



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Zoom Meeting- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81962683497>

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Zoom Meeting- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81962683497>, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Council Member Steven Wilcoxon 7:03 PM (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Mayor Lois Richardson (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Council Member Anthony Morgan (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Mr. Brian Jones-Chance (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), and Council Member Annie Somerville (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County).

ABSENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns to excuse the absence of Council Member Wilcoxen. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns to approve the agenda as submitted. On a voice vote the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Eight members from the public spoke.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation regarding the Washtenaw Regional Recycling Management Authority.

- B. Proclamation in honor of PRIDE Month - Council Members Symanns and Somerville.
- C. Proclamation regarding the epidemic of gun violence. - Mayor Richardson
- D. Proclamation in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month - Mayor Richardson.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2021-110, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-110

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

- 1. **Resolution No. 2021-111, approving the minutes of May 18, 2021.**
- 2. **Resolution No. 2021-112, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.**

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

- B. Resolution No. 2021-111, approving the minutes of May 18, 2021.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of May 18, 2021 be approved.

- C. Resolution No. 2021-112, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT, the following residents be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions as indicated below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
<u>Bryan Foley</u>	<u>YDDA</u>	<u>7/1/2023</u>
<u>New Appointment</u>		
<u>425 Ainsworth Circle</u>		
<u>Ypsilanti, MI 48197</u>		
<u>Stefan Szumko</u>	<u>HDC</u>	<u>12/31/2024</u>

New Appointment
232 N River St. Apt 1
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

VII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- A. Resolution No. 2021-113, designating June as PRIDE Month in the City of Ypsilanti.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to amend resolution 2021-113 to direct staff to hang the PRIDE flag in Council Chambers windows facing Huron Street.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
SECONDER:	Council Member Brian Jones-Chance
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 Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 201-113 As Amended

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, President Bill Clinton declared June “Gay and Lesbian Pride Month” in June of 2000 to commemorate the June 1969 Stonewall riots in Lower Manhattan; and

Whereas, President Barack Obama expanded the commemoration further by declaring June Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month; and

Whereas, Pride Month is not only a time of celebration, it is also an opportunity to peacefully protest and raise political awareness of current issues facing the LGBTQ+ community, and

WHEREAS, much ground has been gained since the 1969 Stonewall Riots, however, injustice and negative attitudes remain that threaten the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti has a proud place in the history of LGBTQ+ equality in the successful passing of our Inclusive Non-Discrimination Ordinance in 1998, a historic victory that received national attention and acclaim; and

WHEREAS, while the City of Ypsilanti has a long and proud tradition of being an inclusive community, it recognizes as long as injustice exists it threatens all that has been accomplished.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council of the City of Ypsilanti declare June as “Pride Month” and direct staff to fly the Pride Flag through the duration of the month.

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

- B. Resolution No. 2021-094, declaring gun violence as a matter of public health. (Postponed from May 4th Meeting)**

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-094

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, President Biden has declared gun violence an epidemic and a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 230 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are more than 13,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 99.85% of Americans will know a victim or survivor of gun violence and 54% of U.S. gun owners admit that they do not store their guns safely. Nearly 1,300 children in the United States die from gun-related injuries every year. Nationally, occupational homicide by shooting has increased steadily since 2011; and

WHEREAS, The Educational Fund To Stop Gun Violence estimated that more than 1,200 people in Michigan died by gun violence in 2019, an average of more than three people every day. Suicides were 61% of gun deaths and homicides were 38%; and

WHEREAS, in Washtenaw and most Michigan counties, most gun deaths are by suicide, and access to firearms in domestic abuse situations increases the risk of homicide by more than 5 times, with guns the most used weapon; recognition of early warning signs and knowledge of how to respond to potential suicide or domestic abuse situations can reduce gun violence and save lives; and

WHEREAS, since the summer of 2019, the City of Ypsilanti has seen an uptick in gun violence. Between the months of January and August of 2019, the Ypsilanti Police recorded 30 - gun related cases; and

WHEREAS, nurses, physicians and other public health professionals recognize that firearm related injuries and deaths are a public health epidemic in the United states, and must move toward developing primary prevention strategies that interrupt the transmission of violence; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House has passed several gun safety bills and forwarded to the U.S. Senate where they have been stalled as a result of the gun lobby's strong influence which runs contrary to the will of the majority of Americans, and

WHEREAS, the City Council and Ypsilanti Chief of Police discussed solutions to tackle the problem; solutions include reducing the accessibility to guns on the street and forming a dialogue between the community and law enforcement.

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti, declares gun violence as a matter of public health.

Be it Further Resolved that City Council direct the City Clerk to forward this resolution to President Biden, the city's representatives in the U.S. Congress, Governor Whitmer, Michigan Senate, Michigan House, and the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners.

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

C. Resolution No. 2021-114, approving the FY 2021-2022 Fee Schedule.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to decrease cost of downtown residential permits \$57.50 for a 4 month increment and annually for \$150.

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

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2021-114 As Amended

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the attached fee schedule is adopted pursuant to the Ypsilanti City Code, and the following fees relating to various sections of the City Code and activities of the City are hereby established, and the various City

Departments are authorized to charge and collect such fees effective immediately.

