



**CITY OF YPSILANTI  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
ONE SOUTH HURON STREET, YPSILANTI, MI 48197  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2005  
7:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Mayor Farmer	Present	Council Member Richardson	Absent
Council Member Gawlas	Present	Council Member Filipiak	Present
Council Member LaRue	Present	Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson	Present
Council Member Nickels	Present		

Council Member LaRue offered a motion to excuse the absence of Council Member Richardson. Motion was supported Council Member Gawlas.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Absent: 1 (Richardson)      Vote: 6

**III. INVOCATION**

Mayor Farmer 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. INTRODUCTIONS**

There were no introductions.

**VI. AGENDA APPROVAL**

Motion was made to accept the amended Agenda.

Yes: 6      No: 0      Absent: 1 (Richardson)      Vote: 6

CITY OF YPSILANTI  
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
ONE SOUTH HURON STREET, YPSILANTI, MI 48197  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2005  
7:30 P.M.

I. **CALL TO ORDER –**

II. **ROLL CALL –**

Mayor Farmer	P A	Council Member Richardson	P A
Council Member Gawlas	P A	Council Member Filipiak	P A
Council Member LaRue	P A	Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson	P A
Council Member Nickels	P A		

III. **INVOCATION –**

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 –**

VI. **AGENDA APPROVAL –**

VII. **PRESENTATIONS –**

- A. Zope Web-site Contact Management Program, David Behan, Washtenaw County Director of Information.
- B. Riverside Park Capital Improvement Program, Robert Bruner, Assistant City Manager.
- C. Blue Ribbon Finance Committee Income Tax Recommendation, Paul Tait, Chairperson.

VIII. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –**

IX. **MINUTES –**

- A. Resolution No. 2005 – 04, approving the Minutes of January 18, 2005.

X. **PUBLIC HEARINGS – FIRST**

- A. Public Hearing to receive public input on the proposed ordinance entitled, "Historical Preservation Ordinance Text Amendment."
  - 1. Open the Public Hearing
  - 2. Resolution No. 2005 -05, Close the Public Hearing.
  - 3. Resolution No. 2005 -06, Determination.
- B. Public Hearing to receive public input on the proposed ordinance, "An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations," Article VI "Inspection and Control of Certain Buildings."
  - 1. Open the Public Hearing
  - 2. Resolution No. 2005 -07, Close the Public Hearing.
  - 3. Resolution No. 2005 -08, Determination

XI. **RESOLUTIONS / MOTIONS -**

- A. Resolution No. 2005-09, authorizing the execution of contracts for various trades involved in the Riverside Arts Center Gallery Phase II Renovation project; that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the contracts subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney; that the City Manager is authorized to execute any changes orders for the scope of work, as may be necessary to fulfill the goals of the project, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney; and that the Ypsilanti DDA Director is authorized to make payments to the contractors approved pursuant to the authorized contracts upon satisfactory completion of services.
- B. Resolution No. 2005-10, approving a contract with the firm of Plante Moran for the Income Tax Study for the City of Ypsilanti in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 including data.
- C. Resolution No. 2005-11, approving the City's priorities for the Fiscal Year 2005-2006.
- D. Resolution No. 2005-11A authorizing fire protection for campus.
- E. Resolution No. 2005-11B to extend the moratorium for a threatened historic building.

XII. **COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –**

XIII. **LIAISON REPORTS –**

- A. SEMCOG Update
- B. Recreation Commission
- C. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
- D. Washtenaw Development Council
- E. Ypsilanti Area Community Foundation
- F. Smart Zone Local Development Finance Authority
- G. Washtenaw Metro Alliance

XIV. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –**

XV. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –**

- A. Resolution No. 2005 – 12, appointing members to the Boards and Commissions

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT –**

- A. Resolution No. 2005 -13

## **VII. PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. Zope Web-site Contact Management Program - David Behan, Washtenaw County Director of Information.**

1. David Behan, part of the management program for the County website, spoke regarding the One Washtenaw program, in which Washtenaw County is partnered with the City of Ypsilanti to provide services for the people in the community. Websites have been developed in partnership with the local municipal government in Washtenaw County.

