



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

Council Member Bashert	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Edmonds	Present
Council Member Richardson	Present		

III. INVOCATION –

Mayor Edmonds 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 –

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown moved, Council Member Bashert seconded to approve the agenda.

Council Member Robb moved to remove Resolution No. 2017-023 from the Consent Agenda, and move to Resolution/Motions/Discussions.

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

VI. PRESENTATIONS –

— Resolution No. 2017-001, supporting the “Don’t Stand Idly By” campaign.

Mayor Edmonds introduced John Weiss and Rabbi Josh Whinston.

John Weiss spoke in support of the “Don’t Stand Idly By” campaign. He said this is a common sense method to address gun violence. The companies that manufacture and distribute firearms have the ability to take action to reduce the incidents of gun related crimes and accidental shootings in the United States. These include improvements and innovation in technology and more accountable distribution methods. This resolution would add the City of Ypsilanti to the list of over 100 municipalities from across the country that are asking gun manufacturers about what steps they are taking to improve distribution practices and the development of new safety technologies. There is hope that if enough

municipalities sign on that gun manufacturers will become more accountable with their distribution practices and invest more in creating safety technology.

Rabbi Whinston stated the resolution is also intended to protect police officers by reducing the amount of black market guns on the streets. With the expectation that gun manufactures in the United States are taking care of their weapons from shipment to arrival at retail locations. The resolution is an important first step in Michigan and thanked Council for showing leadership for this issue.

WHEREAS more than 33,000 people per year in the United States have been killed with firearms in recent years; and

WHEREAS a resident of the United States is 25 times as likely to be murdered with a gun than is a resident of other advanced nations; and

WHEREAS Americans from across the political spectrum agree that our nation should strive to reduce the number of our neighbors who are killed or injured with firearms or terrorized by gun-related crime; and

WHEREAS the companies that manufacture and distribute firearms have the ability to take actions that will reduce the incidence of gun-related crimes and accidental shootings in the United States; and

WHEREAS these actions – including improvements and innovations in gun-safety technologies and distribution practices – can be taken voluntarily by these companies and without the slightest harm to the established rights of Americans to own and use firearms; and

WHEREAS in a growing number of municipalities, counties and states across the nation – more than 100 jurisdictions to date – public officials and law enforcement leaders have taken steps to initiate dialogue with leading gun manufacturers about these actions; and

WHEREAS these public-sector leaders and their jurisdictions are customers of the gun industry, purchasing firearms for the purpose of equipping law enforcement officers in order to protect public safety; and

WHEREAS the public sector collectively represents a significant share of the marketplace for guns and ammunition in the United States; and

WHEREAS religious and civic leaders, public officials and law enforcement officials across the nation have created the “Do Not Stand Idly By” campaign to use the collective purchasing power of the public sector to encourage life-saving innovation in the gun industry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti call upon the Mayor Amanda Edmonds and Police Chief DeGiusti to participate in this nationwide effort by taking the following actions:

- **Adding their names, as representatives of the City of Ypsilanti, to the Request for Information being submitted to leading firearms manufacturers from more than 100 public-sector jurisdictions seeking information about the companies’ gun-safety technologies and distribution practices.**
- **Taking additional steps as they see fit to encourage leadership within the gun industry in the improvement of distribution practices and the development of new safety technologies, such as:**
 - **Testing and evaluating existing gun-safety technologies – including “smart guns” – as well as new technologies as they become available.**
 - **Developing purchasing practices and specifications that maximize the public safety benefits achieved through [the City’s] firearms purchases.**
 - **Collaborating with peers in other jurisdictions in these efforts.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the leaders of the gun manufacturers that receive the Request for Information from the City of Ypsilanti and other jurisdictions across the United States to respond in writing to the “Do Not Stand Idly By” campaign and participating jurisdictions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the chief executive officers of Glock, SIG Sauer, Beretta, Smith & Wesson, Colt, Remington, and Sturm, Ruger & Co.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown
 SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

Mayor Edmonds thanked Mr. Weiss and Rabbi Whinston for bringing this resolution to the attention of Council and is happy to be a sign on to this campaign.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-001 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

VII. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Edmonds introduced the following individuals; Interim City Manager Frances McMullan, Interim City Clerk Andrew Hellenga, City Attorney John Barr, Fire Chief Max Anthonard, City Planner Bonnie Wessler, Economic Development Director Beth Ernat, Police Chief Tony DeGiusti, and Community Development Manager/DDA Director Joe Meyers.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Carole Clare, 324 Garland, stated she is the former City Assessor for Ypsilanti until 2006. In 2005 Joseph Golder requested aerial photos of his property, and since then she has been working with him to address the taking of his property. In 2014 she and Mr. Golder met with the City Manager and the City Attorney. At that meeting the City Manager called the claim frivolous and the City Manager agreed to meet with her later but never returned her phone calls. She distributed documents for Council to review and hope they consider this serious matter.
2. Lawrence Wartley, 423 S. Huron, stated last summer the previous City Manager threatened legal action against him, without due process. The action has made it difficult to sell his property and he has tried to determine the status of that issue. He said there was a civil rights investigation in which it was discovered the actions taken against him were discriminatory. He asked is his property, or himself still under conviction without being allowed due process.
3. Lilly Ellis, 760 Jenness, stated many people are here to speak about the Don't Ask Immigration Ordinance, but she would also like to voice her support for the Black Lives Matter Task Force Resolution to develop a Community Police Review Board.
4. Libby Hunter, 827 Bruce, Ann Arbor, stated she has three topics to discuss. She brought to the attention of an article written by the ACLU about Muskegon joining a nationwide push for community control over police surveillance. She asked for an update regarding Radical Washtenaw's report about bench warrant arrests in Ypsilanti. She said Radical Washtenaw received a response from Chief DeGiusti stating, "if you want to reduce bench warrants increase the money bond so individuals cannot be released before their court date". She said the response is cynical and heinous, and the department of justice has stated that practice is unconstitutional. The last point is recently there was a SWAT team shooting recently and the public has been given very little information regarding the incident.
5. Joseph Golder, 1002 Washtenaw, stated his property was illegally taken five years ago and since he has been lied to, bullied, intimidated, and treated like a second class home owner and human. He asked when Council will standup and honor the rights guaranteed to him by the US Constitution. He asked that Council vote tonight to have a real survey completed to uncover the misuse of the 1999 Michigan Institution Road Fund Grant and the 2011 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Grant. He requested an independent investigation into the illegal taking of his property, tampering of public records, the withholding of FOIAed documents, grant fraud, questionable actions by the City and EMU, and anything else that could be uncovered. If Council does not follow through it does not fairly represent all residents of Ypsilanti. He was told to get an attorney, which would cause him to go bankrupt in order to have his rights served. He asked if the City would tell immigrants, minorities, LGBTQ, or individuals with disabilities to get an attorney to have their rights delivered.

IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

- Asked Chief DeGiusti for any information regarding the SWAT incident.

Chief DeGiusti responded there are multiple jurisdiction involved, and ultimately the State Police are in charge of the investigation. Because of that any information regarding the case would be coming from the State Police. He said the individual involved has been charged with some serious crimes, however, only half the investigation has been completed. Currently, other than what has already been said the Ypsilanti Police Department does not have further information to

provide. Mayor Edmonds asked the County's involvement in the incident. Chief DeGiusti responded the County Sherriff's Department is cooperating with the State Police investigation. Mayor Edmonds asked why the investigation was turned over to the State Police. Chief DeGiusti responded to provide greater transparency.

- Mayor Edmonds stated any further legal questions will be forwarded to the Attorney's Office for response.

Council Member Murdock stated he, Joe Golder, Carole Clare, the City Attorney, and the former City Manager met some time ago to resolve the issue. A solution was developed that both parties agreed to, which included another survey. Both parties agreed to adhere to the findings of that survey, unfortunately Mr. Golder withdrew from the agreement.

X. ORDINANCE – FIRST READING –

Ordinance No. 1281

1. An Ordinance amending Ypsilanti City Code by adding Article V. Solicitation of Immigration Status, to Chapter 58 Human Relations.

- A. Resolution No. 2017-016, determination

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

An ordinance titled an ordinance to add a new Article V. to Chapter 58 of the Ypsilanti City Code, Solicitation of Immigrantion Status is hereby adopted, on first reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

- B. Open public hearing

1. Margaret Harner, Ypsilanti Frist Congregational Church & Washtenaw County Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights (WICIR), stated around this room there are either immigrants, new immigrants, or immigrants with a familial history of immigration and together we have woven a very wonderful fabric of diversity. This community always has been very receptive to inclusion and values the diversity. There is a possibility that some of our neighbors might be taken away from this community as a result of their immigration status. That would be a tear in the communities tapestry, which is something this community should not allow to happen. Those in this community must be protected as this community has done in the past. There is possible legislation both at the state and federal levels and City officials should be in contact with attorney's that can assist with possible issues. Rachel Sutledge at Wayne State University has held an immigration clinic and is a well renowned attorney, and she would be more than happy to provide help.
2. Daphne Luhesa, 336 E. Clark, stated she is a member of the WICIR teen group and is here in support of the Non-solicitation of Immigration Status Ordinance. She hasn't been stopped with her family and questioned about

their ordinance status, however, she has been worried about what would happen to her or her family if this occurred. It would be very important for hers and other families to have this ordinance be passed.

3. Ashley Fox, 905 Pleasant Dr., stated he is here to speak in favor of the passage of this ordinance. He said if passed this ordinance could help public safety because it would give assurance they will not be deported as a result of assisting a police investigation. He noted the valedictorian of the STEM Middle College has an undocumented status. He said these individuals are contributing to the community and should be able to feel safe.
4. Lily Ellis, 760 Jenness, thanked Council for their work on not only this ordinance but the Non-Discrimination Ordinance that will be heard on second reading. She said as previously stated both the state and federal governments have been posturing to remove funding from communities that protect their immigrant populations, but have yet to pass any legislation doing so. She said Council should move forward with the passage of this ordinance and address any possible legislation in the future.
5. Maria Ibarra-Fraye, 2127 Golfside, stated she recently moved into the City and currently has Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status, which can be eliminated anytime the new administration chooses. To know Ypsilanti will provide safety and security if she were to have an encounter with the police. She encouraged Council to support this ordinance and think about young people who are afraid.
6. Paige Anderson, 610 Gott, stated she supports this ordinance, and asked for clarification of a section of the ordinance that states "an employee will not ask for a person immigration status unless it is required by state or federal law".
7. Quinn Phillips, 414 Emmet, stated she is here in support of the immigration status ordinance. She suggested strengthening the ordinance that no City funds will be used in the enforcement of immigration law, or gather and disseminate information regarding immigration status, or cooperating with INS in the detention of immigration, and any existing questions will be deleted in 60 days. She said she is a social worker who works with undocumented immigrants, some of whom are unable to take action against a landlord because of their immigration status.
8. Rich Stahler-Sholk, 1542 Sillers Terrace, Ann Arbor, stated he works at EMU teaching in the Political Science Department, specializing in Latin American Politics. He said one of the reasons many immigrants come here is fleeing the military and foreign policies of the United States Government. The last time there was a major sanctuary movement was during the Central American Wars. He said the world is going through very mean times and the discourse of the leadership is attempting to divide people. He said he is very glad to see Ypsilanti is moving in this direction, and strongly supports this initiative.

