

RESOLUITON ESTABLISHING A BLUE RIBBON
COMMITTEE ON CITY FINANCES

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City Council is concerned about providing for the safety of our residents, providing economic re-development, preserving the infrastructure, enhancing our image and meeting the financial challenges facing the City on both a short term and long term basis; and

Whereas, over the past six years Ypsilanti has endured severe financial challenges, due to limited revenue growth (due to statutory constraints), record health care cost increases, record insurance cost increases post 911, and limited opportunities for growth in the tax base (except through redevelopment, which tends to be more costly and time-consuming); and

Whereas, during City Council goal planning sessions in November and December of 2003 the idea of forming a Blue Ribbon Committee on City Finances was discussed and later adopted in Goal One, Action Plan 2 of the City's Goals and Action Plans for the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year.

Now, therefore be it resolved that a Blue Ribbon Committee on City Finances is established consisting of eleven (11) community members, to be appointed by the Mayor with Council confirmation. The Mayor would also designate an interim chair to begin the organization meeting.

Further, the Committee's Charge will be to provide recommendations to the Mayor and Council to address the financial challenges facing the City. In preparing its recommendations the Committee should:

1. Examine the fiscal condition of the City relative to other similar cities;
2. Review the short and long term fiscal challenges that threaten the delivery of necessary City services; and
3. Recommend short and long term strategies to address those challenges, including, but not limited to:
 - ? Potential expenditures reductions and service reductions and /or eliminations;
 - ? Potential improvements in service efficiency and effectiveness; and
 - ? Potential increases in revenues within statutory constraints.

Further, the Committee will prepare and present to City Council an interim report within 90 days of its first meeting recommending possible short term actions to alleviate immediate and urgent budget problems for fiscal year 2004-5, beginning July 1, 2004. The Committee will prepare and present to City Council a final report by the end of 2004 recommending possible long-term strategies to address the structural challenges facing the city.

Further, the Blue Ribbon Committee on City Finances will operate as if it were a standing City Committee, selecting officers to guide the work of the Committee, utilizing parliamentary procedures in its meetings, and abiding by the Open Meetings Act and other statutory requirements as it conducts its business. Committee members will serve without compensation.

Further, the city will provide necessary resources to facilitate and support the work of the Committee. City Council must authorize and approve any contracts or expenditure to support the Committee. The Committee may accept donations of labor, services or money to support its work.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE: