



**CITY OF YPSILANTI  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - ONE SOUTH HURON ST.  
YPSILANTI, MI 48197  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019  
7:00 p.m.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER –**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL –**

|                          |         |                         |         |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Council Member Brown     | Present | Council Member Symanns  | Present |
| Council Member Morgan    | Present | Council Member Wilcoxon | Present |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent  | Mayor Bashert           | Present |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Present |                         |         |

**Council Member Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Symanns to excuse the absence of Council Member Murdock.**

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the absence excused.

**III. INVOCATION –**

Mayor Bashert asked all to stand for a moment of silence.

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –**

"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."

**V. AGENDA APPROVAL –**

**Council Member Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Symanns to approve the agenda.**

On a voice vote, the motion carried and the agenda was approved as submitted.

**VI. INTRODUCTIONS –**

Mayor Bashert introduced the following individuals; City Planner Bonnie Wessler, Community Development/DDA Director Christopher Jacobs, Economic Development Director Joe Meyers, Non-motorized Commissioner Bob Krzewinski, Interim Department of Public Services Director Brad Holman, City Attorney John Barr, City Clerk Frances McMullan, OHM Engineer Kent Early, MWM Consulting Group Representative Dan Colby, Interim Fire Chief Ken Hobbs, and City Manager Darwin McClary.

## **VII. PRESENTATIONS –**

- Retiree Health Plan Overview – MWM Consulting Group.

Actuary Dan Colby provided a presentation regarding Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB).

Council Member Wilcoxon asked on what the benefit numbers are based. Mr. Colby responded there are flat dollar amounts included in the contracts.

Council Member Morgan asked for clarification for the data provided. Mr. Colby responded he would be able to provide that to the City Manager in a couple of days.

- Proclamation recognizing March as National Nutrition Month, and March 13<sup>th</sup> as Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day.

Mayor Bashert read aloud the proclamation and presented it to Jennifer Meyers.

Jennifer Meyers thanked the Mayor, and stated she works and lives in the community. She appreciates the recognition and support, and thanked Mayor and Council for their work.

Mayor Bashert stated the work of Nutritionists and other health professionals in this community is vital. She stated there is a nine year life expectancy gap between the Westside and Eastside of Washtenaw County, and nutrition is a part of that.

- 2018 Planning Commission Annual Report

City Planner Bonnie Wessler provided the Planning Commission 2018 Annual Report.

Mayor Bashert stated the Planning Commission has completed an extensive amount of work in 2018. She asked why there was such a huge jump in Special Use Permits. Ms. Wessler responded it is a result of construction and development projects over the past few years.

Council Member Morgan stated he understands Planning is a citywide action, and asked if there is anything coming up over the year that would provide young people space for recreation. Ms. Wessler responded the Planning Commission neither has a budget, nor does it initiate projects. The Commission is to advise City Council on city policy, based on the standards set forth in the Code of Ordinances. The Commission would review projects brought forth by a developer of a facility for youth programs. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if during the Master Plan process the Planning Commission could add youth facilities. Ms. Wessler responded in the affirmative, but it would be a policy direction not an actual project.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked what is meant by creating a “front door” for Eastern Michigan University. Ms. Wessler responded this began with the shape Ypsi Master Plan, by connecting the two green spaces by the water tower and create a more cohesive commercial corridor at Cross and Washtenaw. Ms. Richardson stated Washtenaw becomes Cross near the Water Tower. Ms. Wessler responded it actually becomes two distinct streets.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated the city is going to begin its Master Planning process. Ms. Wessler responded in the affirmative.

Council Member Wilcoxon stated there is a capacity reduction from 2019-2020. Ms. Wessler responded the city is undertaking a feasibility study to examine reducing a lane on Hamilton and Huron, which are MDOT trunk lines. Staff is interested in reducing the number of lanes and either use the additional space for parking or bicycle lanes. This is in hopes to reduce speeding along that corridor as well as provide additional safety for non-

motorized forms of transportation. Mr. Wilcoxon asked what is meant by "aging in place". Ms. Wessler responded to build a city and infrastructure that allows people who may be aging without having to move.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated some time ago there was discussion regarding making Cross a two way street, and if there is still potential for that conversion. Ms. Wessler responded the level of traffic that road serves make it difficult for that conversion.

