



# MINUTES

## REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, September 13, 2022  
Council Chambers

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The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 7:03 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

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

**ABSENT:** Council Member Jennifer Symanns and Council Member Evan Sweet

### I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

### II ROLL CALL

### III INVOCATION

### IV 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.

### V AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mr. Jones-Chance to approve the agenda. The motion carried, and the agenda was approved.

### VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Eleven members of the public spoke.

### VII PRESENTATIONS

- a) Proclamation in honor of Ronnell Johnson - Council Member Annie Somerville & Mayor Pro-Tem Brown
- b) Cross Street Bridge Study - OHM Engineering and the Department of Public Services.

### VIII ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) Ordinance No. 1402 - An Ordinance entitled, "An ordinance to impose an emergency moratorium on issuance of new marihuana permits for sale or dispensing of marihuana in the City of Ypsilanti for 60 days".
1. Resolution No. 2022-207, determination.

2. Open Public Hearing - **One member of the public spoke**
3. Resolution No. 2022-208, close the public hearing

**Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-208  
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**That the public hearing for an emergency ordinance entitled "An ordinance to impose a moratorium on issuance of new marihuana permits for sale or dispensing of marihuana in the City of Ypsilanti for 60 days" be officially closed.**

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

**Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2022-207  
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**That an emergency ordinance entitled "An ordinance to impose a moratorium on issuance of new marihuana permits for sale or dispensing of marihuana in the City of Ypsilanti for 60 days" be approved and given immediate effect.**

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

- b)** Ordinance No. 1403 - An Ordinance entitled, "An ordinance to impose a moratorium on issuance of new marihuana permits for sale or dispensing of marihuana in the City of Ypsilanti for 180 days".

1. Resolution No. 2022-209, determination.
2. Open Public Hearing - **None**
3. Resolution No. 2022-210, close the public hearing

**Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-210  
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to impose a moratorium on issuance of marihuana permits for sale or dispensing of marihuana in the City of Ypsilanti for 180 days" be officially closed.**

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

**Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-2009**

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

**That an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to impose a moratorium on issuance of marihuana permits for sale or dispensing of marihuana in the City of Ypsilanti for 180 days" be approved on first reading.**

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

## **IX CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Resolution No. 2022-211, approving the Consent Agenda.

**Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2022-211**

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

**That the following items be approved:**

- 1. Resolution No. 2022-212, approving the minutes of August 23, 2022.**
- 2. Resolution No. 2022-213, approving two previously budgeted Ford Police Interceptors SUVs for the use of the Police Department.**
- 3. Resolution No. 2022-214, approving the purchase of previously budgeted in-car and body camera systems, Hardware, software, storage and installation from Axon, Inc. for use of the Police Department.**
- 4. Resolution No. 2022-215, approving ordinance 1401, an ordinance to prohibit the installation or use of electronic license plate readers in the City of Ypsilanti. (Second Reading)**

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

- b) Resolution No. 2022-212, approving the minutes of August 23, 2022.

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

**THAT the minutes of August 23, 2022 be approved.**

- c) Resolution No. 2022-213, approving two previously budgeted Ford Police Interceptors SUVs for the use of the Police Department.

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

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Police Department desires to replace two (2) Patrol Vehicles with 2023 Ford Police Interceptor SUVs, and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Police Department was allocated funds budgeted in the FY2022-23 Budget for the purchase of two (2) vehicles, and**

**WHEREAS, Gorno Ford of Woodhaven, Michigan has provided State of Michigan bid pricing in the amount of \$33,099.00 for each vehicle for a total of \$66,198.00.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief of Police be authorized to sign all necessary documents needed to execute the vehicle purchase.**

- d) Resolution No. 2022-214, approving the purchase of previously budgeted in-car and body camera systems, Hardware, software, storage and installation from Axon, Inc. for use of the Police Department.

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

**WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti Police Department desired to upgrade the current in-car and body camera systems, Hardware, software, storage and installation, and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti has allocated funds in the Capital Budget, secured a 2021 and 2022 Byrne Memorial Grant for this purchase, and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Police Department has negotiated pricing, \$160,002.00, that includes a significant discount with Axon, Inc. which is below state bid pricing and is the current provider of recording equipment in use by the department.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief of Police be authorized to sign all necessary documents needed to execute this purchase.**

- e) Resolution No. 2022-215, approving ordinance 1401, an ordinance to prohibit the installation or use of electronic license plate readers in the City of Ypsilanti. (Second Reading)

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

**The certain ordinance entitled "An ordinance to prohibit the installation or use of electronic license plate scanning devices in the City of Ypsilanti" be adopted on Second and Final Reading.**

## X RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2022-216, approving a contract with Government Consulting Services Inc.

**Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to amend the contract from twenty-four months to twelve months.**

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

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to table Amended Resolution No. 2022-216  
IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI**

**that the renewal contract with Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. of 120 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing Michigan for a ~~2-year~~1-year term be, and hereby is approved.**

**The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the contract for and on behalf of the City, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form.**

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

- b) ~~Resolution No. 2022-217, approving a hardship waiver for a Domestic Violence Awareness Month Event.~~ **(Removed)**
- c) Resolution No. 2022-218, approving Ordinance 1399, 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".

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-218  
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.**

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

- d) Resolution No. 2022-219, approving Ordinance 1400, 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".

