



Approved

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

Council Member Bashert	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Present		

Council Member Richardson moved, seconded by Council Member Vogt to excuse the absence of Mayor Edmonds.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the absence was excused.

III. INVOCATION –

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown asked all to stand for a moment of silence.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –

"I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

V. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Council Member Bashert moved, seconded by Council Member Vogt to approve the agenda.

City Manager Darwin McClary stated DPS Director Stan Kirton would not be present for the meeting, and asked for the 2017-18 Snow Removal Presentation to be removed from the agenda.

Council Member Murdock moved, seconded by Council Member Richardson to remove Resolution No. 2017-282, approving Scope of Work and Fee Estimate for the Huron River Watershed Restorative Services from the agenda.

Council Member Murdock explained this request is to allow Council to analyze the most current data. Council Member Bashert disagreed with removing the item. Mr. Murdock responded regardless of if this project is approved tonight it will not begin by the next Council meeting in two weeks.

On a roll call, the vote to remove Resolution No. 2017-282 from the agenda was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	No		

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 1 (Bashert) ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the agenda was approved as amended. Council Member Bashert dissented.

VI. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown introduced the following individuals; City Manager Darwin McClary, City Clerk Frances McMullan, Fiscal Services Director Marilou Uy, Police Chief Tony DeGiusti, DDA Director/Community Development Director Joy Meyers, and members of the Fire Department.

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

- 800 Lowell Update – Louie Gramer, UCC Developer and Anne Jamieson, UCC Developer

DDA Director/Community Development Director Joy Meyers introduced Anne Jamieson and Louie Gramer who provided an update on the development process of 800 Lowell.

Council Member Murdock stated when this project was last brought to Council a brownfield and a PA 210, Commercial Rehab. Ms. Jamieson responded that is still a possibility for this project, Council will be provided a feasibility study regarding need for gap financing. Mr. Murdock asked if the developer is aware of Council has been discussing creating a community benefits ordinance. Mr. Jamieson responded in the affirmative. Mr. Murdock asked if the development is expecting to apply for a brownfield. Ms. Jamieson responded in the affirmative. Mr. Murdock stated the brownfield and the commercial rehab amounted to around \$7 million. Ms. Jamieson replied that was the first estimate but she foresees a decrease. Mr. Murdock asked what the timeline will be for what is being proposed. Ms. Jamieson responded the developers will be back mid to late January to ask for approval of both the brownfield and the community rehab. Mr. Murdock stated Council would require a meeting to discuss possible incentives. Ms. Jamieson agreed. Mr. Murdock stated in order for a commercial rehab to be approved Council would first need to create a commercial district. Ms. Jamieson responded in the affirmative.

- Audit Presentation - Alan Panter, CPA Principal, Yeo & Yeo, CPA and Business Consultant

Fiscal Services Director Marilou Uy introduced Alan Panter who provided a presentation on the city's audit.

Council Member Murdock asked if the revenues included transfers into the fund balance. Mr. Panter responded in the affirmative.

Council Member Murdock stated GASB Statement 77, on tax abatements is claimed to be insignificant, and asked what is insignificant about it. Mr. Panter responded the tax abatements were reviewed and they were not material. Mr. Murdock asked the funding percentage for OPEB has decreased to 57.9%, and the state is supposed to take over if it drops below 60%. Mr. Panter responded he isn't sure the state will take over, especially since it is only slightly under 60%.

Council Member Robb asked if the pension fund is decreasing because more retirees are drawing out, poor investments, or a combination of both. Mr. Panter responded the retiree pool is growing, but investment performance has been good especially over the past year or two.

Council Member Murdock asked if there were any issues communicated to staff this year. Mr. Panter responded no, it was a very clean audit.

