



Approved

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER – Meeting Called to Order at 7:04 PM

II. ROLL CALL –

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

Motioned to excuse Mayor Edmonds and Council Member Nicole Brown by Council Member Anne Brown, seconded by Council Member Vogt

III. INVOCATION – Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked everyone to rise in a moment of silence and for the Pledge of Allegiance

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. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson introduced Washtenaw County Community College Trustee Diana McKnight Morton, Finance Director Marilou Uy, DPS Director Stan Kirton, Andrea Plevak, Teresa Gillotti, Council Member Elect Beth Bashert, Director of Economic Development Beth Ernat, and Human Resources Manager Tirana Myris

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said there is a new resolution that was given to Council tonight, but there are no numbers on it. Council Member Anne Brown replied they just received it and it can be presented in Council Proposed Business. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if there are any other agenda changes.

Mr. Barr asked if Council could add to the closed session attorney opinion under 8(h) of the Opening Meetings Act.

Manager McMullen asked that Resolution 2016-203, approving Ordinance 1271 establishing a Truck Route, be tabled, or removed from the agenda for the night as Staff is not prepared for this time. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked for clarification on which number. Manager McMullen pointed out the Resolution number. Council Member Murdock asked what the reasoning behind the request is again. Council Member Robb stated 37 days of not sharing information is problematic.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if there are any issues with removing that agenda item. Council Member Robb said the issue is staff had an email 37 days before Council received it because no one investigated that and there are claims in the email that may not be true. Council Member Murdock said person we were getting advice from used to be the leader of the road commission and this never came

up before, he stated staff never followed up and he had to provide the ordinance and Council postponed it to be vetted.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked for any other objections for removing it, she said it will be removed for the night and asked that staff please do what they need to do.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

Mayor Pro- Tem Richardson opened audience participation

Gail Wolkoff- 1728 Whittier Ave- She said she is also a business owner within Ypsilanti and she is here to make a plea on behalf of the youth of Ypsilanti. She stated that it is important that money not be taken away from the Parkridge Center because of it's important for the youth of Ypsilanti.

Angela Davis - 2703 Garden Circle- She announced her candidacy for board of trustees at Washtenaw Community College.

Mayor Pro –Tem Richardson closed audience participation

VIII. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson responded to Ms. Davis saying she feels strongly about Parkridge but unfortunately with the City's budget some cuts can't be helped.

IX. PRESENTATIONS –

— ReImagine Washtenaw – Andrea Plevak.

Ms. Plevak began by saying Ms. Ernat asked that the OECD of Washtenaw County come to provide an update and presentation as Ypsilanti faces a difficult budget decision. She stated she would like to share that the County, through OECD, is committed to supporting the ongoing efforts to coordinate and implement this long 20 year vision. She then said that as Council knows this will require ongoing support and staff time, which is why OECD is beginning discussion with Ypsilanti and all the other communities and AATA about continued partnership and support and doing so in a financial capacity beyond the 2015-2016 commitment. Ms. Plevak said that there is a challenge for the City and that there will be discussion about continuing to support the ReImagine Washtenaw, and if the City decides that there isn't enough in the budget for that, she hopes the City will continue with participation and coordination.

Council Member Murdock asked if the analysis for the easements on the sidewalks in Washtenaw and The City has been done.

Ms. Plevak answered that there is an analysis of the easements and they know exactly how much they need on both sides of the sidewalk, such as the gas station that was just remolded was able to get the easement as a site plan approval process, so as the approval comes up they are being requested as donations by the City.

Council Member Murdock asked if that was available in the right-of-way study.

Ms. Plevak responded in the affirmative. She said there is an extensive GIS file that can be looked up and matched. She stated this can be sent as a link or can be found on ReImagineWashtenaw.org. Ms. Gillotti added the printed document has links embedded in it.

