



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ONE SOUTH HURON, YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2008
7:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 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 Richardson moved, supported by Council Member Filipiak, to excuse the absence of Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson.

The motion carried.

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 Assistant City Manager April McGrath, Interim DPW Director Stan Kirton, Planner Richard Murphy, Former Mayor Pete Murdock, SPARK Project Manager James McFarlane, and Greg Fronizer and Scott Olson of Ann Arbor SPARK.

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

1. SPARK East Project – James McFarlane, Project Manager

Mr. McFarlane gave a brief overview of the SPARK East project which is part of the Eastern Leaders Group. He explained that the incubator will house several small businesses in hopes that they will locate in downtown Ypsilanti upon leaving the incubator. He said the project is a collaborative effort between business, government and education and the mission is to address the immediate and long term needs of Washtenaw County by identifying opportunities and leveraging resources to improve the overall community.

Also appearing before Council to explain how the business incubator concept would work in Ypsilanti and how it would be funded were Greg Fronizer and Scott Olson of Ann Arbor SPARK.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Resolution to approve "2170 Washtenaw PUD Amendment"

1. Resolution No. 2008-066, determination.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the request to amend the PUD agreement for 2170 Washtenaw Avenue to extend the permitted hours of operation be **tabled** to allow this action to be coordinated with other changes proposed at the site.

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

Planner Richard Murphy stated that the request is to allow Walgreens to extend their hours of operation from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight.

Assistant City Attorney Karl Barr gave a brief history of the site and explained that he requested that the item be tabled in order to settle a pending issue regarding a sidewalk request.

Planning Commission Chairman Rod Johnson gave a brief overview of the history of the property and stated that the Planning Commission has approved this request.

2. Open the public hearing.
 - A. David Long, Walgreen's District Manager, requested that Council separate the two issues and vote on the request to extend hours of operation. He stated that the sidewalk issue can be addressed later.

3. Resolutions No. 2008-067, close public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider the proposed Ordinance entitled "2170 Washtenaw PUD Amendment" be **officially closed**.

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

VOTE:

April 15, 2008
Council Meeting Minutes

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

The vote on the resolution was as follows:

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

The resolution was tabled.

IX. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 1079

- A. An ordinance adding a new section to the Ypsilanti City Code, Article VII, Misdemeanor Offenses Concerning Underage Persons titled Division 5. "Truancy".

1. Resolution No. 2008-064 determination

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT a new section be added to the Ypsilanti City Code, Article VII, Misdemeanor Offenses Concerning Underage Persons, titled Division 5. TRUANCY and to provide for enforcement be approved on **First Reading**.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

Police Chief Harshberger and School Superintendent Hawkins were present to give an overview of the request and to answer questions from City Council. Chief Harshberger explained how the current liaison officer operates at the public schools. Dr. Hawkins explained the need for the ordinance and asked for support from City Council to improve student attendance in the Ypsilanti Public School District.

Assistant City Attorney Barr answered questions from Council regarding prosecution and explained the juvenile court process.

2. Open the public hearing.
- A. Rodney Smith stated that as the truancy ordinance reads it is basically a curfew and would allow police officers to stop children and interrogate them. He said curfews are for more serious matters and under the current law it is the responsibility of the parent. He said the current language is too broad.
- B. Pastor Harry Grayson, Pastor of Messiah Temple Church, expressed concern that parents in the community are not aware of the proposed ordinance. He suggested that a community meeting be held to discuss the truancy issue.
- C. Lee Tooson agreed that students must be in school to learn, however he said he feels the city would be making a terrible mistake to get police involved. He said that truancy is a community problem and should be dealt with by the community.

