



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns, Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, Mayor Nicole Brown, Council Member Desirae Simmons, Council Member Evan Sweet, Council Member Roland Tooson, and Council Member Michelle King

ABSENT: None

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

II ROLL CALL

III PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- a) 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.

IV AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as submitted

V PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Nine members of the public spoke

VI WARD 3 VACANCY APPOINTMENT

- a) Evan Sweet
b) Ashanti Harris
c) Amber Fellows
d) Paul Adams

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to appoint Even Sweet to the vacant Council Seat in Ward 3

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
SECONDER:	Council Member Roland Tooson
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, and Roland Tooson
NAYS:	Desirae Simmons and Michelle King

VII PRESENTATIONS

- a) Multigenerational Programming at the Ypsilanti Senior Center – Monica Prince and Bruce Astrein

VIII GOAL SESSIONS

- a)
1. City Manager – Frances McMullan
 2. City Clerk – Andrew Hellenga
 3. Finance – Rheagan Basabica
 4. City Attorney – John Barr
 5. Downtown Development Authority – Christopher Jacobs
 6. Human Resources – DuJuan Fisher
 7. Department of Public Services – Bonnie Wessler
 8. Fire Department – Ken Hobbs
 9. Police Department – Brent Yuchasz
 10. Community and Economic Development (Building/Code Enforcement/Planning) – Joe Meyers

IX CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2023-001, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2023-001

That the following items be approved:

1. **Resolution No. 2023-002, approving the minutes of the December 20, 2022 City Council Meeting.**
2. **Resolution No 2023-003, approving Ordinance 1404, an Ordinance Entitled "Zoning Test Amendment: Temporary Mobile Healthcare Establishments". (Second Reading).**
3. **Resolution No. 2023-004, approving the purchase of a vehicle for the use of the Fire Department from Gorno Ford.**

	CARRIED.
RESULT:	
MOVER:	Council Member Roland Tooson
SECONDER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, and Michelle King

- b) Resolution No. 2023-002, approving the minutes of December 20, 2022.

THAT the minutes of December 20, 2022 City Council Meeting be approved.

- c) Resolution No. 2023-003, approving Ordinance 1404, an Ordinance Entitled "Zoning Text Amendment: Temporary Mobile Healthcare Establishments".
(Second Reading)

Whereas the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that mobile health clinics serve an important role in the health care system, providing care to some of the most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that this action creates access to direct medical care, screening and protective measures that may lead to a more stable and healthier workforce, as well as the prevention of long-term illness, hospitalization, or death; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that protecting our citizens, local employees, entrepreneurs, and service providers from social and physical health difficulties fully addresses the broader community's economic conditions; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the Zoning Text Amendment provision in the zoning ordinance to allow for temporary mobile healthcare establishments in the Center, Parks, GC, NC, HHS and PMD zoning districts, on Second and Final Reading.

- d) Resolution No. 2023-004, approving the purchase of a vehicle for the use of the Fire Department from Gorno Ford.

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Fire Department desires to replace one (1) Fire vehicle a with 2024 Ford Explorer, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Fire Department was allocated \$32,000.00 in the FY 2022-23 budget for the purchase of one (1) vehicle, and

WHEREAS, Gorno Ford of Woodhaven, Michigan has provided State of Michigan bid pricing in the amount of \$37,547.00, and

WHEREAS, due to price changes to purchase the Fire Marshal's vehicle a budget adjustment in the amount of \$6,000.00 was made from account 641.7.9340.818.00 into account 641.7.9340.987.11.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fire Chief be authorized to sign all necessary documents needed to execute the vehicle purchase.

X RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2023-005, accepting the employee evaluation of the City Manager.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2023-005

WHEREAS, the City Manager reports directly to the City Council and is supervised by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has evaluated City Manager Frances McMullan for her performance over the evaluation period; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Ypsilanti City Council hereby accepts the evaluation of City Manager McMullan.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, and Evan Sweet
ABSTAINED:	Desirae Simmons, Roland Tooson, and Michelle King

- b) Resolution No. 2023-006, accepting the employee evaluation of the City Clerk.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Evan Sweet, to approve Resolution No. 2023-006

WHEREAS, the City Clerk reports directly to the City Council and is supervised by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has evaluated City Clerk Andrew Hellenga for his performance over the evaluation period; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Ypsilanti City Council hereby accepts the evaluation of City Clerk Andrew Hellenga.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
SECONDER:	Council Member Evan Sweet
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, and Evan Sweet
ABSTAINED:	Desirae Simmons, Roland Tooson, and Michelle King

XI BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS

- a) **Bicentennial Committee**
Annie Somerville (New Member)
40 E Cross
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to suspend Council Rules and to immediately appoint Annie Somerville to the Bicentennial Committee

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Roland Tooson
SECONDER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, and Michelle King

XII BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. - None

2. Human Relations Commission. - None
3. Arts Commission. - None
4. Parks and Recreation Commission. - None
5. Sustainability Commission. - Council Member Simmons stated the Commission approved their annual report, updated their stated goals, and are requesting a presentation be made to Council regarding Earth Day at either the end of January or the beginning of February. The Commission is interested in creating a form to gather information regarding neighborhood resiliency that would be used as a community resource guide. The Commission also discussed resources needed to create strong neighborhoods, and improve communication and carefree safety network. Once created each Council Member would bring it back to their Wards to get feedback. A community member brought forth information regarding the use of beet sugar juice, and will make a presentation for its use for roads instead of salt.
6. Historic District Commission. - None
7. Planning Commission. - Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon stated the Commission recently approved a Zoning Text Amendment regarding rooming houses in the Historic District with wide support from the Commission.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals - None

XIII LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update - None
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - None
3. Urban County - None
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - None
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - None
6. Bicentennial Committee - County Commissioner Somerville stated the New Year's Eve Ball drop was widely successful, the committee is also asking for love letters to the City of Ypsilanti, the committee will be sponsoring two more events; one on July 4th, the opening the time capsule at the water tower from 50 years ago and on August 19th which will be the final Bicentennial Celebration.

XIV COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

a) Tooson

1. Stated the CREAM Inc held its winter empowerment events in the West Willow neighborhood and in Inkster, both with a great turnout, he asked that the organization would receive greater funding through donations in order to have future events.

b) Symanns

1. None

c) Sweet

1. Thanked Council for their support of his reappointment.
2. He asked for an update regarding the Poverty Exemptions amendment.
3. He asked that Council coordinate with City Officials to to a tour of city facilities not only to view the facilities themselves, but to see what the employees do.

d) Wilcoxon

1. None

e) **Simmons**

1. Asked a potential date for the Sustainability Commission to present at a future Council meeting.
2. Stated she will be holding a Ward 3 Community meeting on January 18th once the space is confirmed.
3. Stated she has been using multiple forms of out reach, and stressed that the use of different tools to reach the public is necessary, that each tool is not designed to reach all people. She stated that she has been encouraging the public to email her at dsimmons@cityofypsilanti.com, or to use the See.Click.Fix tool on the city's website.
4. Stated it has been a long time since the last Charter Commission and would like to see the creation of one placed on the a ballot in 2024.

f) **King**

1. Wished everyone a happy New Year.
2. Stated there is a family event on January 20, 2023 from 3:00 pm until 6:00 PM at Parkridge Community Center, its geared toward kindergarten through twelfth grade students. The event will include a soul food dinner, family time, and a college fair. She added that Washtenaw Community College offers free tuition for anyone over the age of twenty-five.

XV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Wished everyone a happy New Year.
2. Stated the Ministerial Alliance will be held on Martian Luther King Day which will include a march from the Key Bank to Second Baptist Church, after which a program will begin at 9:30 am. EMU will also be holding their annual MLK Day Events. The event will be hold a panel discussion by the Black Lives Matter Task Force Community Mental Health, with some of the newly elected officials.
3. The New Year event was very successful and was largely attended. Stated she is very excited to open the time capsule, to see what was placed there fifty years ago.

XVI COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XVII COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report (added)
- b) Sustainability Commission Annual Report (added)

XVIII PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

XIX REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XX ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2023-007, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm

- b)** Please click [here](#) to access the City Council Contact Form. This form can be used to submit any comments/concerns you might have about this agenda.