2. Andy Brush spoke more about the items that David Behan had already discussed. He stated that each local unit of government should be able to take control of a website and put all of their own information on that website that is specific to their city. He said that each local unit has the same templates, which allows them to focus on the technology and to train and support the people at the cities, villages and townships who know the information best. They are currently hosting websites for 15 cities, villages and townships in the County, with Ypsilanti's being one of the largest.

### **B. Riverside Park Capital Improvement Program - Robert Bruner, Assistant City Manager.**

1. Robert Bruner, Assistant City Manager, discussed the Riverside Park Capital Improvement Program. He provided a handout. Riverside Park consists of 13.8 acres at 515 E. Cross St. According to a 2003 survey done for the Recreation Master Plan, Riverside Park is the most frequented park in the City with 65.1% of respondents saying that they visited Riverside Park. He stated that through a series of a few meetings, a fairly modest grant proposal was drawn up that would be eligible for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant program. Lighting improvement estimates came to \$60,000, Tridge maintenance would include resealing it to preserve what we already have, landscaping \$20,000 that would be focused on the entryways making the park inviting, and a new playground structure at around \$24,000. The total project would take around \$116,000, 75% of which would be grant eligible if we apply through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, a local match of \$29,000. Elvis Fest has already committed \$5,000 through the Depot Town Association. A local need of \$24,000 would be left over. He has scheduled a special event information meeting with the organizers of all the City's special events to be held on February 22, 2005. If a grant were to be pursued from the Michigan DNR, we would need to have a public hearing before the application deadline of April 1, 2005, the City Council would need to pass a resolution of support by the March 1, 2005 City Council meeting. The actual grant application is due on April 1, 2005.

### **C. Blue Ribbon Finance Committee Income Tax Recommendation - Paul Tait, Chairperson**

1. Paul Tait, Chairman of the City's Blue Ribbon Finance Committee, introduced Thomas Biggs, Christian Overland, Ingrid Kock, Frederick Davis, James Hawkins, and Steve Pierce, members of the Blue Ribbon Finance Committee.

Chairman Tait stated that the Blue Ribbon Finance Committee wished to recommend an action by the City Council to hire the firm of Plante Moran to conduct an income tax study for the City. He stated that proposals were sent to three firms, of which two responded, Rehmann Robison and Plante Moran. Subsequent to that the Committee received the proposals, examined the proposals, developed questions to ask of the consultants for clarity, received answers to these questions, and performed a reference check on both firms. Plante Moran is recommended despite the fact that they were not the lowest bidder. He stated that the Committee believed that Plante Moran was the stronger proposal. There were several strengths that went into the making of this recommendation: **1)** Plante Moran has conducted similar income tax studies for communities that are more comparable than those conducted by the other firm (those communities being Ann Arbor, East Lansing and Mt. Clemens vs. Sault Ste. Marie, Grandville and Mt. Pleasant), **2)** principle investigators for the firms and where they had their previous experience were stronger on the Plante Moran side (Plante Moran's investigators received all their experience working FOR Plante Moran, whereas the other firm's investigators had not received their experience working directly for that firm.), **3)** the amount of City staff time that might be required to work with the consultant. Plante Moran indicated that there would be a relatively small amount of staff time. The other proposal left the answer unclear as to how much time would be involved. He brought out that one member of the Committee requested that the matter be clarified, but that the major felt comfortable going with Plante Moran's proposal. The recommendation is to consider hiring the firm of Plante Moran in an amount not to exceed \$22,500, which includes both their work and the purchase of data files from the Department of Treasury (included in the \$22,500).

#### **VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

1. Tyrone Wilson, RAID and NAN, spoke regarding the 2004 Presidential Election and problems he saw in receiving Absent Voter Ballots and staff suspensions. He also talked about the help the County extended to the Clerk's office during that election.
2. Lee Tooson spoke about the Vacant Building Ordinance before Council. Mr. Tooson also discussed the alleged incident involving Ms. Green and the Ypsilanti Police.
3. Steve Pierce, 118 S. Washington, spoke of the Vacant Building Ordinance and how the Ordinance came to Council. He spoke of his concerns of how the Vacant Buildings Ordinance came to Council this evening.

