



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL
ONE SOUTH HURON, YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006
7:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Meeting reconvened at the Senior Center at 1015 Congress St., Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197 at 8:15 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

All members of Council were present.

III. INVOCATION

Mayor Farmer asked all to stand while Pastor Garther Roberson performed the 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

There were no introductions.

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Richardson moved that letter E under Second Readings be moved to the beginning of Second Readings. Supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson. Motion carried by consensus.

Moved and supported to accept the Agenda as amended.

Approved at April 4, 2006 Council Meeting

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

(Agenda as Amended)

CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ONE SOUTH HURON STREET, YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006
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** –

VIII. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION** -

IX. **MINUTES** –

A. **Resolution No. 2006-56**, approving the minutes of March 7, 2006.

X. **ORDINANCE – FIRST READING**

A. An Ordinance to exclude kindergarten through grade 12 schools, clubs, lodges, banquet halls and meeting halls from a B-3 zoning district.

1. Open the Public Hearing.
2. **Resolution No. 2006-57**, close public hearing.
3. **Resolution No. 2006-58**, determination.

B. An Ordinance entitled “Various Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments.”

1. Open the Public Hearing.
2. **Resolution No. 2006-59**, close public hearing.
3. **Resolution No. 2006-60**, determination.

XI. **ORDINANCE – SECOND READING**

E. **Resolution No. 2006-65**, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – Text Changes. Moved to beginning of Second Reading Section of agenda at Council's request.

(Amended Agenda Continued)

- A. Resolution No. 2006-61**, approving an Ordinance to amend Chapter 18 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations."
- B. Resolution No. 2006-62**, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – West Michigan.
- C. Resolution No. 2006-63**, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – North Huron.
- D. Resolution No. 2006-64**, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments.
- ~~**E. Resolution No. 2006-65**, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – Text Changes.~~ Moved to beginning of Second Reading Section of agenda at Council's request.

XII. CONSENT AGENDA - Resolution No. 2006 – 66

- ~~**A. Resolution No. 2006-67**, urging the Governor, Senate, and House of Representatives to increase local revenues collected by the state and distribute under the Revenue Sharing Act. Item removed from Consent Agenda at Council's request.~~
- ~~**B. Resolution No. 2006-68**, urging the residents of Ypsilanti to vote against the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative in November 2006. Item removed from Consent Agenda at Council's request.~~
- C. Resolution No. 2006-69**, approving the new Washtenaw County Mutual Aid Agreement.
- D. Resolution No. 2006-70**, accepting the price offer at 899 Brooks Street.
- E. Resolution No. 2006-71**, approving the modified Wireless Washtenaw Master Participation Agreement and associated documents.
- F. Resolution No. 2006-72**, approving the proposed Planned Unit Development agreement and authorizes its execution.

XIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/ETC.

- ~~**B. Resolution No. 2006-68**, urging the residents of Ypsilanti to vote against the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative in November 2006.~~
- ~~**A. Resolution No. 2006-67**, urging the Governor, Senate, and House of Representatives to increase local revenues collected by the state and distribute under the Revenue Sharing Act.~~

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS -

XV. LIAISON REPORTS -

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

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER -

XVII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR -

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT -

- A. Resolution No. 2006-73**, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Council received public comments. Audience participation is recorded on audiocassette and is available to the public for up to sixty days following the City Council meeting.

IX. MINUTES

A. Resolution No. 2006 - 56, approving the Minutes of March 7th, 2006.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the Minutes of March 7th, 2006, be approved.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nickels

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

Minutes were approved with noted corrections.

X. ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

A. An Ordinance to exclude kindergarten through grade 12 schools, clubs, lodges, banquet halls and meeting halls from a B-3 zoning district.

1. Open the Public Hearing – Council received public comments. Audience participation is recorded on audiocassette and is available to the public for up to sixty days following the City Council meeting.
2. **Resolution No. 2006 – 57**, closing the public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider the proposed Ordinance to amend Section 122-392 and Section 122-805 of the City of Ypsilanti Code of Ordinances to exclude kindergarten through grade 12 schools, clubs, lodges, banquet halls and meeting halls from a B-3 zoning district be **Officially Closed**.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels

SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

3. Resolution No. 2006 – 58, Determination.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance to amend Section 122-392 and Section 122-805 of the City of Ypsilanti Code of Ordinances to exclude kindergarten through grade 12 schools, clubs, lodges, banquet halls and meeting halls from a B-3 zoning district be approved on **First Reading**.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels

SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

Council Member Richardson moved to call the question. Supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson.

