



COUNCIL INFORMATION LETTER

July 2019

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success"
Henry Ford

Report by City Manager, Frances McMullan

City Manager

Management Training – The City Manager has instituted leadership training and development for managers and have begun showing videos during department head meetings and facilitating discussion.

IT Migration - The City Manager's office is moving forward with the IT migration and has met with several vendors regarding the city's needs. Feedback and interest has been great. We have prepared a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) and anticipate letting it sometime in September, 2019.

Solid Waste – The city awarded the solid waste contract to Stevens Disposal. City Attorney is working on contract to be presented to City Council at the August 27, 2019 meeting.

Recycling – Met with the Washtenaw Regional Resources Management Authority where first steps and priorities were discussed, as well as timing of formation. It was decided to move forward without a commitment from Ann Arbor to join. The Authority is currently made up of Ann Arbor Township, Scio Township, Pittsfield Township, Ypsilanti Township, City of Dexter, City of Saline and City of Ypsilanti.

Contracts – Met with IAFF (Fire) union members and negotiations and are making progress. It is our hope to have ratification by the end of August, 2019.

Health Insurance – Met with Michele Bolser, Director of Benefits, VTC Insurance Group, to discuss alternate health care proposals, health benefit plans and alternate carriers.

Washington and Armstrong Streets – traffic calming devices (speed humps) have been installed. Signage coming soon.

New Department Manager - The City welcomed the new DPS Director Ron Akers on July 24, 2019. Ron has embraced the vision to enhance the DPS staff and its services. He is busy getting to know everyone and the operations of the City. Stop by DPS and say hello!

Staff Outing - Staff bowling outing is scheduled for August 16th. To date we have 14 confirmed. All are welcome, please use this link to RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bowling-night-tickets-64262155838>

Clerk Department

1. 2019-2020 Residential Parking Permits are now being sold
2. The encoder to live stream public meetings I now operational, staff will meet with iCompass to program. If there are not any further issues the August 27th Council Meeting will be live streamed.
3. August 6th Special Election preparation complete and election is running efficiently.
4. Administrative Hearings Bureau
 - a. \$7,185 in revenue FY 2019-2020
5. \$213,983 has been collected in parking ticket revenue since January 1, 2019.

City of Ypsilanti Fire Department

Activity Report:

	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019
Fire & EMS Calls	171	192	208
Inspections	4	3	2
Non-emergency requests	0	1	1

Personnel Updates:

- **Fire fighter Reid Moden received his badge on July 3rd.**

Training Update:

- The following trainings occurred during the month of June:
 - Driving Apparatus
 - Washtenaw County Hazardous Material (HazMat)
 - Vehicle Extrication
 - Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
 - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Refresher

Apparatus Update:

- Engine 1 back in service July 8th.
- Engine 3 out of service for repairs July 9th.
- Tower 1 outrigger switch repaired July 10th.
- Engine 3 back in service July 17th.

Capital Improvement:

- The drain repair and cabinet replacement has been completed.
- K-12 saw placed in service.

City of Ypsilanti Police Department

Statistics for the current period reflected by the past three months with six (6) day remaining in July.

	May	June	July
Arrests	55	73	46
Tickets	79	75	41
Calls for Service	1279	1228	905
Reports	225	297	196

Personnel:

Probationary Officers Kain, McBee and Burgess have completed the FTO program and are assigned to solo patrol. Probationary Officer Dunlop is in phase 3 of the FTO Program and should be certified for solo patrol in mid-August. Probationary Officer Lewandowski is in Phase 2 of the FTO program and progressing well. Probationary Officer Gerwig started with the department on July 22 and is in the orientation phase of the FTO Program. One candidate has been given a background investigation packet to complete and other applications are being reviewed.

7/16 – Chief DeGiusti participated in conversations with the Mayor, City Manager and the President of WCC about their programming at the Parkridge Center and recent incident close to the venue.

7/17 – Chief DeGiusti attended the Curriculum of Care Board Meeting (group that works on homelessness in Washtenaw County).

7/18 – Chief DeGiusti attended a Residents meeting at the Parkridge Homes with Zach Fossler to address concerns and express the need for the residents to be part of the solution to the issues in the area.

7/22 – Chief DeGiusti attended the “Elder Abuse Listening Tour” (AG Nessel, Rep. Dingell, 2 Michigan Supreme Court Justices etc.) by invitation of Task Force Member Gail Summerville. Many topics related to seniors were covered and possible legislative initiatives were discussed.

7/22 - Chief DeGiusti attended the Monday Morning Parkridge Community meeting at Estabrook School. Along with Sheriff Clayton the group was briefed on problems that have been encountered, the steps that law enforcement have taken and a further discussion on what the represented groups can do to help with the issues.

7/23 – Chief DeGiusti attended the COPAC Meeting. Area concerns were discussed as well as discussion on posting more Lock It or Lose It signage. The DDA was consulted and COPAC was provided with a list of suggested locations.

7/23 – Chief DeGiusti participated in a Town Hall Meeting with the Mayor and City Manager regarding recent gun violence in the City. The event was very well attended and many issues were raised. Many of the items are beyond the scope of City services, but awareness was raised on the issues. Also announced at this meeting is the formation of a dedicated Ypsilanti Police Tip Line. The line will be set-up in the next week.

7/25 - Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission had their regular meeting

Additional Items:

Work with the group called "The Cream" continues. A gun buyback program was planned and has been scheduled for August 24th. The work and planning for the Amnesty Day is also on-going.