4. Ingrid Kock, BRFC, spoke regarding the \$4,740 discrepancy in the quotes between the two comparable bids for the income tax study and the fact that this is a significant amount of money. She also talked about her concerns with the income level of individuals who could be taxed under the city income tax.
5. Joe Lawrence, 212 S. Huron St., supported Mr. Pierce's comments and wanted to expand on them.
6. John Donnelly, 628 N. Prospect, questioned why we would be considering a City Income Tax and was looking for printed information. Mayor Farmer pointed out that Audience Participation was not the time for Council to respond to issues. She did say that someone from the Blue Ribbon Finance Committee might be able to help him with this issue. She told Mr. Donnelly that if he would leave his phone number, someone would call him.
7. Rodney Nanney, 40 S. Summit St., commented on the Income Tax Study. He stated that \$22,000 is a lot of money and he said the Council is wise to get professional advice.
8. Leonardo Christian, 217 N. Summit, spoke of the housing situation, the rentals and the vacant buildings. He expressed concern over proposed expenditures.

**IX. MINUTES**

- A. Resolution # 2005-04**, approving the Minutes of January 18, 2005

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

That the Minutes of December 21, 2004 be approved.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nickels

Yes: 6      No: 0      Absent: 1 (Richardson)      Vote: 6

Minutes approved with noted corrections.

**X. PUBLIC HEARINGS – FIRST**

- A. Public Hearing to consider the proposed ordinance entitled Historic Preservation Ordinance Text Amendments.**

1. Open the Public Hearing
  - a. Audience Participation – There was no audience participation.
2. **Resolution #2005-05**, Close the Public Hearing

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

THAT the public hearing to consider the proposed ordinance entitled "HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS" be **officially closed**.

OFFERED BY: Council Member LaRue  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**3. Resolution #2005-06, Resolution Determination**

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled "HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS" be approved on **First Reading**.

OFFERED BY: Council Member LaRue  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**B. Public Hearing to receive public input on the proposed ordinance, "An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled 'Buildings and Building Regulations', Article VI 'Inspection and Control of Certain Buildings'."**

**1. Open the Public Hearing**

**a.** Rodney Nanney stated his objections and urged the Council to reject this Ordinance.

**b.** Joe Lawrence stated his deep concern for the Constitution. He believes that the Fifth Amendment would be compromised through the approval of this Ordinance. He ended by again stating his objections.

**c.** Steve Pierce also stated his objections. He feels that the Council has let the community down. He also stated his opinion that this is a violation of the Fifth Amendment.

**2. Resolution #2005-07, Close the Public Hearing**

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

That an ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE YPSILANTI CITY CODE, ENTITLED "BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS," ARTICLE VI "INSPECTION AND CONTROL OF CERTAIN BUILDINGS," DIVISION 1 "GENERALLY,"

BY ADDING AMENDING SECTION 18-111 "DEFINITIONS" BY ADDING A DEFINITION FOR "TRIGGERING EVENT," BY AMENDED DIVISION 5 "VACANT BUILDINGS," BY AMENDING SECTION 18-190 "INSPECTIONS" TO HAVE THE CITY COUNCIL BY RESOLUTION SET THE FEE FOR INSPECTIONS AND TO PROVIDE FOR LIMITED WAIVERS OF FEES; BY AMENDING SECTION 18-194 "ESCROW ACCOUNT" TO BE CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS CHANGES, TO PROVIDE FOR ESCROWS ONLY AFTER OCCURRENCE OF A TRIGGERING EVENT AND TO SET THE ESCROW FEES; AND BY AMENDING DIVISION 6 "DANGEROUS BUILDINGS" BY RENUMBERING CERTAIN SECTIONS AND BY ADDING SECTION 18-228 "COMPLIANCE; RETURN TO PRE-VACANT BUILDING STATUS" be officially Closed.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels  
SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**3. Resolution #2005-08, Resolution Determination**