9. Sarah Shogren, 114 N. Hamilton, thanked Council for approving the Non-Discrimination Ordinance on first reading. She said she has lived the majority of her life in Ypsilanti, and although she has travelled the country she always chooses to return to Ypsilanti. When outside of Ypsilanti she always speaks with pride about her City. She thanked City Council for considering this ordinance.
10. Dominic Shoopman, 772 N. Wagner Rd., thanked Council for approving the Non-Discrimination Ordinance on first reading. Like many people we have a very good reason to expect profoundly evil federal policy from the present administration. This ordinance is an important measure Ypsilanti can take as a community to defend its richest form. He encouraged the passage of this ordinance.
11. Elizabeth Snook, 1344 Marlboro Dr., Ann Arbor, supported the passage of the ordinance. She stated human dignity should not be determined by borders, and putting focus on undocumented immigrants is taking away from what is really important.
12. Kim Daly, 407 E. Kingsley St., Ann Arbor, stated she is a graduate student at the University of Michigan and part of the Ann Arbor Solidarity Farmworkers Collective. She voiced her support for the ordinance and thanked everyone for showing up for this ordinance.
13. Maria Luz Garcia, 746 N. Mansfield, stated she is a faculty member at Eastern Michigan University and has been doing much of her work in the past fifteen years in Guatemala where large numbers of unaccompanied minors have been coming to the United States. These individuals have had difficulties with officials in the immigration system in regards to interpretation and understanding the system itself. She supported the passage of the ordinance.
14. Alice, 2011 Medford Rd, Ann Arbor, stated she works at the Family Learning Institute, which works to close the achievement gap in Washtenaw County. Many of the children she works with are undocumented, and the fear these children feel is incredibly difficult to describe. Many of these families are going through so much already, without adding the extra stress of deportation. She believes passing this measure could assist in the achievement later in life.
15. Audience Member, 523 Hill St., Ann Arbor, stated she is glad that local governments are taking a progressive stand against possible federal policy. She thanked Council for considering this ordinance.
16. Gabriel Recentives, 5229 W. Michigan Ave, stated he is currently a student at EMU and is working to make EMU a sanctuary university. If that is successful along with this ordinance it will help the student immigrant population feel safe.

17. Cosmo Abes, 615 N. Adams, stated an important viewpoint to consider is the borders of this country are on stolen land, and deportations are really tantamount to ethnic cleansing.

C. Resolution No. 2017-017, close public hearing

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

That the public hearing for an ordinance titled an ordinance to add a new Article V. to Chapter 58 of the Ypsilanti City Code, Solicitation of Immigration Status be officially closed.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Council Member Richardson

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Edmonds stated she was made aware that a Republican State Representative Pamela Hornberger informed the state house legislature she would be offering a sanctuary city prohibition act. This bill is could be introduced as soon as next week, and is similar to Senate Bill 445 introduced in September of 2015. She said she is still planning on moving forward with the passage of this ordinance because it is time to be on the right side of history. She explained the way this ordinance was drafted is beyond law enforcement and does apply to all members of staff, City Council, Boards and Commissions, and all contracted professional services.

Council Member Robb asked if the ordinance would apply to Friends Groups. Mr. Barr responded if the group has a contract with the City they would need to comply with the ordinance. Mr. Robb stated the MOU recently passed between the City and Washtenaw Community College (WCC) only states WCC would be required to follow the law. Mr. Robb asked if each MOU would need to be amended. Mr. Barr responded he would need to review each MOU individually to make his determination. Council Member Murdock explained contract employees would be the Attorney's Office, or other professional services contracts, and does not apply to general contracts. Mr. Robb asked if a new contracts would need to be passed if this language is not in those contracts. Mr. Barr responded the language presented is broad enough to cover those contracts.

Council Member Robb asked if the Police Department is assisting Immigration and Customs Enforcement they are permitted to inquire about a person's immigration status. Mr. Barr responded the ordinance was drafted to avoid unintended consequences. He explained if an immigrant is charged with certain crimes they are subject to deportation, and the immigrant should be aware of that before the process completes. He said if the individual pleads it could lead to an unintended consequence. The provisions of the contract are to protect both the immigrant and to allow the police to obey the law. Mr. Robb asked for an example of a crime that an officer could inquire about a person's immigration status. Mr. Barr responded criminal sexual conduct.

Council Member Robb said the ordinance also allows an officer to inquire a person's immigration status when processing an arrested person. He said if he were put in the back of a police car prior to being charged with a crime the police could ask him about his immigration status. Mr. Barr responded an arrest is when a person is taken into control by the police.

Council Member Robb asked what violations of this ordinance would be referred to Council and what would be referred to department heads. Mr. Barr responded that would depend on the chain of command and the severity violation. He

explained if an employee unintentionally violates the ordinance it could be handled internally. Council Member Murdock added it would follow the discipline procedure already set. The two employees that would automatically be referred to Council would be the City Manager and Clerk.

Council Member Robb asked what would happen if one of the professional services contractors violates this ordinance. Mr. Barr responded that would be subject to Council's decision.

Council Member Robb stated the Charter and Code of Ordinances to not reflect any disciplinary action that might arise from a violation of this proposed ordinance. He asked how this ordinance ties to the City's ethical code of conduct, and if something will need to be added to the ethical code of conduct. Mr. Barr responded no, and explained in the Preface of the City Charter it outlines the standards for public servants, and one standard is to follow the law.