~~— 2017-18 Snow Removal Program — Stan Kirton, DPS Director (Removed)~~

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Ken Hobbs, President of the Local 41 Ypsilanti Fire Department Union, asked Council to readdress the city's contribution to healthcare. The 80/20 plan has always been the most fair to the employees who have taken pay cuts during the city's financial troubles. However, and the city's economic condition improves it is unfair to employees to be asked to take a decrease in the quality of healthcare.
2. Nate Darling, YFD Local 401, stated he has been in fire service for eighteen years, four years with Ypsilanti. When he started his career he was told he would be making \$60,000 a year in five years. His copays were \$2 for prescriptions and \$5 for a doctor's visit. In that eighteen years there have not been much cuts, but the salaries have been stagnate opposed to increase in costs. To take another dime out of the firefighters pockets. He said he makes \$15 an hour and goes into burning buildings for a living.
3. Jameson Shultz, Treasurer YFD Local 401, stated he has been with the city for slightly less than twelve years. He said if the hard cap is selected it would be a 14% pay cut to him. The cost it will put on the employee would not be sustainable. There are a lot of firefighters who are eligible for retirement, and he would not be surprised to see those firefighters leave. That would be a disservice to the city to force firefighters out, but essentially that would happen losing the institutional knowledge.
4. Amber Fellows, Ypsilanti Resident, thanked Council Member Murdock for asking the developers of 800 Lowell about possible tax incentives, and announcing a standalone meeting for that project. She asked having presentations prior to audience participation not be made a precedent. She sees it as a way to discourage citizen engagement. She is disappointed the Mayor is not present for the meeting because the public has a message regarding the community benefits ordinance memo. The memo does not acknowledge in anyway the efforts of many residents, community organizations, or faith based institutions that have worked on its development. The way the CBO is currently presented it does not include the three components all CBOs should.
5. Andrea Pierce, 1188 Juneau, asked Council to approve the resolution regarding the Nexus Pipeline. The construction is currently tearing up the community and Nexus is trying to remove the egg smell when there is a leak to reduce cost. DTE and Enbridge is trying to put the cost on the customers. Something needs to be done to stop this.
6. Nathanael Romero, Ypsilanti Resident, agreed audience participation prior to presentation. The Council Member Richardson hosted a Town Hall meeting on September 25th regarding a community benefits ordinance. The only other community benefits ordinance that has been passed is in Detroit, which included a long community process. Two proposals were developed and the one that passed was not preferred by the public which is now trying to get the community driven CBO in place. He suggested having a community benefits agreement for current possible developments but would not rush to approve a CBO.
7. Annette Coppick, Ypsilanti Police Department, stated she is concerned with their healthcare benefits. When she began with the Department there were sixty employees, which has decreased considerably. There are a lot of dedicated officers that do a lot of work, and the Chief does a good

- job shifting responsibilities to make sure things are done properly. The officers are a value to public safety and deserve good healthcare.
8. Robert Pito, Retired Ypsilanti Police Officer, stated the Fire Department, Department of Public Service, and the Police Department provide excellent service from a limited amount of people. Concessions have been given in multiple past negotiations and now another is being asked considering healthcare. These departments do not deserve to have anything to be taken away from them. If there is it is possible that seasoned officers and firefighters will leave the city.
 9. Mike Auerbach, Ypsilanti Residents, excited to see Council is pursuing a community benefits ordinance but for it to be meaningful it needs to be more robust.
 10. Nathan Phillips, 509 N. Washington, stated he sometimes is harassed by the police in Ypsilanti. The police claimed he stole a lawnmower, which was not true. The Fire Chief once told him he could not burn a sacred fire. No matter his personal issues, he lives here, and he depends on these departments to keep him safe. It's not right to take away their benefits.
 11. Kyle Hunter, 430 S. Adams St., asked where the Mayor is.

IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

Council Member Bashert stated from her perspective it was very difficult to discuss what to do about healthcare. Before she served on Council she was involved in four tax revenue campaigns to raise funds. Three of them were specific to saving jobs of Police and Fire. All of Council has a deep respect for the work of both the Fire and Police Departments and every decision is incredibly difficult. She believes the City is at the beginning stage of an economic turnaround.

