



Approved

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ONE SOUTH HURON, YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008**

7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

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

Council Member Filipiak moved, supported by Council Member Richardson, to excuse the absence of Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson.

Motion carried.

III. INVOCATION

The Mayor 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 Interim DPW Director Stan Kirton, Planning and Interim Building Director Karen Hart, Assistant City Manager April McGrath, Visitors and Convention Bureau Executive Director Debbie Locke-Daniels, Lt. Mike Kouba of the Ypsilanti Fire Department, Firefighter Joe Knasiak and E.M.U. Journalism 543 students.

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Robb requested that Audience Participation occur before the Second Reading of ordinances.

The agenda was approved as amended.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008
7:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

II. ROLL CALL –

Council Member Filipiak	P A	Council Member Robb	P A
Council Member Gawlas	P A	Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson	P A
Council Member Nickels	P A	Mayor Schreiber	P A
Council Member Richardson	P A		

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V. INTRODUCTIONS –

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL –

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

- A. Letter of Commendation to the Events Committee

VIII. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

- A. Resolution 2008-016, approving an ordinance to amend Section 106-466(b) of the City's Water and Sewer Ordinance. Ordinance No. 1076

- B. Resolution 2008-017, approving an ordinance to revise Article VI, Special Events and Festivals Ordinance. Ordinance No. 1077

- C. Resolution 2008-018, approving an ordinance entitled, "Museums in the R/O, Residential-Office Zoning District Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment". Ordinance No. 1078

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – (*Moved ahead of Ordinances – Second Reading*)

X. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

XI. MINUTES -

Resolution No. 2008-019, approving the minutes of January 17 and January 26, 2008.

XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS -

- A. Resolution No. 2008-020, approving purchase of one (1) Sterling Acterra Heavy Duty Truck Chassis.
B. Resolution No. 2008-021, approving Council Goals for 2008-2009.

XIII. LIAISON REPORTS –

- A. SEMCOG Update
B. Recreation Commission
C. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
D. Eastern Leaders Group

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS -

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR -

- A. Resolution No. 2008-022, appointing individuals to City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions.

XVI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION -

XVII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR -

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT -

- A. Resolution No. 2008-023, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Letter of Commendation to the Events Committee

Debbie Locke-Daniel and Kevin Hill were present to receive the commendation from Mayor Schreiber.

Ms. Locke-Daniel thanked City Council for the opportunity to revise the ordinance to lift the moratorium. She thanked committee members for their countless hours of dedication to the task. Mr. Hill added that the Committee did a fine job and the ordinance is a result of that work.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Schreiber read the rules for audience participation.

1. Hedger Breed, 117 Pearl Street, urged City Council to hold back the law to allow the graffiti on his building to remain. He said he understands there is a law against graffiti to stop the tagging of criminal gangs, however he is fond of the graffiti and feels it promotes art in the city. He added that he sought help from City staff but found them to be arrogant.

IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber addressed Mr. Breed's concern and stated that graffiti was a growing problem in the past and City Council took action by creating an ordinance declaring it a public nuisance. He explained to Mr. Breed that his options are to go to court or petition the Council for an ordinance change. Regarding Mr. Breed's comment that City staff was arrogant, the Mayor apologized and said he hopes that the staff and Council Members are not trying to be arrogant.

X. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

- Ordinance No. 1076
- A. Resolution 2008-016, approving an ordinance to amend Section 106-466(b) of the City's Water and Sewer Ordinance.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend the advance notice requirements and water shutoff dispute hearings process" be approved on **Second and Final Reading**.

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

Vote:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

Ordinance No. 1077

B. Resolution 2008-017, approving an ordinance to revise Article VI, Special Events and Festivals Ordinance.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That an ordinance entitled "An ordinance revising Article VI, Events and Festivals, to allow for events in the City of Ypsilanti" be approved on **Second and Final Reading**.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Filipiak

Vote:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

Ordinance No. 1078

C. Resolution 2008-018, approving an ordinance entitled, "Museums in the R/O, Residential-Office Zoning District Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment".