Council Member Robb asked if this ordinance would apply to current union contracts. Mr. Barr responded the State of Michigan states labor law as the highest law in the land, and the City Ordinance cannot violate a union contract. He said the procedure would be to negotiate the terms of the contract. Mr. Robb asked if this is adopted union employees would not be subject to discipline for its violation. Mayor Edmonds asked if the ordinance does not actively disagree with the union contract it would still need to wait to renegotiate the contract. Mr. Barr responded yes, in terms of employment a union employee would not be subject to discipline until the contract is renegotiated. Council Member Murdock stated police officers need to abide by the General Orders of the Police Department. He said this should be acceptable, but if an employee wishes they could file a grievance. Mr. Barr added the Police Chief did not find issue with this ordinance. Chief DeGiusti stated this is similar to any other policy procedure at the Police Department. He said officers are given fair notice, usually a fourteen day period, and Police General Orders are changed as law changes and he does not see this as a contractual issue. Mr. Robb asked if this information has been shared with the labor attorney. Mr. Barr responded no.

Council Member Bashert asked if this is passed and the State Legislature passes the bill discussed by the Mayor what will happen to the City's law. Mr. Barr responded the authority starts with the Michigan Constitution and all the power the City receives comes from the state. He said generally if the State makes a law then the City has no power to change that. Mayor Edmonds responded her interpretation of the proposed bill the City would lose funding. Mr. Barr replied the proposed House Bill is said to be similar to Senate Bill 445, but until he knows what it actually says it makes it difficult to opine. Council Member Murdock stated there has been discussion about banning sanctuary cities both at the state and federal level. He said a case can be made that this ordinance would not be impacted by the proposal in Lansing. He said this matter more than likely will be disputed in court. He said if you look at the reaction of the community, which is in support of these measures Council should not be scared off by that possibility.

Council Member Vogt stated his reading of Senate Bill 445 implies City would lose funding if it did not comply with the law. However, there would be many law suits before the state would be able to get to that point. He said this is a moral issue, and what matters to him is the end goal of is the person a law abiding good citizen. That premise should be the sole issue when discussing citizenship. Deporting an individual without examining the merits of that individual is amoral. He said on a practical level it is also damaging to this country.

Mayor Edmonds stated what is important about this is Ypsilanti has worked to protect people for a long time. However, for this to be affective organizing will need to move across the City's borders, the County, and expand into the State. She said the goal is to ensure a person is safe if they are within the borders of the City or outside.

Council Member Richardson stated the threat the state will withhold revenue sharing from the City should not matter since the state has withheld the \$1.2 million in revenue sharing a year from municipalities. Mayor Edmonds added the state has withheld around \$10 million from the City over the past eight years.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown stated she is a first generation of her family born in this country. Her parents and grandparents both immigrated, and some of her family is still undocumented. She is very fortunate to have worked on this ordinance and is very thankful this community is so welcoming to the immigrant population.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-016 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Ordinance No. 1282

2. An Ordinance amending Ypsilanti Zoning Code for PMD, Production, Manufacturing, and Distribution.

Community Development Director Beth Ernat stated residents of the Bell/Kramer neighborhood who are available for testing received an agreement to test. The agreements have been updated as a result of the language in the original agreement regarding liability. There was a belief the City would be absolved of any liability, and the new agreement states the City would be absolved from liability upon entering the structure, or property.

A. Resolution No. 2017-018, determination

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the Bell-Kramer neighborhood has a residential character; and

Whereas, the current zoning of PMD does not permit existing residences to be rebuilt in the case of a casualty; and

Whereas, the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance will help to ensure that current owners of residential properties can retain value in those properties;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the amendment to Chapter 122, Article IV, Section 205 of the City’s Code of Ordinances on FIRST READING.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
 SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

City Planner Bonnie Wessler stated the Bell/Kramer neighborhood, which is adjacent to a former landfill at I-94. This area was rezoned to PMD, Production, Manufacturing, and Distribution in 2014. This is an industrial designation and does not allow for homes to be rebuilt if there are destroyed as a result of a fire, nor does it allow for single family homes to be built.

In November of 2016 this was brought to Council for guidance on how this are should be zoned, and instruction was given to bring the matter before the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission reviewed the recommendation and agreed to add the sentence, "single family and two family homes on individual lots that are considered non-conforming use in a PMD zoning district shall be allowed to be rebuilt regardless of the amount of damage done as long as the rebuild is not enlarged, or expanded". This would allow for homes to be rebuilt in the case of a casualty, however, it does not allow for new construction.

B. Open public hearing

1. Larry Simmons, asked if what is being proposed is a person may rebuild their home, but it cannot be built new.

Mayor Edmonds responded a damaged home could be rebuilt, but new construction would not be permitted.

Mr. Simmons asked what can be done with vacant land. Mayor Edmonds responded vacant land is not eligible for new construction. However, the City owns most of the vacant land in that area.

2. Erin Schneider, 129 Bell, stated she supports this ordinance and it is a good first step. She hopes the City will continue to look at this further after the contamination testing is complete. She said this does allow for her property to have value again, but it does not allow all the property rights it once had. She added she hopes Council will strongly consider rezoning this are back to residential depending on the contamination levels.
3. Michael Simmons, 128 Bell St., stated he applauds the efforts being made by the City to restoring that community back to what it once was. From His understanding there is supposed to be a caveat to this ordinance that after the testing is complete it would be reviewed. If it is found the contamination is not at unsafe levels the neighborhood could be returned to residential. He said he did not here that in the resolution as read.
4. Cherissa Lamarr, 123 Bell St., stated it is her understanding is the neighborhood still has a PMD zoning designation. Her goal is for the neighborhood to be restored back to a residential designation. She does not see a reason for the neighborhood to have a PMD designation. She hopes the testing does come back favorably and the neighborhood will be returned back to a residential designation. She added she has not received an agreement for testing and thinks it is ludicrous that some have received the agreement, but not all.