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

That an ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE YPSILANTI CITY CODE, ENTITLED "BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS," ARTICLE VI "INSPECTION AND CONTROL OF CERTAIN BUILDINGS," DIVISION 1 "GENERALLY," BY ADDING AMENDING SECTION 18-111 "DEFINITIONS" BY ADDING A DEFINITION FOR "TRIGGERING EVENT," BY AMENDED DIVISION 5 "VACANT BUILDINGS," BY AMENDING SECTION 18-190 "INSPECTIONS" TO HAVE THE CITY COUNCIL BY RESOLUTION SET THE FEE FOR INSPECTIONS AND TO PROVIDE FOR LIMITED WAIVERS OF FEES; BY AMENDING SECTION 18-194 "ESCROW ACCOUNT" TO BE CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS CHANGES, TO PROVIDE FOR ESCROWS ONLY AFTER OCCURRENCE OF A TRIGGERING EVENT AND TO SET THE ESCROW FEES; AND BY AMENDING DIVISION 6 "DANGEROUS BUILDINGS" BY RENUMBERING CERTAIN SECTIONS AND BY ADDING SECTION 18-228 "COMPLIANCE; RETURN TO PRE-VACANT BUILDING STATUS" be approved on First Reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels  
SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

Yes: 5 No: 1 (Swanson) Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 5

**XI. RESOLUTIONS / MOTIONS**

- A. Resolution #2005-09**, authorizing the execution of contracts for various trades involved in the Riverside Arts Center Gallery Phase II Renovation project.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the City Council hereby authorizes the execution of contracts for various trades involved in the Riverside Arts Center Gallery Phase II Renovation project as follows:

Carpentry:                    DDI, Inc.  
                                     P.O. Box 130343  
                                     Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
                                     (\$13,300)

Casework:                    DDI, Inc.  
                                     P.O. Box 130343  
                                     Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
                                     (\$8,260)

Electrical:                    Ashcott Electrical, Inc.  
                                     11236 Lemen Rd., Suite C  
                                     Whitmore Lake, MI 48189  
                                     (\$5,200) and;

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the contracts subject to review and approval by the City Attorney; and

THAT the City Manager is authorized to execute any change orders for the scope of work, as may be necessary to fulfill the goals of the project, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney; and

THAT the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority Director is authorized to make payments to these contractors pursuant to the authorized contracts upon satisfactory completion of services.

OFFERED BY:                Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson  
SUPPORTED BY:            Council Member Nickels

Yes: 5    No: 0    Absent: 1 (Richardson)    Abstain: 1 (LaRue)    Vote: 5

- B. Resolution #2005-10**, approving a contract with the firm of Plante Moran for the Income Tax Study for the City of Ypsilanti in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 including data.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

NOW, THERE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ypsilanti City Council approves a contract with the firm of Plante Moran to conduct an Income Tax Study for the City of Ypsilanti in the amount not to exceed \$22,500 including data.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Gawlas  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nickels

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**C. Resolution #2005-11**, approving the City's priorities for the Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, the City Charter requires that each year in February, City Council provides the City Manager by resolution the budget priorities for the next fiscal year,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with the City Charter, the following direction is hereby given:

THAT, the City Manager present City Council with a balanced revenue and expenditure plan for the 2005-2006 fiscal year budget that uses the following goals and action strategies developed by City Council as principles to meet the basic needs and services now being provided to the community:

**Goal One**

**Continue to pursue a variety of strategies to strengthen the Financial capacity of the City**

***Highest Priority***

1. Continue to implement the Water Street Project, Cool Cities' efforts, and other downtown revitalization initiatives and anticipate and establish priorities for redevelopment projects such as:

Motor Wheel property	Lowell Street Exemplar property
Superior Coatings	Smith Furniture property
City Landfill	Gateway Area
DTE Building	West Cross Street area
Downtown and Depot Town Business Districts	Rail Initiative

**Thompson Building**

Harriet St. Exemplar Building  
Farm Bureau Property

**Train Depot**

Park Powerhouse  
Railroad St. area

2. Follow up on the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Local Finances to:

- a. Sponsor a series of informational meetings to share the findings and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Committee with a variety of audiences across the city, perhaps utilizing members of the Committee and partnering with others to get the message out.
  - b. Implement selected recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to the extent feasible.
  - c. Develop contingency plans for changes in state or local funding to provide a collaborative process for decision-making.
3. Aggressively pursue all relevant grant efforts and incentive programs to support development initiatives and maintain city funding to support and strengthen redevelopment efforts
4. Develop baseline cost/revenue estimates for alternative recreation policy options including:
- a. Return to the status quo before the cuts; i.e., a fully funded and city supported Recreation Department;
  - b. A fee structure for facility usage, with the city making facilities available with no programmatic efforts;
  - c. Regionalizing recreation, creating a regional recreation authority that would take over the functions of recreation for the region, with a broader tax base to support programming.

