



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Ypsilanti Freighthouse

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 6:00 PM, in the Ypsilanti Freighthouse, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Mayor Lois Richardson, Council Member Anthony Morgan, Council Member Annie Somerville, and Mr. Brian Jones-Chance, Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, Council Member Jennifer Symanns, Council Member Steve Wilcoxon, Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown (Virtually present 6:00 PM - 7:03 PM, physically present at 7:03 PM)

ABSENT:

1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM

2 ROLL CALL

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steve Wilcoxon to excuse Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown. On a voice vote the motion carried.

3 AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville to approve the agenda as submitted. On a voice vote the motion carried.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

1 member from the public spoke.

5 GOAL SESSIONS - DR. MORGAN MILNER, FACILITATOR

- a) Council and Departmental Goals
1. Mayor Richardson
 2. Mayor Pro-Tem Brown
 3. Mr. Jones-Chance
 4. Council Member Symanns
 5. Council Member Wilcoxon
 6. Council Member Morgan
 7. Council Member Somerville

- 8. City Manager Frances McMullan
- 9. City Clerk Andrew Hellenga
- 10. Fire Chief Ken Hobbs
- 11. Police Chief Tony DeGiusti
- 12. Finance Director/Treasurer Rheagan Basabica
- 13. Department of Public Services Ron Akers
- 14. Community and Economic Development Director Joe Meyers
- 15. Human Resources Director DuJuan Fisher
- 16. Downtown Development Authority Director Christopher Jacobs
- 17. City Attorney John Barr

6 CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2022-015, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-015

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

- 1. **Resolution No. 2022-016, approving the minutes of January 11, 2022.**
- 2. **Resolution No. 2022-017, approving appointments to boards and commissions.**

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Brian Jones-Chance
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, Annie Somerville, and Brian Jones-Chance
ABSENT:	Nicole Brown

- b) Resolution No. 2022-016, approving the minutes of January 11, 2022.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of January 11, 2022 be approved.

- c) Resolution No. 2022-017, approving appointments to boards and commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT, the following residents be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions as indicated below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
<u>Roberta Wojcik-Andrews</u>	<u>Tax Board of Review</u>	<u>12/31/2023</u>
<u>7 N. Normal St</u>		
<u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>		
<u>Reappointment</u>		

7 RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2022-018, approving an agreement for legal services with Komorn Law.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-018

RESOLUTION TO HIRE KOMORN LAW FIRM

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that upon the request and recommendation of the City Attorney, the City Manager is authorized to sign the retention agreement with the Komorn Law firm for services in the current pending litigation AMA v City of Ypsilanti. Fees shall be billed monthly and a fees are limited to \$25,000 without further Council approval.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
SECONDER:	Council Member Brian Jones-Chance
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Brian Jones-Chance, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville

- b) Resolution No. 2022-019, approving Ordinance 1384, an ordinance to amend Section 14-5 of the Ypsilanti City Code to allow ducks and drakes.

Council Member Steve Wilcoxen made a friendly amendment to the resolution that reads 14-5(a), and hens, ducks and drakes. Council Member Annie Somerville agreed.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxen moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-019

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that an Ordinance entitled

“An ordinance to allow Ducks and Drakes in the City” to amend Section 14-5(a) of the Ypsilanti City code to allow hens, ducks and drakes in the City be approved on Second and Final Reading.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Steven Wilcoxen
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, Annie Somerville, and Brian Jones-Chance

- c) **Resolution No. 2022-020, approving to hold a city-wide quarterly webinar for Black History. (added)**

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown to run the program through the City Manager's office via Communication's Director, and the Preservationist. (Withdrawn)

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Steve Wilcoxon to table the resolution. (Withdrawn)

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to amend the resolution to remove the quarterly event language.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Brian Jones-Chance
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, Annie Somerville, and Brian Jones-Chance

Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve resolution 2022-020 as amended.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the origin of Blacky History Month began in 1915, half century after the Thirteen Amendment abolished slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, that same year, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History was founded by historian Carter G. Woodson and minister Jesse E Moorland that recognized achievement by Black Americans and other people of African descent; and

WHEREAS, the Association initiated a national Negro History week in February 1926. Eventually the weeklong recognition led every president since 1976 to designate the month of February as Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, during the month of February, communities nationwide organize various events and celebrations to commemorate Black History; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves to hold a city-wide observation for Black History. ~~There will be a quarterly webinar that will discuss the history of Blacks within the City of Ypsilanti.~~

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown
SECONDER:	Council Member Brian Jones-Chance
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, Annie Somerville, and Brian Jones-Chance

- d) Discussion regarding the proposed development at 220 N Park triggering the Community Benefits Ordinance.

8 BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS

- a) Tax Board of Review
Andy Fanta - Reappointment
1221 Westmoorland Blvd
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Craig Hupy - Reappointment
1124 N Congress St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

9 COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

- a) To be provided in writing prior to the meeting.

10 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- a) To be provided in writing prior to the meeting.

11 COMMUNICATIONS

- a) 2022 Budget Calendar

12 ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2022-021, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 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.