- 2018 Community Development Annual Report

Community Development/DDA Director Christopher Jacobs provided the 2018 Community Development Report.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if the Ozone House will have more than one building. Mr. Jacobs responded there will be only one building.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if Recycle Ann Arbor will take Styrofoam. Mr. Jacobs responded in the affirmative.

Mayor Bashert thanked the Community Development Department for their work in the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ), and the success of the Property Disposition Program. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stressed the intention of home ownership for those programs. Mr. Jacobs agreed, and commented the NEZ includes a homestead requirement.

**VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT -**

1. Lorrie Thomas, 1587 S. Congress, stated she filed a formal complaint requesting a violation of ethics based on the change of hiring practices. She stated there is a conflict of interest in hiring, and asked that the process be postponed.
2. Bob Krzewinski, 706 Dwight, stated he is the member of the Non-motorized Commission and supports creating additional protection for pedestrians. He is in support of the approval of the traffic control policy.
3. Harl Miller, 5229 W. Michigan Ave., supported the comments of Ms. Thomas and the filling of an ethics complaint. He asked how the complaint process would be conducted.
4. Michael Vincent, 1923 Collegewood, supported the appointment of Ken Hobbs to Fire Chief. He stated he cannot believe Mr. Hobbs was not hired, for a person from a suburban town.
5. James Roberts, Former Fire Chief, stated Mr. Hobbs knows everything needed to effectively run the Fire Department.
6. Anthony Morgan, 210 N. River #3, stated he has been a resident of the city for twenty-one years and he is ashamed Mr. Hobbs was not hired. He respects the process, but he understands civil rights and civil wrongs. He would like to see a fairer city, and evidence that it is moving in that direction.
7. Bryan Foley, 425 Ainsworth Cir, stated he is embarrassed and ashamed to be a citizen of Ypsilanti resulting from Mr. Hobbs not being hired. He does not understand what is going on, when an employee gives thirty-three years of dedicated service and is passed over for a position.
8. Kyle Hunter stated he supports the hiring of Ken Hobbs as Fire Chief. He added white supremacy needs to be removed from this city.

9. Noah Rucker, 1839 Ashley Dr., supported recognizing healthy nutrition in this City. He wished Mr. Hobbs the best of luck and he will press the issue with public. The Booker T. Washington holiday is coming up, and he needs sponsorship. He invited all to attend the event, and added City Council needs to do more to support kids in this community.
10. Allison Ierton, 8654 Wickfield Ct., stated increasing the buffer for medical marijuana facilities would create problems for construction. She stated increasing the buffer could create issues of access for patients. She asked that Council consider grandfathering those applications currently on the waitlist for 2019.
11. Alexandria Shultz, S. Washington, stated she will update her speech to the Citizen Direct Ypsilanti Facebook page. She invited Council to like and share the speech. She is frustrated with the lack of change in, the lack of mentors, and the level of toxicity in this city.
12. William Simmons, 128 Bell St., supports the hiring of Chief Hobbs, and needs to speak up for what is right. He added fairness needs to be considered.
13. Ken Hobbs stated he was appointed Fire Chief prior to the former chief leaving for retirement, but he only had two days to be brought up to speed for the position. That was the length of the transition period, however, a request was made in advance to allow for more training. He is doing everything he can to learn on the job, and was denied being offered the position permanently. He added Sammone Dixon the Fire Department Executive Secretary has applied for several jobs, and been denied and she has a Master's Degree.
14. Lee Tooson, 107 Middle, stated he was not surprised by the selection of the Fire Chief, but he thought Ken Hobbs would be treated fairly. He stated both gay and African Americans struggle, however, Ken Hobbs do not fit into the City Manager's team he is creating. He told City Council to stop letting the Mayor dictate what it does. He asked Council how it can rest with the decision to not hire Ken Hobbs.
15. Lois Richardson, 1055 Jefferson, stated she is dressed in black because she mourns for this city. She has born, raised, and educated in this city and has lived here the majority of her life. Stated racism and bigotry is present in this city, and the city will not be what it can be until it is addressed. There needs to be a change in this city.
16. Valerie Brown, 107 Middle, stated her neighborhood has been requesting speed bumps on Ferris, and when a little girl was hit Ken Hobbs was one of the first responders. Ken Hobbs is the person she sees when there is danger in City. She spoke in support of the hiring of Fire Chief Hobbs.
17. Anne Brown, 2125 Collegewood, stated she has been a resident of Ypsilanti for forty years, and the City Manager needs to understand who the people of this city are. Mr. Hobbs has been groomed to become the Fire Chief, and he is the most qualified for the position.
18. Catherine Daligga, 1530 Gregory St., she spoke on behalf of Ken Hobbs to be hired as Fire Chief. She stated people often state they did not intend a decision to be deemed racist, but often the impact of the decision accounts more, intent is immaterial.

**IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –**

- Thanked everyone for their comments, and stated Ken Hobbs has tremendous community support which speaks volumes. There are very clear rules in the Charter that do not allow Council to become involved in personnel issues. There are very important questions being raised and they are not being ignored.

**X. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING –**

Ordinance No. 1332

1. An ordinance to amend Chapter 114 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled "Vehicles for Hire", by adding a new Article IV, entitled "Shared Mobility Devices", to require a franchise permit to offer shared mobility devices for public use in the City of Ypsilanti, to set forth procedures, regulations, and rules, and to provide for penalties.
  - A. Resolution No. 2019-018A, adopting ordinance to add Article IV "Shared Mobility Device" on first reading.

**IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:**

**An ordinance to amend Chapter 114 of the Ypsilanti City Code, entitled "Vehicles for Hire", by adding a new Article IV, entitled "Shared Mobility Devices", to require a franchise permit to offer shared mobility devices for public use in the City of Ypsilanti, to set forth procedures, regulations, and rules, and to provide for penalties, Be approved on first reading.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Morgan  
SECONDED BY: Council Member Brown

City Attorney John Barr provided an overview to why this has been submitted for approval.

Non-Motorized Committee Chair Bob Krzewinski provided additional comments regarding the ordinance. He stated the Non-motorized Committee is very supportive of this ordinance.

Council Member Brown thanked the City Attorney for taking the thoughts and comments of Council and incorporating them into the ordinance.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-018A was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxen | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

- B. Resolution No. 2019-018, approving fees for shared mobility devices.

**IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:**

**Fees provided for in Article IV, entitled "Shared Mobility Devices, City Code Section 114.1 and following are set as follows:**

- 1) **Permit fee: \$200**
- 2) **Transfer fee: \$200**
- 3) **Device fee: \$1 per week per device, paid quarterly**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Morgan  
 SECONDED BY: Council Member Brown

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-018 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

Resolution No. 2019-039

**XI. CONSENT AGENDA –**

1. Resolution No. 2019-040, approving minutes of February 19, 2019.

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

**THAT the minutes of February 19, 2019 be approved.**

2. Resolution No. 2019-041, approving Ordinance 1334, an ordinance entitled "Zoning Periodic Update 2018 – Citywide". *(Second Reading)*

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

**WHEREAS, the City has an interest in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and**

**WHEREAS, the City has an adopted Master Plan that reflects the policy goals of the City; and**

**WHEREAS, the Planning Commission from time to time reviews the zoning ordinance performance with relation to these goals and general functionality; and**

**WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has recommended the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance changes;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the ordinance entitled Zoning Periodic Update 2018 on Second and Final Reading.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Brown  
 SECONDED BY: Council Member Symanns

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the Consent Agenda was approved.

**XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –**

1. Resolution No. 2019-042, approving Ordinance 1333, an ordinance entitled “Medical Marijuana Provisioning Center Buffer Increase” (*Second Reading*)

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

**WHEREAS, the City has an interest in protecting the economic diversity and image of the community; and**

**WHEREAS, the City has an interest in promoting and supporting local businesses and their growth; and**

**WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has recommended the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance change;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the ordinance entitled Medical Marijuana Provisioning Center Buffer Increase on Second and Final Reading.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Wilcoxon

SECONDED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-042 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | No  |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 5                      NO: 1 (Wilcoxon)                      ABSENT: 1 (Murdock)                      VOTE: Carried

2. Resolution No. 2019-043, authorizing administration to engage the services of OHM Advisors and Bergman Architects, Engineers, and Planners to prepare and submit an application for funding on behalf of the city to the federal Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program for the City of Ypsilanti Amtrak Rail Platform Project.