VOTE

Yes: 4 No: 3 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

VOTE

Yes: 3 No: 4 (LaRue, Richardson, Filipiak, Swanson) Absent: 0 Vote: Failed

B. An Ordinance entitled “Various Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments.”

1. Open the Public Hearing – Council received public comments. Audience participation is recorded on audiocassette and is available to the public for up to sixty days following the City Council meeting.

2. Resolution No. 2006 – 59, closing the public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider the proposed Ordinance entitled "VARIOUS ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS" be **Officially Closed**.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nickels

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

3. Resolution No. 2006 – 60, Determination.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

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

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

Council Member LaRue moved that the last line under Section 122-62 D be changed from 8 to 2/3 members of the City Council. **Supported by Council Member Filipiak.**

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

VOTE ON AMENDED ORDINANCE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

XI. ORDINANCE – SECOND READING

E. Resolution No. 2006 – 65, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – Text Changes. (Moved to beginning of Ordinance – Second Reading at Council's request.)

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled " Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – Text Changes " be **approved on Second and Final Reading and Declared Adopted**.

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

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

A. Resolution No. 2006 – 61, approving an Ordinance to amend Chapter 18 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations."

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 18 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled "Buildings and Building Regulations" be **approved on Second and Final Reading and Declared Adopted.**

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

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

B. Resolution No. 2006 – 62, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – West Michigan.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled " Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – West Michigan" be **approved on Second and Final Reading and Declared Adopted.**

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

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

C. Resolution No. 2006 – 63, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – North Huron.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled " Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – North Huron " be **approved on Second and Final Reading and Declared Adopted.**

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

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

D. Resolution No. 2006 – 64, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled " Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments " be **approved on Second and Final Reading and Declared Adopted.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Gawlas
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Filipiak

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

~~E. Resolution No. 2006 – 65, approving an Ordinance entitled Cross Street Area Zoning Amendments – Text Changes. (Moved to beginning of Ordinances – Second Reading at Council’s request.)~~

XII. CONSENT AGENDA – Resolution No. 2006 – 66

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

- ~~A. Resolution No. 2006 – 67, urging the Governor, Senate and House of Representatives to increase local revenues collected by the state and distribute under the Revenue Sharing Act. Removed from Consent Agenda at Council’s request.~~
- ~~B. Resolution No. 2006 – 68, urging the residents of Ypsilanti to vote against the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative in November 2006. Removed from Consent Agenda at Council’s request.~~
- C. **Resolution No. 2006 – 69, approving the new Washtenaw County Mutual Aid Agreement.**

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE NEW WASHTENAW COUNTY MUTUAL AID FIRE AGREEMENT BE ADOPTED AND:

**WASHTENAW COUNTY
MUTUAL AID FIRE AGREEMENT**

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, each party hereto recognizes that, in case of fire or other emergency, it may wish to request the aid of the Fire Department of another party; and

WHEREAS, each party hereto recognizes that it may wish to provide fire fighting equipment and personnel to another party in response to a request for such aid; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to set forth the mutual rights and obligation resulting from the request for such aid and response thereto; and

WHEREAS, ACT NO. 35 of the PUBLIC ACTS of 1951 authorize the parties to enter into agreements regarding such rights and obligations;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed as follows:

In case of fire or other emergency, a participating Fire Department may request any other participating Fire Department to furnish aid. Such request shall be made by the Fire Chief or his authorized subordinate.

The furnishing of such aid shall be wholly within the discretion of the Fire Chief of the responding Department or his authorized subordinate, and no liability shall arise from a failure or refusal to furnish such aid.

If the responding Department elects to and does begin to furnish such aid, it may at any time and for any reason withdraw any or all of its personnel or equipment, and no liability shall arise from such withdrawal.

A requesting Department is not required to reimburse a responding Department for aid furnished.

In addition to incident specific aid for fire and other emergencies, aid for Technical Rescue and Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) incidents may be requested under this agreement via a request for USAR resources, which shall be organized and shall train on a regular basis, under the designation of Washtenaw County Urban Search and Rescue, as a function of this agreement and in preparation for possible deployment under this agreement. Urban Search and Rescue resources organized under this paragraph shall be considered mutual aid resources under this agreement and be subject to and regulated by all other paragraphs of this agreement.

When the resources of a responding Department arrive at the scene of a fire or other emergency, its Chief or Commanding Officer shall report to the Chief or Commanding Officer of the requesting Department for instruction and briefing. The Chief or Commanding Officer of the responding Department shall exercise sole control and direction over its personnel and equipment in carrying out the directives of the Chief or Commanding Officer of the requesting Fire Department.

Each Department shall assume liability as between the Departments heretofore injuries to its personnel and damages to its own equipment incurred en route to or from, or while at a fire or other emergency covered by the agreement.

Each Department shall keep and maintain sufficient Workers Compensation coverage either as a self-carrier or through an insurance carrier. All authorized personnel acting in the line of duty shall be considered employees of their respective Department, regardless of the time and place of injury.

Each Department shall maintain public liability insurance, either as a self-carrier or through an insurance carrier, in the amount deemed necessary by the respective parties.

Nothing herein shall affect any rights, duties or liabilities between a Department and its employees, officers or agents.

Any Department may terminate this agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other Departments.

This agreement revokes and replaces any previous agreement between Departments on the subject of mutual fire aid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ypsilanti City Council hereby adopts Resolution Number 2006- 69 thereby adopting the Washtenaw County Mutual Aid Fire Agreement.

D. Resolution No. 2006 – 70, accepting the price offer at 899 Brooks Street.

WHEREAS the city owns a vacant lot located at 899 Brooks Street; and

WHEREAS the City desires to sell this property and has entered into a listing agreement with Jean Williams of Coldwell Banker Schweitzer Real Estate; and

WHEREAS a full price offer has been received from the Community Church of God; now therefore:

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI the City accepts this full price offer, and the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the offer, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney

E. Resolution No. 2006 – 71, approving the modified Wireless Washtenaw Master Participation Agreement and associated documents.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has announced an initiative entitled “Wireless Washtenaw;” and

WHEREAS, the goals of this initiative are to: (1) Blanket the entire County with wireless internet services and provide a blend of “free” and “for fee” high speed internet access to every resident, business and visitor (2) Address the digital divide that exists within Washtenaw County to provide the Internet and future

wireless technology to the entire population (3) Enhance the Washtenaw County community by creating partnerships and a new spirit of collaboration to improve the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of this initiative will include improving our ability to attract and retain business and support further economic development; and

WHEREAS, a wireless infrastructure will grow existing financially disadvantaged businesses with affordable access to high-speed telecommunications while reducing the cost of mobile computing; and

WHEREAS, wireless accessibility will expand educational opportunities to students while enhancing residential character; and

WHEREAS, the Wireless Washtenaw Advisory Board plans to form a public/private partnership to enable wireless capabilities to the entire County

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ypsilanti hereby supports the Wireless Washtenaw initiative; and,

THAT, the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign and execute the Wireless Washtenaw Master Participation Agreement and associated documents.

F. Resolution No. 2006 – 72, approving the proposed Planned Unit Development agreement and authorizes its execution.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti City Council approved the Planned Unit Development application for the construction of a Rite Aid Pharmacy at 753 South Grove on December 6, 2005, subject to approval of a Planned Unit Development Agreement by Council; and

WHEREAS, the proposed development agreement has been drafted by the City Attorney and reviewed by the developer's attorney and ensures that the use of the property will conform to the approved Planned Unit Development and that the site will be developed and maintained in accordance with the approved PUD plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council approves the proposed Planned Unit Development agreement and authorizes its execution.

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

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

Approved at April 4, 2006 Council Meeting

XIII. RESOLUTIONS / MOTIONS / ETC.

B. Resolution No. 2006 – 68, urging the residents of Ypsilanti to vote against the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative in November 2006.

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE SO-CALLED “MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS INITIATIVE” TO BAN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BASED ON RACE, SEX, COLOR, ETHNICITY, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS the Ypsilanti community has a long history of promoting racial, ethnic, and gender equality in education, employment, housing, contracts, and public services; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti implemented and currently administers an Affirmative Action Plan to promote these important community values; and

WHEREAS other governments in the Ypsilanti community – including Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College, Washtenaw County, and the Ypsilanti Public Schools – also strive to ensure diversity in education, employment, housing, contracts, and access to public services; and

WHEREAS affirmative action has proven its value as an effective tool in diminishing barriers for women and men of various ethnic and cultural groups who have been denied equality in, and access to, education, employment, housing, contracts, and public services; and

WHEREAS affirmative action has proven to help businesses, educational institutions, and governments become more diverse, and therefore more competitive in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS Michigan voters will be asked in November 2006 to approve or reject the so-called “Michigan Civil Rights Initiative” (MCRI) which, if approved, would amend Article I of the Michigan Constitution to ban affirmative action and other programs designed to ensure equality in, and access to, education, employment, housing, contracts, and public services; and

