



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 7:03 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 Annie Somerville, Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, and Council Member Evan Sweet

ABSENT: None

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

II ROLL CALL

Police Advisory Commission:

Chair Wolkoff, Commissioner McCormick, Commissioner Hume, Commissioner Mohamed, Commissioner Morgan.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Symanns to approve the agenda. The motion carried, and the agenda was approved.

VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Two members of the public spoke

VII PRESENTATIONS

- a) Proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month - Mayor Richardson (Added)
- b) Proclamation in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Mayor Richardson (added)

VIII PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a) Approving a Class C Liquor License for the Newton of Ypsilanti, located at 220 South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.
1. Resolution No. 2022-231, determination
 2. Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2022-232, closing the public hearing

Council Member Evan Sweet moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2022-232

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider the proposed transfer of a Class C license with a Special Permit for Entertainment to 220 South Huron LLC be officially closed.

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

Council Member Evan Sweet moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-231

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, 220 South Huron LLC has applied to the City of Ypsilanti and Michigan Liquor Control Commission requesting the following:

Transfer a Class C license and Special Permit for Entertainment, A Class C license, as defined by MCL 436.1107(2), is a place licensed to sell at retail, beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits for consumption on the premises, at 220 South Huron St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing to consider the proposed transfer of a Class C for 220 South Huron LLC was duly noticed and held on October 4, 2022

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the request of 220 South Huron LLC for the property located at 220 South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 be approved, contingent on Building Department and Health Department approval.

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

IX RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2022-233, approving the minutes of the September 26th and September 27th City Council Meetings.

**Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2022-233
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

THAT the minutes of September 26 and September 27, 2022 be approved.

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

- b) Resolution No. 2022-234, approving a contract with Government Consulting Services Inc. (GCSI).

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to amend Resolution No. 2022-234 by adding "subject to the approval of the City Attorney" at the end of the Resolution based on the following added to the contract; provide weekly updates on its activities as well as those of the state legislature, state agencies and the Governor's office that may affect the City, provide quarterly written reports on GCSI's activities as well as those of the state legislature, state agencies and the Governor's office that may affect the City, and attend City Council meetings in person or virtually at least once a quarter.

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

**Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2022-234 as amended
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, the proposed retainer agreement with GCSCI (Governmental Consultant Services, Inc.) sets compensation at \$3,000 per month for professional services beginning October 1, 2022 and commencing to October 1, 2023 for (12) twelve months. The contract will continue thereafter on a month-to-month basis until written notice of termination has been served with ninety (90) days prior notice by either party; and

WHEREAS, GCSCI (Governmental Consultant Services, Inc.) agrees to written monthly reporting to the City Manager of activities and services on behalf of the City of Ypsilanti.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council approves the retainer agreement between the City of Ypsilanti and Governmental

Consultant Services, Inc. and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the agreement, subject to the Approval of the City Attorney.

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

- c) Resolution No. 2022-235, approving the closing of City Hall to all business other than that related to the administration of the General Election on November 8, 2022.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2022-235

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS; the Democratic process is the backbone of this country allowing citizens to voice their opinions on both policy and their representation in government; and

WHEREAS; a General Election is scheduled for November 8, 2022, the first Tuesday following the first Monday, as prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS; the City of Ypsilanti understands this is a day of great importance to both citizens of this city, and throughout the country; and

WHEREAS; the City Manager wishes to provide additional staff to aid in the efforts of the Clerk Department to administer a successful election.

NOW THEREFOR BY IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti, hereby close all City Operations located at City Hall, other than those specific to the administration of the November 8, 2022 General Election, for the purpose of providing additional administrative staff assistance to the Clerk Department.

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

- d) Discussion with the Police Advisory Commission regarding the following topics:
- Search for a new Police Chief
 - Officer engagement with the public
 - Incentives for retention and attraction of Police Officers
 - What are Council's expectations for the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission

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
9. Bicentennial Committee - None

XI LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update - None
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - Council Member Symanns stated the next meeting will be held on October 20th.
3. Urban County - None
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - None
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - None

XII COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

- a) **Sweet**
 1. Thanked the members of the Police Advisory Commission for their thoughts during the meeting.
- b) **Somerville**
 1. None
- c) **Wilcoxon**
 1. None
- d) **Symanns**
 1. None
- e) **Jones-Chance**
 1. Stated that staff and he have been engaged with conversations of Saint Luke's church becoming a nightly warming center. He expressed thanks to Community Development Manager Jacobs for his quick work in creating a memorandum of understanding (MOU).
- f) **Brown**
 1. Congratulated DPS Director Wessler for her recent appointment to head the Department of Public Services.

XIII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- a)
 1. Thanked Interim Chief Yuchasz and Detective Coppock for their services to the Police Department.
 2. Reported an issue with animals potentially from an overgrown alley and asked that it be cleared.
 3. Reported concerns about lighting at the polling location located at Perry School.

4. Stated there will be a presentation from the Community Violence Intervention Team (CVIT) on Saturday, October 8th from 10am to 1pm.

XIV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XV COMMUNICATIONS

- a) October 18, 2022 - City Council and Planning Commission Joint Meeting at the EMU Student Center, 900 Oakwood St, Ballroom

XVI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Two members of the public spoke.

XVII REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVIII ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2022-236, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 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.