



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Mayor Beth Bashert, Council Member Jennifer Symanns (7:05 p.m.), Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, Council Member Nicole Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Lois Richardson, Council Member Anthony Morgan, and Council Member Annie Somerville

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

The agenda was approved as amended.

VI WORK SESSION - 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

- a) Parking Strategy Implementation Plan - Bonnie Wessler, Parking Manager

Parking Manager Wessler provided a brief overview of the parking strategy implementation plan.

Council Member Wilcoxon asked if the parking kiosks could include areas for public postings. Ms. Wessler stated that they are generally designed to be graffiti resilient, but staff can look into options. Mayor Bashert asked if this would address the nonfunctional meters and would include costs for repairing and maintaining meters. Ms. Wessler stated that they receive a weekly report about meters and that will be part of the assessment. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if the Washington Street lot will be all permit parking. Ms. Wessler responded that it would have both permit and metered parking. Mr. Wilcoxon asked about the timeline for changes on Ballard. Ms. Wessler stated

that they are proposing to remove the meters in the fall. Ms. Bashert asked about the appropriate amount of handicap parking spaces. Ms. Wessler responded that the minimum is one out of every 25 spaces, and recommended to have one per block face, with some other uses being double.

Mr. Wilcoxon asked if angled parking on W Cross is possible. Ms. Wessler stated that it may not increase the number of spaces, but staff can look into it. Mr. Morgan asked about the backlash of faulty lots and poor signage. Ms. Wessler replied that it is difficult to quantify because only current conditions are known. Mr. Wilcoxon asked about permitting on Maple and Oak. Ms. Wessler responded that the residential permit parking ordinance provides options for residents to opt in. Mayor Bashert asked about evening and weekend enforcement. Ms. Wessler replied that this would be looked at after the initial period. Ms. Bashert asked if there will be staffing changes. Ms. Wessler responded that none are anticipated. Mr. Wilcoxon asked about the short-term parking on Washington. Ms. Wessler stated that they will monitor the situation. Ms. Bashert asked if two- and three-hour parking is renewable. Wessler responded that it is not. Council Member Somerville stated that she has some long-term concerns and volunteered to serve on the committee. Mr. Morgan stated that a \$60 ticket is not much of a deterrent for some people to park wherever they want. Mayor Bashert asked about the number of spots per kiosk. Ms. Wessler stated that this is still a discussion. Mr. Wilcoxon asked about the partnership model for a parking structure. Ms. Wessler stated that there are different funding models. Ms. Bashert stated that parking structure on Rice is not likely.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m. and reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

VII INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Bashert introduced the following individuals; DPS Director Ron Ackers, Parking Manager Bonnie Wessler, Economic Development Joe Meyers, City Manager Frances McMullan, Deputy City Clerk Sarah Stachnik, City Clerk Andrew Hellenga, City Attorney John Barr, and Vice President of Engineering OHM Kent Early.

VIII PRESENTATIONS

- a) YMCA Services - Toni Kayumi, YMCA CEO Ann Arbor.

Toni Kayumi provided a brief overview of services that are currently provided and the potential YMCA in eastern Washtenaw County.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked if they will be providing free transportation for youth in the City. Ms. Kayumi responded that there have been conversations about after school busing and with the AAATA for convenient bus stop and bus fare to be included with the teen membership. She added that there have also been conversations with MDOT about the pedestrian bridge over I-94. Ms. Richardson expressed concern about transportation for teens and young children. Ms. Kayumi stated that buses often bus to Y

facilities and there are scholarships available. Council Member Morgan asked if the facilities are standard throughout the county. Ms. Kayumi stated that programs are based on community needs assessment and resident input. Mr. Morgan asked if there are culturally competency components. Ms. Kayumi stated that there is a preplanning component to help kids get their first job and other mentorship programs. Mr. Morgan stated that he appreciates the buy-in and is in support of a facility that is close. Mayor Bashert thanked Ms. Kayumi for her presentation.

IX PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

1. Corrine Sikorski, 312 N River, stated that she was pleased to see the outcome of the proposed parking strategy. She encouraged longer enforcement in the evening and a Co-op representative on the advisory board. She approved of the City's involvement with recycling. She spoke in favor of the contract renewal with the Friends of the Freight house.
2. Celeste McClellan, 314 Maple, thanked Parking Manager Wessler for logical assessment of the parking strategy and appreciated the options brought forward in Depot Town.
3. Patty Harrington, 209 N Huron, stated that Ypsilanti Historical Society requested a charity gaming license for fundraising.
4. Liano Sharon, 2022 Washtenaw, as a member of the HRC, spoke in support of the chair term extension to have a smooth transition.
5. Susan Carter, 410 Maple, thanked Parking Manager Wessler for her hard work. She expressed concern about residential permit parking cost on Maple. She spoke against the extension of the HRC chair term extension.
6. Reza Rajabi, 110 N Summit, was disappointed that he has not received a response to his email and that there was no investigation into his claims. He was displeased with additional fees and taxes. He stated that he is suing the City for \$1 million.
7. Larry Yapp, 32-42 N Huron, stated that he is not getting equal justice under the law because the City is failing to enforce the ordinance. He spoke about his neighbor's work that obstructs access to his property.
8. Dave Strenski, 323 Oak, provided an update about Solar Ypsi and asked if he could write grants on behalf of the City for more solar projects.
9. Lee Azus, 319 Garland, spoke in favor of Amber Fellows. He provided a brief history of the Human Relations Commission.
10. Rob Halpern, EMU professor, was displeased with the decision to decommission Amber Fellows and spoke in favor of her term extension.
11. Amber Fellows, Ward 3, spoke in favor of the resolutions to make commission applications publicly available in a central location and her term extension. She was displeased with her removal from the commission. She advised Council to see out Toi Dennis for reappointment.
12. Charles Camren stated that he hopes to open a designated consumption establishment.
13. Srikar Chiravuri, Cream Inc, spoke about local events and GoFundMe community endowment fund that is open to requests for proposals until next year's gun buyback. He spoke about services offered and thanked the City for their involvement in the buyback.
14. Brian Geiringer, Ward 1, spoke in favor of the transparency appointment

resolution and the extension of Commissioner Fellows' term. He spoke about the work done by the HRC. He added that it was inappropriate that Toi Dennis was called a loose cannon.

15. Brian Foley, 425 Ainsworth, spoke in favor of Amber Fellows' extension and spoke in favor of her reappointment.
16. Liano Sharon, spoke in favor of marijuana ordinance, the transparency resolution, and the chair extension.
17. Amry, EMU, spoke in favor of Commissioner Fellow's term extension.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson thanked Mr. Azus for the history of the HRC.

X ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) *Ordinance No. 1348* - An Ordinance to amend Chapter 102 Traffic and Vehicles, Article III, Division 4 of the City Code.
 1. Resolution No. 2019-227, determination
 2. Open Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2019-228, close public hearing

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2019-228.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
SECONDER:	Council Member Nicole Brown
AYES:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2019-227.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
SECONDER:	Council Member Nicole Brown
AYES:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville

- b) *Ordinance No. 1349* - An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 99, Small Cell Wireless Facilities of the City Code.
 1. Resolution No. 2019-229, determination
 2. Open Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2019-230, close public hearing

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2019-230.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Anthony Morgan
SECONDER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Anthony Morgan, Beth Bashert, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, and Annie Somerville

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2019-229.

City Attorney Barr explained the changes to the ordinance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked how the city will profit economically from the towers. Mr. Barr stated there is a fee schedule. Council Member Morgan asked how many towers there will be in the City. DPS Director Akers stated it is unknown because the range of 5G towers are shorter than before. Mr. Morgan asked if the towers emit EMF radiation. Mr. Akers stated that it is a requirement that the applications include a certification that the emissions are at an allowable level by the FCC. Mr. Morgan expressed concern for the unintentional consequences to human health.

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

XI CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2019-231, approving the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Pro-Tem Lois Richardson moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2019-231.