- D. David Kircher stated that truancy is a school problem. He stated that the City doesn't have enough officers to address murders and crime, and the burden of enforcing truancy should not be placed upon them.
- E. Reza Rajabi stated that truant children are usually poor and their parents would not be able to pay the fine. He said establishing a truancy ordinance is an attempt by the city to make money and it is not a good idea. He said there are not enough police currently and the truancy problem should be dealt with academically.
- F. Steve Pierce pointed out that the truancy ordinance closely resembles the daytime curfew that was brought before Council about two or three years ago and people were concerned about the ramifications. He said he feels that a community dialogue should be started to address issues of cost and probable cause before the ordinance is passed.

3. Resolution No. 2008-065, close public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider an ordinance adding a new section to the Ypsilanti City Code, Article VII, Misdemeanor Offenses Concerning Underage Persons titled Division 5. "Truancy" and to provide for enforcement **be officially closed.**

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

VOTE:

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

Council Member Richardson moved, supported by Council Member Gawlas to table the request to allow Chief Harshberger to provide Council with additional information.

On roll call, the vote to table the ordinance at First Reading was as follows:

Council Member Filipiak	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Gawlas	Yes	Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson	Absent
Council Member Nickels	No	Mayor Schreiber	Yes
Council Member Richardson	Yes		

VOTE:

Yes: 5 No: 1 (Nickels) Absent: 1 (Swanson) Vote: Carried

The ordinance was tabled at first reading.

Ordinance No. 1081

B. An ordinance entitled, "300, 318 W. Forest and 305 Jarvis Rezoning".

1. Resolution No. 2008-068, determination

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

April 15, 2008
Council Meeting Minutes

THAT the proposed ordinance entitled "300, 318 WEST FOREST, 305 JARVIS REZONING" be approved on **First Reading**.

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

Planner Richard Murphy gave a brief overview of the request and answered questions from Council.

Stewart Cerier, American Photo Marketing CEO, explained why his company selected the proposed site and answered questions from Council.

- 2. Open the public hearing.
 - A. Mike Rohde of Real Estate One, reported that the property had a lot of interested visitors but American Photo’s operation fit best with the neighborhood. He listed the previous businesses interested in the property and answered questions from Council.
 - B. Ed Pena spoke in support of the request. He explained that the proposed developer worked closely with the Riverside Neighborhood Association and gave them a lot of opportunity to speak and have their concerns addressed. He said the neighbors support the request and urged Council to approve the request.
- 3. Resolution No. 2008-069, close public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider the proposed Ordinance entitled "300, 318 WEST FOREST, 305 JARVIS REZONING" be **officially closed**.

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

VOTE:

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

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Schreiber read the rules for audience participation.

- 1. David Kircher reported that the Thompson Building is in need of repair, part of the roof has blown off and windows are broken. He said enforcement of the condition of the building is the responsibility of the Building Department. He questioned if favoritism is a factor in the non-enforcement and asked who gives orders to enforce the building code.
- 2. Reza Rajabi stated that two police officers banged on a door where he lives with a flashlight, leaving about 40 dents in the door. He said he reported the incident to

the Ypsilanti Police Department but was interrogated. He said he feels he is entitled to compensation.

3. Lee Tooson requested that the Julien Word investigation be re-opened. He said that Chief Harshberger admitted at the NAACP Executive Board meeting that his officers dropped the ball. He also requested that the write-ups made on two black officers for use of excessive force be taken off their records.
4. Steve Pierce reported that there is still trouble with the traffic light at Huron and Michigan Avenue.

XI. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber responded to Mr. Kircher's comments by stating that the City Attorney does not direct anyone in the city but is given cases as is. He said that the Building Department inspects and enforces sites as they see fit.

Regarding Mr. Razabi's comments, Mayor Schreiber indicated that City Manager Koryzno took notes on his issue and someone from the city should be in contact with him.

In the case of Julien Word, Mayor Schreiber explained that the officers did not include an alleged child luring in the original investigation and when this was brought to the attention of the police department, Chief Harshberger re-opened the case and the prosecutor denied the case due to insufficient evidence. He stated that the police officers were counseled by Chief Harshberger. He said that the mother of Julien Word refused to press charges.