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

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti desires to seek the establishment of a permanent Amtrak train stop within the city to enhance public transit, provide needed transportation links from the city to other major cities throughout Michigan and beyond, reduce traffic congestion and adverse environmental impacts, and to promote economic activity and commerce; and**

**WHEREAS, the Ypsilanti city council has received and accepted the Proposed Amtrak Scheduled Stop Feasibility Report dated November 13, 2018, from OHM Advisors and Bergmann Architects, Engineers, and Planners with rail platform design alternatives, cost estimates, and feasibility locations; and**

**WHEREAS, the city understands that the federal government intends to increase funding for its Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program from the current \$318 million to approximately \$468 million; and**

**WHEREAS, the city is very confident that the City of Ypsilanti Amtrak Rail Platform Project meets the requirements for funding under the CRISI grant program and is an excellent candidate for funding; and**

**WHEREAS, the city desires to apply for CRISI funding to complete the city's rail platform project.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that the Ypsilanti city council does hereby authorize administration to engage the services of OHM Advisors and Bergman Architects, Engineers, and Planners to prepare and submit an application for funding on behalf of the city to the federal Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program for the City of Ypsilanti Amtrak Rail Platform Project as follows:**

- 1. The project design shall be in accordance with Alternative 1 contained in the November 13, 2018, Proposed Amtrak Scheduled Stop Feasibility Study with an estimated construction cost of \$3,962,000.**
- 2. The project shall be located in Depot Town as indicated in the Alternative 1 conceptual design outlined in the feasibility study.**
- 3. The CRISI grant application shall seek funding in the amount of 50% of the total project cost, with 25% additional funding to be obtained from State of Michigan, Amtrak, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant, or other funding sources, and up to 25% funding to be provided by the City of Ypsilanti not to exceed \$990,500 without additional city council approval; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti city council does hereby authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the city to effectuate the preparation and submittal of this grant application.**

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson

SECONDED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

OHM Kent Early provided a synopsis regarding what has been submitted for approval.

Council Member Wilcoxon asked if the city should ask for the full 80% from CRISI, and up to 25% match from the city. Also, is there potential to drop the city's match down to 10% if other funding sources are identified. Mr. Early responded there is potential for that.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked how the \$990,500 was developed. Mr. Early responded it is 25% of the \$3,962,000. Ms. Richardson stated Mayor Bashert informed her this is enough in the General Fund to finance this project. Mayor Bashert responded in the affirmative. City Manager Darwin McClary added there is \$6.5 million in the General Fund Reserves. Municipalities should maintain 15% to 20%, which would be roughly \$2.8 million. Ms. Richardson stated if the funding is not obligated they can be moved, and does not want the city to find itself without funding. Mr. Early stated because of the short turnaround time makes it difficult to obligate the funding until it is found projects meet the criteria.

Council Member Morgan stated OHM believes this train station would be an excellent candidate for this grant. He asked what the criteria are giving Ypsilanti that standing. Mr. Early responded this project would essentially be a new stop, and the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) is looking to fund that type of project. Mr. Morgan asked what has delayed the project in Kansas for eight years. Mr. Early stated the application for that project was for a very expansive upgrade to the facility. The CRISI grant did not fund the entire project, but it did fund a significant amount, and there are some fund matching and environmental issues. As a result only approximately 30% of the project is complete. OHM's concern is that if Ypsilanti is approved for the grant there is an expectation to expend the money in a short amount of time. The FRA was asked who evaluates the project and it responded the municipality would need to submit a report regarding the progress of the project. Mr. Morgan asked what the engineering cost and other studies needing to happen to apply for this grant. Mr. Early replied the environmental study has already budgeted, the reminder would be roughly \$35,000 but there is potential to cut that cost. Mr. Morgan asked if the grant is dependent on the site and option council selects. Mr. Early responded no. Mr. Morgan asked if the city prepares an application for the CRISI grant is there a chance it would be denied. Mr. Early responded there is always that chance. Mr. Morgan asked if that payment for the preparation of the application be due by the time the grant is approved or not. Mr. Early replied in the affirmative.

