



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1 S. HURON
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

Council Member Anne Brown	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Council Member Nicole Brown	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Present		

Council Member Anne Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Nicole Brown, to excuse the absence of Mayor Edmonds.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the absence was excused.

III. INVOCATION –

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked all to stand for a moment of silence.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –

"I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

V. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Council Member Robb moved to move Resolution 2016-016 from the Consent Agenda to Resolutions/Motions/Discussions.

Assistant City Attorney Dan DuChene asked to add Resolution No. 2015-273, Property Disposition Policy above the first item under Section X, Public Hearings. Mr. Duchene asked to remove both Ordinances from Section XI, Ordinances – First Reading.

Council Member Ann Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Nicole Brown, to add Resolution No. 2015-723 to Section X, Public Hearings and to remove both Ordinances from Section XI.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the agenda was approved as amended.

VI. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson introduced Human Relations Commissioner Sue Melke.

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

None

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Sue Melke, 330 Chidester #409, asked when citizens report issues on Ypsi Connect how are they informed if there was a solution to that issue. She added she would like to be certain that snow has been cleared so that she can be certain she is able to pass.

Council Member Robb responded if the problem has been closed there is immediate feedback to the individual who reported the problem. Ms. Melke responded she has not been informed if the problem has been solved. Mr. Robb replied then the issue must not have been rectified. Ms. Melke responded it has been eight days since she reported sidewalks being impassable due to snow. Ms. Melke said another problem is why has the walkway not been cleared. Mr. Robb responded that is a question the City Manager would have to answer. City Manager Lange responded he will follow-up with Code Enforcement.

IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

None.

X. PUBLIC HEARINGS –

Resolution No. 2015-273, approving Property Disposition Policy.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti owns residential and commercial property as a result of tax foreclosure and seeks to sell the properties and return properties to active tax rolls; and

WHEREAS, A Property Disposition Policy has been created to achieve the goals of selling city-owned property in a fair and clear manner; and

WHEREAS, The Property Disposition Policy excludes the Water Street Development Parcel; and

WHEREAS, City staff and City Council will use the Property Disposition Policy for the basis of promoting the sale of City-owned property, blight reduction, cost reductions associated with the maintenance of City owned property and increased tax revenues.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council accepts and approves the Property Disposition Policy as a guide for the sale of all City-owned property with the exception of the Water Street Development Parcel.

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

Director of Economic Development Beth Ernat stated staff made the changes that Council requested and to hold the public hearing immediately following the passage of this policy.

Council Member Murdock stated there was a recent article written in MLive that discussed this policy focusing on the residential parcels. Mr. Murdock said the article also stated commercial property would

be sold for \$1,000 per parcel. Ms. Ernat responded that is incorrect and was copied and pasted from the last article written about this topic in MLive and clarified that each commercial parcel sale would be brought to Council for approval. Mr. Murdock responded sale of commercial property would follow the formal process. Ms. Ernat responded in the affirmative. Mr. Murdock asked if the City will solicit Requests for Proposals for the sale of commercial properties. Ms. Ernat responded that is the intention and said the first course of action would begin with the abundance of City owned residential parcels. Ms. Ernat said the process she plans for the sale of commercial process is to require a proforma and business plan for review and Council approval. Ms. Ernat added the former Boys and Girls club building is the largest and most attractive City owned commercial parcel and it is her hope to have the building demolished and the parcel ready for sale by next year. Mr. Murdock stated if there is an interested individual in commercial property they should be sent to Ms. Ernat and should be aware that residential properties are the primary concern at this point. Ms. Ernat responded in the affirmative and added there has been a great deal of interest in residential properties. Mr. Murdock stated there is a parcel on Helen St. that is 3.5 feet by 80 feet and he does not think that the individual already maintaining the property would want to purchase the property and pay taxes. Mr. DuChene added the property being described is a gap parcel and the City can quit claim any right the City has to the land.

City Manager Lange stated he thinks it is important to get all legal issues solved before development.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked that the process to obtain commercial property be made clear because she has already had inquiries.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-273 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

1. Property Disposition Policy to convey city-owned parcels
 - A. Resolution No. 2016-007, determination

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti is interested in conveying its excess City-owned property to private owners; and

WHEREAS, to further this interest, the City Council for the City of Ypsilanti has approved the City Property Disposition Policy by adopting Resolution No. 2016-007; and

WHEREAS, this Policy provides that City Council will annually consider a resolution, after a public hearing, to approve the sale of residential land and authorize the City Manager to enter into purchase agreements, quit claim deeds, leases, or other contracts and documents to effectuate their conveyance.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that: The following City-owned properties are approved for conveyance consistent with the City Property Disposition Policy.