Ms. Plevek stated that she thinks there is an estimate for the unfinished sidewalks in Washtenaw by jurisdiction which can be provided to Council. Council Member Murdock asked about the section in Ypsilanti Township. Ms. Plevek answered that they are acquiring easements with the use of Block Grants. Council Member Murdock asked if that is an eligible project for Block Grants. Ms. Plevek responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Plevek said that block grants have a priority project each year, which is multi-jurisdictional, and there have been projects in Pittsfield and Ypsi Township for sidewalks that have received above and beyond that 56,000 that comes to the City. Council Member Anne Brown asked if the City could do a sidewalk that connects from that block of Ypsi Township to the City. Ms. Plevek answered that it could be potentially done.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if there was further discussion.

ORDINANCE - SECOND READING –

1. Resolution No. 2016-240, approving Ordinance 1278, budget adjustments due to failed Water Street Millage on August 2, 2016.

Moved by Council Member Anne Brown, seconded by Council Vogt

Ms. Uy said that from the last meeting they eliminated garage bay system for 25,000 in this budget. She said the 25,000 of the garage bay system is included in the projection. Council member Murdock asked that when she says included she meant took it off. Ms. Uy answered that last time it was removed from elimination, now it is included to be eliminated. She said that the sale of the Kramer property was removed. Manager McMullen said that all of those potential sales were removed. Ms. Uy agreed then said that the Boys and Girls Club was removed for 20,000 and paid parking in Depot Town was removed. She said the Special Assessment for Street Lights was removed as well. Ms. Uy said that changes did not include ReImagine Washtenaw or Aerotropolis and SPARK, and added that Council should decide what needs to be done with those three.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if they had already paid SPARK. Ms. Uy replied yes. Council Member Murdock asked if Aerotropolis was out, he said that SPARK was still in and ReImagine Washtenaw is still in. Council Member Anne Brown said that was correct. Ms. Uy said that they paid SPARK 8,512 for this fiscal Year. Council Member Anne Brown asked about ReImagine. Ms. Uy answered that we haven't paid them anything, but it is 5,000. Council Member Anne Brown asked if the City paid Aerotropolis. Manager McMullen said they did not, but sent a letter saying they had to discontinue. Council Member Anne Brown asked if things that are considered frozen aren't actually considered cuts. Manager McMullen answered they have been counted as a reduction for this Fiscal year but the next budgeting cycle we can reconsider, she then continued saying that our budgeting cycle is two years. Council Member Anne Brown asked if that means they are out for two years. Manager McMullen confirmed.

Council Member Murdock clarified that these positions are being eliminated and that any vacancies afterwards are being frozen. He then said that we would have to come back to City Council for approval for any position to be filled. Council Member Anne Brown said she is looking at the language which says a freeze. Ms. Ernat said that those were proposed positions, it is not eliminating it's just never happening.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said that it could be solved by changing the freeze to eliminate. Manager McMullen said that part of the proposal was to remove, so there was a freeze placed on vacancies. Ms. Ernat said it was approved in the budget but no one was ever hired.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if we have heard anything in relation to Mr. Barfield and WCC, and Parkridge. Mr. Barr answered no. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked for clarification about 38,219 being eliminated in both years, while 60,208 then 11,000 and 10,000 also appears. Ms. Uy answered that the total expenses of Parkridge is 60,000 and the City paid 50% of their utilities, she said that Mr. Barfield proposed he would give us 11,000 in interest which was included, making the net amount 38,000. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if the 11,000 was included in the 60,000. Ms. Uy answered it was subtracted from it, then she said that right now the City is paying on expenses but money is not coming in, meaning the City is paying all the expenses.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked what is included in all the expenses. Ms. Uy answered 50% of the utilities, the office supplies, and allowance. Mayor Pro-Tem asked if WCC buying the office supplies. Ms. Uy answered that WCC collect donations. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said she wants to remind everyone that Parkridge and the other buildings belong to the City and the City has to pay for the upkeep.

Council Member Robb said that the police cuts will not cause overtime, he said you can't increase overtime because the overtime budget isn't being increased. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said if the positions haven't been filled then nothing would change. Manager McMullen said that the change in structure we had last year should carry over to this year. Council Member Anne Browns asked that if the police are at 26 officers instead of 29 there would be overtime. Council Member Robb said they have 250,000 in the budget and it is not being increased, he said he wanted to confirm that the City is not saving over 200,000 in salary and there will not be a budget amendment coming back to them. Manager McMullen asked if the same amount was budgeted last year. Council Member Robb answered that it was.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if the frozen police positions would be counted in the 32, but they were never filled. Manager McMullen answered that was correct. Council Member Robb said that the City has 29, 3 are just out right now. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if the 250,000 is to cover overtime for the 29 officers.