Council Member Symanns stated she feels more comfortable with the grant match being up to 25%. She asked if Council approves this resolution it is approving the expending of nearly \$1 million, without a second chance to look over the grant. Mr. McClary asked if the grant is awarded a contract would come back to the Council for approval. Mr. Early responded in the affirmative. City Attorney John Barr stated this resolution would direct staff to expend \$990,500 for this grant without further Council approval. Ms. Symanns responded than she cannot support this resolution. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson agreed. Mr. Early suggested the resolution allow city administration to work with OHM and Bergmann to seek this CRISI grant but if awarded the ultimate selection of the site come back to Council. Ms. Symanns stated she wants the resolution to state there needs to be a second round of Council approval.

Mr. Barr asked why Council is approving this resolution now if it will approve the contract at a later meeting. Mr. McClary responded for the preparation of the grant application. Mayor Bashert stated she does not believe staff may go any further without the approval of Council.

Mr. Barr asked how the \$990,500 will be paid. Mayor Bashert replied it would require a budget amendment. Mr. McClary stated the language of the resolution does not authorize the spending of funds. He added there is still approval needed to move forward by contract with the Federal Government.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated she has an issue with the spending of funds, the city has always had the City Attorney as part of authorization. She does not feel comfortable with only the City Manager authorizing the spending of these funds. Mayor Bashert asked if that is customary. Mr. Barr responded for contracts it is, he is comfortable with the alternate resolution.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson read the new version of the resolution into the record.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson moved, seconded by Council Member Brown to approve the substitute resolution.**

Council Member Wilcoxon asked why there was an increase in cost between the new resolution and the old resolution. Mr. McClary responded the discrepancy is a result of not selecting a specific location. OHM informed him to include the higher dollar amount for the LeForge location, opposed to the Depot Town location. Mr. Wilcoxon asked the cost of Alternative 1 with the tunnel. Mr. Early responded over \$7 million. Mr. Wilcoxon stated if he wanted the option with the tunnel, asking for the tunnel will be based on what the city is willing to match.

Council Member Symanns asked if requesting the amount for the LeForge site would than commit the city to that site. Mr. Early responded the FRA would simply scale done the amount awarded, there would not be a commitment to that site.

Council Member Morgan asked how many times the city can apply for the CRISI Grant. Mr. Early responded once a year. Mr. Morgan asked if not awarded this grant the city would need to find another funding source. Mr. Early replied that funding process begins in July, and the city would not have another opportunity to apply until July 2020. Mr. Morgan asked when the environmental testing would be completed. Mr. Early responded in late summer to early fall.

Council Member Wilcoxon asked if the city is applying for 80%, why the resolution would state 50%. Mr. Early responded the grant will fund between 50% and 80%, the max is 80%. Mr. Wilcoxon asked why if the resolution states up to 25% on the city's end why not up to 80% match from the grant.

**Council Member Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson to amend the resolution to read "up to 80%" in item number 2.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson offered a friendly amendment indicating the city is applying to be awarded an 80% match.**

**Council Member Wilcoxon accepted the friendly amendment.**

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2019-043 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

Council Member Wilcoxon stated the last minute change to this resolution is unnerving and unacceptable. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson agreed.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-043 as amended was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | No     | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 1 (Morgan) ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

Council Member Brown asked the City Manager if the new resolution was sent to Council electronically. Mr. McClary responded no. Ms. Brown asked for it to be emailed to Council.

3. Resolution No. 2019-044, approving the 2019-2020 City Council Goals.

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

**WHEREAS, during the months of January and February 2019, the city council engaged in goal setting and budget prioritization exercises with the valuable assistance from facilitator Dr. Morgan Milner and city administration; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Milner prepared a report titled Ypsilanti City Council 2019-2020 Goal-Setting Report which outlines the results of the city council's goal setting sessions; and**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5.02 of the Ypsilanti city charter, the city council desires to adopt goals, objectives, and budget priorities for 2019-20 to provide the necessary direction to the City Manager for allocation of resources for the FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 proposed budgets.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that the Ypsilanti city council does hereby adopt the attached Ypsilanti City Council 2019-2020 Goal-Setting Report as the city council's goals, objectives, and budget priorities for FY 2019-20 with the following revisions:**