Mayor Schreiber reported that there is an on-going investigation with Lt. Annas and Mark Angott and Council has not been apprised of anything. He stated that a committee consisting of Chief Harshberger and April McGrath are investigating and they will determine the best course of action and submit the recommendation to the City Manager.

He asked Mr. Koryzno about the traffic light at Huron Street and Michigan Avenue.

Mr. Koryzno reported that the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) found that the light was not operating properly and it was repaired. He said perhaps it is not recycling properly again and said he would have Mr. Kirton look into it this week. He reminded Council that both Adams and Washington Street are major streets and if traffic is using them as an alternate means to Huron Street, they are designated for that purpose.

XII. MINUTES

Resolution No. 2008-070, approving the minutes of April 1, 2008.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the Minutes of April 1, 2008 be approved.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Filipiak

VOTE:

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

XIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. Resolution No. 2008-071, approving contribution to SPARK East Project.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County, Eastern Michigan University, the City of Ypsilanti, the Townships of Ypsilanti, Superior, and Augusta, Washtenaw Community College, Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce, SPARK and private sector businesses and individuals have formed the Eastern Washtenaw Leaders to collectively address issues facing the eastern side of the county; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the group include using the University’s prestige and resources to develop innovative programs to meet the pressing needs of the community, to revitalize and promote the City of Ypsilanti’s historic downtown and Riverside Park as a location for county residents to enjoy and as “the place” for innovation companies and the creative class to locate, create the urban design, business climate and cultural identity to make the eastern portion of the County the “Gateway to Washtenaw County” and to be recognized as the national model for collaboration and cooperation between government, education and business; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners has committed and Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents have allocated funds for this initiative; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti supports the Eastern Washtenaw Leaders initiative and, in particular the business incubator, which has great potential to assist in revitalizing the downtown,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council will commit to funding the Business Incubator project at \$5,000 per year during fiscal years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

VOTE:

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

2. Resolution No. 2008-072, approving Depot Town CDC Second Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS The Depot Town Association, doing business as the Depot Town Community Development Corporation (DTCDC) has offered to maintain, program, and improve Frog Island and Riverside Parks; and

WHEREAS on September 18, 2007, Ypsilanti City Council authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the DTCDC which was signed on September 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS on November 7, 2007, Ypsilanti City Council authorized the Mayor and Clerk to execute an amended MOU with DTCCDC which was signed on December 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS the DTCCDC has prepared and provided requested information to the City, and provided all documents as outlined in Erik Dotzauer's presentation; NOW THEREFORE:

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that the City of Ypsilanti approves the Second Amended Memorandum of Understanding for Operation and Management of Riverside and Frog Island Parks, and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the MOU subject to the approval of the Ypsilanti City Attorney.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Filipiak

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

Assistant City Attorney Barr answered questions from Council. He pointed out that the revision to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is on page 6, paragraph A. The insurance amount was changed from \$10 million to \$4 million.

City Manager Koryzno pointed out that the Depot Town CDC would take charge of the parks in July, at the end of the fiscal year.

VOTE:

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

3. Resolution No. 2008-073, approving the purchase of one (1) ton Stake Truck with Dump Body for street repairs to replace existing stake truck.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, THE 2007 – 2008 fiscal year budget includes funds of \$40,000 to purchase a one (1) ton stake truck with a dump body and front plow assembly and;

WHEREAS, three (3) purchase proposals were received from Bill Brown Ford, 32222 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, Michigan in the amount of \$35,268.00, Bill Crispin Chevrolet, 7112 E. Michigan Avenue, Saline, Michigan in the amount of \$37,419.44, and Red Holman Pontiac GMC, 3530 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan in the amount \$32,810.00 and;

WHEREAS, the purchase proposal submitted by Red Holman Pontiac GMC in the amount of \$32,810.00 is within the allocated funds and in the best interest of the City to purchase this truck; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Ypsilanti City Council approves the purchase of a one (1) ton stake truck with a dump body and front plow assembly from Red Holman Pontiac GMC.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the \$32,810.00 to purchase this vehicle be expended from account 664-932-987-10.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Filipiak

Interim DPW Director Stan Kirton was present to explain the request and answer questions from Council.

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

VOTE:

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

The vote to approve the resolution was as follows:

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

4. Resolution No. 2008-074, supporting the Riverside Arts Center application for a 2008 MCACA Capital Improvement Grant

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Certain funding is available through the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs that may be used for capital improvements for cultural facilities;

WHEREAS, the Riverside Arts Center seeks to improve its theatre lobby by enlarging the space, improving fire safety and lobby flow, installing the Historic Hill Auditorium box office, improving lobby wall space and lighting for proper display of artwork, and providing additional improvements including installation of an infrared listening system for the hard of hearing, new carpeting in the theatre, upgrades to the dressing rooms, and increases in the electrical capacity for the stage lighting system;

WHEREAS, The timing of this grant will coincide with the construction of the elevator access project, thus creating an opportunity for coordinating two capital improvement projects to reduce construction time and save on construction costs; and

WHEREAS, The Riverside Arts Center has agreed to use up to \$50,000 in local contributions secured for this project as a local match required for receipt of up to \$50,000 in grant monies from MCACA capital improvement grant, if awarded;

WHEREAS, The MCACA grant application requires that the City of Ypsilanti serve as applicant, and the Riverside Arts Center Foundation as the sub-grantee; and

WHEREAS, Ed Koryzno will serve as the Authorizing Official on behalf of the City as the applicant for this project, Bill Kinley will be identified as the Board Chair and Barry LaRue will be identified as the Project Director;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Ypsilanti City Council hereby authorize the application for a 2009 MCACA Capital Improvement Grant, on behalf of the Riverside Arts Center Foundation for lobby enhancements and increased accessibility, and, should the grant be awarded, authorize the City Manager to accept that grant, and amend the budget to include this project.

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

Assistant City Manager April McGrath gave a brief background of the request and referred questions to Bill Kinley, Riverside Arts Center Foundation Chairman.

Council Member Filipiak moved, supported by Council Member Robb to extend the meeting to 11:30 p.m.

VOTE:

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

The meeting was extended.

The vote to approve the resolution was as follows:

VOTE:

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

5. Resolution No. 2008-075, supporting the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority's application for Michigan State Housing Development Authority's Michigan Main Street – Associate Level application.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Certain funding is available through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority's Michigan Main Street - Associate Level program that pays for the registration costs of workshops and technical assistance for downtown development organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority (YDDA) believes that this program will provide the YDDA with the training and tools needed to implement Ypsilanti's Blueprint for Downtown plan and increase volunteer participation in downtown revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, The YDDA has agreed to administer and manage this grant if awarded;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Ypsilanti City Council hereby formally supports the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority's application for a Michigan State Housing Development Authority Michigan Main Street - Associate Level grant program to assist in improving Ypsilanti's historic downtown.

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

VOTE:

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

6. Resolution No. 2008-076, approving Conditional Consent Judgment for Water Street Property.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti is the owner of 38 acres commonly known as "The Water Street Property" generally described as property bounded on the north by Michigan Avenue, on the east by Park Street, and on the south and west by the Huron River; and

WHEREAS, the property has been slated for redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate a more complete redevelopment of the area, the roads, streets and other encumbrances must be vacated; and

WHEREAS, the Land Division Act, MCL 560.222, mandates that a circuit court action be commenced to accomplish such vacation; and

WHEREAS, a circuit court action has been commenced and all parties have waived further notice or been defaulted, except six parties, and those remaining six parties have agreed to a conditional consent judgment; and

WHEREAS, the conditional consent judgment will allow the matter to be resolved pending further surveying which is necessary to prepare detailed descriptions of the lands to be vacated and revise the global legal description so the legal descriptions commence at a government corner and does not refer to plats which are being vacated; and

WHEREAS, a Conditional Consent Judgment has been prepared that is, in concept, agreed to by the parties but may need slight non-substantive tweaking prior to execution by the Judge and entry by the court;

NOW THEREFORE:

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that the Ypsilanti City Attorney is authorized to execute the conditional consent judgment in a form substantially conforming to the version attached and presented to Council at the April meeting.

