



**CITY OF YPSILANTI  
ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING  
JUNE 26, 2020 @ 8:30 AM  
ZOOM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82638052263>

Meeting ID: 826 3805 2263

**One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

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Page

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

City Attorney John Barr  
City Assessor Courtney Dugger  
City Clerk Andrew Hellenga

**III. AGENDA APPROVAL**

**IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**2 - 4**

A. Resolution No. 2020-003, approving process for filling the seat of Mayor.  
[Resolution No 2020-003  
Process](#)

**VI. PROPOSED BUSINESS**

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**



Resolution No. 2020-003  
June 26, 2020

**WHEREAS**, the former Mayor resigned her seat on June 23, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**; 2.05 (d)1 of the City Charter states the Mayor Pro-Tem would take the seat of Mayor until the next General Election; and

**WHEREAS**; the next General Election is scheduled November 3, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**; the City of Ypsilanti is one of three jurisdictions with partisan Councils; and

**WHEREAS**; MCL 168.631 requires that a special primary be held for a partisan office; and

**WHEREAS**; the opportunity to file to run for a political party's nomination for Mayor has passed; and

**WHEREAS**; a process is needed in order to fulfill the remainder of the term expiring November 2022; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Election Commission approves the attached process on appointment of a Mayor to fulfill the term expiring November 2022.

OFFERED BY:

SUPPORTED BY:

Yes:

No:

Absent:

Vote:



Memorandum  
June 26, 2020

For: Ypsilanti Election Commission

From: Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk

Subject: Process for filling the seat of Mayor until expiration of term ending November 2022

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On June 23, 2020 Beth Bashert resigned her position as Mayor of Ypsilanti.

Per 2.05 (d)1 of the City Charter the Mayor Pro-Tem would take the seat of Mayor until the next general election.

(1)

*Mayor. Vacancies occurring in the office of Mayor shall be filled by the Mayor Pro Tem until the next general election and vacancies occurring in the office of Mayor Pro Tem shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term of the Mayor Pro Tem by appointment of a Member of the Council. Such appointment shall create a vacancy in the office of Council Member until the next general election.*

General Election shall be held as defined in the MCL 168.2(j) and City Charter 3.01 *on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November every two years in even numbered years.*

3.03 of the City Charter states *Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, the Michigan Election Law shall control, as nearly as may be possible, all procedures relating to registration for the conduct of all City primary, regular, and special elections.*

The Charter states the Mayor Pro-Tem would fill the position until the next General Election. However, since the City has a partisan Council it must hold a special primary, and the election must be called with 45 days prior to the election. MCL 168.631

*If a special election is called to fill a vacancy in any office, the candidates for which are regularly nominated in accordance with the provisions of this act relating to primary nominations, a special primary for all political parties must be held in the county, district, or city in which the vacancy occurs on a day as may, subject to section 641(3), be fixed by the official or legislative body calling the special election, but not less than 45 days before the date of the special election. The official or legislative body calling a special primary shall, in the call for the special primary, fix the time within which candidates may file nominating petitions.*

The City also does not have the authority to call a special election per MCL 168.641(s), the power resides with the Governor.

*(3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsection (4), a special election shall be held on a regular election date. A special election called by the governor under section 145, 178, 632, 633, or 634 to fill a vacancy.*

Due to our partisan status, and timing of the resignation, we will be unable to fill the vacancy by a vote of the people. Instead during the Organizational Meeting of the new Council on November 9, 2020 Council will vote to appoint a Mayor Pro-Tem. Upon appointment Mayor Pro-Tem elect will assume the

office of Mayor until the expiration of that term in November of 2022. Council will then elect another Mayor Pro-Tem to serve until November 2022. Council will then accept application for a Council Member to fill the vacancy of the Ward created through Council election Mayor. The vacancy then must be filled within three regular Council Meetings. That individual will then serve out the remainder of that term created through said vacancy