



**CITY OF YPSILANTI  
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 28, 2021 @ 7:00 PM  
[ZOOM MEETING](#)  
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

Page

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Renee Echols  
Andy Fanta  
Herman Humes  
Kathleen McCormick  
Gail Wolkoff

**STAFF LIASION:**

Police Chief Tony DeGiusti

**COUNCIL LIAISON**

Council Member Morgan

**III. AGENDA APPROVAL**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)**

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3 - 6**

- A. Approving the minutes of September 23, 2021.  
[POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION - 23 Sep 2021 - Minutes](#)

**VI. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

- A. Monthly statistical update - Chief DeGiusti
- 7 - 10**
- B. Update regarding the recent City Council Approved Resolutinos.  
[Council Approved Resolutions](#)
- 11 - 12**
- C. Discussion regarding an oversight versus an advisory commission.  
[Memo](#)
- D. Update on Police Advisory Commission webpage on the city website.
- 13**
- E. Resolution No. 2021-005, requesting the City Manager to direct the Police Department to include photos and bios of Ypsilanti Police Officers on the city's website.  
[YPAC Resolution 2021-005](#)
- F. Discussion on new commissioners.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)**

**VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

A. November 18, 2021

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**



# MINUTES POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION Meeting

7:00 PM - Thursday, September 23, 2021  
Virtual

---

The POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 7:14 PM, in the Zoom Meeting.

## 1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 PM.

## 2 ROLL CALL

### Present:

Commissioner Echols - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County  
Commissioner Fanta - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County  
Commissioner Humes - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County  
Commissioner McCormick - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County  
Commissioner Wolkoff - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County  
**Staff Liaison** Lieutenant Brent Yuchasz - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County  
**Council Liaison** Council Member Morgan - City of Brighton, Livingston County

### Absent:

Commissioner Turman

## 3 AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved.

**Commissioner Fanta moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner McCormick.**

**Approved:**

**Yes - 5, No - 0, Absent - 1**

## 4 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

No comments were made.

## 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 22, 2021 meeting were approved.

**Commissioner McCormick moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Echols.**

**Approved:**

**Yes - 5, No - 0, Absent - 1.**

## 6 RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Ypsilanti Police Department Monthly Statistics - Chief DeGiusti

**Lieutenant Yuchasz presented on the statistics as well as the vandalism of the Riverside Parks mural and the shots fired incident from September 22, 2021.**

- b) Strategies to distribute information to the community

**Commissioner Wolkoff gave a presentation, prompting discussion regarding the commission's relationship with city council. Commissioner Humes agreed to take charge of developing a newsletter format to present at the October meeting.**

- c) Establish free calls from jails

The following resolution was proposed to cover agenda items C, D, and E. Discussion also included agenda item F. The resolution was approved:

**RESOLVED BY THE YPSILANTI POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION:**  
**The following matters being fully discussed by the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission, the commission urges city council by formal resolution to:**

**A) Urge the proper Washtenaw County authorities to develop a policy for free calls from individuals in Washtenaw County, and**

**B) To establish a city policy to aid and assist individuals with their criminal record expungements, and**

**C) To develop a city policy concerning open records for the hiring of prospective police officers for the city of Ypsilanti.**

**OFFERED BY: Commissioner Fanta**

**SUPPORTED BY: Commissioner Humes**

**YES: Commissioner Fanta, Commissioner Humes, Commissioner Wolkoff**

**NO: Commissioner Echols, Commissioner McCormick**

**ABSENT: Commissioner Turman**

**VOTE: Approved, 3-2**

- d) Expungement actions and commission involvement
- e) Police hiring and open records
- f) MCOLES Reform
- g) Sentencing Laws

**Commisisoner Fanta encouraged Commissioner Wolkoff to invite County Prosecutor Eli Savit to a future YPAC meeting to speak on restorative justice and Ypsilanti ordinance sentencing as well as his thoughts on an advisory commission's role. Commissioner Echols questioned the**

**necessity of this, and Commissioners Echols, Humes, and McCormick stated they do not believe a visit from the prosecutor is necessary.**

- h) Discussion regarding the commission receiving complaints submitted against the police department.

