



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ONE SOUTH HURON, YPSILANTI, MI 48197
THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007
7:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The Council Budget Session was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| Mayor Schreiber | Present | Council Member Richardson | Absent |
| Council Member Gawlas | Present | Council Member Filipiak | Present |
| Council Member Robb | Present | Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson | Present |
| Council Member Nickels | Present | | |

III. INVOCATION –

Mayor Schreiber 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 –

Mayor Schreiber introduced Acting City Manager Charles Boulard, Intern Jason Wicha, and Finance Director Marilou Uy.

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Moved by Councilmember Swanson, supported by Councilmember Nickels to approve the agenda.

VOTE:

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

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION -

Jan Katz spoke against the income tax.

Michael Sneyd spoke against the income tax

John Delkamp identified himself as a 30 year resident of the city and spoke against the income tax.

Steve Pierce stated that he was opposed to the income tax because working people will pay for the tax and it will discourage residential and business growth in the city.

Jason Bing told the council that the income tax is the wrong direction and that it will build a wall and keep people out of the city. He stated that it will be cheaper to live in the township.

Leonardo Christian discussed current property tax and how the income tax will hurt the city. He encouraged the city not to waste money on an election.

Keith Baga told the council that citizens could not bear anymore costs and asked them to answer the "why" question for the income tax.

Cheryl Farmer stated that the city has been cutting costs yearly, but the state has also been cutting back on funding. She stated that it is time to take control of destiny and issue an income tax.

VIII. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR -

The mayor responded to comments about the income tax. He also addressed the cost of living in Ypsilanti Township, and asked residents to determine whether a reduction in services would be worth a reduction in taxes.

IX. MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS/ETC.

The council discussed the city income tax.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION -

Janet Katz encouraged the council to take Governor Granholm's call for consolidating services seriously.

Mary Delkamp spoke against the income tax proposal.

Denise Cutlip stated that Water Street must be included in budget discussions. She noted that there have been too many planning failure regarding Water Street.

Kevin Hill addressed the council regarding inventory of services and asked about the avenues the city would take if the income tax passes or fails.

Michael Snead stated that the council does not know the cost of implementing and collecting the tax.

Steve Pierce raised an issue with the Water Street project and added that pay increases should not have been given this year. He stated that the people should be able to vote for how the income tax is spent.

XI. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR -

The mayor asked John Barr to explain the \$20,000 exemption. He stated that the city is consolidating services, but this consolidation is not what people make it out to be. He stated that the city has refused pay increases in the past and had people leave. He stated that they cannot make the employees make up for the budget deficit.

XII. ADJOURNMENT -

Resolution No. 2007-106 adjourning the City Council Budget Work Session.

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

VOTE:

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

Meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m.