



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Zoom Meeting

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Zoom Meeting, with the following members present:

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

ABSENT: None

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

II ROLL CALL

Council Member Steve Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mr. Brian Jones-Chance to excuse Council Member Symanns. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

III AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steve Wilcoxon to move section VII prior to section VI. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

IV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

27 members from the public spoke.

V PRESENTATIONS

- a) Stormwater, Asset Management, Wastewater (SAW) Program Management - OHM.

VI ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) Ordinance 1378, an ordinance to remove hypodermic needles from the drug paraphernalia ordinance.

1. Resolution No. 2021-158, determination
2. Public Hearing **1 member from the public spoke**
3. Resolution No. 2021-159, close the public hearing

Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to amend Resolution No. 2021-158

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2021-158 As Amended

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

The ordinance entitled “An ordinance to amend the drug paraphernalia ordinance to align with MCL 333.7457 to 333.7455, Section 7457 (f) An object sold, offered for sale, or given away by a state or local government agency or by a person specifically authorized by a state or local governmental agency to prevent the transmission of infectious agents” is approved on first reading.

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

Council Member Steven Wilcoxen moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2021-159

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled “An ordinance to remove hypodermic syringes and needles from being classified or defined as drug paraphernalia” be officially closed.

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

- b)** Ordinance 1379, an ordinance regarding Zoning Text Amendment - Adult use
1. Resolution No. 2021-160, determination
 2. Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2021-161, close the public hearing

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2021-160

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 Adult Regulated Uses Zoning Update.

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

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2021-161

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the public hearing to consider an ordinance titled "Adult Regulated Uses Zoning Update" be officially closed.

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

Council Member Steve Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan to extend the meeting until 11:00 PM. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

A recess was taken from 10:53 PM to 11:00 PM

VII PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a) Approving a budget amendment to remove the budget allocation for three police officers.
 - 1. Resolution No. 2021-156, determination
 - 2. Public Hearing **7 members from the public spoke**
 - 3. Resolution No. 2021-157, close the public hearing

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to call the question on 2021-156

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

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-156

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, three additional police officers were added to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget during the Second Reading of the Budget on May 18, 2021; and

Whereas, it has been requested by two Council Members to review the allocation and allow for public comment.

Now therefore be it resolved that City Council removes the three previously budget police officers in the amount of \$239,133 from the General Fund #101 under the Police Department #3070 of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget

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

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-157

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the public hearing to consider the reduction of the three additional police officers to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget by officially closed.

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

Council Member Steve Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Mr. Brian Jones-Chance to extend the meeting to 12:00 AM. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

VIII CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2021-162, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-162

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

1. **Resolution No. 2021-163, approving the minutes of July 20, 2021.**
2. **Resolution No. 2021-164, authorizing the tying of teal ribbons throughout the city from September 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 for National Ovarian Cancer Awareness.**
3. **Resolution No. 2021-165, approving fireworks display permit for ACE Pyro, LLC, on behalf of Eastern Michigan University.**

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-163, approving the minutes of July 20, 2021.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of July 20, 2021 be approved.

- c) Resolution No. 2021-164, authorizing the tying of teal ribbons throughout the city from September 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 for National Ovarian Cancer Awareness.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, *Turn the Town Teal* is a national campaign to create awareness of ovarian cancer and its symptoms;

WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is the deadliest of gynecologic cancers and a leading cause of cancer-related death in women. There is no early detection test for ovarian cancer; It is referred to as "The Silent Disease"; and

Whereas, each year the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MIOCA), a nonprofit and partner member of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, sponsors "*Turn the Towns Teal*, a national campaign to create awareness of ovarian cancer; and

Whereas, this event is held in conjunction with National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, from September 1 to September 30; and

Whereas, the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance would like to tie teal ribbons throughout the city, post awareness posters at establishments, and distribute information cards; and

Whereas, the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MIOCA), will cover all expenses incurred by this campaign and there will be no cost to the city.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and City Council supports this national campaign and approves of teal ribbons being tied throughout the city September 1st - September 30, 2021, along with lawn signs, awareness posters and information cards being provided for establishments that are interested.

- d) Resolution No. 2021-165, approving fireworks display permit for ACE Pyro, LLC, on behalf of Eastern Michigan University.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, Andrew Espenshade of ACE Pyro, LLC, on behalf of the Eastern Michigan University Athletic Department has applied for a fireworks permit to allow a fireworks display at Eastern Michigan University's Rynerson Stadium. The fireworks are scheduled on September 3rd, September 25th, October 9th, October 16th, November 9th, and November 16th, 2021; and

Whereas, ACE Pyro, LLC will operate the display and has obtained public liability insurance in the amount of \$10,000,000 and has added the City of Ypsilanti as an additional insured.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approves a Fireworks Display Permit for days; September 3rd, September 25th, October 9th, October 16th, November 9th, and November 16th, 2021, subject to the inspection and approval of the Ypsilanti Fire Department.