**Commissioner Wolkoff presented, prompting discussion from Commissioner Humes regarding the difference between an advisory versus an oversight committee.**

- i) Traffic stop data

**Commissioner Wolkoff presented, prompting Commissioner Fanta to request the attendance of Dr. Kevin Karpiak as well as Ypsilanti Police Chief Tony DeGiusti or his designee at the October meeting to discuss further.**

- j) Information to add to the YPAC page on the City's website

The following resolution was proposed and approved:

**RESOLVED BY THE YPSILANTI POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION:  
The matter of the secondary navigation page for the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission being fully discussed by the commission, it is hereby resolved to the the chair meet with the city manager or her designee to design a new user-friendly website for YPAC.**

**OFFERED BY: Commissioner Fanta**

**SUPPORTED BY: Commissioner Humes**

**YES: Commissioner Fanta, Commissioner Humes, Commissioner Wolkoff, Commissioner Echols, Commissioner McCormick**

**NO: None**

**ABSENT: Commissioner Turman**

**VOTE: Approved, 5-0**

- k) New and specific programs that will offset, or work in conjunction with three new police officers.

**Council Member Morgan made a presentation. The commission agreed to table further discussion until Police Chief DeGiusti is present at a future meeting.**

- l) Removal of Precious Turman from the commission

**Commissioner Fanta moved to add an agenda item addressing Commissioner Turman's three consecutive, unexcused absences from commission meetings, seconded by Commissioner Humes.**

**Approved:**

**Yes - 5, No - 0, Absent - 1**

**Commissioner Fanta moved to recommend city council remove Commissioner Turman from the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission, seconded by Commissioner Humes.**

**Approved:**

**Yes - 5, No - 0, Absent - 1**

Commissioner Fanta requested Commissioner Wolkoff attend a city council meeting to tell them that appointments to YPAC are distinct from other commissions in that they require further vetting, prompting discussion from Commissioner Humes and Council Member Morgan.

**7 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)**

One member of the audience (Kevin Carpiak) made comments.

**8 NEXT MEETING DATE**

a) October 28, 2021

**9 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM.

**Commissioner Fanta moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Humes.**

**Approved:**

**Yes - 5, No - 0, Absent - 1**



Resolution No. 2021-228  
October 19, 2021

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, Public Act 336 of 1947, is an act to prohibit strikes by certain public employees; to provide review from disciplinary action with respect thereto; to provide for the mediation of grievances and the holding of elections; to declare and protect the rights and privileges of public employees; to require certain provision in collective bargaining agreements; to prescribe means of enforcement and penalties for the violation of the provision of this act; and

WHEREAS, changes to this act would acknowledge that there are times when termination is the most appropriate response to egregious conduct of a public safety employee; and

WHEREAS, egregious conduct can lead to risks of liability, an inability to successfully prosecute cases in which the employee is involved, endanger the careers of colleagues, and put colleagues at risk; and

WHEREAS, if legislation is introduced and enacted, it would assist in the hiring of police officers of character matching the mission of the City of Ypsilanti, and

WHEREAS, it would not only protect the public from hiring officers that have been terminated from other jurisdictions for egregious conduct, it would also protect the officers serving this community, and the integrity of the Ypsilanti Police Department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti strongly encourages the Michigan Legislature to move steadfast in reforming Public Act 336 of 1947 and for the Governor to sign it into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City Council Direct the City Clerk to forward this resolution to the Michigan House, Michigan Senate, Governor Whitmer, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, and Kirk Profit, the City Lobbyist.

OFFERED BY: Mr. Brian Jones-Chance

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Steve Wilcoxon

YES: 6      NO: 0      ABSENT: 1      VOTE: CARRIED

(Morgan)

I do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution 2021-228 as passed by the Ypsilanti City Council, at their meeting held on October 19, 2021.

---

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk





Resolution No. 2021-229  
October 19, 2021

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, the correctional telecom sector is a business that annually generates \$1.4 billion in revenue; and

WHEREAS, the price of phone calls from correctional facilities are being driven higher; and

WHEREAS, African Americans and Latinx make up 32% of the total US population, while accounting for 56% of those incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of phone calls for correctional facilities only increases the wealth gap between minority groups and white individuals; and

WHEREAS, connecting with loved ones while incarcerated reduces the rates of recidivism.

NOW THEREFORE BY IT RESOLVED; that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti strongly urge Washtenaw County to provide those incarcerated with access to free telephone access and provide an environment of support from family and friends while incarcerated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City Council direct the City Clerk to provide this resolution to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners.