***Priority When Resources Permit***

5. Develop and implement systematic efforts to communicate the needs of the City to, and secure the support of, State and County officials, including such things as:
- a. Nominate city residents and encourage the appointment of city residents to positions on county boards and commissions
  - b. Systematically communicate and share information with state legislators as well County Commissioners from the area, inviting them to meetings periodically to discuss issues and sharing the city's action plan and needs
  - c. Participate with others through the MML and other organizations in statewide education and advocacy efforts on behalf of core cities and older urban areas
6. Move aggressively to seek appropriate investment in the city, consistent with the vision that has been expressed in the Master Plan, while insuring that development standards are met
7. Continue to:
- a. ensure that development expectations are clear and concise;
  - b. offer streamlined review and permitting processes; and
  - c. communicate access and service to prospective and current businesses
8. Develop strategies for:

- a. Minimizing the loss of property from the tax roll, including providing information to the public on the consequences of such action and requiring potential buyers to consider the fiscal impact on the city of the loss of tax base.
  - b. Maximizing the return of property to the tax rolls including discussions with other officials about a right of first refusal with EMU and the Ypsilanti School District to protect options for the City in obtaining land; e.g., the former credit union property, Fletcher School, and Bus Yard on River Road.
9. Identify alternatives as well as costs and potential revenues and develop recommendations regarding fees imposed on festival organizers

## **Goal Two**

**Continue to foster an environment in City government where communication and information is shared and services are provided in an efficient, cost-effective, friendly and timely manner**

### ***Highest Priority***

1. Continue to implement the plan for strengthening the City's Web Page as an additional vehicle for communication and information sharing; commit the staff and other resources needed to implement the plan and maintain the Page
  - a. Develop a policy regarding whether links to other entities should be placed on the city's website, and if so, the types of entities to be included
  - b. Examine the feasibility, costs and benefits of incorporating e-commerce applications on the city's website
2. Emphasize in Council and staff communications with residents and others
  - a. a "culture" of openness, a commitment by the City to information sharing and educating residents about the problems and challenges faced and the strategies to be employed to address them, and
  - b. a "culture" of "community services" in relationships between the City and residents, neighborhood organizations, and others
3. Utilize a variety of means to improve media coverage of community issues and to ensure that residents are provided sufficient information to understand and address policy issues
4. Continue to address employee fear and uncertainty about budget problems and potential budget reduction strategies through proactive Council communications as well as increased efforts by the City Manager to meet with departmental employees on a periodic basis ("Eat with Ed"!)

### ***Priority When Resources Permit***

5. Assemble a "Technology Task Force" to develop a long-range plan for using technology to improve the delivery of city services
6. Pursue technology improvements to equip City personnel to provide services in the most cost-effective fashion possible and ensure support for and maintenance of that technology infrastructure over time
7. Develop a set of service standards within each department to guide the delivery of services
8. Consider providing greater flexibility in schedule options and leave policy and improving the salary and benefit package, including a tuition reimbursement program, to improve retention of employees

### **Goal Three**

**Strengthen neighborhood leadership and organizations and open lines of communications between neighborhood leaders and elected officials and city employees**

#### ***Highest Priority***

1. Work collaboratively with EMU to continue to establish new neighborhood organizations—including the business community—support leadership development for neighborhood leaders and engage the community in a broad strategic planning process to identify and address critical issues facing the community

#### ***Priority When Resources Permit***

2. Engage neighborhood organizations and City Boards and Commissions systematically as networks for information sharing, disseminating service information and securing feedback as a means of demonstrating the value of organizing

3. Host periodic workshops at the neighborhood level as vehicles for discussing specific issues and generating ideas for resolving problems

### **Goal Four**

**Continue to pursue a variety of strategies for improving the physical condition of neighborhoods and increasing the rate of home ownership in the community**

#### ***Highest Priority***

1. Continue a systematic program to enforce standards, coordinating the efforts of the building official, the police and fire departments, the planning and development department, the city attorney's office and others to improve the physical appearance and condition of neighborhoods across the city

2. Update the master plan and the zoning ordinance over the next two years and consciously and systematically engage residents in the process

- a. Consider reducing the extent of the community shown for multi-family uses
- b. Promote homeownership in existing residential neighborhoods of the city and explore all the tools (e.g., limit the number of unrelated adults, nuisance charges, grant incentives) for encouraging homeownership
- c. Explore the use of overlay districts, architectural controls, neighborhood design standards, and historic districts as means for improving neighborhoods

***Priority When Resources Permit***

3. Complete and communicate through multiple media a city-wide policy statement on standards and procedures for implementing traffic calming measures in residential neighborhoods
4. Systematically study and identify impediments to home ownership and develop a plan for addressing those impediments over the next two to five years
5. Wherever possible, develop partnerships with other governmental units and other entities to implement strategies to improve the condition of neighborhoods

**Goal Five**

**Continue to address the broad range of facility and infrastructure needs across the City**

***Highest Priority***

1. Continue to implement the project designed to improve the downtown parking lots
2. Establish priorities for maintenance, rehabilitation and construction for city buildings, addressing code compliance issues where needed, city streets, including crack sealing, and public parking lots
3. Continue to work with Washtenaw Area Transportation Study and YCUA among others on infrastructure improvements

***Priority When Resources Permit***

1. Identify funding sources to finance highest priority infrastructure investments
2. Schedule infrastructure improvements or construction over the next three to five years, including replacement of existing and new improvements to the technology infrastructure
3. Complete the capital improvements plan for city parks and identify priorities for programming and potential funding sources

## **Goal Six**

### **Continue to strengthen working relationships with the University to address mutual problems and strengthen the community**

#### ***Highest Priority***

1. Continue to utilize student and faculty resources to address community needs and challenges through internships, class projects, independent studies, volunteer programs, etc
2. Continue regular meetings between University and city officials to improve communication and joint problem-solving and to explore new ways to work together to address emerging issues and opportunities
3. Include both EMU and City representatives in long range planning efforts conducted by both the University and the City to ensure that the needs/challenges/opportunities of both entities are taken into consideration

#### ***Priority When Resources Permit***

4. Monitor the University's implementation of its Master Plan for the boundary areas where the campus meets the community – especially in those areas where the adjacent land is a residential neighborhood
5. Partner with University officials to pursue and secure resources to implement the goals of the Cross Street study
6. Pursue joint advocacy efforts with University officials to secure mutually beneficial state appropriations and state policies
7. Continue and expand efforts to examine other university communities for examples of town-gown partnerships that have been used successfully to address common issues and challenges
8. Recognize and acknowledge the success of the University when appropriate

## **Goal Seven**

### **Assume a leadership role across the community in promoting the need for regional and cooperative service delivery strategies**

#### ***Highest Priority***

1. Encourage the convening of a summit to bring together public officials and residents from across the larger community to discuss the challenges facing local governments and the need for greater attention to regional or shared strategies for service delivery
2. Convene regular meetings of local officials in the area to lay the groundwork for long term strategies for cooperation and joint service delivery

3. Participate with other organizations—such as SEMCOG, MML, Washtenaw Metro Alliance, and the Suburban Alliance—to promote intergovernmental cooperation

OFFERED BY: Council Member Gawlas  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member LaRue

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**D. Resolution #2005-11A**, supporting full funding for P.A. Act 289 (Fire Protection)

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, Public Act (P.A.) 289 of 1977 provides for payments to municipalities for fire protection services received by state owned facilities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has never fully funded this program and at best reimbursed communities at a 47% level of its total financial commitment and currently the state funds only 24% of the formula for protecting Eastern Michigan University (EMU) and other state owned facilities; and

WHEREAS, the requirements for enhanced homeland security post 911 have created additional unfunded responsibilities for our fire fighters; and

WHEREAS, fire protection for university campuses is complicated. EMU has 8,000 students living on campus and a total of 67 buildings, only three (3) of which are totally sprinkled. In addition special training and equipment are required so firefighters are prepared to deal with fires that may occur in chemical labs, and in research facilities where radioactive materials are present; and

WHEREAS, over a 28 year period, the City of Ypsilanti should have been compensated at a level of \$13.970 million and yet only received approximately \$5.380 million. The resultant shortfall of \$8.6 million has been subsidized by the City's general fund; and

WHEREAS, Eastern Michigan University is a regional asset, and the expense of protecting that asset should be borne by the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ypsilanti City Council appeals to the State Legislature to levy the taxes necessary to fully fund P.A. 289, thus finally honoring the solemn promise made by the State Legislature to its' communities almost 30 years ago.

