



# MINUTES

## REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, September 1, 2020  
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

**PRESENT:** Council Member Jennifer Symanns, Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, Mayor Lois Richardson, Council Member Anthony Morgan, Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, and Council Member Annie Somerville

**ABSENT:**

### I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

### II ROLL CALL

### III AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as submitted

### IV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

One person made comment

### V PRESENTATIONS

- a) International Association of Chiefs of Police, One Mind Campaign - Chief DeGiusti

### VI ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) *Ordinance No.* - 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.
  1. Resolution No. 2020-175, determination
  2. Open Public Hearing
  3. Resolution No. 2020-176, close public hearing

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2020-176**

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

**THAT a public hearing on 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 be officially closed.**

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

**Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2020-175**

**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 First Reading.**

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

- b)** *Ordinance No.* - 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.
1. Resolution No. 2020-177, determination
  2. Open Public Hearing
  3. Resolution No. 2020-178, close public hearing

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2020-178**

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

**That a public hearing on 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 Ypsilantibe officially closed.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED.</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Council Member Steven Wilcoxon
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
<b>AYES:</b>	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, 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. 2020-177**

**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 First Reading.**

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

**VII RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

- a) Resolution No. 2020-179, approving the minutes of August 11 and August 18, 2020

**Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2020-179**

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

**THAT the minutes of August 11 and August 18, 2020 be approved.**

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

- b) Resolution No. 2020-180, approving Ordinance 1363, An Ordinance to amend Ypsilanti City Code, Chapter 122, Section 122-451, "Medical Marijuana Provisioning Centers and Recreational Marijuana Retailers in Neighborhood Corridor". **(Second Reading)**

**Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2020-180**

**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 that the ordinance titled medical marijuana provisioning centers and recreational marihuana retailers in Neighborhood Corridor be approved on Second and Final Reading.**

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

c) Resolution No. 2020-181, approving the replacement of the Department of Public Services Vehicle Lift.

**Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2020-181**

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

**Whereas, the vehicle lifts in the Department of Public Services garage are in need of repair; and,**

**Whereas, the relocation and addition of vehicle lifts will increase capacity and promote employee safety; and,**

**Whereas, the City has solicited a quote for the proposed work from Allied, Incorporated who is a Rotary Lift dealer.**

**WHEREAS, Rotary Lift has a contract with Sourcewell, which is a national cooperative purchasing program for governmental organizations with whom the City of Ypsilanti is a member.**

**Now therefore be it resolved that that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves the expenditure of \$85,204.82 with Rotary Lift/Allied Incorporated for the purchase, repair, and installation of vehicle lifts in the Department of Public Services Garage with any change orders to be subject to the review and approval of the City Manager.**

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

d ) Resolution No. 2020-182, approving the contract with Gametime/Sinclair Recreation for playground installation at Parkridge Park.

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2020-182**

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

**WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti has engaged residents and stakeholders extensively over the last 18 months to determine the best use of CDBG funding; and**

**WHEREAS, the old and inaccessible playground equipment was identified for**

replacement during this engagement process and newer upgrades have been selected by community voting; and

**WHEREAS, The total funding amount for the project is \$199,850.64 of CDBG funds; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the contract provided with Gametime/Sinclair Recreation for playground replacement at Parkridge Park with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.**

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

- e) Resolution No. 2020-183, approving the application for youth mini-grant from Ypsilanti Youth Athletic Association.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2020-183  
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**WHEREAS, In the recently concluded FY 2020-2021, the City Council approved a \$25,000 grant to organizations that serve the youth in the City; and**

**WHEREAS, Ypsilanti Youth Athletic Association is an organization currently serving the youth in the City of Ypsilanti; and**

**WHEREAS, Ypsilanti Youth Athletic Association has submitted a grant application for \$5,000; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council approves a mini grant to Ypsilanti Youth Athletic Association in the amount of \$5,000 to support youth football and cheerleading competitive athletics for children.**

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

- f) Resolution No. 2020-184, approving amendment to FY 20-21 Budget to increase allocation for ballot return postage.

**Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2020-184**

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

**WHEREAS, through ballot Proposal 3 in 2018 Absentee Voting was provided as right to all voters in the State of Michigan, creating an increase in requests**

**for Absentee Ballots; and**

**WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic a large majority of voters are now choosing to cast their vote through absentee ballot, increasing ballot requests by roughly seven times the normal rate of requests for a State General Election; and**

**WHEREAS, the state of Michigan has pledged to reimburse all jurisdictions that provide return postage for absentee ballots; and**

**WHEREAS, it is estimated there will be roughly 8,000 requests for absentee ballots for the November General; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BY IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approve the increase of \$4,000 to Account #101-7-2621-730-00 to be reimbursed by the State of Michigan after the conclusion of the November General Election.**

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

- g)** Resolution No. 2020-185, approving budget adjustment for a part-time Clerk-Treasury Generalist

**Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2020-185**

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

**WHEREAS, in order to maintain efficiency in election procedure, Clerk Department functions, and Treasury Department functions, an additional part-time employee is needed; and**

**WHEREAS, the City Manager has reviewed the request for an additional part-time employee and has deemed it necessary to maintain service levels.**

**NOW THEREFORE BY IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approve the budget allocation of \$24,533.60 for base wages in Account # 101-7-2150-707-00 (Clerk) and 101-7-2530-707-00 (Treasury); \$490.67 for Workers Comp in Account #s 101-7-2150-714-02 and 101-7-2530-714-02; and \$1,876.82 for Social Security and Medicare in Account #s 101-7-2150-714-05 and 101-7-2530-714-05, to be split evenly between departments.**

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

- h)** Appointing members of Council to act as Council Liaisons to City Advisory Boards. (Tabled 8/18/2020)

1. Police Advisory Commission - **Council Member Morgan**
  2. Arts Commission - **Council Member Somerville**
  3. Human Relations Commission - **Council Member Brown**
  4. Parks and Recreation Commission - **Council Member Wilcoxon**
  5. Sustainability Commission - **Council Member Wilcoxon**
  6. Historic District Commission - **Council Member Jones-Chance**
  7. Planning Commission - **Council Member Jones-Chance**
  8. Zoning Board of Appeals - **Council Member Symanns**
- i) Discussion of Sustainability Commission Resolution No. 2020-002, Support for Pollinator Plants

## **VIII BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS**

### **a) Downtown Development Authority**

Alex Merz - **(New Appointment)**  
1930 Roosevelt  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

## **IX LIAISON REPORTS**

1. SEMCOG Update
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
3. Urban County
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

## **X COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS**

## **XI COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

- a) Selection of evaluation committee for the City Manager and City Clerk
- b) Encourage city residents to participate in the census, and emphasize the need in returns from public housing.

## **XII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

- a) Solicitation of community input for Community Policing Strategy.

## **XIII COMMUNICATIONS**

## **XIV ADJOURNMENT**

- a) Resolution No. 2020-186, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

**The meeting adjourned at 10:26 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.