OFFERED BY: Mr. Brian Jones-Chance

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Steve Wilcoxon

YES: 6      NO: 0      ABSENT: 1      VOTE: CARRIED  
(Morgan)

I do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution 2021-229 as passed by the Ypsilanti City Council, at their meeting held on October 19, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk



**As Amended**  
Resolution No. 2021-230  
October 19, 2021

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, Chapter 7 Section 7-5(2) of the City of Ypsilanti City Code, provides that \$1,000 for each marijuana facility application will be used to promote social equity to negatively impacted communities by promoting advocacy around criminal justice issues related to marijuana prohibition; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti has accumulated \$25,000 in revenue earmarked for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission, through passage of Resolution No. 2021-001, has requested the City of Ypsilanti develop a policy in assisting with criminal record expungement; and

WHEREAS, someone with marijuana conviction may apply for expungement; and

WHEREAS, The Washtenaw County Prosecutors Office has been assisting individuals seeking to expunge their records; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti would like to aid this program through financial contribution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti direct the City Attorney to draft an agreement between the City of Ypsilanti and the Washtenaw County Prosecutors Office to provide funding for expungement specific to charges as a result of marijuana prohibition for Ypsilanti residents and those convicted in the City of Ypsilanti.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Ypsilanti provide up to \$ 25,000 to aid this program and the balance be returned to the City.

OFFERED BY: Mr. Brian Jones-Chance

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Annie Somerville

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: CARRIED

I do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution 2021-230 as passed by the Ypsilanti City Council, at their meeting held on October 19, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk



**Barr,  
Anhut &  
Associates, P.C.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

105 Pearl Street  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
(734) 481-1234  
Fax (734) 483-3871  
www.barrlawfirm.com  
e-mail: jbarr@barrlawfirm.com

---

John M. Barr  
Karl A. Barr

Jesse O'Jack ~ Of Counsel  
William F. Anhut ~ Of Counsel – Retired  
Jennifer A. Healy~ Legal Assistant

## MEMORANDUM

**To: Andrew Hellenga, Ypsilanti City Clerk**  
**From: John M. Barr, Ypsilanti City Attorney**  
**Date: October 18, 2021**  
**Re: Police Advisory v Police Oversight**

---

This memo is in response to Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission Chairperson Gail Wolkolf's question to you as to the legal difference between "Police Advisory commission and Police Oversight committee." The question can be answered by looking at the definitions and generally accepted meanings of the words themselves.

The short answer is that in common usage, there is virtually no difference between committee and commission.

In regard to Advisory or Oversight, the question to be asked is: what is the purpose of the organization? "Is the charge *advising* or is the charge in an *oversight*" capacity?

Advisory is defined as having or consisting in the power to make recommendations but not to take action enforcing them. Example: "an independent advisory committee".

Synonyms for Advisory: consultative, consulting, advising, counseling, recommendatory, recommending, assisting. helping, aiding.

Oversight indicates a watchful and responsible care. Example: "you to whom *oversight* of the University is entrusted" (regulatory supervision)



**Barr,  
Anhut &  
Associates, P.C.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

105 Pearl Street  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
(734) 481-1234  
Fax (734) 483-3871  
www.barrlawfirm.com  
e-mail: jbarr@barrlawfirm.com

---

John M. Barr  
Karl A. Barr

Jesse O'Jack ~ Of Counsel  
William F. Anhut ~ Of Counsel – Retired  
Jennifer A. Healy ~ Legal Assistant

Oversight indicates a watchful and responsible care. Example: "you to whom *oversight* of the University is entrusted" (regulatory supervision)

Synonyms for *oversight*:

administration, care, charge, conduct, control, direction, governance, government, guidance, handling, intendance, management, operation, presidency, regulation, runningstewardship, superintendence, supervision.

The name of the group can sometimes be misleading and functions can be either advisory or oversight, or some of both. For instance, the Ann Arbor City Police Oversight Committee has mostly advisory functions.

The most useful test is to take a careful look at the enabling legislation to determine the function and powers of the agency.



Resolution No. 2021-005  
October 28, 2021

**RESOLVED BY THE POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF  
YPSILANTI:**

**WHEREAS; The Police Advisory Commission wishes to provide for greater  
transparency on the Police Department; and**

**WHEREAS; including photos and bios of officers on the website, would add to  
the public trust of the department.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Police Advisory request the  
City Manager to direct the Police Department to include photos and bios of  
Ypsilanti Police Officers on the City website.**

OFFERED BY:

SUPPORTED BY:

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE: