



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, July 25, 2023
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 7:00 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:

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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:

- Resolution No. 2023-143 was moved to the top of Section VIII

V PRESENTATIONS

- a) Eagle Scout Presentation on Cady Cane Park - Xander Barr

VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Six members of the public spoke

VII ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) Ordinance 1408, an Ordinance Entitled "Amending Chapter 7 of the Ypsilanti City Code".
1. Resolution No. 2023-129, determination
 2. Public Hearing - **None**
 3. Resolution No. 2023-130, closing the public hearing

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2023-130

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

That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to amend Chapter 7 – MARIJUANA" be officially closed.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to approve Resolution No. 2023-129

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

The certain ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance to amend Chapter 7 – MARIJUANA" be adopted on first reading.

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

- b) Ordinance 1417, an Ordinance Entitled "An Ordinance to repeal Chapter 78 Parks and Public Property, sections 78-46 to sections 78-51; and Chapter 79 Public Art, sections 79-1 to 79-8 of the Ypsilanti City Code and add Chapter 80 Parks and Art to the Ypsilanti City Code".
1. Resolution No. 2023-131, determination
 2. Public Hearing - **One member of the public spoke**
 3. Resolution No. 2023-132, closing the public hearing

Council Member Evan Sweet moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to approve Resolution No. 2023-132

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

That the public hearing for an ordinance named "An ordinance to Repeal Chapter 78 Parks and Public Property and Chapter 79 Public Art and replace with New Chapter 80 Parks and Art" Be officially closed.

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

Council Member Evan Sweet moved, seconded by Council Member Desirae Simmons, to approve Resolution No. 2023-131

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

the ordinance named "An ordinance to Repeal Chapter 78 Parks and Public Property and Chapter 79 Public Art and replace with New Chapter 80 Parks and Art" Be approved on first reading.

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

- c) Ordinance 1418, an Ordinance Entitled "an ordinance to combine the Human Relations Commission and the Police Advisory Commission by amending City Code sections 58-31 to 58-39 and repealing the Police Advisory Commission City Code sections 2-180-2-184".

1. Resolution No. 2023-133, determination
2. Public Hearing - **Three members of the public spoke**
3. Resolution No. 2023-134, closing the public hearing

Council Member Michelle King moved, seconded by Council Member Desirae Simmons, to approve Resolution No. 2023-134

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

That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled An ordinance to combine the Human Rights Commission and the Police Advisory Commission by amending City Code sections 58-31 to 58-39 and repealing the Police Advisory Commission City Code sections 2-180-2-184 Be officially closed.

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

Council Member Michelle King moved, seconded by Council Member Desirae Simmons, to approve Resolution No. 2023-133

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

An ordinance entitled An ordinance to combine the Human Rights Commission and the Police Advisory Commission by amending City Code sections 58-31 to 58-39 and repealing the Police Advisory Commission City Code sections 2-180-2-184 Be adopted on first reading.

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

VIII RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2023-143, approving a proposal with Carlisle Wortman for Planning Services. (added) (moved)

Council Member Michelle King moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to table Resolution No. 2023-143

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve Planning Services Proposal from Carlisle Wortman.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to extend the meeting to 11:00 pm

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

- b) Resolution No. 2023-135, approving the minutes of the July 11, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2023-135

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of July 11, 2023 City Council Meeting be approved.

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

- c) Resolution No. 2023-136, approving Ordinance 1414 - an ordinance entitled, "An ordinance to repeal City Code Section 58-123". **(Second Reading)**

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2023-136

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

The certain ordinance entitled "An ordinance to Repeal City Code Section 58-123" amended for clarity to "An ordinance to Repeal duties of landlord to provide voter information in City Code Section 58-123" be adopted on second and final reading".

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

- d) Resolution No 2023-137, approving Ordinance No. 1415 - an ordinance entitled, "an ordinance to amend Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(a) of the Code of Ordinances to adjust sewage disposal rates". **(Second Reading)**

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to approve Resolution No. 2023-137

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT an Ordinance to amend Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(a) of the Code of Ordinances, City of Ypsilanti, to adjust sewage disposal rates approved on Second and Final Reading.