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled "MUSEUMS IN THE R/O, RESIDENTIAL-OFFICE ZONING DISTRICT ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT" be approved on **Second and Final Reading**.

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

Vote:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

XI. MINUTES

Resolution No. 2008-019, approving the minutes of January 17 and January 26, 2008.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the Minutes of January 17 and January 26, 2008 be approved.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Filipiak

Council Member Richardson requested that a qualifying statement regarding her vote on Resolution No. 2007-237 be added to the minutes of January 17, 2008.

Vote:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

The minutes were approved as presented, with the addition of Council Member Richardson's request.

XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- A. Resolution No. 2008-020, approving purchase of one (1) Sterling Acterra Heavy Duty Truck Chassis.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, a purchase proposal was received by Bell Equipment Company of Lake Orion, Michigan for the purchase of a 2007 Sterling Acterra PRL-31X single axle chassis for use in the Department of Public Works- Streets Division (primary) Environmental Services Division (secondary) for a total amount of \$58,800; and

Whereas, the purchase cost of \$58,800 is very favorable and in the best interest of the city to purchase this vehicle; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Ypsilanti City Council approves the purchase of one 2007 Sterling Acterra PRL-31X single axle chassis from Bell Equipment Company.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Filipiak
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Robb

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

- B. Resolution No. 2008-021, approving Council Goals for 2008-2009.

RESOLVED BY THE CITY 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 shall present City Council with a balanced Resources Allocation Plan for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 using the following organizational values, goals and action strategies:

Organizational Values

Three fundamental values continue to underlie our work together on behalf of the citizens of and visitors to the City of Ypsilanti.

1. Open, transparent and accessible decision-making

We are committed to openness and transparency in our decision-making, doing whatever we can to insure that information is available to the public in a timely fashion and in a manner that is easily understood, and providing opportunities for public engagement and participation in decision-making.

2. Fiscal solvency and sustainability

We are committed to ensuring the long-term financial stability of the city. Our budget decisions must reflect a balance between short and long term considerations, and we will work to reduce the costs of city services to the extent we can while maintaining effective city services and a sound infrastructure.

3. Customer Friendly Service

We are committed to providing services to residents and visitors in a customer friendly fashion, insuring that service processes are effective and understandable, being responsive to requests for service to the extent we can consistent with procedures and resources, and insuring that people recognize the limits of our ability to respond.

Goals and Action Strategies for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

In the past Council has been provided a list of goals associated action strategies. However, due to the City's fiscal condition there is one underlying goal:

Reduce General Fund Expenses to Balance the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010

The following action strategies have been established utilizing the information provided by City Council during the four goal setting sessions that occurred on December 8 & 15, 2007 and January 12 & January 26, 2008:

Action Strategies:

1. *Police Department reductions through various opportunities including but not limited to the following:*
 - Reduce police staffing to no less than four officers per shift instead of five officers
 - Reduce hours open to the public to allow more time for more road patrol or reduce office staff
 - Facilitate and begin the process of moving toward a Regional Police Authority
 - Analyze ways to reorganize the administrative functions of the police department to create cost savings

***Please note that staffing levels in the Police Department were discussed and to ensure they do not fall below a level that would jeopardize the ability to participate in the Regional Policing Authority.

2. *Fire Department reductions through various opportunities including but not limited to the following:*
 - Maintain a level of service that maintains the safety standards set by the NFPA (National Fire Protection Act) which includes four firefighters per shift and one incident commander
 - Do not fill the three current firefighter positions until further evaluation
 - Explore the option of contracting out Fire Marshal duties
 - Explore the option of billing for services by the Fire Department
 - Facilitate and actively participate in the process of a Functional Fire District
 - Examine scheduling changes that may allow for a reduction of force without compromising officer safety

***Please note that staffing levels in the Fire Department were discussed and to ensure they do not fall below a level that would jeopardize the ability to participate in the Functional Fire District.

3. *Public Works reductions through various opportunities, including, but not limited to the following:*
 - Eliminate the Parks Department and reduce park maintenance costs to reflect the elimination
 - Identify, preserve and maintain a small number of core parks
 - Identify and sell small parks or create an Adopt-a-Park Program that allows local residents to address maintenance needs
 - Formalize a new maintenance schedule for the parks for mowing and snow removal that will reduce the number of staff and equipment hours
 - Freeze current vacant positions

4. *Planning and Community Development reductions through various opportunities, including, but not limited to the following:*
 - Reduce planning staff by one full-time employee
 - Consolidate the Planning Director and Building Director into one position
 - Examine ways which allow city commissions to function with less staff support
 - Consider contracting out major planning and zoning tasks such as the update of the master plan
 - Focus ordinance enforcement efforts only on those deemed most important to maintaining healthy neighborhoods or in response to complaints
 - Analyze the costs associated with contracting out building official and inspection services
 - Reduce the services provided to the Historic District Commission, but do not eliminate entirely by continuing to fund a part-time intern to assist the Commission
 - Complete an analysis of the residential parking permit program to determine whether additional fees should be added to maintain program

5. *Administration reductions through various opportunities, including, but not limited to the following:*
 - Re-bid auditing, legal, environmental and other professional services in hopes to reduce costs or to confirm our current costs
 - Examine the possibility of consolidating positions in the finance department and remain consistent with internal controls
 - Explore cost savings from contracting for assessing services, either through another government or a private vendor, or shifting to part-time employees to address peak-load needs
 - Renegotiate lobbying services and examine the possibility of re-bidding services for lower costs.
 - Rutherford Pool:
 - a. Continue to fund the Rutherford Pool with the current commitment of paying for one-half of the utilities
 - b. Explore partnerships among other governmental agencies and any grant opportunities
 - c. Repair the roof on the Pool Building
 - d. Re-evaluate the plan to keep the pool open after a recommendation has been made by a contractor on the status of the drainage system
 - Maintain memberships to Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, Michigan Municipal League, National League of Cities and other organizations assisting local municipalities
 - Continue reduced Ann Arbor Transit Authority (AATA) funding at 2007-08 levels:
 - a. Explore a fare increase or a dedicated millage
 - b. Explore regional cooperation for transportation

- c. Continue to work with AATA to find alternatives to reduce costs through areas such as route reductions and explore other reductions

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

Council Member Richardson moved, supported by Mayor Schreiber, to amend the resolution to add the following statement under #3 Public Works Action Strategies:

Proposed Amendment:

- Identify and sell small parks or create an Adopt-a-Park Program that allows local residents to address maintenance needs. **Identify and consider small parks to sell only if a citizen's group is not willing to maintain the parks.**

VOTE:

YES: 4 NO: 2 (Schreiber, Nickels) ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) Vote: Carried

The amendment carried.

Mayor Schreiber asked City Council to consider a motion to fully fund AATA.

Council Member Richardson moved, supported by Council Member Filipiak to call the question.

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 1 (Schreiber) ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) Vote: Carried

The vote to approve the resolution as amended was as follows:

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) Vote: Carried

The resolution as amended reads as follows:

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

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- Maintain memberships to Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, Michigan Municipal League, National League of Cities and other organizations assisting local municipalities
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 - b. Explore regional cooperation for transportation
 - c. Continue to work with AATA to find alternatives to reduce costs through areas such as route reductions and explore other reductions

XIII. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. SEMCOG Update – There was no report.
- B. Recreation Commission – There was no report.
- C. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Council Member Nickels commented that there is no meeting scheduled until mid February. There was no report.
- D. Eastern Leaders Group – There was no report.

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member Richardson inquired about the solar panels.