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

- D. Resolution No. 2021-115, approving the contract with Gibraltar Construction Co. to complete the road rehabilitation project on Oakwood between Sherman and Congress.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2021-115
RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti has received funding from the Washtenaw County Road Millage and Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and,

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti has received bids for a road rehabilitation project of Oakwood between Sherman and Congress, railroad track removal on Spring, and all other necessary related work; and,

Whereas, the lowest responsive qualified contractor for the project was Gibraltar Construction Co. with a bid amount of \$288,739.50; and,

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti City Council approves the contract with Gibraltar Construction Co. to complete the road rehabilitation project on Oakwood between Sherman and Congress and remove the railroad track on Spring for the bid amount of \$288,739.50; and

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign this contract, subject to approval by the City Attorney, to facilitate completion of this work and any change orders shall be approved by the City Manager.

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

- E. Resolution No. 2021-116, approving a contract with OHM for construction engineering for the Oakwood and Spring St. projects.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2021-116.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City is considering awarding a contract for a rehabilitation project on Oakwood from Sherman to Congress and to remove the railroad tracks on Spring St; and,

Whereas, if a contract is awarded construction engineering services will need to be provided to ensure quality control measures are met; and,

Whereas, the City engineer OHM has prepared a proposal to provide such services;

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the proposal from OHM for construction engineering services for an amount of \$42,850.

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign this contract, subject to approval by the City Attorney, to facilitate the completion of this work and any change orders shall be approved by the City Manager.

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

F. Discussion regarding summer events. (added)

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to allow for full range of events for starting June 1st, 2021.

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

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to allow deduction ceremonies with no more than 250 people (Morgan withdrawn)

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Mayor Lois Richardson, move that staff is allowed to book special events when the 7-day average of the state decreases to 400.

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

- G. Resolution No. 2021-117, approving location of second Black Lives Matter Mural.

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2021-117

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti recognized that racism is a public health crisis affecting our entire country in June 2020; and,

Whereas, local residents have presented a plan to paint a second mural in tribute to the Black Lives Matter Movement on the driveway leading into Riverside Park.

Now therefore be it resolved that, the Ypsilanti City Council approve proceeding with Triche' Duckworth and Trevor Stone to paint a mural in tribute to the Black Lives Matter Movement on the driveway leading into Riverside Park and have the project overseen by the Department of Public Services.

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

- H. Resolution No. 2021-118, approving an addendum to the contract with Passport to to adjust costs for permits and ticket processing to the City of Ypsilanti.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-118.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City has an existing contract with Passport Parking that provides for permit administration and online ticket payment;

WHEREAS, these amendments to the existing contract would lower the per-permit cost to the City as well as the fees associated with paying certain tickets online;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the attached amendments to the existing contract, and authorizes the City Manager to sign it.

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

- I. Resolution No. 2021-119, approving small cell wireless application 2021-002 for Verizon Wireless.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2021-119.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the State of Michigan adopted the “Small Wireless Communication Facilities Deployment Act” in late 2018 which required municipalities to allow small cell wireless facilities within public right of way; and,

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti adopted an ordinance to regulate small cell wireless facilities within the constraints of this law; and,

Whereas, Verizon Wireless has submitted an application; and,

Whereas, City staff has reviewed the plans and application and has found that the plans are consistent with the requirements of city ordinances.

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves small cell wireless application 2021-002, subject to review by the City Attorney.

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

- J. Resolution No. 2021-120, approving the purchase of a vehicle for the Department of Public Services.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2021-120.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, it is necessary to provide our General Foreman a vehicle in order for them to fulfill their responsibilities; and,

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti has allocated the funds in the FY 2020-2021 budget for this vehicle replacement; and,

WHEREAS, the regular scheduled replacement of City vehicles saves funds, promotes employee safety, and ensures reliability in providing public services.

Now therefore be it resolved that that City Council authorizes the purchase of a replacement pick-up truck from Todd Wenzel Buick GMC for a purchase

price of \$33,935.00 with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.

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

VIII. BOARD AND COMMISSIONS - NOMINATIONS

A. Downtown Development Authority - (Non-Resident) New Appointment - (Exp. 7/1/2024)

Brandon Dent
2633 Grace Dr.
Warren, MI 48091

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission.
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 **ZBA meets 7/28**

X. LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update **None**
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study **None 160,000 TAP Funds Hamilton /Huron**
3. Urban County **None**
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority **None**
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool **None Pool open for limited hours**

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Wilcoxon

- **None**

Symanns

- **Thanked Mr. Akers for the follow through on several DPS projects.**

Somerville

- **Stated she has been working with the City Attorney to for a Prospect Park group.**

Brown

- **None**

Jones-Chance

- Thanked everyone who helped with the Parkridge Park clean-up.

Morgan

- Stated that the previous YPAC chair resigned. The direction is within the scope of power that they have. The next meeting is 6/27.
- Stated that he vote with his conscious, and will not be bullied into voting another direction.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Stated she would like to see a presentation on the recently published opportunity index.
- Water street development
- She encouraged staff and Council to stop into local businesses.
- Stated she would like to hold a work session to formulate a plan for the Am4erican rescue plan funds.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Provided an update on the proposed Water Street development.
- Stated public engagement sessions will be scheduled for the 220 N Park development.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS

XV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Resolution No. 2021-121, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 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.