Council Member Anne Brown said she has a question in terms of staff for the Clerk's office, she asked if Clerk Hellenga is working in there by himself. Clerk Hellenga answered there is himself, the treasure generalist, and a temp as well. Manager McMullen said the temp was recommended from the Washtenaw County Clerk's office and is fully trained, and then she said the Clerk's office is still fully staffed. Council Member Anne Brown asked if McMullen would revisit HR after December 31st. Manager McMullen replied either she will or the new Manager will. Council Member Anne Brown asked if the historical district intern was eliminated. Ms. Ernat said that right now there is unpaid intern and right now it is okay.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if the property room position is being eliminated. Council Member Murdock replied that position is being eliminated from the budget. Council Member Anne Brown asked if the delay in the DPS East Storage Shed is out this year but back in for next year. Manager McMullen answered yes. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked where the carpet was going. It was answered it was going on the 4th floor. Council Member Anne Brown asked if Ms. Ernat has anything to add to the CNO license and the one time contribution to the Huron Valley Humane Society. Ms. Ernat answered yes.

Council Member Robb said that it was a donation. Manager McMullan said the former City Manager agreed to this contribution. Council Member Robb said that it was a charitable contribution up to 25,000 discretionary spending. Council Member Anne Brown asked if we should keep it in or leave it out. Council Member Robb answered we already paid it, it just wasn't part of our original budget.

Council Member Robb asked if Officer Porter's services are fungible and he's not being used as the DDA officer full time is that an issue. Ms. Ernat said she believes he's only partially funded by DDA and the contract states he can be pulled away from the DDA for staffing purposes only. Council Member Murdock said that position is supposed to be DDA focused, yes there is a clause he can be pulled off but that doesn't mean filling in permanently for three months. Ms. Ernat said that Officer Porter had just been appointed from the DDA, Officer Harrison the officer beforehand was removed from that assignment to be put in a police position, and she said the DDA understood. Council Member Murdock said that the DDA officer and School officer are two police positions funded by other people's money.

Council Member Anne Brown asked combined AP and Finance general if the 1700 is a person or an addition. Manager McMullan said that Ms. Uy already had an opening and there were 2 separate positions and just combined it. Ms. Uy said that first we had a part time employee for 28 hours and this one was just 20 hours. Council Member Anne Brown said her final question is she thought they decided that the HR position would be standalone until the City found a new City Manager, or have they decided to combine the HR and Assistant City Manager. Manager McMullan said she believed that they had left what was previous proposed and no decision was made there. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if we saved 46,000. Manager McMullen said yes because we only have an HR manager at this point and no Assistant City Manager. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if we need the Assistant City Manager Position. Manager McMullan stated that would be up to the new City Manager. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said that the position was eliminated and the former City Manager bought back the position Assistant to the City Manager. Manager McMullan replied that what is on the table is the elimination of that position and an Assistant Manager that would serve as the HR Manager.

Council Member Murdock stated that on page two the top item is eliminate the Assistant City Manager position saving that amount and combining the position, making sure that's the direction the new City Manager wants to go.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if there are any more questions or discussion.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-240, approving Ordinance 1278, budget adjustments due to failed Water Street Millage on August 2, 2016. as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Absent	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	No	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	No
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 2 NO: 3 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Failed

Council Member Murdock moved to reconsider at next meeting, supported by Council Member Anne Brown

Resolution No. 2016-203, approving Ordinance 1271, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE YPSILANTI CITY CODE TO ESTABLISH A TRUCK ROUTE AND REGULATE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC WITHIN THE CITY OF YPSILANTI; TO PROHIBIT TRUCK AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC ON OTHER ROADS; AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF, PURSUANT TO ITS AUTHORITY UNDER ARTICLE VII, SECTION 29 OF THE MICHIGAN CONSTITUTION OF 1963 AND SECTION 726 OF THE MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE, ACT 300 of 1949 (MCL 257.1 ET SEQ)". **(Postponed on September 6th)**

Resolution tabled

X. CONSENT AGENDA –

Resolution No. 2016-241

1. Resolution No. 2016-241A, approving the agreement with the Washtenaw County Community Development Block Grant (CDGB).
2. Resolution No. 2016-242, approving the minutes of September 20, 2016 and October 4, 2016 meetings.
3. Resolution No. 2016-243, approving appointment to Boards and Commissions.

