



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, November 2, 2021
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

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

ABSENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

II. ROLL CALL

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Jennifer Symanns 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)

3 members from the public spoke.

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Redistricting Plan and Public Engagement Strategy (5 Minutes) - Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2021-236, approving the Consent Agenda

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-236

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

1. **Resolution No. 2021-237, approving the minutes of October 19, 2021.**
2. **Resolution No. 2021-238, approving the appointment of an Administrative Hearings Bureau Officer.**
3. **Resolution No. 2021-239, approving the Winter 2021 Special Assessments.**

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

- B. Resolution No. 2021-237, approving the minutes of October 19, 2021

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of October 19, 2021 be approved.

- C. Resolution No. 2021-238, approving the appointment of an Administrative Hearings Bureau Officer.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT Council approves Dan DuChene as Administrative Hearings Bureau Officers for the City of Ypsilanti as appointed by the City Manager.

- D. Resolution No. 2021-239, approving the Winter 2021 Special Assessments.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That, the City Treasurer be authorized to levy and assess on the December 2021 tax roll the attached listing of unpaid bills totaling \$69,200.72.

VII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- A. Resolution No. 2021-240, approving the contract and notice for the wastewater treatment plant primary switchgear replacement.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2021-240

WHEREAS, it is necessary to acquire and construct certain improvements to the wastewater treatment plant, consisting of replacement of the primary switchgear for the electrical supply to the plant, together with all necessary appurtenances and attachments thereto (the "Project"), to serve the City and the Charter Township of Ypsilanti (the "Township"); and

WHEREAS, a contract (the "Contract") has been prepared among the City, the Township and the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (the "Authority") whereby the Authority will issue its bonds (the "Bonds") on behalf of the City and the Township to provide for the financing of costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, this Governing Body has carefully reviewed the Contract and finds that it provides the best means for accomplishing the Project and for providing the needed services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT:

1. The Contract is hereby approved and the Mayor and the City Clerk of the City are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Contract for and on behalf of the City; provided, however, that Contract shall not become effective until the expiration of forty-five (45) days after the publication of the attached notice as a display advertisement of at least ¼ page in size in the *Washtenaw Legal News*, a newspaper of general circulation within the City, which manner of publication is deemed by the Governing Body to be the most effective manner of informing the taxpayers and electors of the City of the details of the proposed Contract and the rights of referendum thereunder.

2. The City Clerk is directed to publish the attached notice in the newspaper above designated as soon as possible after the adoption hereof.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution be, and the same hereby are repealed.

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

B. Resolution No. 2021-241, approving the contract and notice for the M-17 and US-12 water system improvements.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2021-241

WHEREAS, it is necessary to acquire and construct certain water supply system improvements, consisting of the acquisition, construction and installation of various water main and related improvements on Washtenaw Avenue between West Cross Street and Hamilton Street, Hamilton Street between Washtenaw Avenue and I-94, Huron Street between I-94 and West Cross Street, and Michigan Avenue between Huron Street and Hamilton Street, together with all necessary appurtenances and attachments thereto, to serve the City (the "Improvements"); and

WHEREAS, a Contract has been prepared between the City and the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (the "Authority") whereby the Authority will issue its bonds (the "Bonds") on behalf of the City to provide for the

financing of the City's share of the cost of the acquisition, construction and installation of the Improvements; and

WHEREAS, this Governing Body has carefully reviewed the Contract and finds that it provides the best means for accomplishing the acquisition and construction of the Improvements and for providing the needed services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT:

1. Approval of Contract; Effectiveness. The Contract is hereby approved and the Mayor and the City Clerk of the City are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Contract for and on behalf of the City; provided, however, that Contract shall not become effective until the expiration of forty-five (45) days after the publication of the attached notice as a display advertisement of at least ¼ page in size in the Washtenaw Legal News, a newspaper of general circulation within the City, which manner of publication is deemed by the Governing Body to be the most effective manner of informing the taxpayers and electors of the City of the details of the proposed Contract and the rights of referendum thereunder.

2. Publication of Notice. The Clerk is directed to publish the attached notice in the newspaper above designated as soon as possible after the adoption hereof.

3. Reimbursement Declarations. The City makes the following declarations for the purpose of complying with the reimbursement rules of Treas. Reg. § 1.150-2 pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended:

(a) As of the date hereof, the City reasonably expects to reimburse itself for the expenditures described in (b) below with proceeds of debt to be incurred by the City.

(b) The expenditures described in this paragraph (b) are for the costs of acquiring and constructing the Improvements which were or will be paid subsequent to sixty (60) days prior to the date hereof.

(c) The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for the Improvements, including issuance costs, shall not exceed \$11,900,000.

