



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, June 20, 2023
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, June 20, 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 Roland Tooson, and Council Member Michelle King

ABSENT: Council Member Evan Sweet

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 amended.

Change:

Move Resolution No. 2023-111 from the Consent Agenda to the top of Section VIII.

V WORK SESSION - 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

- a) Discussion of potential changes to Chapter 7 and associated zoning code in Chapter 122

VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Two members of the public spoke

VII CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2023-108, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2023-108

That the following items be approved:

- 1. Resolution No. 2023-109, approving the City Council minutes of June 6, 2023.**
- 2. Resolution No. 2023-110, approving the contract for the Fire and Police Pension Administrative Services for FY 2023-2024.**
- 3. ~~Resolution No. 2023-111, authorizing the Treasurer to levy special assessments for the 2023 Summer Tax Bill. (Moved to Section VIII)~~**

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

- b) Resolution No. 2023-109, approving the City Council minutes of June 6, 2023.**

THAT the minutes of June 6, 2023 City Council Meeting be approved.

- c) Resolution No. 2023-110, approving the contract for the Fire and Police Pension Administrative Services for FY 2023-2024.**

Whereas, The Finance Department of the City of Ypsilanti serves as an independent contractor of the Ypsilanti Fire and Police Pension Board who performs administrative services on behalf of the board; and

Whereas, The services shall be performed at 1 South Huron, Ypsilanti, Michigan or as otherwise determined by mutual agreement of the parties; and

Whereas, The Contract is effective for a term commencing on July 1, 2023, and shall continue until terminated as provided herein

Whereas, The Board agrees to pay the City \$\$34,606.27 for services performed

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the contract for the Fire and Police Pension Administrative Services for FY 2023-2024

- d) ~~Resolution No. 2023-111, authorizing the Treasurer to levy special assessments for the 2023 Summer Tax Bill. (Moved to Section VIII)~~**

VIII RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2023-111, authorizing the Treasurer to levy special assessments for the 2023 Summer Tax Bill.

The meeting recessed from 7:50 pm until 8:02 pm

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to approve Resolution No. 2023-111

That, the City Treasurer be authorized to levy and assess on the July 2023 tax roll the attached listing of unpaid bills totaling \$265,895.62.

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

- b) Appointment of the Community Benefits Agreement Committee for 206 N Washington

Applicants:

Erin Bultema

Kat Layton

Yvonne Cudney

Jason Cloutier

Andrew Fanta

Jenny Rose Ryan

Charlene Weir

Hayden Pendergrass

Marie St. Peter

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxen, to appoint the following members to sit on the CBA Committee for 206 N Washington: Erin Bultema, Kat Layton, Yvonne Cudney, Jason Cloutier, Jenny Rose Ryan, Charlene Weir, Hayden Pendergrass, and Marie St. Peter.

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

- c) Resolution No. 2023-112, approving appointments to boards and commissions.

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2023-112

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>
Michael Vincent 1923 Collegewood Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Civil Service Commission	6/1/2025

Alexandra Anisimova 212 N Hamilton Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Police Advisory Commission	2/1/2026
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RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Desirae Simmons
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Roland Tooson, and Michelle King
ABSENT:	Evan Sweet

- d) Resolution No. 2023-113, approving a lease for various parking spots to participate in the GM Dealer Charging Program.

Council Member Michelle King moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2023-113

WHEREAS, the City strongly supports zero tailpipe emissions vehicles within the City; and

WHEREAS, the need to support a variety of low-carbon transportation options has been a long-term goal of the City supported in the Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Action Plan, and more; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into the attached Lease Agreement with Charge EV, LLC, to install and operate Level 2 chargers.

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

- e) Resolution No. 2023-114, approving the lease of a parking space in the N. Adams Lot to the Bellfolwer.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to amend Resolution No. 2023-114 by providing a rate of \$0 for the lease of the space.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2023-114 as amended

Whereas, Bellflower is a locally-owned and operated business seeking to expand its market locally; and

Whereas, space constraints at 209 Pearl St, make expansion and outdoor usage challenging; and

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti has adopted as one of its goals that "Ypsilanti is a great place to do business, especially the green and creative kind," with special emphasis on local entrepreneurship and creative ventures; and

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti owns the existing parking area and seeks to activate spaces within the Downtown; and

Whereas, all construction will meet building codes, historic district preservation requirements, and ADA accessibility requirements, and will not impede through pedestrian traffic.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to enter into the attached license agreement on behalf of the City of Ypsilanti, subject to the approval of the City Attorney.

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

IX BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. - Council Member Tooson stated the meeting will be this Thursday, June 22nd.
2. Human Relations Commission. - None
3. Arts Commission. - None
4. Parks and Recreation Commission. - None
5. Sustainability Commission. - Council Member Simmons stated the commission elected officers and discussed the commission's role in outreach and education. Also discussed was the creation of a calendar of events for the commission.
6. Historic District Commission. - None
7. Planning Commission. - None
8. Zoning Board of Appeals - None

X 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 - Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon stated the pool is open and the board is considering a Spark Grant, but they have questions regarding limitations on how many applications a community can submit. The Department of Natural Resources has informed the board there may be other avenues for funding.
6. Bicentennial Committee - None

XI COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

a) Tooson

1. Two big trees are dying on the city's easement on Ainsworth.
2. There is concern about an overgrown plot on Ainsworth, neighbors have complained about nefarious activities.
3. Stated there is a light pole that has a branch resting on it, that could be an issue.

b) Wilcoxon

1. The Director of the Senior Center would like to present on the July 11th meeting in support of the Say Yes to Seniors mileage.
2. The Juneteenth Celebration was a very positive event of the city, however, there were issues with people living near the event accessing their driveways.

c) Simmons

1. The Michigan Tenants Assembly has provided a frequently asked questions on why Michigan should repeal the preemption on rent stabilization in Michigan. She would like to bring this to the table for discussion.
2. There are ongoing road safety challenges on Huron and Adams. She suggested more clear signage.
3. Stated appreciation for community members in Ward 3 for creating a communications plan.

d) King

1. A resident asked about the potential for speedbumps on Monroe.
2. She has received complaints about shoes on electrical wires.
3. Stated properties at Jefferson and Watling are not being maintained and becoming a nuisance.
4. Stated that the Juneteenth Celebration was a great event for the community.

XII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Stated the Juneteenth Celebration was very positive.
2. Stated that first responders were onsite and engaging with the public.
3. She attended an event held at EMU for elected officials, and she is happy to see greater communication between the university and the city.
4. Asked that Council begin to think about employee evaluations.

XIII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XIV COMMUNICATIONS

Jul 11, 2023 - Discussion regarding Boards and Commissions

XV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

One member of the public spoke

XVI REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVII ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2023-115, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 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.