**If any; and**

**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 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 proposed budgets in accordance with Section 5.02 of the Ypsilanti city charter**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Symanns

SECONDED BY: Council Member Brown

Council Member Morgan stated Council and staff did a good job developing these goal, but wants timeframes and action steps attached to the goals to make them a reality. Mayor Bashert stated through the budget process staff will attach dollar amounts to achieve those goals. Over the course of the next two years Council will approve tasks to achieve those goals. Mr. Morgan asked how Council will assess staff if they have achieved those goals. Mr. McClary stated budget presentations will begin in May. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson agreed a timeframe should be attached to the goals. Council Member Brown stated in May Department Heads provide presentations on how to achieve goals for their departments. It does not mean the projects have actually began, she agrees timeframes should be attached to goals. Council Member Wilcoxon asked what would be the mechanism for creating the timeframes. Ms. Bashert stated she believes it is too early to assess timeframes, but Council should develop a plan to review goals. Mr. Morgan stated there have been times in which allocated funds go unexpended, and that is what he wants to avoid.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated there are goals that do not require funding, and those goals would require a timeframe.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-044 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

**Council Member Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Morgan to extend the meeting until 10:30 p.m.**

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was extended.

4. Resolution No. 2019-045, adopting timeline for the City Manager and City Clerk evaluation process.

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

**WHEREAS, City Council is the governing body of the City of Ypsilanti charged by law with certain powers and duties to conduct the affairs of the City; and**

**WHEREAS, there is a desire to codify an evaluation process for the City Manager and City Clerk.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council hereby adopts the following timeline for the City Manager and City Clerk evaluation process.**

**March 5th – Evaluation Committee selected**

**March 5th – Council approves the process**

**March 6<sup>th</sup> – evaluation forms distributed to the City Clerk and Manager**

**March 12<sup>th</sup> – evaluation forms due**

**March 13<sup>th</sup> – evaluation forms will be distributed to Council. Council will have two weeks to complete the evaluations.**

**March 27<sup>th</sup> – City Council evaluations forms are due**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Symanns

SECONDED BY: Council Member Brown

Council Member Wilcoxon asked when the evaluation is complete. Mayor Bashert responded in April the final evaluations will be distributed to Council and staff. Staff may than request a Closed Session or Open Session to have their evaluations.

Council Member Morgan asked if Council may fire or promote an employee based on the evaluations. Mayor Bashert responded there is no position to promote the employee to, and she does not believe an evaluation could be the basis of firing. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked the City Attorney's opinion on Council Member Morgan's question. Mr. Barr responded the City Clerk and City Manager are hired by Council and they are at will employees. Council has the option to dismiss them at any time for any reason. The Council provides the employee an evaluation and the employee has the right to have a hearing, either in Open or Closed Session to address the determination. Council Member Brown stated the evaluation does not dictate whether or not Council can dismiss an employee. Mr. Barr responded in the affirmative.

Mayor Bashert asked who would like to be on the committee, and she believes she is required to be on the committee. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson responded the Mayor is not required to be on the committee.

**Council Member Morgan moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson that a member of each Ward be a member of the committee.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated the only time she has ever known the Mayor to sit on the evaluation committee was last year. The Committee historically has included a member of each Ward.

Council Member Symanns stated she did some research on practices from other cities, and the Mayor leads this process. She does not see why it is an issue for the Mayor to tabulate the results, at least one person would tabulate the results. Clerk Frances McMullan stated former Council Member Robb used to tabulate results of evaluations. Ms. Symanns volunteered to be the point person for the tabulation. Council Member Morgan appreciates the research of Council Member Symanns, but Ypsilanti has performed evaluations differently, until the former Mayor arbitrarily changed the process without input from Council.

Mayor Bashert asked if Council Member Morgan would like to be on the committee. Council Member Morgan responded if Council Member Murdock is unable to be a member of the committee he would be honored. Ms. Bashert asked if Council Member Brown would like to be a member of the committee, since she was on the committee last year. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated she would like to sit on the committee this year, and she and Council Member Brown can rotate years.