Council Member Richardson thanked the police officers and firefighters in the audience. When the resolution was brought forward concerning healthcare last meeting she found it to be a confusing resolution. Council was also asked to vote on that resolution at 12:30 a.m. was not appealing. She would have preferred to postpone the vote another day to have more time. There are faithful employees that work for this city that have stuck with the city in the good times and the bad times. Council needs to do right by its employees. She asked one of the Council Members that voted to approve the healthcare recently approved to motion to reconsider.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown asked since she vote to approve the hard cap, could she motion to reconsider since she is chairing the meeting. If the will of Council is to reconsider he would put together legislation as such. Council Member Murdock interjected the motion should be made during this meeting. Council Member Robb asked that a motion wait until Section XVII where insurance is listed as a communication.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown thanked the Police, Fire, and Public Services Departments for their comments. Some things have been brought to her attention and agreed the discussion occurred very late at night during the last meeting.

Council Member Bashert stated healthcare is changing for everyone in the country. Everyone's rates and copays are increasing and coverage is decreasing. She apologizes but that is a fact, but understands people feel badly about this situation.

X. PUBLIC HEARINGS -

XI. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. ~~Resolution No. 2017-282, approving Scope of Work and Fee Estimate for the Huron River Watershed Restorative Services (Peninsular Dam).~~ **(Removed)**
2. Resolution No. 2017-283, approving extension of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Washtenaw Community College for Educational and Community Training Programs at Parkridge Center.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that:

The First Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between Washtenaw Community College and the City of Ypsilanti Regarding Parkridge Center be approved and the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign for and on behalf of the city, subject to the approval of the city attorney.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bashert

Council Member Richardson stated as a member of the Parkridge Community Center Advisory Board she would like to mention the members of the Washtenaw Community Center of Parkridge were not notified this item was on the agenda. Over the last year several improvements were made due to the participation of WCC, both academic and recreation. The programming includes activities for children and adults. The city needs to continue the memorandum and maintain the building for this community.

Council Member Bashert supports the resolution, and asked if funds have been received by Mr. Barfield. Mr. McClary responded in the affirmative.

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-283 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

3. Resolution No. 2017-284, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Sam Stroud (Youth) 210 Oak St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198	Sustainability Commission	12/5/2018

Devika Chourhuri 2116 Roosevelt Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Human Relations Commission	12/5/2020
Anne Brown 2125 Collegewood Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Huron Watershed Council	12/5/2019
Patricia Berry 616 Collegewood Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Ethics Commission	12/5/2022
Andy Fanta 1221 Westmoorland Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Tax Review Board	12/31/2019
Roberta Andrews 7 N. Normal Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Tax Review Board	12/31/2019
Ron Rupert 421 N Huron Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Historic District Commission	1/31/2021
Erika Lindsay 317 Prospect Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Historic District Commission	1/31/2021
Ariel Moore 1 Oakwood Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Housing Commission	12/31/2022

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
SECONDED BY: Council Member Bashert

Council Member Murdock asked when appointments are made can the Mayor provide information on who they are replacing and what the vacancy is.

Council Member Murdock moved, seconded by Council Member Robb to split the question to vote separately on the appointment of Patricia Berry to the Ethics Commission.

On a roll call, the vote to split the question Resolution No. 2017-284 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2017-284 as amended was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

Council Member Murdock stated the Ethics Board has been a concern of controversy and he would like a better idea of who he is appointing to that board. Especially since there might be possible ethics charges filed by that committee.

Council Member Bashert asked if ethics violations are charge to a Council Member would that go through the Ethics Board. City Attorney Barr responded it could but would depend on the circumstance. Council Member Murdock stated a person could file a complaint through the Ethics Board. Ms. Bashert stated the Mayor nominates and Council approves, this is a question of if Council wants an Ethics Board or not. She knows Patricia Berry and she is fair, pragmatic, direct, and intelligent individual. She would trust were to serve the position well. Council Member Robb asked if this could be postponed until the next meeting so the application could be provided.