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Robb

Council Member Robb offered a friendly amendment changing the second paragraph

which reads "Resolution No. 2016-007..." to "Resolution No. 2015-273..."

Council Member Anne Brown accepted the friendly amendment.

B. Open public hearing

None

C. Resolution No. 2016-008, close public hearing

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the public hearing approving city-owned parcels for conveyance and delegating contract authority to the City Manager consistent with and pursuant to the City Property Disposition Policy be officially closed.

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-007 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

XI. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING –

Ordinance No. 1259

~~1. An ordinance to amend the City of Ypsilanti Dumping/Litter Ordinance (Chapter 42 "Environment", and Chapter 71 "Administrative Hearings Bureau").~~
(Removed)

- ~~A. Resolution No. 2016-009, determination~~
- ~~B. Open public hearing~~
- ~~C. Resolution No. 2016-010, close public hearing~~

Ordinance No. 1260

~~2. An ordinance to amend Chapter 70, "Municipal Civil Infractions" of the Ypsilanti City Code, Article II "Municipal Ordinance Violations Bureau," Section 70-38 "Schedule of Civil Fines Established".~~

- ~~A. Resolution No. 2016-011, determination~~
 - ~~B. Open public hearing~~
 - ~~C. Resolution No. 2016-012, close public hearing~~
- (Removed)**

XII. CONSENT AGENDA –

Resolution No. 2016-013

1. Resolution No. 2016-014, approving minutes of January 5, 2016.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of January 5, 2016 be approved.

2. Resolution No. 2016-015, recognizing the Towner House Foundation as a non-profit organization operating in the City of Ypsilanti for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council recognizes the Towner House Foundation as a nonprofit organization operating in the City of Ypsilanti for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license.

- ~~3. Resolution No. 2016-016, authorizing Finance Director to open bank account with Talmer Bank and Trust in Troy, Michigan. (Moved and Heard under Section XIII, Resolutions/Motions/Discussions)~~

4. Resolution No. 2016-017, supporting State Fire Funding.

Resolution Supporting Full Funding for the State Fire Protection Mandate

Whereas, Public Act 289 provide for payments to municipalities for fire protection services received by state facilities, and

Whereas, The City of Ypsilanti provides 100% of the funding and resources for the required training, education, and apparatus to provide fire protection and fire education for Eastern Michigan University and its population; and

Whereas, The amount due to municipalities shall be determined by dividing the estimated equalized value of the state facilities located in the municipality by the sum of the state equalized valuation of the municipality and the estimated equalized value of the facilities, and multiplying the result by the fire protection expenditures of the municipality; and

Whereas, The average funding received under this Act over the past 6 years equates to 53.55%, for a total loss of \$ 2,631,268 over this period; and

Whereas; The intent of this Act has never been met since its conception in 1977, and

Whereas, Eastern Michigan University occupies 25% of Ypsilanti and its student population exceeds the City's population; and

Whereas, Eastern Michigan asset and the expense of protecting that asset should be fully borne by the State.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Ypsilanti City Council appeals to the State Legislature to levy the taxes necessary to fully fund P.A. 289, thus finally honoring the solemn promise made by the state of Michigan to its communities.

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-013 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

XIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. Resolution No. 2016-018, approving the creation of a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ), pursuant to the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act (MCL 207.771 et seq), within the City of Ypsilanti.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti is a qualified local unit of government and wishes to create a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) for the Southwest Gateway Area; and

WHEREAS, the resolution passed by the city council on August 18, 2015 stated that an NEZ was consistent with the City’s master plan, that the city had a housing inspection ordinance which covers the requirements of the NEZ legislation, and stated the City’s goals, objectives, and policies relative to the maintenance, preservation, improvement and development of housing for all persons, regardless of income level living within the proposed NEZ; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk is required to give written notice to the City Assessor and the governing body of each taxing unit that levies property taxes within the proposed NEZ (see attached map); and

WHEREAS, the City Council is required to hold a public hearing on the proposed NEZ within 45 days of sending out the notice; and

WHEREAS, the City Council will need to make a decision at least 60 days after notice is given.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council proposes to create a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone, pursuant to the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act (MCL 207.771 et seq), the “Act,” within the City of Ypsilanti with the district boundaries as described on the attached map.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council directs the City Clerk, in compliance with and according to the Act, to give written notice to the City Assessor and the governing body of each taxing unit that levies property taxes within the proposed NEZ by January 26, 2016 and set a public hearing on the proposed NEZ on February 16, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT after receiving public input on the proposed NEZ, City Council will make ultimate determination on a resolution creating the NEZ at its meeting on April 15, 2016, or a meeting subsequent thereto as determined by City Council.