Mayor Bashert listed the committee as Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson, Council Member Symanns, and Council Member Morgan.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated during past evaluations the committee has selected the evaluation tool. Mayor Bashert responded with all due respect to what was done historically, this is what is happening for this evaluation. Council Member Brown stated in the past Council has been able to review the forms. Ms. Bashert stated she is not in favor of creating forms by group. Ms. Richardson responded Council will need to approve the forms. Ms. Bashert replied the forms will be distributed for approval, and this resolution can be tabled.

On a roll call, the vote to have a Council Member from each Ward selected for the Evaluation Committee Resolution No. 2019-045 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | No  |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxen | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 4 NO: 2 (Bashert, Symanns) ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

**Council Member Symanns, moved seconded by Council Member Brown to table Resolution No. 2019-045 until the March 19, 2019 meeting.**

On a roll call, the vote to table Resolution No. 2019-018 until March 19<sup>th</sup> was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | No     | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxen | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | No     |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 4 NO: 2 (Richardson, Morgan) ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

Mayor Bashert stated the reason she suggested to postpone this resolution is because the forms were not available at this meeting. Council Member Wilcoxen stated there needed to be background, and the process in place prior to Council approval.

5. Resolution No. 2019-046, adopting the Responsive Traffic Safety Improvement Policy and Process.

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

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti is desirous of ensuring the safety of all right-of-way users in the City; and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti is invested in ensuring that the capital improvement process and related processes are clear and consistent; and**

**WHEREAS, road and right-of-way improvements outside the customary Capital Improvement Program may be required to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors from time to time;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council adopt the Responsive Traffic Safety Improvement Policy and Process.**

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson  
SECONDED BY: Council Member Morgan

Planner Bonnie Wessler provided synopsis to why this has been submitted for approval.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked how the policy will be implemented. Ms. Wessler responded if residents of a certain street submitted a petition it would be reviewed by staff. Staff would complete a report, including all relevant data, and submit it to Council. Council would then approve, disapprove, or amend the calming method recommended by staff.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-046 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

**Council Member Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Symanns to extend the meeting until 10:45 p.m.**

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was extended until 10:45 p.m.

- 6. Resolution No. 2019-047, accepting the proposal from Beckett & Raeder for a Master Plan & Sustainability Plan Creation.

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

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti adopted a Master Plan in October of 2013; and**

**WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has found that the Master Plan needs to be updated to reflect new information, new trends, and new tools; and**

**WHEREAS, City Council enacted an ordinance in January 2017 to create a Sustainability Commission; and**

**WHEREAS, the Sustainability Commission is charged by ordinance with creation of a Sustainability Plan, and**

**WHEREAS, four proposals were submitted, which were reviewed by staff with input from both Planning Commission and Sustainability Commission, and**

**WHEREAS, staff recommends awarding the proposal to Beckett & Raeder of Ann Arbor for a cost of \$25,024, and recommends the options for additional public engagement for an additional \$3,465;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council accepts the proposal from Beckett & Raeder of Ann Arbor for a Master Plan Update & Sustainability Plan Creation for an amount not to exceed \$29,000; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the fifteen thousand of the above amount be drawn from that allocated for Sustainability Plan to be drawn from the Capital Improvement General Government Contractual Services (414-7-2650-818-00) and fourteen thousand of the above amount be drawn from Economic Development’s Planning Contractual Services (101-7-7210-818-00); and**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Morgan  
SECONDED BY: Council Member Symanns

Council Member Wilcoxen asked if the city is required to do this every five years. Mayor Bashert responded in the affirmative, and the Sustainability Commission is charged with creating a Sustainability plan by ordinance.

