda 7/7 (01:35:29 - 01:42:09) agenda 7/7 Show Description
	agenda 8 (01:42:09 - 01:49:22) agenda 8 VIII. Public Comment for items not on the Agenda Hide Description
	agenda 10 (01:49:22 - 01:56:07) agenda 10 Show Description

Four other local residents spoke on this issue and also Springdale and Bannister which service Baldwin Elementary School. A summary of their comments was in our March News report on page 19. We repeat that article here below for convenience.

[Citing Head-bump Danger to Students Riding in Bouncy Busses, Several Residents Request Improvement to the Roads Leading to Baldwin Elementary](#)

At the 2/12/19 Board of Trustees meeting, several residents whose children attend Baldwin Elementary very respectfully requested the Board to help them improve Bannister, Springdale, Territorial and Hilltop (The “loop” leading to and from Baldwin.).

The residents were:

Damian Kassab – 1040 W. Snell Rd., (big red house on hill at Orion / Snell)

Tammy MacEachern – 2261 N. Rochester Rd.,

Nicole Stringer – 4121 Oak Tree Cir.,

Andrea Katich – 3795 Elk Dr.

These gravel roads serve the school and local industry in Goodison. They often have large potholes due to school bus and tractor-trailer traffic. As a result students are jostled when busses drive over these roads and are sometimes bounced from their seats or if sitting next to the window are likely to bump their heads on the bus window or wall. Students report vying for middle seats to try to avoid this hazard.

They recognized the difficulties involved in negotiating with the Road Commission, etc. Mr. Kassab (big red house up on hill at Snell and Orion) said he has government experience and was involved in the difficult project of getting Silverbell paved from Orion to Bear Creek Park. Nicole Stringer, who studied municipal law in law school, also volunteered that residents and school personnel would help in gathering data, so the Board would have more than anecdotal evidence “from a few angry parents”.

These residents have approached Road Commission of Oakland County who suggest that the Township fund this.

Supervisor Bailey commented that the Board would deal with roads in the upcoming budget workshop and “they will take this under advisement and see what kind of miracle we can pull out of our hats”. (There was no discussion of this at that budget workshop except for Treasurer Langlois commenting in a discussion of suggested repaving of drive to Township Hall and parking lot that Baldwin School roads are probably much higher priority for scarce dollars.)

Trustee Ferriolo suggested that the Board should involve the Township Manager and perhaps he should involve Rochester Community Schools. He summarized, “It is ultimately the Road Commission that is responsible.”

Trustee Buxar obviously had discussed this issue with some or all of the residents and “was not happy with the response from the road commission.”

The complete comments of this group can be seen at first public comment session. Get to this video at this link: https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/KGL-y_dHhCluQTy7c6YoVBzzQ5eHj7Lr and navigating to that segment of the tape.

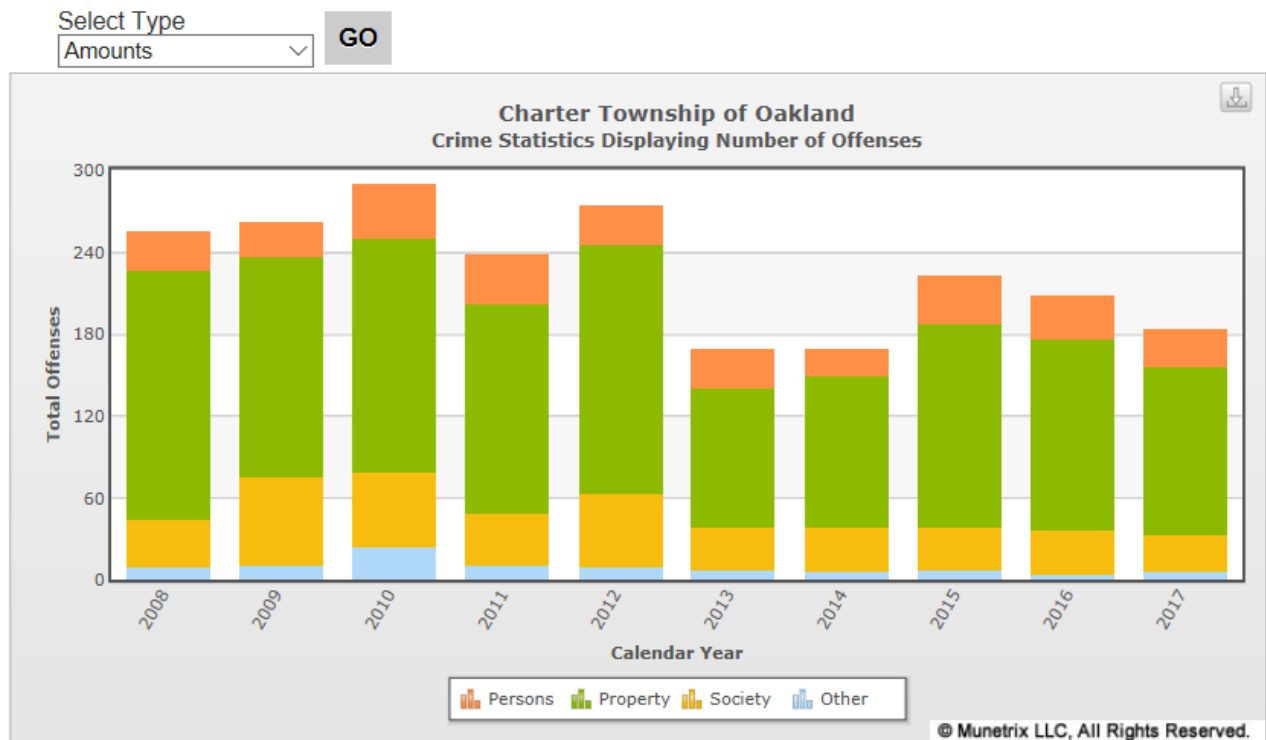
Three Levels of RCOC Maintenance Supervision Attended 4/9/2019 Board of Trustees Meeting to Answer Questions.