Council Member Vogt moved, seconded by Council Member Richardson to table the appointment of Patricia Berry until the December 19, 2017 meeting.

On a roll call, the vote to table the appointment of Patricia Berry until December 19th was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

4. Resolution No. 2017-285, approving non-resident appointment to LDFA.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Phil Tepley (non-resident) 752 E. Grand Blvd Ypsilanti, MI 48198	LDFA	6/30/2021

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
SECONDED BY: Council Member Bashert

Council Member Richardson stated some time ago Council approved a resolution to only have city residents serve on boards and commissions. She asked if that resolution was rescinded. Council Member Murdock replied it takes a supermajority to approve a non-resident, which is why this approval was separated. Ms. Richardson asked why a non-

resident is being appointed when the city has qualified residents. Council Member Robb responded Mr. Tepley works for the Michigan Small Business and has been on the board for some time. He has a wealth of knowledge and that is the reason he has been nominated for appointment. He is sure a resident could do the job, but Mr. Tepley is an asset to the city and LDFA.

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-285 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

5. Resolution No. 2017-286, opposing repeal of Michigan's Prevailing Wage Law.

WHEREAS, Michigan's Prevailing Wage Law has been in existence since 1965, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti has enacted a prevailing wage ordinance, and

WHEREAS, an initiative petition has been filed to repeal the prevailing wage law, and

WHEREAS, Paying a prevailing wage attracts skilled, safe and productive workers who ensure projects are done on time and on budget, saving costs for taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Prevailing wage laws ensure our tax dollars are used to create jobs for local workers; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's Prevailing wage provides a critical foundation for construction trades apprenticeship programs; and

WHEREAS, there is little evidence that prevailing wage increases costs; and

WHEREAS, prevailing wage policies mean that the state will have a more skilled and educated workforce skilled and educated workforce, as well as safer local construction jobs for Michigan men and women.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Ypsilanti opposes the repeal of Michigan's prevailing wage law.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event that the initiative petition is certified that the legislature place the issue on the 2018 November ballot to let the people decide,

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the entire membership of the Michigan House of Representatives and Senate as well Kirk Profit, the City's lobbyist.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SECONDED BY: Council Member Richardson

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-286 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

6. Resolution No. 2017-287, opposing the Nexus Natural Gas Pipeline.

Resolution Opposing the Nexus Natural Gas Pipeline

Whereas the health and safety of the residents of our neighboring townships are vital to area schools, economy, property values and other shared resources, and

Whereas Enbridge Energy Corporation, Nexus and DTE Energy Co. are building a 250 mile long 36 inch diameter pipeline to carry natural gas to a Canadian refinery primarily for export, which will not benefit local residents, and

Whereas DTE has petitioned the Michigan Public Service Commission to pass on the costs of this pipeline to customers through rate increases, causing Ypsilanti residents to pay for a Canadian corporation's natural gas exports, and

Whereas Enbridge Energy Corporation has a long history of environmental violations as documented by the nonprofit Corporate Research Project, and

Whereas pipelines have a history of safety issues, which include but are not limited to leaks of natural gas and explosions caused by leaks from seam failures, faulty welding, or materials failure, and

Whereas the Nexus pipeline is being constructed in areas that include residences, schools and businesses that are within the blast radius, putting residents and their property at risk, and

WHEREAS, odorization of natural gas is required by the Pipeline Safety Regulations of the Department of Transportation in 49 CFR 192.625 to provide safety and warning to the public; and WHEREAS, odorization is a standard measure to protect public safety, health and welfare by allowing detection of potential leaks by passers-by; and

WHEREAS, in January 2016, Nexus applied with PHMSA for a waiver of the federal odorization requirements presented in 49 CFR 192.625; and

