



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Zoom Meeting

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the 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

1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

3 AGENDA APPROVAL

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

4 PRESENTATIONS

- a) Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority update on the West Cross Construction and future projects.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Four members from the public spoke.

6 CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2021-123, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2021-123

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

1. **Resolution No. 2021-124, approving the minutes of June 1, 2021.**
2. **Resolution No. 2021-125, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.**
3. **Resolution No. 2021-126, approving special assessments to be added to the 2021 Summer Tax Roll.**
4. **Resolution No. 2021-127, requiring that all transferred employees shall be given the individual choice to either be placed in the open or closed plan if it is the same plan type provided there are active employees remaining in the closed plan for the Michigan Employees Retirement Systems of Michigan (MERS).**

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-124, approving the minutes of June 1, 2021.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of June 1, 2021 be approved.

- c) Resolution No. 2021-125, approving appointments to boards and commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:
THAT, the following Non-resident be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions as indicated below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
<u>Brandon Dent</u>	<u>YDDA</u>	<u>7/1/2024</u>
<u>New Appointment</u>		
<u>2633 Grance Dr.</u>		
<u>Warren, MI 48091</u>		

- d) Resolution No. 2021-126, approving special assessments to be added to the 2021 Summer Tax Roll.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That, the City Treasurer be authorized to levy and assess on the July 2021 tax roll the attached listing of unpaid bills totaling \$125,602.92.

- e) Resolution No. 2021-127, requiring that all transferred employees shall be given the individual choice to either be placed in the open or closed plan if it is the same plan type provided there are active employees remaining in the closed plan for the Michigan Employees Retirement Systems of Michigan (MERS).

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti is a participating municipality or court in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS); and

WHEREAS, the Standard MERS Transfer policy became effective in August 2007; and

WHEREAS, under the Standard Transfer policy, all transferred employees (and hired employees) are covered under the open employee plan associated with the defined employee group. Where the new plan is MERS Defined Contribution or Hybrid, the accrued defined benefit of transferring employee is frozen as of transfer date. Where the new plan is the MERS Defined Benefit, the transferring employee's service and wages will transfer to the new plan for purposes of calculating their retirement benefit.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Retirement Board action on November 10, 2010, the employing municipality or court may adopt for all its MERS divisions (present and future) an alternate policy which allows all transferred employees an individual choice at the time of transfer to either be placed in: (1) the division's open plan, or (2) the closed plan if it is the same plan type, provided there are active employees remaining in the closed division.

WHEREAS, this alternate transfer provision applies to transferred employees only; rehired employees will continue to be enrolled into the open plan; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that effective July 1, 2021, the governing body adopts this resolution for all present and future employee divisions requiring that all transferred employees shall be given the individual choice to either be placed in the open or closed plan if it is the same plan type provided there are active employees remaining in the closed plan.

7 RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2021-128, approving the Request for Proposals for the Water Street remediation.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2021-128

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, The City of Ypsilanti owns the water street property and is in the process of securing a developer to redevelop the site; and

Whereas, the levels of PCB Contamination are an issue having many requirements that the rest of the property does not fall under; and

Whereas, the city TIF collection and Washtenaw County LBRF will be used for funding this project.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the estimate from AKT Peerless to and approve bidding out the water street.

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

- b) Resolution No. 2021-129, approving the request for a full waiver of fees associated with a Juneteenth Celebration \$4,418.90.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, to exclude application fee from the waiver

RESULT:	WITHDRAWN.
MOVER:	Council Member Anthony Morgan
SECONDER:	

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Anthony Morgan, to call the question.

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

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2021-129

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti adopted a Special Events Policy, and pursuant to the policy, the City Council may waive fees for an event if it is of general interest to the public and advances the City's public image; and

Whereas, this year a Juneteenth Celebration will take place on June 19th on Ferris St and the South Huron parking lot; and

Whereas, the Juneteenth organizer is requesting a full fee waiver for the 2021 celebration; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approves the request of a full fee waiver for the 2021 Juneteenth Celebration in the amount of \$4,418.90.

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

8 BOARD AND COMMISSION - REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. **Next meeting June 24. Met with the Chair regarding functions and intentions of YPAC**
2. Human Relations Commission. **Last meeting June 9th. Strategies on how to engage young people, increase communication with public, and how to support decrease in homelessness.**
3. Arts Commission.
4. Parks and Recreation Commission. **Last meeting June 9th. Fall River Day discussed. MParks virtual 5K (September). Pool is open regular hours.**
5. Sustainability Commission. **Meeting last night, round table discussion on recycling. There will be a resolution on supporting recycling. Looked at Goals**
6. Historic District Commission. **None**
7. Planning Commission. **Meets tomorrow**
8. Zoning Board of Appeals **None**

9 LIAISON REPORTS

Moved by Steve Wilcoxon, seconded by Brian Jones-Chance to acknowledge the Boards and Commissions reports and Liaison reports are a duplicate and move forward to Council Proposed business. (Motion and second was withdrawn)

- ~~1. Police Advisory Commission.~~
 - ~~2. Human Relations Commission.~~
 - ~~3. Arts Commission.~~
 - ~~4. Parks and Recreation Commission.~~
 - ~~5. Sustainability Commission.~~
 - ~~6. Historic District Commission.~~
 - ~~7. Planning Commission.~~
 - ~~8. Zoning Board of Appeals~~
1. SEMCOG update - **None**
 2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - **Meet tomorrow**
 3. Urban County - **Presentation from public health director regarding COVID within the County and by race**
 4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - **Meeting Thursday. Grants to approve**
 5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - **Solar Panels up. Keeping pool at low capacity. Issue with parking, speeding. Talked to Jessica and Bonnie to put up signage and paint parking handicaps space.**

10 COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Jones Chance

- Attended the Neighborhood Association Meeting
- Meeting with educate youth to talk about violence in the city

Morgan

- Had a virtual meeting with two scientists from Wayne County. Would like to present to Council regarding a program to bring to the City of Ypsilanti
- Echoed Mr. Jones-Chance about tomorrow's meeting with educate youth
- North Park Development- hope people come out

Brown

- None

Symanns

- Thanked Mr. Akers and his staff
- For the month of June there's a COVID testing challenge. Free testing kits sent to residents home. covidtestaaypsi.org

Wilcoxon

- Penn Dam Public Engagement meeting was on the 10th
 - Discussed exclusive engagements, and importance of the project
 - First public meeting will be towards the end of July until September
- Received reports on people speeding through neighborhoods. People are reluctant to involve the police or just do not want to bother them.
 - Would like to know how to handle this as a body

11 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Received complaints from residents regarding 411 second AVE. Something needs to be done. Spoke to Mr. Jackson
- Lot at the corner of 1st and Harriet street, fence is down and is considered dangerous.
- Parking lot at Parkridge- Cars are allotting the police. Need no-parking signs there.
- Attended the Housing Commission meeting- they also requested for no-parking signs.
- Council and Mr. Barr were sent an email invitation for the 21st to discuss issues of race, equity, and inclusion.
- Still need youth on the commissions. Diverse across the board
- Apologized for mishandling of the "call the question"
 - Would like to try and make sure everyone voices are heard before a call the question is made.

12 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Answered Mr. Williamson question regarding signs
- Signs were ordered and should be installed by the end of the week on Friday.
- Public Participation Meeting for the North Park Development
 - There will be virtual meetings on June 28th at 1pm and June 29th at 7pm for public engagement
- Asked Community and Economic Development Director Meyers to address the two locations mentioned by the Mayor.
 - 2nd Ave and on Harriet
- Job posting will be posted tomorrow for a Social Worker and a Communications Director.

13 COMMUNICATIONS

14 CLOSED SESSION

- a) Closed Session for pending litigation, City of Ypsilanti v Deja Vu, MCL 15.268, Section 8(e). (added)

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, to adjourn into a closed session.

The meeting was adjourned into a closed session at 9:27 PM.

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

The meeting reconvened at 9:43 PM

15 ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2021-130, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Brian Jones-Chance to adjourn the meeting. On a voice vote the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 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