4. Rescission. All resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution be, and the same hereby are repealed.

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

- C. Resolution No. 2021-242, approving the submission of application for Rectangle Rapid Flashing Beacons from the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2021-242

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City strongly supports safe nonmotorized transportation and safe access to recreation opportunities for people of all abilities and incomes; and

WHEREAS, the need for safe pedestrian routes of travel, and in particular crossings of trunklines is incorporated in the City's Master Plan, Nonmotorized Plan, Sustainability Plan, and Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, pedestrian traffic counts indicate frequent pedestrian use of existing crossings at Hamilton/Pearl, Hamilton/Ferris, and Huron/Pearl; and

WHEREAS, traffic crash data indicate significant need for a safer crossing at Hamilton/Catherine; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the City Council hereby request that MDOT consider the installation of Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons at these intersections.

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

- D. Resolution No. 2021-243, approving MDOT Contract # 21-5389 between the city and MDOT for the maintenance of a Non-Motorized Path on the westside of the Grove Street Road Bridge.

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-243

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation generously constructed a much-needed accessible shared-use path along the west side of the Grove Road Bridge belonging to the Michigan Department of Transportation; and,

Whereas, the State of Michigan is asking that the City commit to snow, ice, and debris removal on the shared-use path as well as other non-structural maintenance; and,

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the attached Non-Motorized Path Permit between the City of Ypsilanti and the Michigan Department of Transportation which commits the City to maintain this shared-use path, and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract on the City's behalf.

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

- E. Resolution No. 2021-244, approving the feasibility study for a parking deck in Depot Town.

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to call the question.

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

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No. 2021-244

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, City Council adopted the Ypsilanti Central Business District Parking Study and Strategy; and

WHEREAS, said document notes a potential parking deficit of approximately 250 parking spaces in the Depot Town area with the full utilization of all Depot Town commercial areas under demand shown at the time; and

WHEREAS, construction of a parking structure is one potential route to satisfy parking demand;

WHEREAS, the Depot Town CDC has committed up to \$30,000 for a parking structure feasibility study;

WHEREAS, the DDA has committed up to \$30,000 in additional funds for a parking feasibility study, and strongly favors the Fishbeck proposal;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council authorize the acceptance of the proposal from Fishbeck, in the amount of \$54,920, and authorize the City Manager to execute the acceptance of the proposal on behalf of the City after approval by the City Attorney as to form.

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

VIII. BOARD AND COMMISSION - COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Arts Commission Resolution No. 2021-06, requesting the implementation of a Community and Artist Survey for the Ypsilanti Art Commission Action Plan, and a Request for Qualifications for the Community and Artists Survey Outreach Consultant.

Mayor Lois Richardson and Council Member Steve Wilcoxon supported Resolution No. 2021-06.

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

- 1. Police Advisory Commission. **Last meeting had a discussion regarding the difference between oversight and advisory. Thanked Council for passing Resolution regarding phone calls and expungements.**
- 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. **Meeting was routine**
- 8. Zoning Board of Appeals **None**

X. LIAISON REPORTS

- 1. SEMCOG Update **None**
- 2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study **None**
- 3. Urban County **None**
- 4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority **Special board meeting on Tuesday to approve grants for the Match on Main Program**
- 5. Friends of Rutherford Pool **None**

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Brown

- **None**

Morgan

- **Thanked Steve Pierce for winning award**
- **Thanked YCS for the event during a recent football game halftime show**
- **Sated he is looking for clearer information on ordinance enforcement**
- **Stated he has curiosity regarding current discussion and proposals around rank choice voting**

Symanns

- Thanked Mr. Akers for DPS quick response to resident issues

Brian Jones-Chance

- Stated he continue to work on affordable housing and violence issues occurring in the city

Wilcoxon

- Informed Council he is preparing a report on the work involving the chemical profile around Pen Dam.
-

Somerville

- Nominated Jeff Muir to Historic District Commission
 - Council Member Steve Wilcoxon supported the nomination
- Thanked City Manager, Communications Manager Tom Koch, and Project Manager Bonnie Wessler for assistance providing information during a recent event.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Asked the status of an investigation of the Police Department she requested.
 - The Mayor was informed a resolution would be required to engage an investigation of the department.
- Requested a speed tracking device to be installed on Ainsworth Cir and asked for speedbumps.
- Thanked Jennifer Goulet for the work on Ypsi Glow.
- Congratulated Steve Pierce on recent award.
- Stated the trunk or treat was very successful. However, there was considerable damage to the ground in Parkridge Park.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

A. American Rescue Plan Act Funds

- The City has received its award letter and will receive the first tranche within thirty days.
- The amount allowable to be used for lost revenue will be provided to Council once determined.

Addressing questions from the Mayor

- DPS Director Akers has been given direction to place a speed monitor on Ainsworth Cir. She added there is a policy in place regarding traffic control measures such as speedbumps.
- Stated the city has adopted a COVID vaccination policy which was distributed to the department heads
- CAFR's almost completed. Completed Manager's executive letter. Anticipate having a clean audit
- Welcomed Dan DuChene back to the City of Ypsilanti
- Investigations are conducted upon a complaint basis. She added that she has discussed this with the City Attorney who recommend

that Council pass a resolution and engage the investigation using an outside agency.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS

None

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A. Resolution No. 2021-245, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 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.