Moved by Council Member Vogt, supported by Council Member Anne Brown

On a roll call, the vote to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Absent	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: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

XI. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. Resolution No. 2016-244, accepting the Local Site Remediation Revolving Fund ("LSRRF") Grant.

Offered by Council Member Robb, Supported by Council Member Murdock

Council Member Anne Brown asked if the timeline has been extended. Mayor Pro Tem said it sound like it, she then asked Manager McMullen if there is anything she'd like to add as they wait for Ms. Ernat. Manager McMullen said that the time line has been extended and they will go out for bids which are due the 26th.

Council Member Murdock moved to table until Ms. Ernat returned but was retracted as Ms. Ernat returned at that time.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said that Council need information on the local site mediation. Ms. Ernat said the bid has been posted and the bid closing is on the 26th and we will negotiate with the contractor for a schedule. Council Member Anne Brown asked if we would be opening next year. Ms. Ernat said possibly spring, but before the end of the next year. Council Member Anne Brown asked if this would be communicated with the community. Ms. Ernat Answered yes.

Council Member Murdock asked if Ms. Ernat think we would have a contract by the first. Ms. Ernat replied that is her plan, it is a very quick turnaround and would like have everything prepared, but if there is a close on the bid review it would come on the 15th. Council member Murdock asked if the first regular meeting in November was the 1st and 15th, he asked if there would be any special meetings. Clerk Hellenga said we are meeting on the first and there is a special organizational meeting on the 14th. Council Member Robb said the 15th is the joint meeting with the school board. Ms. Ernat asked if we would be able to bring bids before the 14th meeting. Council Member Robb said that it has been done in the past, before swearing in the new people.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked Mr. Barr if they were allowed to take care of business before the 14th organizational meeting. Mr. Barr answered that yes they are. Ms. Ernat said with the bids coming in on the 28th they will plan to review them as they come in, but they need to research any references or something they do not know. Ms. Ernat asked Mr. Barr if Council could approval something now if it's within the bid spec and within our purchasing policy. Mr. Barr said he does not understand the question and asked approve what? Ms. Ernat responded that typically they would approve the lowest bidder; she asked by name could there be a blanket approval. Council Member Murdock said he doesn't think they want to go down that road.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if they vote on this and get a contractor for the middle of November would they be able to begin work. Ms. Ernat responded that if we have a hard frost in the middle of November that would affect the ability to dig, if we stay unseasonably warm we could get it done. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked because of the time of year we are looking for spring? Ms. Ernat answered she is hoping for November but the public should prepare for spring.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked for any discussion before the vote.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-244 as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Absent	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: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

2. Resolution No. 2016-245, approving the workers compensation renewal.

Offered by Council Member Anne Brown, supported by Council Member Vogt

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson opened discussion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said she appreciates this because the last time they did this a few years ago that did the study was a company, this made her feel as if it was a conflict of interest. Council Member Vogt asked how they were able to save 45,000 a year on one insurance policy.

Ms. Myris answered that what they are looking at is the first version and its more around 29,000. She stated that the actual that was paid out was 219,000; she received a message from the MML who have a different kind of program in which Ypsilanti paid a premium only that

covers all expenses. She said if there are more questions about what is covered Judy Thompson from the Michigan Municipal League (MML) is here to answer questions.

Council Member Vogt asked Ms. Thompson to explain how the self-insured pool works. Ms. Thompson explained that the MML workers comp fund started in 1977, it's a pool of over 900 public entities that pool together for workers comp for MML, workers pay a premium and the MML follows the workers compensation act. She said the City pays an annual premium and there is a year-end payroll on it, depending on if pay roll is up or down you could get money back or pay more premiums, but everything else is taken care of by the MML. Ms. Thompson stated that the MML has a very strong program in 2001 the state gave the MML compensation fund a reward for how all the compensation pools should work.