WHEREAS the so-called MCRI could have a devastating effect on programs in the Ypsilanti community that have expanded economic and educational opportunities for women and men of all racial and ethnic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS the so-called MCRI’s name and goals could mislead Michigan voters about the issue of discrimination by State entities; and

WHEREAS the so-called MCRI could conflict with federal legislation, programs, and Court Orders that reflect our nation's commitment to equality in, and access to, education, employment, housing, contracts, and public services; and

WHEREAS similar initiatives to end affirmative action adopted in other States have reduced access by women and men of all racial and ethnic backgrounds to education, employment, housing, contracts, and public services; and

WHEREAS out-of-state special interest groups are funding the so-called MCRI's campaign against civil rights; and

WHEREAS the Michigan Civil Rights Commission – which was created by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 to enforce guarantees against discrimination outlined in the State Constitution – approved a resolution opposing the so-called MCRI; and

WHEREAS the so-called MCRI's attempts to end affirmative action are inconsistent with the principle of equal treatment under the law as set forth in the United States and Michigan Constitutions' now therefore:

IT IS RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council affirms its strong commitment to the principles of equal treatment and opportunity;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council strongly opposes the so-called Michigan Civil Rights Initiative because of its potentially devastating effect on equality in, and access to, education, employment, housing, contracts, and public services in the City of Ypsilanti;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council urges the residents of Ypsilanti vote against the so-called MCRI in November 2006.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nickels

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

A. Resolution No. 2006 – 67, urging the Governor, Senate, and House of Representatives to increase local revenues collected by the state and distribute under the Revenue Sharing Act.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, local communities are the foundation of successful economic development in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, safe streets and functioning infrastructure in our cities and villages are critical to attracting and maintaining businesses; and

WHEREAS, local government cannot continue to provide essential services if statutory revenue sharing is continually redistributed to other state budget priorities; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1,300 fewer police officers on the streets in Michigan today than on September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, that figure stands to increase this year, as local communities will have to grapple with no increased support from the state if funding is not increased; and

WHEREAS, local government recognizes and accepts the fact that there will be fluctuations in the state economy impacting the statutorily shared revenues, however, the state began ignoring the revenue sharing commitment in 1991; and

WHEREAS, that state has reallocated \$1.5 billion from local community services to fund other state programs; and

WHEREAS, the current budget proposed by Governor Granholm diverts an additional \$600 million of statutory funding for local communities; and

WHEREAS, in the past 5 years approximately 40% of the state budget deficit has been assumed by local communities as the state continues to reduce revenue commitments and shift funding responsibility; and

WHEREAS, it is unacceptable that the Governor and Legislature continue to put our state's future in jeopardy by mandating cuts to public safety and core services which define our quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governor, Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan are hereby strongly urged to increase local revenues collected by the state and distributed under the Revenue Sharing Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Resolution be forwarded to Governor Granholm, Senator Liz Brater, Representative Alma Wheeler-Smith, the Michigan Municipal League, and all surrounding communities.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels

SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

- A. Council Member Filipiak inquired whether the City could do some research on other communities where Edwards' Properties has built to see whether their request for additional tax breaks is a pattern. He also wondered if there could be a presentation or some kind of dialogue with AATA to get further ideas or options for the AATA bus routes.
- B. Council Member LaRue spoke regarding the Edwards Properties and their request for additional tax breaks. He also spoke regarding Randall Pittman and the bariatric treatment facility and their lack of involvement with the city. He then mentioned that it might be a good idea to attend a meeting of the Board of Regents at the University of Michigan to speak regarding the bus situation.
- C. Council Member Gawlas mentioned that he encountered someone gathering signatures on a petition for a ballot initiative to help to stop the legislature in Lansing from squandering taxpayer dollars. This was regarding the taxpayers' bill of rights which would restrict the growth of the state budget to the rate of inflation plus any population growth. He then spoke regarding a letter that Mayor Farmer had received from AT&T making mention of a resolution that was passed by City Council. He then stated that he felt that Council should receive a list of those who have spoken during public hearings and audience participation.
- D. Council Member Richardson distributed pictures to Council of a house at Osband and Cross Streets. She said that there are two tall Ash trees in the neighboring lot that are dead and that could possibly fall on the house. She spoke regarding the search for a new police chief. She inquired as to whether all four members of the committee were involved in all aspects of the search for the police chief. City Manager Ed Koryzno explained the process. Council Member Richardson then asked if the representatives from the police department who had requested an opportunity to meet with the committee had been allowed this opportunity. Mr. Koryzno answered that they had the opportunity to express their comments at that meeting and were sent surveys as well. She also mentioned an email that she received questioning the fact that legislature had not stepped up to take a reduction in pay. She recommended that City Council and City Hall staff view the movie "Crash", which deals with community diversity. She said that it touches every aspect of interpersonal relationships with respect to diversity. She finally mentioned that she would be attending the MML Legislative Day.
- E. Council Member Nickels had nothing to present at this time.
- F. Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson had nothing to present at this time.