It is further resolved that the City Attorney is authorized to execute a final judgment so long as there are no substantive changes from the Conditional Consent Judgment.

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

Assistant City Attorney Barr explained the details of the conditional consent judgment.

VOTE:

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

XIV. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. SEMCOG Update – There was no report.
- B. Recreation Commission – There was no report.
- C. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – There was no report.

XV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESSCouncil Member Richardson

Ms. Richardson asked what happened to the Consent Agenda.

City Manager Koryzno replied a Consent Agenda must have a minimum of three items and he and the Mayor did not feel there were three items that would not need discussion by Council.

Council Member Robb

Mr. Robb asked what is going on with the Thompson Building. He recalled that the City Attorney requested that Mr. Beal install a fence some time ago and the fence is not up yet. He said Mr. Beal has not listened to the City Attorney and asked what the City is doing about it. He pointed out that a sign is still hanging in front of the building and the sign permit is expired and asked does the City enforce anything. He noted that the bricks are falling out of the back of the building into the alley way and that is dangerous. He said it goes back to selective enforcement and asked if there is some truth in Mr. Kircher's statements. He said if this were anybody else, the building would be going into receivership but because it is Stewart Beal nothing is being done. He stated that selective enforcement is dangerous and the city doesn't want to be known for that.

Mr. Robb requested the time schedule for street sweeping and distributed pictures to Mr. Koryzno of areas needing clean up.

Council Member Nickels

Mr. Nickels expressed concern with the Thompson Building. He said Mr. Beal indicated he would start work a week ago. He said that dumpsters are there however he is not sure that anything is going on in the inside of the building. He said that Mr. Beal has started some things that he said he would start.

He stated that in the past Council has looked at the major streets list annually. He asked if that list is coming to Council soon.

City Manager Koryzno stated that the list will be forwarded to Council as a part of the budget process.

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Regarding selective enforcement, Mayor Schreiber stated that we have selective enforcement going on all the time and it is a fact of life, for example people speeding on Huron Street. He said the City has to enforce things that are an issue and enforcement is simply not black and white.

AATA Bus Service Agreement Funding – Mayor Schreiber stated that in February, 2008 Council passed a resolution identifying city goals and objectives and directed the City Manager to make specific cuts in police, fire, and administration and maintain the bus service at half. He stated that the AATA Board President has given the city a good indication that the AATA will probably not fund 50% of the city's bus service.

He asked City Council to consider a resolution that would fully fund busing in Ypsilanti. He said full funding would guarantee bus service, contribute to regional cooperation, and set an example to other municipalities that the city does value bus service. He said full funding will take the spot light off of the Ypsilanti budget and place it on regional busing where it belongs. Full funding would improve the image of the city. He said asking for a handout will cast Ypsilanti as being a city that can't take care of itself.

Council Member Richardson stated that this issue should be discussed earlier in the meeting or scheduled for a discussion at a different time to allow for extensive discussion. She suggested that Council schedule this discussion for another date. She said she would like to know how much money the AATA receives in subsidy for the city of Ypsilanti.

Mayor Schreiber requested that Council place a resolution regarding full funding of the AATA on the next Council agenda.

Council Member Robb stated that the AATA receives money through the City of Ypsilanti's ridership and if they lose our population their funding from the federal government decreases and the City needs to understand what that is. He said he feels this is a game of chicken that is worth playing. He stated that the political will here is to say that we can only pay \$130,000 and state that the AATA needs to come up with a regional plan. He stated that Council cannot do all the grunt work and come up with millages. He said he takes an exception to the whole idea that it's a subsidy because we pay for a service. He stated that AATA has made some major capital investments and they will probably not abandon the city. He said if the city makes a commitment to pay the full bus funding amount for two years no one is going to work on busing. He indicated that Mr. Nacht said he would come back to Council with the information regarding the population and ridership and taking action prior to receiving the information is a huge mistake.