Council Member Vogt stated that MML is non-profit, and that the previous carrier Comp-1 is for-profit. Ms. Thompson stated that Comp-1 is a third party claims administrator. Ms. Myris said that Midwest Employers Casualty was the name of the Insurance Company. Council Member Vogt said that we have eliminated the corporate profit figure with a non-profit entity and saved money for the tax payers.

Ms. Thompson said she would also like to point out that with the MML worker's compensation fund once you are in for a certain period of time the state allows them to declare dividends from a given policy year the City is eligible for a dividend return for the policy year it was in. She said historically the dividends have averaged about 30%, she said it comes back over time but that is the return. Council Member Vogt thanked Ms. Thompson.

Council Member Robb said that the one thing he couldn't come to terms with is that there is two handouts, one said City of Ypsilanti employees' claims and fees experience and the other said Worker's compensation fund, and he asked what the difference is. Ms. Myris said that the workers' compensation fund is from the financial report, the actual cash paid for that fund and these are the expenses that came out of that. She said there was handout with the MML that was done by the previous HR Manager, so she isn't quite familiar with those numbers.

Council Member Anne Brown asked Ms. Myris if she's been with the City for 6 months. Ms. Myris responded that she's been here 3. Council Member Anne Brown thanked her for doing such hard work.

Council Member Robb said that each of the spread sheets the claims paid don't seem to match up, he asked Ms. Myris which one is she providing. Ms. Myris responded that it was actual audited number. Council Member Robb asked her what was the name of the file, workers comp fund expense review. Ms. Myris answered that it was the actual reports and that was correct, she said Manager McMullan has those. Council Member Robb said that he will have to look at them. Ms. Myris said that list the actual expenditures and what we actually paid for the fiscal year is on that worksheet.

Council Member Robb asked that in the balance sheet the numbers should match up. Ms. Myris replies that yes on the bottom if you look at total expenditures, she said the first part of that work sheet is related directly to worker's comp. Council Member Robb asked about the MML presentation where it says worker's compensation fees and expectations. Manager McMullen replied that one was dated. Council member Robb said there are three sets of numbers. Ms. Myris said that those are from the previous HR manager. Manager McMullan said that those numbers are the quote the previous HR Manager received from the MML, those are dated and everything else now is based on the real numbers.

Council Member Anne Brown asked Clerk Hellenga if he could send out the updated numbers. Clerk Hellenga said he sent it out yesterday but he will resend it if needed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if there was any further discussion.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2016-245 as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Absent	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: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

XII. LIASON REPORTS –

A. SEMCOG Update

Mayor Pro- Tem Richardson said there was a general assembly meeting on Thursday. She said they met in Troy. She said she went to the break out session that had to do with municipalities and education working together. She said there was another program of Beaumont Hospital working with High School. She stated the luncheon speaker was Tim Skubick, she said it was interesting how he would ask the group who was voting.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

Council Member Murdock reported the meeting is tomorrow.

C. Urban County

Mayor Edmonds was absent.

D. Freight House

Council Member Murdock reported the final fire test is ready for Thursday if everyone attends.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said she find the whole situation with the freight house interesting as it was up and working but was closed by Council vote 10 years ago.

E. Parks and Recreation

Council Member Anne Brown reported that Fall River Day was the last week, not as much participation this year as the previous two years. She said that they are doing Yoga in parks now, she said Friends of Peninsular Park met and EMU Business school is looking to do business around the park.

F. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

Ms. Ernat reported that the next DDA meeting is tomorrow morning and the previous meeting they discussed and invitation to participate with that UM class for a real Performa for participating

business they are working with Trojan Cleaners for redevelopment Performa to be created for them. She added DDA is looking to clean up their budget with grants and revenue.

Council Member Anne Brown said that someone purchased the store across from the bus depot. Ms. Ernat said that the Council approved an OPRA, she said they are moving forward with development it will have 12 creative office spaces, Land Mine studio is being created, the barber shop will stay put and there will be a café added. She stated that Lamp Shade has also been sold and we are expecting an application for a redevelopment liquor license. Council Member Robb asked if we advised them on that. Ms. Ernat said they were deep in the process when they came to the City.