City Manager Koryzno responded that they are still fundraising.

Council Member Richardson clarified that those spearheading the solar panels have not come up with the matching funds.

City Manager Koryzno indicated that her understanding is correct.

Council Member Richardson commented that the BP gas leak has expanded to areas near the Visteon plant.

City Manager Koryzno stated that the MDEQ added some monitoring wells, and said he will get an update on the status.

Council Member Richardson informed Council that from February 22 – 26 she will be in Washington, D.C. on Capitol Hill addressing congressional leaders regarding health care, education and the economy. She said if anyone has issues they would like addressed she would be happy to do so.

Council Member Filipiak reminded Council that the Brownsfield’s 2008 Conference is coming to Detroit in May. He encouraged Council Members to attend and reported that the conference is free and he will be attending.

Council Member Filipiak stated the City is not financially able to contribute funds to the business incubator, however he suggested that the City consider allocating some parking spaces as an in-kind contribution.

Council Member Robb stated that he believes the solar panel fundraising has stalled because approval was based on the structural engineering reports which means that \$3,800 had to be spent without any guarantee that the Commission would approve it. Mr. Robb asked staff to talk to the HDC and change their position on this. He suggested that they approve it with the understanding that the structural engineering report passes as opposed to waiting to see if it passes.

Council Member Robb pointed out that there are two business owners in Depot Town who do not remove snow. He requested that the ordinance officer pay particular attention to the business district to get them to comply.

Council Member Gawlas stated that on Thursday there will be a presentation of the draft of the county's transit plan. He said he thinks that the only way a countywide transit plan will be approved is if it is viewed as an economic development plan. He inquired if there is anything the City could do to develop some alliances to keep the dialogue going and to attract others.

Council Member Nickels reported that there is graffiti on the AT&T box on Oakwood and Congress St. He suggested that city staff take a look at it.

XV. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber stated that the Human Relations Commission (HRC) is two members short. He asked Council to actively look for members to fill vacancies. He indicated that he is still actively seeking youth members for the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Schreiber stated that one of his projects this year is to talk to people regionally in an effort to make bus service affordable for riders and municipalities. He said he plans to speak to Jeff Irwin on Thursday.

The Mayor said he would like to explore establishing an authority for Rutherford Pool to fund operations. He said that a more formal structure is needed. He reported that he attended the Friends meeting and they realize that it is a task to keep the pool open.

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

A. Resolution No. 2008-022, appointing individuals to City of Ypsilanti 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 TO EXPIRE</u>
Linda French 504 N. Huron Ypsilanti, MI 48197	DTDDA (reappointment)	7/01/2010
Dr. Robert Neely 106 Welch Hall Ypsilanti, MI 48197	DTDDA (EMU Representative) replacing Steve Holda	2/6/2011

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

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

Mayor Schreiber stated that he appreciates all the effort that Council put into the goal setting process. He said that Council has given the City Manager a lot of direction for the upcoming budget.

XVII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Koryzno reported that he attended a Manager's Association Conference last week and it was very beneficial. He said he will be using some of the information he gained to prepare next year's budget. He stated that there were good presentations regarding Brownfield development and entrepreneurship and he will share that information will Council.

XVIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

1. Denise Cutlip invited everyone to a fundraiser for the Crossroads Music Festival. She announced a fundraising for the Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra and the Riverside Art Center on this coming Sunday. She added that she is also going to try and help out with the pool efforts.
2. Kevin Hill stated that neighborhood groups or associations may be interested in assisting with the maintenance of parks. He stated that volunteer assistance may reduce the cost of maintenance.

XIX. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber thanked Denise Cutlip for updating Council on the schedule of events in Ypsilanti.

Council Member Filipiak clarified that the Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra concert is scheduled for Sunday, February 10, 2008 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

XX. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Resolution No. 2008-023, 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 Nickels

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Swanson) VOTE: Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.