Mayor Schreiber disagreed with Council Member Robb and stated that in meetings regarding busing and transportation, the first item that comes up is how to get money for Ypsilanti. He said if this problem was solved, more time and focus could be devoted to looking into a regional millage.

Council Member Nickels stated that his concern lies with where the cuts will be made in order to fully fund the bus service. He stated that if the funding is for two years it sounds like the equivalent of cutting police officers each year or going into the reserves. He stated that the city has done a good job protecting itself with reserve money. He asked the City Manager where the money would come from.

City Manager Koryzno stated that there is no specific line item that will be cut to fund the bus service. He said Council will have to establish priorities and this will be done during the budget process.

Council Member Nickels stated that there will have to be cuts made and the cuts will have to come from people and salaries.

Mayor Schreiber stated that people may be considered, however it is a matter of priority and he feels that the priority is there and the city should fully fund the bus service.

XVII. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Resolution 2008-077, 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>
Corinne Sikorski 17220 Carolina Trace Chelsea, MI 48118	Depot Town DDA (replacing Mary Beth Strassel)	10/01/09
John Coleman 110 W. Michigan Ave. Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Ypsilanti DDA (replacing Jim Campbell)	03/01/09

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nickels

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

VOTE:

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

XVIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Koryzno announced that a Budget Town Hall meeting will be held at the Senior Center on Thursday, April 17th at 7:00 p.m.

He mentioned that he will distribute copies of the street sweeping schedule to Council.

Regarding comments made by Mr. Kircher regarding the Thompson Building, Mr. Koryzno stated that he will send the Building Official and Fire Chief Ichesco to the site. He said the big difference between the building now and when Mr. Kircher owned it is that Mr. Kircher had it illegally occupied.

Council Member Filipiak moved, supported by Council Member Robb to extend the meeting to 11:45 p.m.

VOTE:

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

The meeting was extended.

XIX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

1. Lee Tooson stated that the police department is under investigation because no one will listen to what people have said. He alleged that white officers are treated differently from black officers and female officers. He gave several examples of

incidents that occurred within the department and stated that the only way to change the police department is to change the administration.

2. Pete Murdock stated that there are pieces of sheet metal along Cross Street on the sidewalk and graffiti on the back of the Thompson Building. He said he is pleased that Council is supportive of transportation service and suggested that maybe the City should explore the "Keep Ypsilanti Rolling" proposal again. He stated that to commit to full funding is the wrong approach.
3. Steve Pierce stated that City Council should send a message to the community that we want to preserve the current bus service level. He suggested that Council look at other opportunities such as a Headlee rollback which would bring nearly \$400,000 back to the city. He said the city should begin talking about the positive things the city is doing to move forward.

XX. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

Addressing Mr. Tooson's comments regarding Julien Word's mother refusing to file a complaint with Lt. Craig Annas, Mayor Schreiber stated that there are three places to file a complaint: with the City Attorney, the Police Department and the City Manager so she has a number of options.

Mayor Schreiber stated that a rate increase for bus service should be done regionally, not just in Ypsilanti. He said the City should begin talking about the positive things happening in the city and get away from trying to keep the subsidy or the handout for bus service. He said the city should be treated as other municipalities and encourage movement to regionalization. He stated that full funding is about \$240,000 and the city is getting an incredible deal. He said Council needs to send a message that bus routes will be preserved, and the only argument is how to fund it. Regarding the Headlee rollback suggestion, he said the funds would have to go into the general fund and those funds cannot be dedicated to bus service. He stated that if a regional millage for transportation is pursued, it would have to be crafted well and have a good campaign in order to convince residents to approve it.

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Resolution No. 2008-078, 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 Nickels

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Gawlas

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 p.m.