Although I don't usually report on specific crime issues in the CIL I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the excellent work that has been done by the women and men of the department. First, I commend them for all of the efforts that have been put into training our new personnel. This is a critical task and has been done extremely well especially considering the number of new officers that have hired in a short period of time.

Recently there was a rash of businesses being targeted for damage by "shooting out" the windows. Fortunately, what was first thought to a shooting issues turned out to be a sling shot with white marbles. Through the team work of several officers the suspect was identified, arrested and charged on a multiple count warrant.

Over the past couple of weeks there have been a series of burglaries of businesses in the City and the greater Ypsilanti area. Again, team work came into play and through the work of several officers the suspect was identified, arrested and charged with a multiple count felony warrant. A search warrant of the suspects residence was executed and several of the cash registers were recovered.

As you well know there have been several shooting incidents in the City. The Detective Bureau has been extremely busy working on those cases and in many instances suspects have been developed. Work continues to develop enough evidence to present to the Prosecutors Office. In several cases information has been provided to Public Housing and allowed them to quickly file for eviction from unwanted tenants.

Human Resources

Below is the HR information for July's CIL:

First Name	Last Name	Hire Date	Department	Title
Ronald	Akers	07/24/2019	DPS	DPS Director
Bryan	Gerwig	07/22/2019	YPD	Police Officer

Department of Public Service

Parks/Recreation

- A. Park maintenance is coming along as we continue our list of goals. The main objective is to restore and maintain community values in park usage. We wanted to give a thank you to the park and rec commission for their willing involvement in meeting some of these goals.
- B. Special Events;
The Camaro Fest was a great success according to planners. Staff was able to bring park to a level where visitor could enjoy being in the Park.

Streets and Roads

- A. Road Project;
 - 1. Ongoing State Project to resurface south side of Harriet (from Hamilton to Huron), Congress (from Mansfield to Elm) and N Huron (from Cross to Forest)
 - 2. County project Emmerick from Service Drive to Grove encouraging a City Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township collaborate effort to restore roads. This project should be finish shortly.
- B. Sidewalks
 - 1. Sidewalk (ADA) ramps are a main focus at this time as scheduling for the process is key. The city will as part of an ongoing agreement put handicap accessible ramps throughout city at a yearly cost of \$100,000 until finished.
- C. General road repair / maintenance;
 - 1. Work crew continue to patch pot hole and stabilize emergencies cause by road conditions.
 - 3. Street sweeping is progressing well.

Traffic

Traffic signs and equipment with idea of calming traffic has been ordered. Signal loop and signal boxes are regularly monitored.

Tree Maintenance

Equipment is being serviced and certified.

Planning & Development

Developments – Planning Commission will be reviewing a site plan for Cultivate 307 N. River St, a special use for multifamily at 422 N. Hamilton and 315 N. Washington for a rooming House.

Recycling Cards - Staff has processed 526 Recycling Cards to date.

Grants. Staff continues working through the process of the Friends of the Rutherford Pool Grant and continue working with OHM on a train station grant. City Staff has also identified a potential grant opportunity to assist with the removal on Peninsular Dam. The Michigan Department of Resources has revamped their Fisheries Habitat Grant to include funding specifically for Dam Removal projects like ours. Pre-Proposals are due by the end of the month with full applications due by the end of November so staff will be working quickly to try and capitalize on this opportunity to leverage public funds for this important local project.

TAP Grant – Staff submitted a TAP grant at the end of June with OHM and WATS, MDOT, and Ypsilanti Township on the I-94 Pedestrian Crossing.

Master Plan - 2019 is an exciting year for planning in the City! This year we are working on a Master Plan Update, a new Sustainability Plan, a Parks Plan update, a Nonmotorized Plan update, and potentially a Housing Plan! Look for a series of meetings this month and beyond and we dive deep on each of these mission critical roadmaps and look towards residents to help guide the planning and development priorities. The Parks Plan Survey is now live and can be found here: https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLSd8SGBzfXlyCcHo49TT8j_cgqzyhDYV2sbsUkiHaYlgizKrSw%2Fviewform∓data=02%7C01%7Cjmeyers%40cityofypsilanti.com%7Cef3bcad7d31f4b2b24d508d716c4d904%7C940f79927c85414e8cb10632dd3a5282%7C0%7C0%7C637002907045477548∓sdata=SpSU2nVO5DGBjWzvzhpRhDQh5%2FRSyb7jtlqMp6jvW0%3D∓reserved=0

The Master Plan Survey should be live in the next two weeks and keep an eye out for installations around town where people can vote on different concepts they would like to see prioritized in the new Master Plan.

Park Improvements - City staff have been working rapidly to repair or replace broken equipment and hazards at all of our Parks. Look for updated park signage, new picnic tables, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, playground surfacing and much more next step you visit one of our many parks or tot lots. Additional improvements to our basketball and tennis courts, playground equipment, walking paths, and other park infrastructure should be taking place very soon as we look to continue this momentum with another round of funding. Look for before and after photos outlining all of these dramatic improvements in August.

Parking - Expect big changes to parking in the next 30-60 days as staff is preparing to implement the first phase of recommendations from our Parking Strategy adopted by Council earlier this year. We seek to simplify the patchwork of broken policies, improve our ancient technology, and improve multimodal options Citywide to begin taking advantage of some low hanging fruit. Policies that bring consistent approaches to pricing and duration for on and off street parking, sensible employee and resident permitting, and capital improvement planning to replace our aging surface lots are among the top priorities. Pay by Phone technology will be introduced very soon that should make payment easier and allow folks to add time remotely.

First Fridays will be on August 2, 2019 and feature SPARK for an Innovation Month.