C. Resolution No. 2017-019, close public hearing

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the public hearing for an ordinance to amend Chapter 122, Article IV, Section 205 of the City's Code of Ordinances by officially closed.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt

SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the public hearing was closed.

Council Member Richardson agreed with the comment that this is a good first step. She said the Planning Commission did commit to the residents that once the testing is complete and the results were clear this neighborhood would be made whole. She stands with the residents to restore the neighborhood to a residential designation. She asked Council to put themselves into the shoes of the people living in this neighborhood. She said many of these residents have lived there for years, and now their lives are being disrupted. She said there are property owners in the area that have a goal of building a home near their families.

Council Member Richardson moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown that if no contamination is found that this neighborhood be returned to R2.

Mayor Edmonds asked the City Attorney if it is proper to amend a resolution for a zoning ordinance amendment in this manner. Mr. Barr responded that could be a post script to this ordinance.

Council Member Robb stated the Planning Commission minutes were not included in the packet, and asked if the Planning Commission said they would revisit this, or they would change it. Ms. Wessler responded the Planning Commission would revisit this after testing was complete. Mr. Robb stated this would not require Council action if the Planning Commission has already agreed to revisit this. Mayor Edmonds stated if she understands what was said by Mr. Simmons it is the desire of the residents of that neighborhood that Council solidify the commitment in the resolution.

Ms. Wessler stated "making whole" is a legal specific term, and the Planning Commission spoke about an area plan and not making whole. Council Member Richardson disagreed, and said the Planning Commission did speak about making this neighborhood whole.

Mr. Barr stated the motion reads if no contamination is found it would go to the Planning Commission. He does not believe Council can order the Planning Commission to come to a particular conclusion, but they could revisit it. Council Member Richardson responded she is stating what was said by the Planning Commission.

Council Member Vogt stated he does not understand what is meant by "return" or "revisit", and asked what the ultimate thing is being asked for Council to declare. Council Member Richardson responded that this residential neighborhood be returned to the zoning designation it once had. Mr. Vogt asked what zoning designation that is. Ms. Richardson responded R2.

Mayor Edmonds asked what the previous zoning classification was. Ms. Wessler responded R2, but the last zoning code had a completely different set of zoning districts, and the R2 district no longer exists. Ms. Edmonds asked what the equivalent zoning district is. Ms. Wessler responded CN Mid, but it would probably would not be a good fit for this neighborhood, and suggested a designation of R1, but she would need to review the lot sizes.

Council Member Vogt objected to the term "made whole" stating is a vague term. He suggested providing a clear designation. Council Member Richardson stated in the motion she did state that this neighborhood be given its residential classification. Mr. Vogt asked for the motion to be restated.

Mr. Barr asked if Council is so inclined to pass this on first reading allowing time to work with Council Member Richardson to provide language for second reading. Mayor Edmonds asked if Council Member Richardson would like to withdraw her motion until the second meeting. Council Member Richardson denied to withdraw her motion.

Michael Simmons, 128 Bell St., asked for clarification of what is meant by "contamination" in the motion. Mayor Edmonds stated Mr. Simmons makes a valid point, the City is aware there is contamination in landfill, the question is where else the contamination is.

Council Member Richardson withdrew her motion.

Council Member Richardson stated she will work with the Attorney's Office to form resolution language for second reading.

Council Member Murdock asked that the Planning Commission minutes be provided for second reading.

Council Member Richardson called to question.

On a roll call, the vote to Call to Question was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-018 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

XI. CONSENT AGENDA –

Resolution No.2017 - 020

1. Resolution No. 2017 - 021, approving the minutes of December 17, 2016.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of December 17, 2016 be approved.

2. Resolution No. 2017 - 022, approving nominations to Boards and Commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT, the following individuals be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions as indicated below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>TERM</u> <u>EXPIRATION</u>
Ann Stevenson (Reappointment) 707 Collegewood Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Historic District Commission	1/31/2020

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-020 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

~~3. Resolution No. 2017-023, supporting the submission of a grant application to the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation for playground equipment for Riverside Park. (Moved and heard during Section XII, Resolution/Motions/Discussions)~~

XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. Resolution No. 2017- 024, approving Ordinance 1279 amending Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, being Section 58-91 through Section 58-99 of the Ypsilanti City Code.
(Second Reading)

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

The certain ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend the Discrimination Ordinance of the City of Ypsilanti" Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, being Section 58-91 through Section 58-99 of the Ypsilanti City Code be adopted on second and final reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Bashert
SECONDED BY: Council Member Murdock

Council Member Bashert stated this year is the twentieth anniversary of the drafting of the original language of the Non-Discrimination Ordinance. She said she is proud and excited to be a part of the continued strength and flexibility of the ordinance. Mayor Edmonds stated Council Member Bashert was a strong part and leader during the passage and defense of this ordinance in previous years.