Dave ??/, Maintenance Superintendent Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) District #3 summarized things well when he said "Maintenance is reactive". I took that to mean RCOC reacts to complaints and they don't have resources to be proactive to prevent problems or do routine inspection to find problems on their own.

Supervisor ??? who actually supervises the workers in their daily work emphasized the importance of drainage.

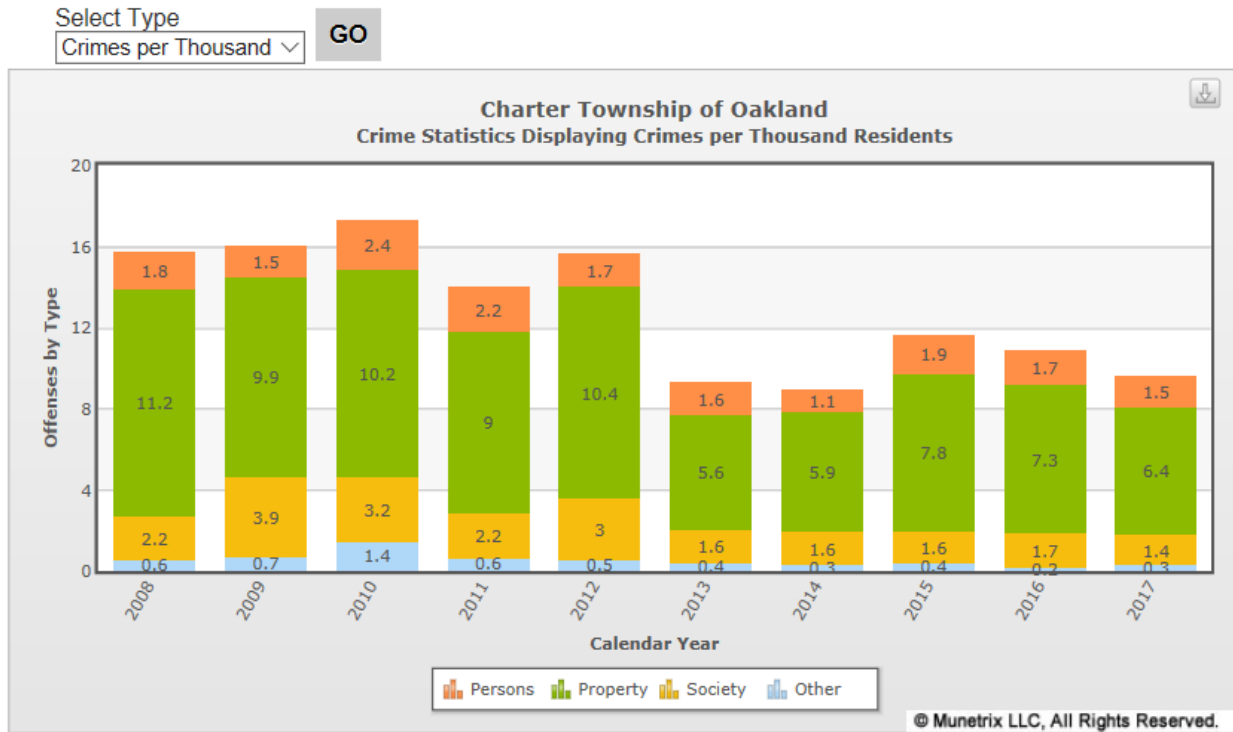
See the whole one and a quarter hour discussion on the meeting tape at agenda 7/1 https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/KGL-y_dHhCluQTy7c6YoVBzzQ5eHj7Lr

Sheriff



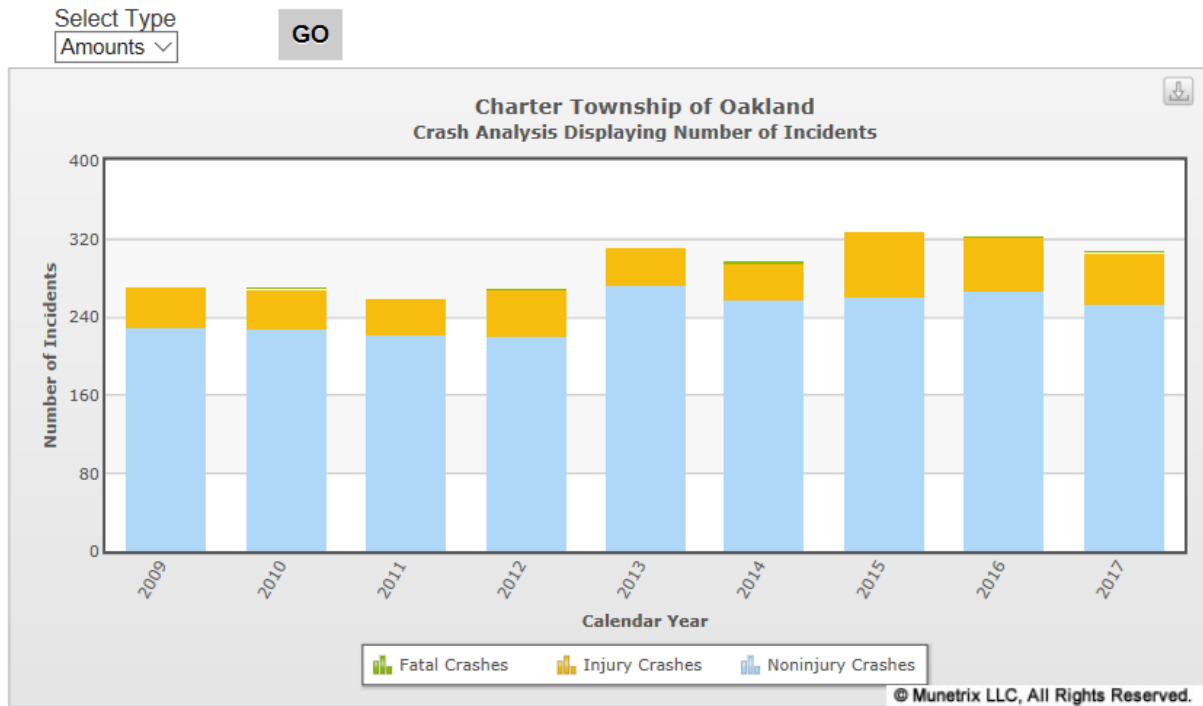
Why it Matters: Crime statistics are used by different groups for different things. On a political level, it provides a measure for the success or failure of certain criminal justice policies. On an operational level, it provides important information on how best to allocate municipal resources. From a civil society perspective, it provides indicators against which to measure criminal justice

Data Source: This data is what law enforcement agencies collect throughout the state. It is sent to the State Police, who in turn submits it to the FBI. After analysis by the FBI, the data is then made available to the public for their consumption. Since this process takes a while to complete, the data is always at least a year behind. (n034)



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Why it Matters: Traffic Crashes are one measure used in studying the overall safety of a community, and also provides a way to understand how well public safety and road maintenance costs impact a community. (n118) (o176)

Data Source: Michigan Traffic Crash Data is provided by the Transportation Improvement Association (TIA) who receives the data from the Michigan State Police. Munetrix only publishes annual summary data. (n119)