Council Member Anne Brown asked about L and M Party store. Ms. Ernat said that records show a church purchased it. Council Member Anne Brown said that they already sold it. Ms. Ernat said we will look into that. Mr. Myer said we made contact three weeks ago and the church still owned it.

G. Eastern Washtenaw Safety Alliance

Council Member Anne Brown reported that they are scheduled to meet on October 31st 9:30 at EMU room 304 C.

H. Police-Community Relations/Black Lives Matter Joint Task Force

Council Member Anne Brown reported that they are still working on a subcommittee which made the recommendation to form the citizen oversight and the task force asked them to go back and put the structure together on how the committee would be operational.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said we could look forward to the task force coming to an end.

I. Friends of Rutherford Pool

Council Member Nicole Brown was absent.

XIII. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

Council Member Robb- He said we get the monthly report on SeeClickFix that separate what DPS is responsible for and the ordinance is responsible for, he said if you look at things like liter there are many people excited about the system and they ask for updates, he asked why is it taking so long to close issues. He said it doesn't have to be a big report, just something short from the Chief, he said the system doesn't seem to be working as it should.

Manager McMullen said we have talked to SeeClickFix about adding more buttons such as in process. Council Member Robb said he's not worried about that, he just said it takes 4 months to close issues and that's a problem, he said if you can find out why it take so long and what the process for handling that issues is.

Council Member Vogt- No Proposed Business

Council Member Anne Brown- She said that she has a resolution grab that she had Clerk Hellenga circulate. She spoke to the Mayor and Council Member Murdock about creating a sustainability commission but hopes to have it before Council by the next meeting. She said if there is anything Council would like to add please email her or call her. She asked Mr. Barr if that including any state or local environmental organization in the resolution be a charter issue.

Mr. Barr asked what the mission of the organization would be. Council Member Anne Brown answered that would be determined by the commission. Mr. Barr responded that if it's just an advisory board it

would be allowable. Council Member Anne Brown said that it is calling for a City Staff person who can be changed to one council person, 4 residents, 3 state or local environmental organization representatives, and a county resident.

Council Member Robb asked what the definition of sustainability is being used, he said that it could be doing any particular behavior over a long period of time. Council Member Anne Brown said they are looking at environment. Council Member Robb asked is in how we use resources. Council member Anne Brown said yes now and going forward.

Council Member Murdock said that we have a climate action plan, its reviewing that and seeing what we have done and what can be done. He said we have alternative fuel policy, he said there is a lot that we have done that needs to be updated. He stated that several people have kicked this around some, and unless there is staff for it, it will become frustrating. He stated that when these things were started we didn't have people in the planning department, but now we do. He said he has reached out to EMU and perhaps someone can follow up on that.

Council Member Anne Brown said that during the general assembly she attended the green infrastructure piece, she said there are things that other communities are doing that Ypsilanti needs to pick up the pace on.

Council Member Murdock- He said he still waiting for the list of committees. Clerk Hellenga said it was sent out today. Council Member Murdock said that he understands we are going to have a hearing on Bell Kramer on November 3rd. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said we are going to have a community meeting. Council Member Murdock asked what we are going to tell the people there.

Ms. Ernat said that we are telling them that we are listening to their concerns, we are allowing people to tell us their frustrations and concerns and we will make a plan of action at the meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said that she and Council Member Nicol Brown met and one of the things she asked in that meeting was that we needed to hear from the people and her choice would have been to hear from them a long time ago collectively. She said she asked at the meeting if staff would look for money to get testing done up and down the street where residents are to find out how bad things are, she stated we don't expect to have anything to present to the people at the meeting but it's a time for them to express their concerns.

Council Member Murdock asked what our plan was, are we going to say this is what we're going to do, or are we going to say this is a terrible situation and there's nothing we can do. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said that is why she said at the meeting she wanted staff to find the funds to do testing, so that we do have something to take to the meeting. She asked Ms. Ernat if she wanted to ask to it.