Mayor Edmonds stated she has asked the Attorney's Office to prepare a fact sheet regarding this ordinance. Mayor Edmonds asked when this ordinance will take effect. Interim City Manager McMullan responded thirty days after tonight.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-024 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

2. Resolution No. 2017-025, approving Ordinance 1280 amending Ypsilanti City Code by adding a new Division 5 Sustainability Commission, to Chapter 2 Administration, Article IV Boards and Commissions. **(Second Reading)**

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

An ordinance titled an ordinance to add a new Article V. to Chapter 58 of the Ypsilanti City Code, Solicitation of Immigrant Status is hereby adopted, on first reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bashert

Mayor Edmonds stated she has received several applications to sit on this commission.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-025 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

3. Resolution No. 2017-026, authorizing staff to apply for the SAFER Grant.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The Fire Department qualifies to apply for a FEMA grant under the 2016 Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER)

Grants. The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' ability to comply with the staffing, response, and operational standards established by the NFPA 1710; and

WHEREAS, three firefighters will place the Fire Department back into compliance with NFPA 1710 and will also make the Department compliant with MIOSHA's "two-in, two-out" requirement.

WHEREAS, the total amount of the three year grant is \$819,216 and the maximum City's financial participation due to matching requirement will be \$314,033 if we do not obtain a "cost share" waiver; And,

WHEREAS, three additional personnel will reestablish a staffing level of six persons per shift and reduce overtime in excess of the City's maximum financial participation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council authorizes the Fire Department to apply for the grant.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

Fire Chief Max Anthouard stated in 2013 the Department had only fifteen firefighters in fire suppression. During that time period overtime increased to about \$250,000 a year. As of yesterday Lt. Schultz was promoted to Fire Marshall and in April two other firefighters will be lost to retirement again dropping the numbers to fifteen. He said he would like to apply for a SAFER grant for three firefighters in order to stay at the eighteen threshold. Three weeks before the end of the grant three more firefighters will retire, which will put the City in a situation to reapply once it expires in 2021. Chief Anthouard stated the numbers provided are accurate for the FEMA calculation, and the City's portion is \$314,000. However, considering the cost of \$250,000 yearly in overtime while staffed at fifteen in personnel, the investment made will be balanced by the savings in overtime. The SAFER Grant is now based on the first year salary of the firefighter, any raises are not reflected in the grant.

Council Member Murdock asked what the odds of the City are receiving continuous SAFER Grants. Chief Anthouard responded Dearborn Heights, Garden City, and Jackson were awarded consecutive SAFER Grants. He said he believes the City is in good shape to receive consecutive grants.

Council Member Bashert stated the City recently failed to pass a millage needed to keep the City solvent, and as a result Council instituted a hiring freeze. If the City needs to invest money in this grant to hire additional firefighters it is in conflict with the plans the City has made as a result of the failed millage. Mayor Edmonds responded the fire department overtime was at a level that was unsustainable before the City initially applied for the SAFER Grant. The City will find itself in the same place if the City does not receive this grant. Council Member Robb asked if Council needs to rescind the resolution that froze hiring. Ms. Bashert stated if Council decides to hire additional firefighters it might be seen as a credibility issue. Council Member Richardson responded in the City is awarded the grant it will pay for a major portion of the firefighters. Ms. Richardson explained she sees the firefighters paid for by the grant outside the hiring freeze. Mr. Robb stated this resolution

only authorizes the City to apply for the grant. Chief Anthouard replied if the City applies for the grant it is required to accept the award.

Council Member Murdock stated if the City receives the grant it will push the hiring of the firefighters forward three years. Chief Anthouard added the firefighters hired will be tier two, and will receive that benefit package. Mr. Murdock stated one the other firefighters retire the department will be back to fifteen people. Chief Anthouard responded in the affirmative, and explained that is why it is important to hire the new firefighters at the beginning of the grant.

Mayor Edmonds asked for an explanation of the "drop program". Chief Anthouard responded firefighters in the "drop program" have a set date for retirement, meaning the two personnel to retire in April cannot change their minds. He added the personnel participating in the "drop program" may leave before but not after the set date. Ms. Edmonds added new employees are hired in as tier two at a lower cost creating a savings for the City.

Council Member Robb asked does Council need to rescind its hiring freeze to apply for this grant. Council Member Murdock suggested amending the resolution to allow these employees to be hired."

Council Member Bashert asked if this is what fire protection looks like in Michigan. Chief Anthouard responded that is the trend, however it is beginning to improve. Council Member Murdock stated all fire departments, not just Ypsilanti, have been reduced significantly.

Chief Anthouard stated if the department decreases to fifteen it will not be able to provide the same level of service.

Council Member Murdock moved, seconded by Council Member Bashert that if City Council authorizes the hiring of three firefighters if the City is awarded the grant.

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-026 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-026 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

4. Resolution No. 2017-027, approving Parkridge Center endowment agreement with Mr. John Barfield.

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

The agreement between the City of Ypsilanti and John Barfield for endowment and financial support for Parkridge Center, entitled MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF YPSILANTI AND JOHN BARFIELD REGARDING PARKRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER be approved and the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign for and on behalf of the city, subject to the approval of the city attorney.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson

SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

Mr. Barr stated Mr. Barfield is very committed to the Parkridge Center and has committed to start an endowment, and commit to awarding the City \$11,000 a year to the City for Parkridge. Since that time he has established an endowment of \$200,000 with the Ann Arbor Community Foundation. The City has negotiated with Mr. Barfield and George Burrell, Mr. Barfield's CPA, who agreed to sign a draft contract. Essentially the contract states that Mr. Barfield will donate the interest of the \$200,000 to the operation of Parkridge. The cost to fund Parkridge totals around \$54,000 a year, and Mr. Barfield has agreed to pay \$27,000. Another aspect of that agreement is to purchase a home behind Parkridge Center for the City to demolish to use for further initiatives of the center. Mr. Barr added Mr. Burrell can facilitate the movement of funds while Mr. Barfield is out of town.