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

- b) Resolution No. 2019-232, approving the minutes of September 24 and October 1, 2019.
- c) Resolution No. 2019-233, approving the appointment of Jack Gilbreath as Administrative Hearings Bureau Officer.
- d) ~~Resolution No. 2019-234, authorizing the City Clerk to cast a ballot in the 2019 Michigan Municipal League Board of Directors for the incumbent candidate.~~
(Moved off consent agenda.)
- e) Resolution No. 2019-235, approving a charitable gaming license for the Ypsilanti Historical Society.

XII RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2019-236, approving Ordinance 1344 - An Ordinance to amend City Code by adding Chapter 8 - ADULT USE - RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA. (Second Reading). (updated 10/14/19)

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated that she will be voting no due to the timing of this ordinance. Council Member Morgan commented that he hopes that it does what it is intended to do based on the language and that it reflects fairness and balance in the industry that does not currently exist. He stated that he will be voting no. Council Member Somerville stated that she is excited that the City

supports something that has been stigmatized and there should be safe places for consumption. She added that she will be voting yes.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2019-236.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
SECONDER:	Council Member Steven Wilcoxen
AYES:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, and Annie Somerville
NAYS:	Lois Richardson and Anthony Morgan

- b) Resolution No. 2019-237, extending the term of Amber Fellows on the Human Relations Commission for 60 days.

Council Member Morgan stated that he is not for or against Amber Fellows, but her commitment and consistency is admirable. He added that the HRC is committed to do the hard work and thanked Ms. Fellows for her work. Mr. Wilcoxen stated that Ms. Fellows has been very active and has a lot of support in the community, but this is also a straightforward transfer of power and standard practice. He added that it is the responsibility of a chair to have things wrapped up by end of term. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated that this was a joint resolution and was surprised Ms. Fellows was not reappointed due to the difficulty in getting committed people on commissions. Council Member Symanns thanked Ms. Fellows for her service.

Mayor Pro-Tem Lois Richardson moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2019-237.

RESULT:	FAILED.
MOVER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Lois Richardson
SECONDER:	Council Member Anthony Morgan
AYES:	Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville
NAYS:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, and Steven Wilcoxen

- c) Resolution No. 2019-238, directing the City Clerk to forward copies of boards and commission applications to the commission applied for review.

Clerk Hellenga proposed that the resolution be amended to have the applications available on the website for one year, with the contact and address information redacted.

Council Member Brown, supported by Council Member Somerville moved to amend the resolution to reflect Clerk Hellenga's changes.

Mayor Bashert stated that she is excited about this resolution to increase transparency and hopes that it will excite more applicants.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2019-238 as amended.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Anthony Morgan
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville

AYES:	Beth Bashert, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville
NAYS:	Jennifer Symanns

- d) Resolution No. 2019-239, approving fees pursuant to the Small Wireless Communications Facilities Development Act 365 of 2018, and Chapter 99 of Ypsilanti City Code.

City Attorney Barr clarified the fee schedule. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked for clarification about the fees. Mr. Barr replied that they are set by the state. Mr. Morgan asked if there is the potential for multiple carriers. Mr. Barr answered in the affirmative. Mr. Morgan asked if it was possible to determine the number of poles that would be added. Mr. Barr stated that the number of poles is part of the applications reviewed by DPS.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2019-239.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Steven Wilcoxon
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville

- e) Resolution No. 2019-240, approving the proposed timeline and workplan for Parking Strategy Implementation.

Council Member Brown stated that she is excited about the plan. Council Member Morgan asked about the timeline based on weather. Parking Manager Wessler stated that it may be adjusted based on weather.

Council Member Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2019-240.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Nicole Brown
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville

- f) Resolution No. 2019-241, awarding a Youth Mini-Grant to Educate Youth.

Council Member Wilcoxon recused himself because his wife is the Executive Director. The other Council Members expressed their support and excitement for the resolution.