IX RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2021-166, approving a budget amendment for a Freighthouse Warming Center.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-166

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti recognizes the importance of a warming center during the cold harsh winter months in Michigan and seeks to assist our most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, the City operates the Ypsilanti Freighthouse and generates revenue to help support the ongoing maintenance and community purpose of the space; and

WHEREAS, the investment in a warming center at the Freighthouse is part of a broader strategy to prioritize community health collaboration with community partners like the County Shelter Association and Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the Freighthouse Budget Amendment and RFL to support the Warming Center operation beginning in November 2021 and ending in April 2022.

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-167, approving a volunteerism policy for employees of the City of Ypsilanti.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2021-167

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, City Council and the City Manager recognizes the importance of volunteer support for nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, City employees benefit from building authentic relationships with stakeholders in the nonprofit world and forming deeper connections to the needs of residents through volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, the investment in a VTO policy is part of an overall strategy to retain employees and integrate them in the community and a budget has been developed to cover the maximum potential cost; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the Volunteer Time Off policy and budget amendment with the effective date of August 1, 2021.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Anthony Morgan
SECONDER:	Council Member Brian Jones-Chance

AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, Brian Jones-Chance, and Annie Somerville
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- c) Resolution No. 2021-168, approving the proposed changes to the downtown permit parking schema and striking proposed income-based fee discount for parking permits from the fee schedule.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-168

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, City Council adopted the Ypsilanti Central Business District Parking Study and Strategy; and

WHEREAS, said document identifies a number of opportunities for improvement of Central Business District parking; and

WHEREAS, the proposed central business district permit tiers, establishment of permit-only spaces, and ceasing the practice of allowing permit holders to park without restrictions in N Adams and N Huron aligns with the recommendations of the Central Business District Parking Study and Strategy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council authorize staff to proceed with the proposed changes to the downtown permit parking schema and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed income-based fee discount for parking permits be stricken from the adopted fee schedule.

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

- d) Resolution No. 2021-169, authorizing staff to proceed with changes and create a traffic control order for said changes.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2021-169

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, City Council adopted the Ypsilanti Central Business District Parking Study and Strategy; and

WHEREAS, said document identifies a number of opportunities for improvement of Central Business District parking; and

WHEREAS, the proposed central business district parking lot retiming of N Adams, N Huron, And S Huron aligns with the recommendations of the Central Business District Parking Study and Strategy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council authorize staff to proceed with enacting the proposed changes, and to create a traffic control order in support of these changes.

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

- e) Discussion regarding the installation of speed control measures on Burton Court.

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to install center delineator to Burton Ct and speed bumps on 2nd Ave.

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

- f) Discussion regarding incentivizing youth membership on boards and commissions through private donations.

Council Member Steve Wilcoxon moved seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown to extend the meeting to 12:30 AM. On a voice vote the motion carried.

X BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS

- a) **Ypsilanti Housing Commission**

Melvin Parson - **New Member**
806 Hilyard Robinson Way
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Anthony Williamson - **New Member**
Non-Resident
8157 Starling Court
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Michael Simmons - **New Member**
432 Jefferson St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Edward Robinson - New Member (added)
843 Madison

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to table the YHC nomination to 9/14/21

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

- b) **Planning Commission**
Carl Schier - **New Member**
212 North Mansfield St
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Marc Arthur - **New member**
325 E Cross St.
Ypsilanti, MI 4898

XI BOARD AND COMMISSION - COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Human Relations Commission approved Youth Board and Commission Member recruitment flier.

XII BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. **22 July, hypodermic needles**
2. Human Relations Commission. **None**
3. Arts Commission. **None**
4. Parks and Recreation Commission. **Pool is running well, people looking for work at Prospect Park, Fall River Day coming up.**
5. Sustainability Commission. **Looking for people, quorum is an issue**
6. Historic District Commission. **None**
7. Planning Commission. **Met to approve the zoning changes.**
8. Zoning Board of Appeals **None**

XIII 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 **None**

XIV COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Wilcoxen

- **Stated there have been issues with flooding near Normal Park.**
- **Stated there will be an engagement session tomorrow night is the landowner that would be effected by the removal of Pen Dam.**

Morgan

- Mayor Pro-Tem, Brian Jones-Chance and YHC Director Zac Fosler walked through Parkridge
- Stated he would like to revisit the social equity plan.
- Stated he would like to examine protocol for conflict of interest.

Brown

- None

Symanns

- Stated there has been reports of improper parking on the 900 Block of Grant St.

Somerville

- None

XV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Mayor Association Summer Retreat - intensive report regarding infrastructure and funding.
- Marijuana ordinance changes
- Speeding concerns on 2nd Ave
- Could not attend the Saturday event at Parkridge

XVI COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- a) Memo regarding public engagement as a part of the American Rescue Plan Compliance Reporting.

XVII COMMUNICATIONS

- a) City Council and police Advisory Commission Joint Meeting - August 26th at 7:00 pm.

XVIII ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2021-170, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:18 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.