



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, September 21, 2021
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti) 6:55 PM, Council Member Steven Wilcoxon (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Council Member Anthony Morgan (Fort Wayne, Indiana), Council Member Annie Somerville (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), and Mr. Brian Jones-Chance (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti)

ABSENT: Mayor Lois Richardson

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Steve Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mr. Brian Jones-Chance to approve the agenda as submitted. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

1 member from the public spoke.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation in honor of the John Lawrence Jazz Series

VI. ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- A. Ordinance 1383, an ordinance to amend Chapter 78, Parks and Public Property of the Ypsilanti City Code of Ordinance.
1. Resolution No. 2021-197 determination
 2. Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2021-198 closing the public hearing

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2021-197

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 Non-Discrimination Ordinance that reflects the policy goals of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation 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 Chapter 78 Administrative Update 2021 on First Reading.

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

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-198

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled Chapter 78 Administrative Update 2021 be officially closed.

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

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2021-199, approving the Consent Agenda.**

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-199

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

1. Resolution No. 2021-200, approving the minutes of September 14, 2021.
2. Resolution No. 2021-201, approving appointments to boards and commissions.
3. Resolution No. 2021-202, approving the tying of purple ribbons throughout the city for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
4. Resolution No. 2021-203, approving Ordinance 1380, an ordinance to amend the Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(a) of the Code of Ordinances to adjust sewage disposal rates (Second Reading).
5. Resolution No. 2021-204, approving Ordinance 1381, an ordinance to amend the Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(b) of the Code of Ordinances to adjust sewage disposal rates (Second Reading).
6. Resolution No. 2021-205, approving Ordinance 1382, an ordinance entitled Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment: Permissible uses and dimensional modification for residential zones (Second Reading).

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

- B. Resolution No. 2021-200, approving the minutes of September 14, 2021.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of September 14, 2021 be approved.

- C. Resolution No. 2021-201, approving appointments to boards and commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

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>
<u>Michael Simmons</u> <u>432 Jefferson</u> <u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>	<u>Housing Commission</u>	<u>12/18/2023</u>
<u>Edward Robinson</u> <u>843 Madison</u> <u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>	<u>Human Relations Commission</u>	<u>7/1/2024</u>

- D. Resolution No. 2021-202, approving the tying of purple ribbons throughout the city for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, *Turn the Town* purple is a campaign to create awareness of domestic violence;

WHEREAS, domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality; and

WHEREAS, physical violence is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior as part of a much larger, systemic pattern of dominance and control; and

Whereas, the ENOUGH Initiative and Women and Men Working for Change are requesting a "*Turn the Town Purple*", a campaign to create awareness of Domestic Violence; and

Whereas, this event is held in conjunction with Domestic Violence Awareness Month, from October 1 to October 31; and

Whereas, the ENOUGH Initiative and Women and Men Working for a Change would like to tie purple ribbons throughout the city, post awareness posters and stickers at establishments; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and City Council supports this campaign and approves of purple ribbons being tied throughout the city from October 1st - October 31st, 2021, along with signs, awareness posters and stickers being provided for establishments that are interested.

- E. Resolution No. 2021-203, approving Ordinance 1380, an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(a) of the Code of Ordinance to adjust sewage rates" **(Second Reading)**

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.

- F. Resolution No. 2021-204, approving Ordinance 1381, an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend Chapter 106, Article V, Section 106-454(b) of the Code of Ordinance to adjust Water rates" **(Second Reading)**

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.

- G. Resolution No. 2021-205, approving Ordinance 1382, an ordinance entitled "Zoning Text Amendment: Permissible uses and dimensional modification for residential zones" (Second Reading)

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 Residential Modifications Zoning Update on Second and Final Reading.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- A. Resolution No. 2021-206, approving the METRO Act Ramp program award.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2021-206

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 2021 METRO Ramps contract to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC, for the bid amount of \$58,469.25; 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.

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

- B. Resolution No. 2021-207, terminating the retainer agreement with the Law Office of Scott Bergthold.

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-207

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

Having given notice of his withdrawal from City cases, the attorney retainer agreement with the Law Office of Scott D. Bergthold, P.L.L.C. dated May 25, 2021 is terminated and pursuant to said agreement, fees and expenses earned to this date be paid.

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

- C. Discussion regarding the Black Lives Matter Mural in Riverside Park.(added 9-20-2021)

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Sustainability Commission Resolution to Support Bag Ban Repeal.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steve Wilcoxon to put the Resolution on the October 5th agenda.

X. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. **None**
2. Human Relations Commission. **None**
3. Arts Commission. **None**
4. Parks and Recreation Commission. **None**
5. Sustainability Commission. **None**
6. Historic District Commission. **None**
7. Planning Commission. **None**
8. Zoning Board of Appeals **None**

XI. LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update **None**
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study **None**
3. Urban County **None**
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority **Meeting last week. Talked about Michigan Main Street**
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool **None**

XII. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Wilcoxon

- Stated he would be attending the Michigan Municipal League Convention.

Symanns

- None

Somerville

- Stated that she was disappointed in the defacement of the Black Lives Matter Mural in Riverside Park.

Jones-Chance

- Echoed Council Member Somerville's disappointed in what happened to the BLM Mural.
 - Glad to see the city has people who are upset and willing to work to fix it.
 - Thanked community members for all the good they do, and said the city is lucky to have them.

Morgan

- Echoed all the sentiments that was shared by Council.
- Stated on October 1st, during football game, the City Manager will be presenting a check by City Manager to provide the Superintendent of Ypsilanti Community Schools.

Brown

- Echoed the sentiments of what happened at Riverside Park. Expressed pain in seeing the vandalism of the Mural
- Stated she was pleased to see FEMA going through the community and appreciated the help they were doing for the destruction caused by the flooding this past June.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Resolution No. 2021-208, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

Mr. Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Wilcoxon to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

- 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.