Council Member Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2019-241.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Nicole Brown
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Beth Bashert, Jennifer Symanns, Nicole Brown, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville
ABSTAINED:	Steven Wilcoxon

- g) Resolution No. 2019-242, authorizing city administration to engage the services of OHM Advisors and Bergman, Architects, Engineers, and Planners to prepare and submit an application for CRISI Grant funding on behalf of the city. (added 10/14/19)

City Manager McMullan provided a brief update about the project. Kent Early, OHM, provided some background about the application and process. Council Member Morgan asked if they will have a better chance to get funding if they increase the amount they put in. Mr. Early responded that the more money a community is able to put in, the better chance they will have to get the grant. Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked why the amount was lowered. City Manager McMullan responded that she changed it to get in the range, but Council can increase it. Mr. Early added that they are looking for additional sources of funding. Mayor Bashert thanked OHM, City Manager McMullan, and Economic Development Director Meyers for all their work.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2019-242.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
SECONDER:	Council Member Nicole Brown
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Nicole Brown, Beth Bashert, Steven Wilcoxon, Lois Richardson, Anthony Morgan, and Annie Somerville

- h) Resolution No. 2019-234, authorizing the City Clerk to cast a ballot in the 2019 Michigan Municipal League Board of Directors for the incumbent candidate. (moved from consent agenda).

Mayor Pro-Tem Lois Richardson moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, THAT the City Clerk is authorized to cast a ballot on behalf of Ypsilanti City Council in the 2019 Michigan Municipal Risk Management Board of Directors election for the incumbent candidate, Jean Stegeman, seeking reelection.

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

XIII LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update - None
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - None
3. Urban County - Making sure CDBG funds can be used for the train station
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - had a great retreat
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - contract for renovation of pool house should be on the November 5th meeting.
6. Housing Equity Leadership Team - None

XIV COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

- a) Somerville

1. Movie night on October 24
2. Asked about Mr. Rajabi. City Manager McMullan stated that they offered to waive the fees, but the building department stated that it was a safety issue.
3. Asked about the situation with Mr. Yapp. Mr. Barr provided a history of the property and determined that it was a neighbor dispute, not a city issue. Staff is continuing to look into ownership and easements.

b) Wilcoxon

1. Constituent concerned for her safety for her property that opens to the alley in the winter. Mr. Barr has stated that the City does not have an obligation to keep an alley in good repair.

c) Richardson

1. The pothole at the intersection at 2nd and Michigan is getting deeper and dangerous. She asked DPS Director Akers about the condition of 2nd Ave.
2. Fundraiser for Abaco Island is at the fire station.

d) Morgan

1. Thanked DPS Director Akers and City Manager McMullan for talking with a constituent upset about a tree removal.
2. Constituents in Ward 3 mentioned that leaves are gathering up.
3. EMU homecoming was last weekend.

e) Brown

1. Black women in politics luncheon at WCC was well-attended, well represented by the City, and a wonderful event.

XV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Asked about the update for recycling truck.
2. Congratulated Council Member Brown for winning an EMU award
3. Met with the Ahmadiyya Muslim community and was educated about their community.
4. Mentioned Kurtis National Conference at EMU on November 2nd
5. Thanked everyone for coming to the unity event at EMU.
6. Town Hall about the Arts Commission is upcoming. Applications will open at the end of the month.

XVI COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

1. Attended MML and MERS conference, and will attend ICMA conference next week.
2. Pedestrian Bridge Town Hall by Representative Peterson will be on October 24th at the Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.

3. Meeting with YCS to support enrollment and homelessness. They are also revisiting the truancy ordinance to include restorative justice pieces.
4. Recycling drop-off event from 9-1 on Saturday.
5. Roads and recycling work session is upcoming.
6. Water Street work session is November 12th at 7:00 p.m.

XVII COMMUNICATIONS

NOMINATIONS

a) Police and Fire Pension Board

Andrew Hopper
1302 Whittier Road
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

b) Human Relations Commission

Pamela Escalante Gonzalez
108 Washtenaw Ave
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

c) Potential MML Parliamentary Procedures Training Dates; November 11, 13, 14, 20, & 21

Thursday, November 14th from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

XVIII PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

1. Larry Yapp, stated that Mr. Barr and City officials are incorrect. He added that the easement is critical and is displeased because the city has wasted his time.

XIX REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XX ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2019-243, adjourning the City Council Meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

- 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.**