



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Zoom Meeting

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Zoom Meeting, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Council Member Steven Wilcoxon (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Mayor Lois Richardson (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Council Member Anthony Morgan (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Council Member Annie Somerville (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), and Mr. Brian Jones-Chance (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti)

ABSENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Council Member Steve Wilcoxon seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns. On, a voice vote, the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

2 members from the public spoke

V. PRESENTATIONS

a) Gun Violence Survivors Week Proclamation - Mayor Richardson

Celeste Kanpurwala was present to speak

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

a) Resolution No. 2021-017, approving the Consent Agenda.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

1. **Resolution No. 2021-018, approving the minutes of January 26, 2021.**
 2. **Resolution No. 2021-019, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.**
 3. **Resolution No. 2021-020, approving Project Manager Bonnie Wessler as the alternate representative to WRRMA**
- b) Resolution No. 2021-018, approving the minutes of January 26, 2021.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of January 26, 2021 be approved.

- c) Resolution No. 2021-019, 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>Clete McLaughlin</u>	<u>HRC</u>
<u>7/1/2024</u>	
<u>8 N Normal</u>	
<u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>	
<u>New Appointment</u>	
<u>Olivia Hill</u>	<u>HRC</u>
<u>7/1/2024</u>	
<u>34 E Forest</u>	
<u>Ypsilanti, MI 48198</u>	
<u>New Appointment</u>	
<u>Gina Thompson</u>	<u>Arts</u>
<u>2/1/2024</u>	
<u>1011 W Cross</u>	
<u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>	
<u>Reappointment</u>	
<u>Garret Schumann</u>	<u>Arts</u>
<u>2/1/2024</u>	
<u>1726 Collegewood</u>	
<u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>	
<u>Reappointment</u>	

- d) Resolution No. 2021-020, appointing Project Manager Bonnie Wessler as alternate representative to WRRMA.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti entered into the Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority (WRRMA) on April 2, 2019 through the adoption of Resolution No. 2019-070; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti is awarded a representative and alternate to sit on the board of the authority; and

WHEREAS, Chris Simmons, DPS Environmental Services Foreman, was selected as the alternate representative; and

WHEREAS, Chris Simmons has since retired from his position with the City of Ypsilanti.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti does hereby resolve to designate Project Manager Bonnie Wessler as the alternate representative to the Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority for the City of Ypsilanti.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No . 2021-017

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

VII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2021-021, approving sidewalk café program.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City regulates persons, firms and corporations who sell, offer to sell, buy, or offer to buy goods, wares, produce, fruit, vegetables or merchandise upon any public right-of-way in the City pursuant to Ypsilanti City Code Chapter 94-193; and

WHEREAS, said state trunk line highways within the city are under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Transportation (hereinafter referred to as "MDOT"); and

WHEREAS, Public Act 1 of 2005 requires that certain businesses, such as sidewalk cafés, must receive a permit from MDOT to conduct such activities within the right-of-way of any state trunk line; and

WHEREAS, MDOT requires under the Act that the City pass a Resolution supporting the activities described above and committing to enforcing MDOT sidewalk café permit

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Ypsilanti City Council, authorizing persons, firms and corporations to sell or offer for sale or display or attempt to display for sale goods, wares, produce, fruit, vegetables or merchandise upon any state trunk line highway in the City so long as said person, firm or corporation has secured a permit for such activities from MDOT and the same comply with the City of Ypsilanti code sections, set forth above.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City shall enforce compliance with the MDOT Sidewalk Café permit;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the authorization, set forth above, shall remain in force and effect so long as the permitted activities do not create an unsafe situation and do not interfere with the transportation along any state trunk line highway in the City of Ypsilanti pursuant to Public Act 1 of 2005.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-021

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-022, approving the Fiscal Year 21-22 City Council Goals.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, during January of 2021, the city council engaged in goal setting and budget prioritization exercises with the valuable assistance from facilitator Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein and city administration; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bernstein prepared a report titled *Ypsilanti City Council Goal-Setting Report* which outlines the results of the city council's goal setting sessions; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has reviewed the presented report, and with City Council direction, developed five umbrella goals that incorporate priorities set during goal session process. The goals are as follows:

1. **Communications and Connection**
 - a. **Refresh and upgrade city website and functionality, including accessibility for visually impaired.**
 - b. **Develop comprehensive communication plan – including hiring director.**