WHEREAS, the requirement for odorization is a critical federal requirement for mitigating the known danger to public safety, health and welfare of such a facility not only to the citizens of the State of Michigan and Washtenaw County, but also to people working in the vicinity of the pipeline; and

Whereas the residents of Michigan and Washtenaw County will bear the risks and possible costs of a pipeline with little to no gains and which will benefit a Canadian corporation and its shareholders,

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Ypsilanti deems the Nexus Pipeline to be a danger to the health, safety, and economy of city residents and those of our neighbors in Washtenaw County

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Ypsilanti requests that all work be halted on the Nexus Pipeline and that DTE and Nexus be required to use other means to transport natural gas to Canadian residents

Copies of this Resolution will be sent to:

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Michigan Public Service Commission
Senator Debbie Stabenow
Senator Gary Peters
Representative Debbie Dingell
State Legislator Ronnie Peterson
State Senator Rebekah Warren
Governor Rick Snyder**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Bashert
SECONDED BY: Council Member Murdock

Council Member Bashert stated when she drafted the resolution she was approached by individuals affected by the pipeline. One of the individuals was a farmer that had to give up a significant portion of her farm that was in her family for 138 years for construction for easement. She drove the length of the pipeline through the county and it is devastating. If there is a leak in the pipe and the natural gas is not given an odor there would be no way to tell if there is a problem until it becomes serious. There is no benefit for residents only risk.

Council Member Robb stated he will support this but he grew up in coal country in Pennsylvania and the great thing about cheap natural gas is it is destroying the coal industry. He agrees with the resolution for a lot of reasons, but it is the unintended consequences and having coal fire power plants is not something that is good for this country.

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-287 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

7. Resolution No. 2017-288, supporting the people of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

WHEREAS, the fifth strongest storm ever to strike the U.S. hit Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on September 20, 2017; and

WHEREAS, many Americans are desperate for help in order to recover from this disaster; and

WHEREAS, the people of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are American citizens and deserve the same assistance and respect that our government would provide to any U.S. State; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti urges the White House to do whatever is necessary to save lives and rebuild Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Ypsilanti stands in solidarity with San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulen Cruz, Puerto Rican Governor Rossello, U.S. Virgin Islands Governor Kenneth Mapp, and the other municipal officials who were elected to be the voice of the people in requesting that the U.S. rise and meet the needs of the people of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of Puerto Rico, the Mayor of San Juan, and the Governor of U.S. Virgin Islands.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Richardson

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bashert

Council Member Richardson stated she would like to asked the resolution read "...the fifth strongest storm ever to strike the U.S. hit Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands..." She asked also the resolution to read "...San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulen Cruz, Puerto Rican Governor Rossello, U.S. Virgin Islands Governor John de Jongh...". She also asked for the resolution to read "...this resolution be sent to the Governor of Puerto Rico, the Mayor of San Juan, and the Governor of U.S. Virgin Islands..."

Council Member Richardson offered these as friendly amendments. Council member Bashert agreed to the friendly.

Council Member Richardson stated both Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are territories of the United States and deserve the same care as the residents of Texas and Florida when hurt of hurricanes. Now after three months these areas are still suffering from lack of electricity, efficient water, and people are dying. It is abominable this nation has not been able to help these people. Mayor Pro-Tem Brown agreed, and added her mother is an immigrant and gained her citizenship from the US Virgin Islands. She has family that still resides on the islands of St. Croix, St. Johns, and St. Thomas and it is still difficult to communicate with them. Those family members are still without many things already listed by Council Member Richardson.

On a roll call, the vote to amend Resolution No. 2017-251 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Absent
Council Member Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Bashert	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Edmonds) VOTE: Carried

8. Discussion regarding the allocation of funds that will be created by the Washtenaw County Community Mental Health and Public Safety Preservation millage approved during the November 7th Special Election.

Council Member Richardson asked for this item to be on the agenda because she has been asked what the city will do with the money. She would like to be able to provide answers on where those funds will be expended. There is a large number of people with mental health issues living on the streets in Ypsilanti.

Council Member Bashert asked what the parameters are for what the city is allowed to do with these funds. Council Member Murdock responded anything the city sees fit. Mr. McClary replied his understanding from the ballot language is this millage is for mental health and public safety. 38% of the funds collected by the millage are to be allocated to the county for mental health services, 38% are to be allocated to the County Sheriffs, and 24% is to be allocated to jurisdictions with their own local police forces. The decision is Council's on how it would like to allocate the funds provided to the city, he suggested the funds be used for law enforcement services. He expressed concerns over using those funds to take on routine expenses because if this millage is not renewed in eight years the city has created a problem for itself. He believes these funds should be used for building improvements, technology improvements, equipment, and anything that could be a one time expense for the police department. However, if Council would like to use these funds to increase staffing levels in the Police Department with the understanding those positions are tied to the millage he would not object. The fund should be in its own account so those revenues and expenditures can be easily tracked. Mr. Murdock responded funds the city is given from the county are not designated for anything, which is how Ann Arbor is installing bike paths. He spoke with a County Commissioner who informed him those funds would be unrestricted, but he agrees the funds should be allocated to one time expenses. Chief DeGiusti stated he and the City Manager agree these funds could be used for staff, and have calculated retirements and would not have to lose hires from this millage. He has a list of many onetime expenses these funds could be used plus possible training opportunities for officers considering mental health. It is true these funds can be allocated how Council sees fit, but jurisdictions such as Ann Arbor which has a fully funded department are not having the staffing issues Ypsilanti is.

Council Member Bashert understands the needs of the Police Department facility, but if files were converted to digital would streamline a lot of work freeing up staff time.

Council Member Richardson stated she would like to see the funds used to finance training for police officers in terms of mental health.

Council Member Vogt stated he would like to see two additional officers hired and additional training, technology, maintenance and repair. That is what people voted for and should be priority.

Council Member Bashert agreed with Council Member Richardson and mentioned the Fire Department interact with people who need mental health services and could benefit from training.

Council Member Murdock stated there are two millages the city has not yet decided how they should be allocated. The Water Street millage will be used to pay that debt and free up funds to do other things. His thought is to allocate funds to get the city's operating budget to levels it should be and try to things the city has not been able to do. Possible using those funds for capital improvements. Also, the city should examine creating a housing fund to augment some problems in the city. Such as homelessness issues; warming centers or more permanent solutions. Or possible use some of that millage to finance the Police and Fire Pension Fund.

Council Member Richardson asked what happened to the Blue Print to end homelessness. Council Member Bashert responded the keystone to the blue print was a housing first model. The idea was to provide a home rather than help to solve the problem that caused homelessness. Once housing was addressed then the reason for homelessness would be addressed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown stated she would like to see some police services restored, mental health training, and issues of homelessness. She liked the idea of having a public safety fund in order to track those funds. The next step is to decide exactly how these funds shall be spent.

XII. LIAISON REPORTS –

- A. SEMCOG Update - None
- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - None
- C. Urban County - None
- D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - None
- E. Eastern Washtenaw Safety Alliance – None
- F. Friends of Rutherford Pool - None
- G. Housing Equity Leadership Team - None
- H. Economic Development Coordinating Committee – None

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

Richardson

- She was able to take advantage of the train ride offered by Amtrak, which was a great experience. She would have like it if more Council Members and staff were able to take advantage of the opportunity. The trip was around thirty minutes and ended in Dearborn.

Murdock

- People entered the train the same way they did years ago by using a foot stool. If the city can devise a way for ADA compliance it could save \$2 million.
- Asked when the city will repeal the Cross Street Village PILOT.
- Asked when the working session for the development of the Boys and Girls Club will be held.

Mr. McClary responded he believes Ms. Ernat was still waiting on availability of several Council Members. He said the date proposed was December 14th.

- He asked what the plans are to market the Water Street site.

Mr. McClary responded he will provide an update.

Bashert

- Was very excited about the visibility from all levels of government considering the train stop in Depot Town.
- Congratulated the city on the work done on Summit and Congress.
- EMU is considering a dockless bike share program.
- Asked if there a repairs needed on the Heritage Bridge.

Mr. McClary replied he would look into that matter.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XVI COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

- The labor Attorney can meet at 7:00 a.m. on either Thursday, December 7th or Friday, December 8th.
- He provided Council a report on the health insurance issue.

Council Member Richardson asked what will be the change in the coverage. Mr. McClary responded the main difference is an HMO will require a referral to see a specialist and employees will have a deductible cost as well as a copay for prescription. Other than that the insurance will not be the different.

Council Member Bashert asked if the HMO can be used outside of the state. Mr. McClary responded it is true it is not offered outside of Michigan but retirees do not participate in the HMO. Ms. Bashert asked if an employee has an emergency on vacation what would happen. Mr. McClary responded HMOs will cover an emergency. Ms. Bashert asked if the city stays with the 80/20 will employees have a deductible. Mr. McClary responded in the affirmative.

Council Member Richardson asked if the city stays with the existing plan would there be deductibles. Mr. McClary responded no, everything would stay the same, however, the cost to the city would be \$108,000 more than the proposed program.

Council Member Murdock asked if the plan is changed to the HMO and an employee retirees and moves out of state how they would get coverage. Mr. McClary responded they would need to be moved into a plan they could take out of state.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown asked how it would work if an employee were to choose the Simply Blue PPO. Mr. McClary responded the proposal to the unions is they could buy up to the plan if the paid 100% of the premium cost. Ms. Brown asked if non-union employees have been offered the same possibility. Mr. McClary responded in the affirmative.

Council Member Richardson asked if the HMO would provide the same benefits and services employees have now, such as doctor selection or retention. Mr. McClary responded the physician would need to accept the HMO insurance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Brown asked why the hard cap HMO is the recommendation. Mr. McClary responded his hope was to keep insurance as affordable as possible for employees but still contain costs to the city. Council Member Richardson stated under the hard cap employees would need to pay an additional \$304 out of pocket. Mr. McClary responded if they chose the PPO opposed to the HMO. Ms. Richardson stated the numbers provided do not consider the additional money employees would need to cover their deductible. Council Member Vogt responded there is a much lower monthly amount, which offsets the additional cost for the deductible. He said the city can no longer afford to provide a PPO and will need to start to offer a HMO. His experience is doctors in a major urban area will accept an HMO and more doctors are participating.

Council Member Robb disagreed with Council Member Vogt, and said what he cares about is cost. Insurance buy for the city was \$1.69 million for 2017 and Council is being told that amount will increase. Included in the proposed tabulation is the amount the city would contribute to employee health savings accounts (HAS). He thinks the data is a "double dip" into the city's calculations, and the data is skewed. He said based on the numbers it appears healthcare is decreasing.

Council Member Richardson moved, seconded by Council Member Vogt to extend the meeting until 11:00 p.m.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was extended until 11:00 p.m.

Council Member Vogt asked if the 2018 HMO HSA include the city's contribution under the 80/20. Mr. McClary responded no because the current plan has the EHIM wrap. Mr. Vogt asked if there would be any costs to the city that have not been included. Mr. McClary responded no, it is a different structure of plan which could have caused the confusion.

Council Member Bashert asked if the savings account will be put in place by the city. The employee would need to create an account through their personal bank. Council Member Robb stated the HSA is a great idea, but the numbers do not compare correctly. Mr. McClary responded the Wrap costs go away and are replaced with the HSA contribution.

Council Member Robb stated providing \$224,000 for HSA under the HMO is not an accurate comparison to the PPO. That should be removed from the 2017 comparison. He said there is \$198,000 that should not be included in the \$1.22 million estimate. Mr. McClary stated there are no HSA cost included in the estimate in the Simply Blue PPO. Mr. Robb stated a discrepancy in the numbers given for 2017. Council Member Bashert asked if Mr. McClary is confident in the numbers that have been presented. Mr. McClary responded in the affirmative. Mr. Robb stated if there were no contracts up this year the city would be deciding to change healthcare, or continue the same healthcare currently provided.

Council Member Murdock stated if the current plan is continued the cost would go down.

Council Member Vogt stated he doesn't see it making a difference, the current PPO is going to cost more than the simply PPO and more than an HMO. Based on what is happening in the market place these numbers make sense.

Council Member Robb stated he does not understand why different spreadsheets are being used to do comparisons, they should follow the same formula. Mr. McClary responded the spreadsheet is for the Simply Blue plan which only included five to seven employees. He said you would need to ask the Fiscal Services Director why there are these discrepancies.

Council Member Bashert asked if the 80/20 has the same deductible as the hard cap. Mr. McClary responded in the affirmative. Ms. Bashert asked if prescription copays were also the same. Mr. McClary responded in the affirmative. Ms. Bashert responded she is comfortable with the decision. Council Member Robb stated the spreadsheets are not comparable, and that a decision should not be made in this manner. He asked to be forwarded the specification sheets provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield.

- Work sessions for the recycling center will be held sometime soon as requested by Council Member Murdock.

Council Member Murdock asked if the policies have been compiled regarding rubbish collection. Mr. McClary responded neither he nor the Clerk's Office have been able to locate said policies. He does not believe past practice was to adopt formal administrative policies. Mr. Murdock stated those issues must have been established at some time. He can only assume practices are established by ordinance language and contract. He wants to know what to tell people when the contractor is not picking up their rubbish. Mr. McClary responded these are discussion that need to be had to determine an equitable policy.

XVII. COMMUNICATIONS –

- Snow Removal Program Status Report
- Report on Cross St. speed limits and flashing signs
- Report on status of street light out at corner of 400 River St.
- Status report on lights out on N. Washington St.
- Status Report on bushes at Hamilton and Ferris
- Report on Employee Health Insurance contribution comparisons

XVIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Ken Hobbs, President of the Local 41 Ypsilanti Fire Department Union, stated the HSA is not a benefit to him because he will retire in three years. The union is not opposed to negotiate health insurance, and asked to investigate other options. The HMO does not provide the service employees need for themselves and their families.
2. Robert Pito, Retired Ypsilanti Police Officer, stated there is a lot to be negotiated and he does understand retirees are not included in this contract, but essentially it would dissolve the group their insurance operates. He asked Council make informed decisions and be sure they have all the same information. The unions have always been willing to negotiate what the city wants to address. If the PPO increase the increase in cost needs to be shared by the employee and the city.
3. Annette Coppick, Ypsilanti Police Department, stated insurance is confusing and what is frustrating is if the unions do not make a decision on contract insurance rates will increase to \$1,200 a month.
4. Adam Gainsley, 409 N. Adams, stated at the end of 2015 the city and the DDA signed a contract included a stipulation the city would provide a DDA district specific officer. Now the city is improving its financial situation he would like to see that officer restored. He added the Cross Street Village are not being friendly to their neighbor in terms of campaign signs, and are violating the sign ordinance and HDC requirements. Thanked Council for what they are doing for the contract negotiation, and good luck to all involved.
5. Heather Charles, 116 N. Washington, provided an update on the CBO process, and her paper. It is good to roll the HSA into the PPO.
6. David Blakely, AFSCME, stated the union current plan could have saved over \$156,000 by simply switching from the EIHM to BCBS.

XIX. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XXII. ADJOURNMENT –

Resolution No. 2017-289, adjourning the City Council meeting.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned, on call, by the Mayor or two (2) members of Council.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Bashert

SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.