Ms. Ernat said ideally she would have more time to prepare and have two additional sources to tap for the meeting. She said it was the Down River Community Consultation. Council Member Anne Brown asked if we have already tapped them. Ms. Ernat replied yes but they do multiple requests so she will be making a plea with them. She said this isn't a Superfund eligible site because it was our land field. Council Member Murdock pointed out that when the City of Ann Arbor closed their land field it cost them millions of dollars to build a wall to keep the water from moving. Ms. Ernat said they are still talking to a potential buyer of the site.

Council Member Murdock said selling it does not fix the issue unless the buyer is going to take on the responsibility of fixing it. Council Member Anne Brown asked if Ms. Ernat or Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson met with any of the residents. They replied they have not. Council Member Murdock said he's just trying to make sure they can stop any of the built up frustration from the previous meeting by having a plan in place for the next meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson- She said this was for the ordinance officer, the house on the corner of Buffalo and Hamilton, which used to be a dental office, they have been having a yard sale for the last couple of weeks and months. Ms. Ernat said it's not the corner its more south. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if she knows about it.

Clerk Hellenga said it's on the document of AHB for Thursday. Ms. Ernat said they moved in a recreational vehicle this weekend and have trailer, she said there is a potbelly pig which is a service animal under the Americans with Disability Act. She said the house is the docket.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said there is another house she wants to talk about on 2nd Avenue, she said it's in the 300 block, she said this gentleman has been fined and made to clean up but it is right back. Ms. Ernat asked if it's the man with the garage. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said that there things in his yard, and the gentleman that he is next to it drives him crazy, she said there is also a number of cats in the midst of the stuff that's there. She asked if Mr. Jackson could go by.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said on Friday from 4 to 7 at Riverside Art Center there is going to be a discussion about signs going up in the gateway areas. Ms. Ernat said that project is being partially funded by the City from our See Tap Grant, the Visitor's Bureau, Washtenaw County and EMU.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XV.

Nominations

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if this is a new person. Manager McMullen answered no, he was on before then Saied and he didn't complete his term. She said this term is up in December, so we were getting on their schedule with him.

Ms. Ernat said that Phil works for SBA at WCC.

SmartZone

Phil Tepley
725 E. Grand Blvd.
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
(Exp. 6/30/2020)

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

Manager McMullan said she doesn't have any but will let Ms. Ernat announce the money received.

Ms. Ernat- She said that Washtenaw County Parks and Recs voted to approve 10,000 to the City for Mid-Cross Blocking as part of our match. Council Member Anne Brown asked if we are allowed to ask for more money. Ms. Ernat said not for this project but we can. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said if we do ask, ask largely because when we were closing our creation line out of the budget and the county said that whatever we asked for we could have but it was a one-time ask, and the person doing the ask, asked small.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if Manager McMullan would like Council to come up with some ideas. Manager McMullen said yes and please if you can send them this week.

XVII. COMMUNICATIONS –

- November 5th Clerk’s Office will be open for the purpose of absentee ballots (last day to request a ballot by mail).
- November 7th last day to request absentee ballot in person (no later than 4:00 p.m.).
- November 8th General Election.
- November 14th Council appointment meeting.
- November 15th Joint City Council and Ypsilanti Community Schools Board Meeting will be held at Ypsilanti International Elementary School (503 Oak St.)

XVIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson opens Audience Participation.

Mr. Barr said he has one item, he said that the state just past a medical marijuana statute and it follows our ordinance. He said that the state now will license medical dispensary, under the statute the ordinance can continue for the year but after we will have to amend it to make it work with the state. He stated that one of the interesting things is we can charge a fee up to 5,000 but we have to send it to the state when we collect it and they will send a portion back. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if we don’t get to keep the money. Mr. Barr said that this up at the state and it’s a complicated formula on how to do it and they proportion it to different community, so there will be some slippage on the money coming back.

XIX. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XX. CLOSED SESSION –

- Closed session attorney opinion. *OMA 15.268(h)*.

On a roll call, the vote to go into closed session as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Absent	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: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

XXI. ADJOURNMENT -

Resolution No. 2016-246, adjourning the City Council meeting.

Moved by Council Member Vogt, supported by Council Member Anne Brown