FURTHER, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Jennifer Granholm; Lt. Governor John Cherry; Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema;

Senate Minority Leader Bob Emerson; House Speaker Craig DeRoche, House Minority Leader Dianne Byrum; Senator Allen Cropsey, Senator Brater and Representative Wheeler-Smith; Budget Director Mary Lannoye; Dave Hollister, Director, Department of Labor and Economic Growth; Representative Scott Hummel; House Appropriations Chair Senator Shirley Johnson; Senator-Appropriations Chair Beverly Hammerstrom; Senator Patty Birkholz; Representative Daniel Accavitti; Representative John Proos; and Representative Leslie Mortimer.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Filipiak  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member LaRue

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

- E. Resolution #2005-11B** to extend the moratorium for a threatened historic building.

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2004 Council adopted a resolution that established a moratorium for all work at 1266 Huron River Drive for a period of not more than six months; and

WHEREAS, this six month period is set to expire on February 9, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 169 of 1970, as amended, allows for the extension of this moratorium for an additional six months if Council determines that the threat of irreparable harm to resources is still present; and

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT the Ypsilanti City Council has determined that because pending work will cause irreparable harm to resources located within the proposed district, the emergency moratorium for all work shall be extended until such time that an ordinance is adopted or rejected and becomes effective, or 6 months from the date of this resolution, whichever comes first.

OFFERED BY: Council Member LaRue  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**XII. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS**

- A.** Council Member Nickels asked whether the CMAG grant that we have for our intersections would include signage. He was told that it would not. He spoke of an incident of towing the car on January 28, 2005 at 123 Huron St. of a

handicapped individual who was unable to obtain access to the car due to excess snow. He wondered if this was standard procedure.

**XIII. LIAISON REPORTS**

- A. SEMCOG Update – Spring Workshop February 24, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. at the Marriott in Ypsilanti. Mayor Pro-tem Swanson is up for re-election, and Council Member LaRue for alternate.
- B. Recreation Commission – nothing at this time.
- C. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – There was a comment about York Township roads.
- D. Washtenaw Development Council – Council Member Gawlas stated he was selected to be on a task force to look at changes in bylaws for the Committee. Bill Kinley chairs that Committee.
- E. Ypsilanti Area Community Foundation – nothing at this time
- F. Smart Zone – Local Development Planning Authority. There is a meeting on February 2, 2005 at 7:30 a.m. at the Ann Arbor DDA offices.
- G. Washtenaw Metro Alliance – There is a meeting February 3, 2005 to discuss the Recreation study and come up with cost-sharing figures. Council Member Gawlas will be attending.

**XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

A. Ed Koryzno, City Manager, stated that he will be bringing before the Council in March a review of the fees and a proposal to increase those that are deemed relevant by the staff. This is consistent with our past practice and consistent with what the Blue Ribbon Finance Committee has recommended in their short-term recommendations. He spoke of the comment that was made during audience participation that there were improprieties at both the Primary and General Elections. He wanted to clarify that neither of the oversight bodies for conducting elections in the city had cited the city for any improprieties in this regard.

**XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

**A. Resolution #2005-12**

**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 TO EXPIRE</u>
1. David Sisson 316 Pearl Street Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Planning Commission <b>(New Appointment)</b>	05/01/2007
2. Godfrey Udoji 1826 Witmire Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Zoning Board of Appeals <b>(Reappointment)</b>	05/01/2008
3. Jamesema Tillman 914 Pleasant Ypsilanti, Mi 48197	Zoning Board of Appeals <b>(Reappointment)</b>	05/01/2007

OFFERED BY: Council Member Gawlas  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member LaRue

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**A. Resolution # 2005-13**

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

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

OFFERED BY: Council Member Gawlas  
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member LaRue

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: 6

Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.