- c. Seek governmental partnerships/agreements with neighboring cities.
- 2. Community safety
 - a. Hire a social worker within YPD for support and crisis intervention and create Mental Health Response Team.
 - b. Implement Community Policing philosophy to enhance safety of all residents, businesses, and visitors, and eradicate gun violence and shooting. Promote community security.
- 3. Infrastructure –
 - a. Commons
 - i. Allocate funds to repair city sidewalks.
 - ii. Continue to upgrade existing park facilities and maintenance.
 - iii. Create community warming space.
 - b. Housing
 - i. Establish policy for making current housing more affordable to address issues of housing insecurity.
 - c. Safety
 - i. Explore new and creative options for increased traffic calming and crosswalk safety in neighborhoods and main streets.
 - d. Sustainability
 - i. Increase recycling (current levels are about 50% lower than the region)
 - ii. Create resilience hubs.
 - e. Building
 - i. Equitably develop long-term vacant sites in the city, including Water Street.
- 4. Council Staff Workflow
 - a. Do a compensation study of non-Union employees, including council, to structure the salary scale and allow for implementation of raises.
 - b. Explore regional transit and available grant funding.
 - c. Complete the Master Plan and Sustainability Plan and update the Parks and Recreation Plan.
- 5. Council Staff Development
 - a. Develop positive staff/council work relations (communication, team building, etc.)
 - b. Develop a student program with WCC, EMU, and YCS for city and civic work with council and city staff, including admin support for council.
 - c. Create framework for organization diversity and inclusion through more effective recruiting, staffing, and promotion for city staff

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5.02 of the Ypsilanti city charter, the city council desires to adopt goals, objectives, and budget priorities for 2021-2022 to provide the necessary direction to the City Manager for allocation of resources for FY 2021-2022 proposed budgets.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that the Ypsilanti city council does hereby adopt the Ypsilanti City Council 2021-2022 Goal-Setting Report as the city council's goals, objectives, and budget priorities for FY 2021-2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti city council does hereby direct the City Manager to consider these adopted goals, objectives, and budget priorities during the preparation of the FY 20201-2022 proposed budgets in accordance with Section 5.02 of the Ypsilanti city charter.

Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-022

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

- c) Selection of Council Liaisons
- Human Relations Commission – Mayor Pro-Tem Brown
 - Arts Commission – Council Member Somerville
 - Police Advisory Commission – Council Member Morgan
 - Planning Commission – Mr. Jones-Chance
 - Historic District Commission – Council Member Symanns
 - Zoning Board of Appeals – Mr. Jones-Chance
 - Sustainability Commission – Council Member Wilcoxen
 - Parks and Recreation Commission – Council Member Wilcoxen

VIII. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - NOMINATIONS

a) **Police Advisory Commission - (Council Members Morgan, Wilcoxen)**

Herman Humes - (Exp. 2/1/2024 - Reappointment)
1105 Grant
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Kathleen McCormick - (Exp. 2/1/2024 - Reappointment)
407 Ainsworth
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

b) **Arts Commission - (Council Member Somerville, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown) - Added**

Michael McAtee - (Exp. 2/1/2024 - Reappointment)
703 Virginia
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

IX. LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

3. Urban County
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool

X. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Wilcoxon -

1. **How to stem the gun violence in the City?**
 - **The Mayor would like to have a meeting to discuss Ward 1 shootings**

Symanns -

1. **Check in about evaluations**

Mr. Jones-Chance -

1. **How to change the name of a park**

Brown -

1. **None**

Somerville -

1. **Changing the slip lane on Cross/Huron Street**
 - **MDOT is willing to work with the city.**
 - **Dangerous intersection.**
2. **Housing advocate for reentry program**
 - **Cannabis funds. Washtenaw Housing Alliances**
 - 3. **Residents- short-term rental ban**
- **Do not benefit needs of our community**

Morgan

1. **Surveys around boys and girls club**
2. **YPAC interview 2/5 10:30 with David from WEMU**
3. **Eli Savvit at next YPAC**
4. **Thank you to Rheagan, Chief , Staff, Council**

XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. **Thanked Police, Fire, and DPS for taking the vaccination.**
2. **M. Jones-Chance, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Mayor are planning on 2/20 a Town Hall focusing on the vaccine distribution and fear around vaccine. It will be open to all. Dr. Fuller from U of M**

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS

- a) 2020 Historic District Commission Report

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2021-023, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Council Member Wilcoxon, seconded by Mr. Jones-Chance

- 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.