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

SECONDED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

Community Development Director Joe Meyers stated he would answer any questions Council might have.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if there will be a rollout to the community. Mr. Meyers replied in the affirmative and informed Council that a committee is being formed to engage residents, realtors, and other stakeholders to help spread the word about what the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) is and what it can do.

Council Member Robb asked if all that Council is approving tonight is the creation of the district, or boundaries of the zone. Mr. Meyers responded in the affirmative. Mr. Robb asked if the actual policy that dictates what the NEZ is and how it operates will come back to Council. Mr. Meyers responded in the affirmative.

Council Member Robb stated the enabling legislation allows for up to 15 years and 17 years if it is a qualified structure. Mr. Meyers responded part of the proposed boundaries is within the Historic Southside Zone and there could be a few qualified historic structures but 15 years will be the maximum for most structures in that zone. Mr. Robb asked if that could be made clearer in the policy. Mr. Meyers responded in the affirmative. Mr. Robb added we would like the policy be limited to twelve years for any property and be applied to homestead properties only. Mr. Meyers replied staff agrees that applying this only to homestead properties would be best for the neighborhood. Mr. Robb asked if the benefit in increased tax revenue justifies the amount of staff time the policy would require and proposed this policy should only apply to new construction. Mr. Robb clarified new construction as an addition on to the property or complete build and asked the policy to list exactly what projects are eligible. Mr. Meyer responded it is staff's goal to increase investment in the area and is examining other communities with NEZs to see what their policies are and what they do. Mr. Meyers explained for communities that have had an NEZ for a length of time starting before 2005 have a cap at 12 years but allow for 3 year extensions. Mr. Robb asked will there be a stipulation in the policy that only residents that have owned their property a certain length of time will not be eligible. Mr. Meyers responded staff is still formulating the policy and will take that into consideration.

Council Member Robb asked if the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) grant used to pay for this program is renewable and how long will the grant last. Mr. Robb added what he is concerned with is adding another tool that no one will use. Mr. Meyers responded once the City has the funding it will have a period time that it needs to show improvement on the grant and the grant will be around for a few years to help pay for permits.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if Council Member Robb was proposing 12 years with the possibility of a 3 year extension. Council Member Robb responded he suggested the 3 year extension because it is in the enabling legislation and 12 years because he would like to keep it shorter. Mr. Robb further clarified that if a person improves the taxable value \$2,000 the millage rate would be cut from 66 to 33 and said the best way to increase tax revenue is to encourage people to build homes.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-018 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

2. Resolution No. 2016-016, authorizing Finance Director to open bank account with Talmer Bank and Trust in Troy, Michigan.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

The City Finance Director is hereby authorized to open bank accounts, deposit and withdraw funds, open a checking account to deposit and withdraw funds, and purchase and redeem certificates of deposits.

Persons authorized to sign for and on behalf of the City of Ypsilanti are: Finance Director (Marilou Uy); City Clerk (Frances McMullan) and City Treasurer (Kimberly Teamer). Two signatures are required on all checks, withdrawals and redemption of certificates of deposit.

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown
SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

Council Member Robb stated there was not a lot of information in the memo and asked for an explanation for how much the City will invest and any other pertinent information. Mr. Lange responded this was recommended by Finance Director Marilou Uy after shopping around for a preferred interest rate. Mr. Lange stated the other issue of importance is the City is still trying to close the bond issue and he would like to shop that to local financial institutions. Mr. Robb stated his concern is any uncommitted general fund dollars put into a Certificate of Deposit (CD) ultimately becomes committed for some period of time. Mr. Lange responded correct and the City would need to be mindful of that. Mr. Robb stated in the idea of keeping business local asked what the Bank of Ann Arbor’s rates were. Mr. Lange responded the Bank of Ann Arbor offered excellent rates but not at the level of Tamler Bank.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-016 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

XIV. LIASON REPORTS –

- A. SEMCOG Update - None
- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Stated the meeting will be held on January 20, 2016.
- C. Urban County - None
- D. Freight House – Council Member Murdock stated that construction continues and the proposed completion date is around March 1st.

- E. Parks and Recreation – Council Member Anne Brown stated the Commission held a meeting with the Huron River Watershed Council regarding the Trail Town group and formulating a blueprint of development activities which will be used as a supplement to the Park Commission Master Plan. She added the Commission met with MPARKS who received a grant which will include Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, Ann Arbor, Dexter, and Manchester which at the amount of \$24,000 for two programs. She said the first program is titled “Walk of Ease” for seniors and the second program is “Come out and Play” which is directed toward young people. She asked if a City staff person will be included. Community Development Director Joe Meyers responded a partial staff person. Mr. Meyers added there are still more details to come but this grant will pay for an individual to help run these two programs at no cost to the City. Mr. Meyers added at this time the City has not made any commitment and if the City wishes to go to the training it can and then assess how it would like to be involved moving forward. Economic Development Director Beth Ernat added the \$24,000 can be used to improve or enhance walking trails. Ms. Anne Brown added there are four Commission Members from Ward 2 and there is only supposed to be 3 in each Ward. She asked if Eric Maes’s term was finished. Council Member Murdock responded Mr. Maes’s attendance was not that great last year and there was some question if he wanted to serve on the Commission any longer but he was present at the last meeting and is interested in continuing to serve.
- F. Millennial Mayors Conference – No meeting
- G. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - None
- H. Eastern Washtenaw Safety Alliance – The next meeting is scheduled in February.
- I. Police-Community Relations/Black Lives Matter Joint Task Force – Council Member Nicole Brown stated the Task Force will be formulating its memo regarding its recommendations for the Human Relations Commission and examining the Radical Washtenaw report which will be discussed at the next meeting. She added there was a great turnout during the last meeting and hope to see those same individuals moving forward.

XV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

- 4th Goal Setting Meeting – Tuesday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. at SPARK East, 215 W. Michigan Avenue

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

Vogt

- Stated at the next goal setting meeting he would like to spend some time discussing the Traffic Commission standards for deciding if traffic calming methods and what can be done if it deems calming methods are not needed. He added he would like to understand the standards the Commission is using to make its decisions and possibly an order of preference of what streets residents most would like to see traffic calming methods employed.

Nicole Brown

- Stated the events at Eastern Michigan University for Martin Luther King Jr. Day were wonderful and congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson on her award.

Anne Brown

- Announced her office intern Giovanti Bishop is hosting a “Empower Her to Run” forum on Monday, January 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. She said the event will be attended by Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, State Senator Rebecca Warren, and several other female state legislators who will speak about why they got into public service.

Murdock

- Informed staff the Depot Town clock has not worked in six months and there have been complaints on Ypsi Connect. He said the Downtown Development Authority said it was going to look into alternate companies for its maintenance.

Mr. Lange responded he will look into the matter.

- Stated he is contemplating getting a list of all the private prison companies to see if any City funds or pension funds are going into those companies. He said if funds are going to those companies he would like the pension board to divest in those companies.

Richardson

- Thanked Council for all the flowers and cards during her time in the hospital. She said she is easing back into her activities slowly but she will be available when needed.
- Thanked all for her congratulations on the receiving of her award.

XVII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

- Stated he attended yesterday's Martin Luther King Jr. event and had an excellent experience. He added two awards were given to City officials; Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson and Rasheed Atwater an intern. He said the recognition of Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson was long overdue. He said Mr. Atwater is an excellent human being and is in the National Guard and assisting in Flint at the moment.
- Said he is glad the fourth goal setting date has been set and that he is working diligently to develop an alternate plan for Water Street that he feels Council will support.
- Stated the Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) of SEMCOG meeting has been rescheduled from the fourth Thursday of the month to the third Wednesday. He added he will continue to attend those meetings on a regular basis.

Council Member Anne Brown said the Eastern Leaders Group met last week at which Conan Smith provided a presentation on economic development. She stated the presentation primarily focused on the eastern part of the county. She added Council needs to make a statement that Ypsilanti needs representation at the table for those discussions.

Council Member Murdock stated he attended the first meeting of the Economic Development Committee and as he could tell there was not representation from Ypsilanti at that meeting. Mr. Murdock agreed with Council Member Anne Brown and said the City should be involved in discussions involving economic development in Ypsilanti. Ms. Ernat agreed with both Council Members Anne Brown and Murdock and said she has spoken with Conan Smith who basically preformed a presentation of exactly what the City should be doing. Ms. Ernat said she is very frustrated that the County is interested in the economic development in Eastern Washtenaw County and not inviting Ypsilanti representation to those discussions. Ms. Ernat stated the Mayor was appointed to the Economic Restructuring Committee but as a representative of Growing Hope. Ms. Ernat said she was not appointed to that Committee because she had been appointed to the new Convention and Visitors Bureau Board. Ms. Ernat

added the City should be preparing the presentation and asking the County what Ypsilanti needs as a community.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated it is absolutely absurd the City does not have representation on that Committee. Ms. Richardson said she cannot understand why the City's Economic Development Director was appointed to the CVB Board and not to the Economic Restructuring Committee. Ms. Richardson stated she highly recommends a Council and City Staff Delegation to meet with Conan Smith and the County Commission to inform them that this is unacceptable. Ms. Richardson stated the Eastern Leaders Group (ELG) was developed by the Commissioner currently representing Ypsilanti and she does not feel the City has seen the amount of benefit it should have from the ELG. Ms. Richardson asked if this would require a resolution or if a motion could be made to begin to address this issue. Mr. DuChene responded he believes it would be the pleasure of Council how it wishes to address this matter but he does believe Council has a preference to written resolutions. Ms. Richardson stated she would prefer a motion and not wait the two weeks until the next Council meeting to pass a resolution.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked what the consensus of Council is on how this should be approached. Council Member Anne Brown responded she would like the Economic Development Director and a Council Member meet with the Chair of that committee and do some fact finding regarding the intent and bring that information back to Council. Ms. Anne Brown added hopefully that can be done in a timely manner and perhaps that information could be presented at the January 26th Goal Setting Meeting and be the next Council meeting a determination can be made if a formal resolution is needed. Council Member Vogt agreed with Council Member Anne Brown.

Council Member Robb stated Council needs to develop its list of demands before the City approaches the County. Ms. Ernat responded she could develop a draft for Council to discuss. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said she would not have any objections to that.

Council Member Murdock said the focus of the Committee is almost contrary to the studies completed by the County. Mr. Murdock stated the City needs capital infrastructure projects. Mr. Murdock said many times Council has discussed a youth job development program and workforce development is part of what can be used for these funds. Mr. Murdock added if the County would like to use those funds to assist with the City's debt that would be helpful and said unless those funds are used for those items the money is not that helpful to the City.

Mr. Lange stated the problem with Mr. Smith's presentation is that it was overly strategic and much of what was said was not relevant. Mr. Lange said he feels the County is preoccupied with finding a County Administrator. Mr. Lange said EMU is also having difficulty without having a University President. Mr. Lange stated he met the head of the Washtenaw County Convention and Visitors Bureau who informed him there is not a Director for the Ypsilanti CVB. Mr. Lange said he understands the City needs to have partnerships with these three organizations and it will become easier once leadership has been established.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson volunteered to meet with Ms. Ernat to develop a list of demands for the County to discuss at goal setting and asked if other Council Members wanted to be a part of that process. Council Member Murdock volunteered to assist. Ms. Richardson stated if Council has any suggestions for

what should be listed in the demands please contact Ms. Ernat, Council Member Murdock, or herself.

XVIII. COMMUNICATIONS –

None

XIX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Russell Davis, 108 Washtenaw Rd. #12, congratulated Mayor-Pro-Tem Richardson on her award. Stated he appreciated City Manager Lange's hard work and the tone he conducts City business. He said he submitted a question in writing to the City Attorney regarding the Black Lives Matter Movement which he believes in because all lives matter the United States. He said that he appreciates the heritage here because it was a stop on the Underground Railroad. He said the essence of a judicial system in a County is to protect civil society. He added he believes, and hopes the City Attorney will verify, that most bench warrants issued in the County were for civil infractions and misdemeanors which he feels is a positive because it will generate revenue to fund programs that will help kids and public education.

Council Member Murdock stated he thinks there are a lot of misunderstandings regarding bench warrants. Mr. Murdock stated courts issue bench warrants not the City and the City receives no revenue from those warrants.

Council Member Anne Brown stated the Superintendent of Ypsilanti Community Schools is starting a Facilities Committee to examine what can be done with those buildings.

XX. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XXI. ADJOURNMENT –

Resolution No. 2016-019, adjourning the Council meeting.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned, on call, by the Mayor or two (2) members of Council.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.