XV. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. SEMCOG Update – Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson reported that they will be meeting Thursday, March 23rd in Dearborn. Council Member LaRue will not be able to attend, but he recently attended a SEMCOG meeting at which the executive committee gave Mr. Paul Tait a good review. Mr. Tait received an adequate salary increase.
- B. Recreation Commission – There was nothing to report.
- C. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Council Member Nickels had nothing to report.
- D. Washtenaw Development Council – Council Member Gawlas announced that Thursday, March 30th will be the date of the annual meeting and the annual report.
- E. Ypsilanti Area Community Fund – Council Member Richardson had nothing to report.
- F. Smart Zone Local Development Finance Authority – Council Member Gawlas reported that the next meeting is Tuesday, April 18th.
- G. Washtenaw Metro Alliance – Council Member Gawlas reported that the next meeting is the morning of Thursday, April 6th. He spoke of the discussion on transportation and the bus issue. He feels that there is a need for transportation millage and that this is a regional issue.
- H. Council Member LaRue reported that he attended the National League of Cities meeting. He said there was a lot of discussion about the federal deficit and restriction of domestic spending. He feels that Congress will probably not cut community development block grants as greatly as was expected. He stated that also feels that Ypsilanti's representatives in Washington are favorable to Ypsilanti's viewpoint on the resolution regarding the telecommunications bill.

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Ed Koryzno stated that there are recent developments with regard to Parkview Apartments. He asked Attorney John Barr to update Council on those developments. Attorney Barr reported that Parkview is in bankruptcy. The board filed a petition for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, which has been pending for some time. The tenants association filed a suit against HUD who asked to have the sale to the purchaser cancelled. There was a hearing at federal court in Detroit. There was an agreement between the tenants association and HUD that HUD would withdraw the sale from the present proposed purchaser. Attorney Barr received a copy of a petition that HUD has filed with the bankruptcy court asking that they be determined to be a mortgagee in possession, which means that they would like to take control of the property and make improvements on it.

There is a 15-day comment period before the case can be scheduled for that hearing.

City Manager Koryzno spoke of a phone call that he received from Mr. Rick Kirk. He explained that once Mr. Kirk submits his information the city's Brownfield Redevelopment Authority would consider the plan and make a recommendation to City Council. City Council would then set a date for a public hearing and notify all taxing jurisdictions and the public of the hearing. They would then hold the public hearing and make a decision at or after the public hearing date. The plan would then be forwarded to the state. He said that the state will not likely approve any additional state tax capture.

Mr. Koryzno announced that on behalf of Council he accepted the Redevelopment Readiness Cities award designation from the governor. The city received a plaque and a small tabletop designation along with a disc to put on the city's letterhead that designates Ypsilanti as Redevelopment Ready. Only five cities in the state of Michigan have that designation.

He attended an ongoing Gateway Partners meeting. Washtenaw County is going to continue to support and assist the Gateway organization.

XVII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Farmer asked all to look at their calendars to choose a date for a joint meeting with the Planning Commission. Tentative dates are Tuesday, April 11th or Thursday, April 20th at 7:30 p.m. She next spoke regarding downzoning in Ward 3 and a property that is located within that ward that Council requested be sent back to the Planning Commission to be considered as a PUD. She asked that Interim Planning and Development Director Nathan Voght follow up on that request. She announced that she and the township supervisor are trying to establish a date and tentative agenda for a joint meeting because of interest that was expressed at the last meeting. She finally wished to give special thanks to Council Member Nickels who delayed leaving for his vacation to attend the last City Council meeting and returned early from his vacation to attend this meeting. She also thanked Council Member Gawlas for delaying his vacation to attend.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Resolution No. 2006 – 73, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

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

OFFERED BY: Council Member Gawlas
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Filipiak

VOTE

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 a.m.