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

- e) Resolution No 2023-138, approving Ordinance No. 1416 - an ordinance entitled, "an ordinance to amend Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(b) of the Code of Ordinances to adjust water service rates". **(Second Reading)**

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to approve Resolution No. 2023-138

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That an Ordinance to amend Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(b) of the Code of Ordinances to increase water rates within the City of Ypsilanti be approved on Second and Final Reading.

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

- f) Resolution No. 2023-139, approving the Fee Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2023-139

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the attached fee schedule is adopted pursuant to the Ypsilanti City Code, and the following fees relating to various sections of the City Code and activities of the City are hereby established, and the various City Departments are authorized to charge and collect such fees effective immediately.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Desirae Simmons
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon

AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, and Michelle King
--------------	--

- g) Resolution No. 2023-140, approving the purchase of an environmental refuse truck for the use off the Department of Public Services.

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Council Member Michelle King, to approve Resolution No. 2023-140

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the collection of curbside recycling and yard waste is an ongoing and important service offered to residents in the City of Ypsilanti; and,

Whereas, an environmental dump truck is vital to the necessary to collect recycling and yard waste; and,

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti has allocated funds in the FY23-24 budget for this purchase; and,

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the purchase from Wolverine Freightliner Eastside, Inc. in the amount totaling \$355,845.00 to be expended from the appropriate environmental motorpool capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.

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

- h) Resolution No. 2023-141, approving the retaining wall and concrete pavement repairs at the Fire Department.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Michelle King, to approve Resolution No. 2023-141

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the safe functioning of emergency services is vital to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of and visitors to the City of Ypsilanti; and,

Whereas, the concrete surfacing surrounding the fire station is in poor condition; and,

Whereas, the retaining wall at the southern boundary of the property requires inspection; and,

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti has allocated funds in the FY23-24 budget for this project; and,

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the proposal for professional services regarding the Fire Station Retaining Wall and Concrete Pavement Repairs from OHM in an amount not to exceed

\$30,370 to be expended from the appropriate capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.

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

- i) Resolution No. 2023-142, approving the basement wall repairs at the Police Department.

Council Member Evan Sweet moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2023-142

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the safe functioning of emergency services is vital to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of and visitors to the City of Ypsilanti; and,

Whereas, the police department has recurrent issues with water intrusion in the basement; and,

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti has allocated funds in the FY23-24 budget for this project; and,

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the proposal for professional services regarding the Police Department Basement Wall Repairs from OHM in an amount not to exceed \$19,650 to be expended from the appropriate capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.

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

- j) Resolution No. 2023-143, approving a proposal with Carlisle Wortman for Planning Services. **(added) (moved)**
- k) Discussion regarding the evaluations of the City Manager and City Clerk **(added)**

IX BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. - Council Member Tooson invited everyone to attend the Police Advisory Commission meeting.
2. Human Relations Commission. - None
3. Arts Commission. - Council Member Sweet stated at the last meeting the commission discussed the artist survey and the potential merger.
4. Parks and Recreation Commission. - Council Member Sweet stated the commission discussed merging with the Arts Commission.
5. Sustainability Commission. - None
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 - Council Member Symanns the opportunity of Planning Grants were discussed.
3. Urban County - None
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - None
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - None
6. Bicentennial Committee - Council Member Sweet stated the recent book release on the 16th of July was a success.

XI COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

a) Tooson

1. Stated the Port-a-Johns located in the park need to be serviced.
2. Asked that all attend the Field Day at Ford Lake on August 12th from 11:30 to 9:30 pm.

b) Sweet

1. Stated that the Community Benefits Committee for the 206-210 N Washington Development will next meet again in August.
2. He thanked the DPS for the installation of a library in one of the tot-lots.

c) Simmons

1. Asked about the tent encampment at Growing Hope and what the city's response is.
2. Reminded everyone that the Youth Mini-Grant is now live per the policy Council approved.
3. Stated the Port-a-John at Riverside Park is overflowing.
4. Stated that she and Council Member Sweet will hold a Ward 3 picnic on September 9, 2023.

d) King

1. Agreed with the issues of the Port-a-Johns in city parks.

XII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

XIII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XIV COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Michigan Municipal League 2023 Annual Convention (added)

XV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

One member of the public spoke

XVI REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVII ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2023-144, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 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.