Council Member Robb stated the contract reads "Mr. Barfield will contribute \$27,000 if the City contributes at least \$27,000 for payment of such costs". He asked if the City is able to find outside funding to cover the City's share would that negate Mr. Barfield's contribution. Mr. Barr responded outside funding would count towards the City's contribution in his opinion. Mr. Robb asked when Mr. Barfield would be invoiced for his contribution. Mr. Barr responded he would be invoiced immediately for this year.

Mayor Edmonds asked for the status of the two years of payments he has already committed. Mr. Barr responded there has been no agreement for that payment. Ms. Edmonds asked if this contract would cover those payments. Mr. Barr responded no.

Council Member Murdock stated his concern is the contract contains several things that commit the City to expand services when the City is having difficulty supporting the services it already provides. The agreement is unclear on who will run the facility and who will be responsible for the facilities budget. Mayor Edmonds added the agreement also states a Parkridge Advisory Committee will also be established without providing explanation for what that is. She added there is already an established committee that has been operating for some time. Council Member Richardson stated there is currently a Parkridge Advisory Board. Ms. Edmonds asked if the current board presents a budget. Ms. Richardson responded in the affirmative. Ms. Richardson stated the City currently has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Washtenaw Community College (WCC) to provide the programming at Parkridge and provides that budget, and the advisory board budgets to keep the facility open.

Mr. Burrell stated the budget for Parkridge is \$54,000 this year, and to date the City has already paid roughly \$27,000 this year. He said Mr. Barfield recognizes that, and he will immediately contribute \$27,000 to fund the rest of the year.

Mayor Edmonds asked if it would be helpful to amend the contract under number 1, Center Operating Cost, section B to read "partial cost". Council Member Murdock stated as he understands it there is Parkridge staff outside of WCC. Interim City Manager McMullan stated the contract the City holds with WCC states the City is required to fund two staff members, and she is not certain if that would need to be addressed as a part of this contract. Ms. Edmonds replied it might be helpful to have it clarified. Ms. McMullan responded she does not feel it is necessary. Mr. Barr agreed that it would not be necessary.

Ms. McMullan explained when Council approved the MOU with WCC it was decided Parkridge would continue to stay open. To ensure the center would continue to operate a fund raising committee, comprised of city officials, was discussed, and that is what is included in this contract. The current advisory committee could be expanded to include fund raising. Ms. Richardson responded the committee has been participating in active fund raising, not just holding a funds raising event. Ms. McMullan replied city officials would like to be a part of that process. Ms. Richardson welcomed additional fundraising help, and any other ideas city staff might have.

Council Member Bashert asked what the cost is to demolish a home. Mr. Barr responded around \$11,000. Mayor Edmonds asked what the timeline is to demolish that structure. Mr. Barr responded the City will not acquire that property until the owner is ready to sell. Ms. Edmonds asked once the City acquires the property if funds are not available to demolish the building. Council Member Richardson stated the owner of the home in question is almost 103 years old, and the agreement made several years ago was that when she passed away the house would be sold to the Parkridge Advisory Board, and the home would then be deeded to the City.

Council Member Robb asked if this agreement will in any way commit the City to construct additional facility should Mr. Barfield raise the funds. Mr. Barr responded it does not.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-027 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

5. Resolution No. 2017-028, authorizing the Community-Policing and Black Lives Matter Task Force to develop a Community and Police Commission.

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

Whereas, by act of City Council the Community-Policing and Black Lives Matter Task Force was created in October of 2015 to examine police procedure to better serve the City of Ypsilanti; and

Whereas, the Task Force has examined several possibilities to improve community relations, one of which is the formation of a Community and Police Commission; and

Whereas, a sub-committee was established to develop structure of said commission and forward to the Task Force for approval; and

Whereas, the sub-committee listed four main responsibilities of the Commission; to review accusations of police misconduct, facilitate review of two to three policies per year, promote community policing, and promote the Citizens Police Academy; and

Whereas, the Task Force asks for City Council approval to continue its work to develop a Community and Police Commission, and to engage with the appropriate City Staff to complete its task.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti authorizes the Task Force to pursue the development of a Community and Police Commission and engage with the appropriate personnel to complete its task.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Richardson

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown stated a sub-committee was formed to examine best practices of community police commissions, and the committee developed an outline on how to structure that commission. After discussion through several Task Force meetings it was decided to seek approval from Council to move forward with the development of this commission. She stated she has met with Chief DeGiusti regarding the sub-committee recommendations regarding the review of policy, the Citizens' Police Academy, and community policing. The intention of this resolution is to receive the blessing of Council to move forward with the commission's development.

Council Member Murdock thanked the sub-committee and all others who have been working toward this goal. He suggested to add a timeframe to this resolution.

Council Member Murdock moved, seconded by Council Member Richardson to add "Further Resolved that the Task Force and staff bring forth an ordinance for first reading at the March 21, 2017 City Council meeting.

Council Member Robb stated that will only allow one meeting for the Task Force to develop the ordinance. Mayor Pro-Tem Brown stated she has another meeting scheduled with the Chief DeGiusti in the next couple of weeks. Council Member Murdock stated much of the work is complete, and the difficult part is the review of complaints. However, he believes it can be completed in that time. He stated if there is not a time scheduled for this to be on an agenda it might go back and forth between committee and the Task Force. He added once it gets to Council it can be modified over the first and second readings. Council Member Richardson agreed. Ms. Brown asked for the timeframe be pushed to the first meeting in April to allow for more time. Mr. Murdock agreed to postpone the deadline until the first meeting in April.