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-219**

**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 Ypsilantibe approved on Second and Final Reading.**

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

- e) Resolution No. 2022-220, approving a delegate and alternate for the Annual Convention of the Michigan Municipal League to be held in Muskegon, MI on October 19-21, 2022.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to amend Resolution No. 2022-220 to add Council Member Somerville as delegate and Mayor Richardson as alternate.**

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

**Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-220 as amended**  
**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**that Council Member Annie Somerville be appointed as Delegate and Mayor Lois Allen-Richardson be appointed as Alternate for the Annual Convention of the Michigan Municipal League to be held in Muskegon, Michigan, October 19-21, 2022.**

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

- f) Resolution No. 2022-221, approving a Youth Mini-Grant Award to the Washtenaw My Brother's Keeper Organization.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-221**

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

**WHEREAS, In the recently concluded FY 2022-2023, the City Council approved a \$25,000 grant to organizations that serve the youth in the City; and**

**WHEREAS, Washtenaw’s My Brother’s Keepers is an organization currently serving the youth in the City of Ypsilanti; and**

**WHEREAS, Washtenaw’s My Brother’s Keepers has submitted a grant application for \$5,000; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council approves a mini grant to Washtenaw’s My Brother’s Keepers in the amount of \$5,000 to support programs assisting community youth through their academic efforts.**

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

- g) Resolution No. 2022-222, approving the purchase of 5,000 recycling carts from Cascade Cart Solutions.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-222**

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

**Whereas, the City has been awarded grants for the purchase of recycling carts for eligible households in the City; and,**

**Whereas, the City has received quotes for the purchase of 5,000 96-gallon recycling carts and,**

**Whereas, the use of recycling carts increases resident recycling and reduces risk of employee injury; and,**

**Whereas, the City has a goal in our Sustainability Plan to reduce the amount of waste entering landfills;**

**Now therefore be it resolved that that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves the purchase of 5,000 recycling carts from Cascade Cart Solutions for \$292,450, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.**

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

- h) Resolution No. 2022-223, approving the removal of Edward Robinson and Clete McLaughlin from the Human Relations Commission.**

**Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2022-223  
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**WHEREAS; due to the inability to meet quorum the Human Relations Commission has not meet since December of 2021; and**

**WHEREAS; in order for the commission to meet its goals as defined by ordinance, those members with habitual absences need to be removed from the commission, and replaced those that are able to commit the time needed to for the commission to meet.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; That Human Relations Commission members Edward Robinson and Clete McLaughlin and direct the City Clerk to provide them notice of dismissal.**

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED.</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Council Member Annie Somerville  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown   |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Annie Somerville, and Brian Jones-Chance |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Jennifer Symanns and Evan Sweet  |

- i) Resolution No. 2022-224, awarding the 2022 METRO Ramps Program contract to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC.

**Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2022-224  
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

**Whereas, funding has been programmed for the retrofitting of existing sidewalk ramps in the City of Ypsilanti; and,**

**Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti has solicited sealed bids for the project; and,**

**Whereas, Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC is the lowest qualified bidder and is being recommended by the City's engineering consultant for this project.**

**Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti awards the 2022 METRO Ramps contract to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC, for the bid amount of \$61,268.75; and**

**THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign this contract, subject to review by the City Attorney and any change orders are subject to review and approval by the City Manager to facilitate the completion of this work.**

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED.</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Council Member Brian Jones-Chance  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Council Member Steven Wilcoxen   |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Annie Somerville, and Brian Jones-Chance |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Jennifer Symanns and Evan Sweet  |



## **XI BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS**

1. Police Advisory Commission. - None
2. Human Relations Commission.- None
3. Arts Commission.- Council Member Somerville stated there is some confusion on what is expected of the Arts Commission and where their authority lies.
4. Parks and Recreation Commission.- Council Member Sweet stated that Fall River Days is approaching at the end of September.
5. Sustainability Commission.- None
6. Historic District Commission.- None
7. Planning Commission. - None
8. Zoning Board of Appeals - None

## **XII LIAISON REPORTS**

1. SEMCOG Update - None
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - None
3. Urban County - None
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - DDA Director Jacobs stated there is still funding available for solar installations.
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - Council Member Wilcoxon stated that the pool has just closed following a successful season. The pool will begin fundraising to replace their vacuum that broke near the end of the season.
6. Bicentennial Committee - Council Member Somerville stated the committee will be holding their first fundraiser next Friday, September 23rd.

## **XIII COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS**

### **a) Brown**

1. Stated the lights are not working in the South Huron parking lot.

### **b) Sommerville**

1. Thanked the City Manager and City Attorney for their assistance with an issue concerning dogs in her Ward.
2. Stated that the threshold to qualify for a poverty exemption in the City of Ypsilanti is much higher than in surrounding communities. She asked that the potential to lower the qualifications be examined.

### **c) Wilcoxon**

1. Stated he received many communications regarding a demonstration that occurred on EMU's campus. He explained that the city should attempt to educate what is in its realm of authority, and temper expectations on its ability to control demonstrations.

### **d) Jones-Chance**

1. Stated he is looking forward to the annual Heritage Neighborhood picnic.
2. Thanked DPS Director Ron Akers for his service to the city, and wished him well on future pursuits.

## **XIV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

### **a) Richardson**

1. informed Council that this Saturday, September 17, 2022 is the annual L.O.V.E. is the Answer Day. A mural will be completed, and a LOVE Garden will be planted near Perry School.
2. Thanked DPS Director Ron Akers for all his work while with the city and wished him the best.

## **XV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

## **XVI COMMUNICATIONS**

- a) City Council and Planning Commission Joint Meeting - October 18, 2022 @ 7:00 PM located at EMU Student Center.
- b) City Council and Police Advisory Commission Joint Meeting - September 22, 2022.
- c) City Council - Ypsilanti Community Schools Board Joint meeting September 26, 2022

## **XVII PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)**

## **XVIII REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR**

## **XIX ADJOURNMENT**

- a) Resolution No. 2022-225, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 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.