



MINUTES

WORK SESSION Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Council Chambers

The WORK SESSION of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns, Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, Council Member Nicole Brown, Mayor Beth Bashert, Council Member Anthony Morgan, and Council Member Annie Somerville

ABSENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Lois Richardson (telephonic)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. 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

The agenda was approved as submitted.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

One person spoke.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

VIII. WORK SESSION

A. Discussion/update on the Water Street Development Site.

Economic Director Meyers provided a background about Water Street. Council Member Wilcoxon asked if the property was ever zoned for residential. Mr. Meyers stated that some if it is residential, but it was mostly been industrial. Mr. Morgan asked how diverse the uses can be on the site. Mr. Meyers responded that any project would be a planned unit development which is flexible, although the recent proposals have been similar. Mr. Wilcoxon asked if the site could support a higher building. Mr. Meyers stated that there were not structural issues.

Mr. Meyers spoke about the obstacles on the site. Council Member Brown asked about the incentives. Council discussed their visions for the site. Ideas included mixed-use housing and commercial, entertainment/recreation, community space, and riverfront-focused development. Mayor Bashert asked about the Border-to-Border Trail. Mr. Meyers stated that there is an easement and the trail will always be there. Ms. Brown asked if projects were considered by parcel, or the entire site. Mr. Meyers stated that they currently consider both types. Mr. Morgan asked how it works with the existing businesses. Mr. Meyers responded that many developers have asked if the existing businesses were willing to sell. Mr. Wilcoxon asked about the buried DTE line. Mr. Meyers stated that DTE will be and YCUA will be part of the conversation of a viable project. Mr. Wilcoxon stated that the proposed projects do not look very efficient. Mr. Meyers asked if council is willing to negotiate for the development. Council agreed that they would be open to discussion for viable offers.

Mr. Meyers stated that they will work with MEDC and provide an update in June.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Three people spoke.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- A.** Parliamentary Procedures Training - November 14, 2019, 6-9 pm (Senior Center)
- B.** Goal Session Dates - December 3rd & 17, 6 pm (City Hall)
- C.** Roads/Recycling Work Session - December 10th, 7 pm.

XI. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.