Council Member Murdock moved, seconded by Council Member Richardson to amend the motion moving the deadline from March 21st to April 4th.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Vogt to extend the meeting to 11:00 p.m.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was extended.

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-028 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-028 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

6. Resolution No. 2017 – 023, supporting the submission of a grant application to the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation for playground equipment for Riverside Park.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, there is community support for a playground in Riverside Park; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed park design was community-driven, design of the playground was vetted publically by the Park Task Force, the proposed park has been formally adopted in the Ypsilanti Parks Plan, and the City Park and Recreation Commission supports the proposed plan; and

WHEREAS, the proposed park includes accessible features, low-maintenance equipment, and equipment for varying age groups; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti needs grant support in order to implement the proposed park improvement in Riverside Park.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of Ypsilanti supports the application for grant being made to the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation for grant funds in the amount \$50,000 for the creation of a playground in Riverside Park. Additionally, the City Council approves of the in-kind match for installation and maintenance of said playground.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Brown

Council Member Robb asked for an explanation of the City match. Ms. Ernat responded there is not a match required for the grant, however, the support from the City is to install the equipment.

Mayor Edmonds asked if using this grant could prevent the City from submitting a larger proposal in the future. Ms. Ernat responded no. Ms. Edmonds added she may know of a person that could assist the City in being approved for this grant.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-023 was as follows:

Council Member Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

XIII. LIASON REPORTS –

- A. SEMCOG Update – Council Member Richardson stated the meeting will be held on Friday, January 27th.
- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Council Member Murdock stated at one time the City was thinking of rearranging the allocation of the Federal Highway Funds from 2017 to 2019. However, a partner jurisdiction has not been located making that possibility unlikely. As a result the City will have \$360,000 for roads projects to be completed this year.
- C. Urban County – Mayor Edmonds stated there was not an application for a priority project in the current round. That 10% will be reallocated to each of the participating jurisdictions, although there are attempts being made to address the Leforge corridor.
- D. Freight House – Council Member Murdock stated a temporary certificate of occupancy has been granted for the Freight House.
- E. Parks and Recreation - None
- F. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority – Mayor Edmonds stated there have been discussions about moving the recycling center from Frog Island Park to another location. The City is in violation of the Natural Trust Fund Grants because of the current location of the center. This effects the City's eligibility for approval of future grants. There were also discussions regarding snow removal

creating a safe and accessible DDA District. The DDA is still waiting for EMU to recommend a person to fill their seat on the DDA Board.

- G. Eastern Washtenaw Safety Alliance – Meeting Monday, January 30th.
- H. Police-Community Relations/Black Lives Matter Joint Task Force - None
- I. Friends of Rutherford Pool - Mayor Pro-Tem Brown stated a youth member has been appointed to the pool board.

Mayor Edmonds asked for Council Members to inform her of what other meetings they are attending, and would like added to liaison reports. Council Member Richardson stated she currently is liaison to both SEMCOG and Parkridge, however she does not believe Parkridge needs to have an official liaison report. Council Member Murdock stated he does not wish to take on any more liaison positions. Council Member Bashert stated she would become the liaison for the Parks and Recreation Commission and Sustainability Commission. Mayor Pro-Tem Brown stated she would maintain her current liaison positions. Council Member Vogt stated he is currently the alternate for WATS and is liaison to the Streetlight Alliance. He offered to be liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission, however, he is not certain of the time commitment. Council Member Robb stated he is satisfied with what he has.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown asked for a list of community and regional meetings.

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

Murdock

- Asked for a follow-up on the SWAT shooting, and the relationship the City has with the SWAT team.
- Stated there is debris and graffiti on the railroad and asked what could be done to fix the problem.

Ms. Ernat responded she spoke with OHM and Mr. Kirton who informed her the debris is all located on the MDOT right-of-way. The City has submitted a request for clean-up and will continue to do so. The City would face repercussions if it enters the right-of-way to perform the clean-up itself. She suggested leaning on state representatives and the City's lobbyist. Mayor Edmonds suggested Manager McMullan contact Representative Peterson and Kirk Profit to solicit assistance.

Mayor Edmonds stated on Michigan Ave between Harmony House and Miles there is garbage and other debris along the railroad right-of-way. She stated nefarious activity occurs there and it needs to be fenced off.

Richardson

- Asked for an update on the SWAT shooting.
- Announced that on February 28th Parkridge will be holding its annual Black History Program. She asked if the City will like to partner with Parkridge it would be welcomed.
- Asked if the City was still creating a newsletter.

Ms. McMullan responded the City is currently shorthanded and has not been able to create a newsletter.

- Asked for an update on the Towne Center.

Mayor Edmonds responded the former head of MSHDA was appointed to another position. However, she was given contact information to another person that could provide assistance. Ms. Ernat added both elevators are currently operating.

- Stated because there is federal funding involved in the construction occurring at Parkridge the project is supposed to follow the Section III rule, and they are not.

Ms. Ernat responded the contract is through Washtenaw County, and will look into that.

- Asked for an update on Water Street.
- Stated the lights appear to be out in the City Parking Lot.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

Nominations

Historic District Commission
Hank Prebys (**Reappointment**)
31 N. Grove
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Exp. 1/2020

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

None

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS –

- January 31st – Council Goal Session Meeting, held at SPARK East, 215 Michigan Ave, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

XVII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Ms. Gelletly, 921 Sheridan, stated she has an issue with signs being posted to trees in the City, and asked if there is anything can be done about it.

XVIII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

- None

XIX. ADJOURNMENT -

Resolution No. 2017 - 029, adjourning the City Council meeting.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson
SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.