Council Member Morgan stated the resolution the plans are not to exceed \$29,000, and asked if the city has prior experience with Beckett & Raeder. Ms. Wessler responded in the affirmative. Mr. Morgan asked if the company has a good reputation. Ms. Wessler responded in the affirmative.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-047 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | Yes    | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxen | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Absent |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Murdock, Richardson) VOTE: Carried

7. Resolution No. 2019-048, adoption of the City of Ypsilanti Energy Plan.

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

**WHEREAS, in November of 2017 the City has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with EcoWorks to complete an Energy Plan that draws from and updates the 2012 Climate Action Plan with specific regard to City facilities; and**

**WHEREAS, EcoWorks has worked with the City to develop a plan that addresses the energy use of City facilities;**

**WHEREAS, the Sustainability Commission has been charged with the review and update of the Climate Action Plan; and**

**WHEREAS, the Sustainability Commission has reviewed this Energy Plan and recommended that City Council adopt it as a policy document;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council adopt the 2018 Energy Plan.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Brown  
SECONDED BY: Council Member Symanns

Council Member Morgan stated he is vehemently opposed to a Climate Action Plan. He will be voting no on this resolution.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2019-048 was as follows:

|                          |        |                         |     |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Council Member Brown     | Yes    | Council Member Symanns  | Yes |
| Council Member Morgan    | No     | Mayor Bashert           | Yes |
| Council Member Murdock   | Absent | Council Member Wilcoxon | Yes |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson | Yes    |                         |     |

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 1 (Morgan) ABSENT: 1 (Murdock) VOTE: Carried

**XIII. LIAISON REPORTS –**

- A. SEMCOG Update – Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson circulated the 2045 Transportation Plan. On March 14<sup>th</sup> SEMCOG will hold its General Assembly, and she will forward the location to Council.

Mayor Bashert stated the long term vision of SEMCOG is very exciting.

- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Council Member Symanns stated during the last meeting there were discussions regarding budget.  
C. Urban County – None  
D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority – Mayor Bashert stated a City Council and DDA joint meeting is going to be scheduled to discuss the parking strategy. The meeting will be scheduled on wither a Monday or Tuesday in the next month.  
E. Ypsilanti Youth Safety Collaboration – Council Member Morgan stated he has spoken with a few AAATA bus drivers who have provided him with further insight regarding issues that have occurred at the Depot.  
F. Friends of Rutherford Pool – Mayor Bashert stated the organization is nearing the end of their Patronicity campaign.

Mr. Meyers stated the group has reached its fundraising goal.

- G. Housing Equity Leadership Team - None

**XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –**

Wilcoxon

- Stated he and Council Member Symanns held office hours this past weekend.
- He is proposing developing working groups for each of the proposals for Penn Dam. The point of this is to get people in the community to provide their voice. He would like Council’s input on potential group members from their perspective Wards.

Richardson

- The Parkridge Community Center Black History event was very well attended, it was a great program. The Ypsilanti Community School Choir was excellent.
- She will be leaving for Washington DC Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> to attend the National League of Cities Conference.

Morgan

- He is following up on information from Ward 3 residents regarding a possible homeless shelter in the Ward.
- He invited the Ypsilanti Community Schools Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross to the next City Council meeting. To provide a perspective on the regional landscape of education and what City Council can do to assist.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated it has been the practice that Council hold a joint meeting with the YCS School Board. She agrees it would be good to have the superintendent attend the next Council meeting.

**XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –**

- There is an event coming up entitled the Workforce Pipeline Summit. The event is being presented by the Regional Chamber of Commerce. She was approached by a group that would like to provide training regarding robotics. The city needs greater exposure to STEM carriers.
- This Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. there will be a historical tour of the Ypsilanti Water Tower. The tour is for staff on Council.

**XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –**

- He provided information regarding the pension millage.
- Civic Plus is providing a free website design this year. A committee has been created with representation from each department. The project will roughly take six to eight months.
- He will be at a conference during the next Council meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- City Manager Coffee Hours occur on Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

**XVII. COMMUNICATIONS –**

- Michigan Trout Unlimited Support for the Removal of Penn Dam.

**XVIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT -**

1. An audience member stated the Michigan Penal Code a city may regulate the operation of electronic mobility devices on sidewalks, highways, streets, or crosswalks. He believes there should be clarification on if the city actually has the power to create these regulations. Regulating mobility would be a violation of peoples civil rights. The ordinance is broad and could be used in grocery stores, unless it could be excluded on private property.

Mayor Bashert stated this ordinance is in response to the potential of a company bringing in many electronic scooters, not for individuals.

**XX. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –**

**XXI. ADJOURNMENT –**

Resolution No. 2019-049, adjourning the City Council meeting.

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

**That the City Council Meeting be adjourned, on call, by the Mayor or three (3) members of Council.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Symanns

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.