



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Zoom Meeting

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in a Zoom Meeting, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Council Member Steven Wilcoxon (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown (Washtenaw County, City of Ypsilanti), Mayor Lois Richardson (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)

ABSENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Council Member Anthony Morgan, seconded Annie Somerville. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

2 members of the public spoke

V. PRESENTATIONS

a) June 30, 2020 Comprehensive Financial Presentation by Rehmann.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

a) Resolution No, 2021-010, approving the Consent Agenda.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

Resolution No. 2021-011, approving the minutes of January 5th, 12th, 14th, and 19th 2021.

Resolution No. 2021-012, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No 2021-010

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-011, approving the minutes of January 5th, 12th, 14th, and 19th 2021.
- c) Resolution No. 2021-012, approving appointments to boards and commissions.

VII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2021-013, requesting the Michigan Legislature pass legislation to allow local municipalities to ban long guns and open carry from legislative Council Chambers and public areas.

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

Whereas, the US Constitution and the Michigan Constitution protect the right of persons to keep and bear arms, and

Whereas, the right is not absolute, but can be subject to reasonable and needed restrictions, and

Whereas, the Michigan Legislature has passed laws controlling arms, but denying municipalities similar powers, and

Whereas, the State of Michigan Capital Commission has recently banned long guns from the State Capital, and

Whereas, the Ypsilanti City Council believes that the restriction is reasonable and needed for the safety and wellbeing of persons in the State Capital, and

Whereas, the same safety and wellbeing concerns apply to persons in the Ypsilanti City Hall and other municipal property summarily situated,

Now therefore, the Ypsilanti City Council does hereby request the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation with all convenient speed to allow local municipalities to ban long guns and open carry from legislative Council Chambers and public areas and other municipal facilities for the the safety and wellbeing of all persons, and

Further, that the Governor sign and approve the legislation as soon as presented, and

Further that a copy of this resolution be provided to the clerk of the Michigan Senate, House of Representatives, the Governor, and the city lobbyist.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No/ 2021-013

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-014, approving the YDDA Street Closure Request.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the City of Ypsilanti and our businesses extremely hard; and

WHEREAS, the public health guidance indicates that outdoor dining is safer than indoor dining and consumers preferred these outdoor spaces in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the city seeks to assist in the recovery of our small businesses when weather allows customers to return to outdoor dining; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that indoor restaurant capacity will be reduced by 50% once allowed to reopen and vaccine distribution is not yet widely available or expected until mid to late 2021

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approves a special event permit closing E Cross Street-stretching from Rice Street to River Street, North Washington Street from Pearl to Michigan Avenue, as well as the South Washington Street between Michigan Avenue and the South Huron Parking Lot. The closures would remain in effect during overnight hours and last from May 15, 2021 until October 16, 2021 at a cost not to exceed \$2,500. Live amplified music is only permitted on Fridays and Saturdays until 10pm in the areas of street closure. Additionally, live amplified music is only permitted between Memorial Day and Labor Day in the designated street closure areas.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No 2021-014

Council Member Somerville moved to amend the dates of the closure to May 15, 2021 until October 16, 2021 as a Friendly Amendment

Council Member Morgan accepted the Friendly Amendment

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

- c) Resolution No. 2021-015, approving a Memorandum of Understanding the the Huron River Watreshed Council Concerning Peninsular Dam.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti has identified the removal of Peninsular Dam as a strategic priority; and

WHEREAS, the Huron River Watershed Council has been awarded a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of design removal and has selected a qualified engineering firm to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, the MOU provided is necessary to define the working relationship between the City of Ypsilanti and the Huron River Watershed Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the MOU as provided and shall reimburse the HRWC for an amount not to exceed Thirty-Three Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$33,000.00) toward completion of the approved scope of work in the MDNR FHGP grant described herein.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to approve Resolution No 2021-015

Council Member Wilcoxen moved to amend the date included in the MOU from October of 2021 to November of 2021 as a Friendly Amendment

Council Member Symanns accepted the Friendly Amendment

Council Member Morgan accepted the Friendly Amendment

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

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

3. Urban County-
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool

IX. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - NOMINATIONS

a) Human Relations Commission (Exp. 7/1/2024)

New Appointment

Olivia Hill

34 E. Forest

Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Clete Mclaughlin (**Exp. 7/1/2024**)

New Appointment

8 N Normal

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

X. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2021-016, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 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.