



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

7:00 PM - Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Zoom Meeting

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 7:00 PM, in the Zoom Meeting, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns, Council Member Steven Wilcoxon, Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, Mayor Lois Richardson, Council Member Anthony Morgan, Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, and Council Member Annie Somerville

ABSENT:

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

II ROLL CALL

III AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as submitted

IV PRESENTATIONS

- a) Proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Mayor Lois Allen-Richardson
- b) Proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month - City Manager Frances McMullan

V PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Ten people provided comment

VI ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) Ordinance 1367, An ordinance to amend the Noxious Weed Ordinance, Article IV. Weed Control, Section 110-80 et seq of the Ypsilanti City Code.
 - 1. Resolution No. 2020-203, determination
 - 2. Public Hearing
 - 3. Resolution No. 2020-204, close the public hearing.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, To approve Resolution No. 2020-204

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI

That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend the Noxious Weed Ordinance, Article IV. Weed Control, Section 110-80 et seq of the Ypsilanti City Code" be officially closed.

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

Council Member Brian Jones-Chance moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, To amend Resolution No. 2020-203 by changing the 3 ft rule to not to encroach on property lines or rights-of-way.

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

**Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, To approve Resolution No. 2020-203 amended
IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI**

that the ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend the Noxious Weed Ordinance, Article IV. Weed Control, Section 110-80 et seq of the Ypsilanti City Code" be adopted on first reading.

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

- b)** Ordinance 1368, An ordinance to Amend Chapter 58 of the Ypsilanti Code to provide consistent language of the definition of prohibited discrimination and to remove section 58-72 Affirmative Language.
1. Resolution No. 2020-205, determination
 2. Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2020-206, close the public hearing.

**Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2020-206
IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI**

That the public hearing for an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to Amend Chapter 58 of the Ypsilanti Code to provide consistent language of the definition of prohibited discrimination and to remove section 58-72 Affirmative Language" be officially closed.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Anthony Morgan
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
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 Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2020-205

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI

that the ordinance entitled "An ordinance to Amend Chapter 58 of the Ypsilanti Code to provide consistent language of the definition of prohibited discrimination and to remove section 58-72 Affirmative Language" be adopted on first reading.

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

VII CONSENT AGENDA

- a)** Resolution No. 2020-207, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Anthony Morgan moved, seconded by Council Member Brian Jones-Chance, to approve Resolution No. 2020-207

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

- 1. Resolution No. 2020-208, approving the minutes of September 15, 2020.**
- 2. Resolution No. 2020-209, approval of appointments to Boards and Commission.**
- 3. Resolution No. 2020-210, approving the submission of ballot for the Michigan Municipal League's Board of Director's.**
- 4. Resolution No. 2020-211, approving Ordinance 1366 - an ordinance to amend Section 58-61 and 58-62 of the Ypsilanti City Code to add conviction of a misdemeanor crime to a class of activity protected from discrimination (Second Reading).**

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

- b)** Resolution No. 2020-208, approving the minutes of September 15, 2020.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of September 15, 2020 be approved.

- c)** Resolution No. 2020-209, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT, the following be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and

Commissions as indicated below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BOARD</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
Desirae Simmons 407 Charles St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (New Appointment)	Sustainability Commission	5/1/2023

- d) Resolution No. 2020-210, approving the submission of ballot for the Michigan Municipal League's Board of Director's.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the City Clerk is authorized to cast a ballot on behalf of Ypsilanti City Council in the 2020 Michigan Municipal League Board of Directors for George Bosanic, Melissa Johnson, Sue Osborn, & Dave Post.

- e) Resolution No. 2020-211, approving Ordinance 1366 - an ordinance to amend Section 58-61 and 58-62 of the Ypsilanti City Code to add conviction of a misdemeanor crime to a class of activity protected from discrimination **(Second Reading)**.

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

The certain ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend Section 58-61 and 58-62 of the Ypsilanti City Code to add conviction of a misdemeanor crime to a class of activity protected from discrimination" be adopted on second and final reading.

VIII RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2020-212, approving the submission of the Connecting Communities Grant application.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2020-212

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City strongly supports safe and accessible mobility for its residents and visitors, and has an adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan that notes park accessibility as a top goal in all of our parks; and

Whereas, Recreation Park lacks an accessible entrance from the south, as well as an accessible path from the south to the path system in the north; and

Whereas, Recreation Park has a "goat-path" circuit heavily used by runners and walkers; and

Whereas, the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission administers the Connecting Communities grant program that may be used to fund feasibility assessments and design work for nonmotorized pathway projects;

Now therefore be it resolved that the City Council approves the grant application for \$15,000 from the Washtenaw County Connecting Communities Program to assist in the design of a sidewalk and shared use path in Recreation Park, and the feasibility of a track in Recreation Park.

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

- b) Resolution No. 2020-213, authorizing the a vehicle purchase by the Fire Department.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Steven Wilcoxen, to approve Resolution No. 2020-213

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, The Mayor and City Council approved the City of Ypsilanti's Fire Department (YFD) FY 2020-21 budget on June 2, 2020 to include a new Fire Chief's vehicle within the approved budget amount of \$32,000 from account number 641-7-9340-987-10; and

Whereas, Chief Hobbs has selected the 2021 Ford Base Model Explorer (K8B) 4X4, a vehicle from Gorno Ford, a Michigan Contract Holder, in Woodhaven, MI; and

WHEREAS, The total cost for this purchase from Gorno Ford is \$28,539.00 (to include floor liners with carpet and a rear cargo mat). The remaining funds will be used to install lights, sirens, and a remote start;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council authorize Fire Chief Hobbs to execute all documents associated with the purchase of Gorno Ford's 2021 Ford Explorer.

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

- c) Resolution No. 2020-214, allowing all departments except the City Clerk's Office to be open by appointment only to support the November General Election.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2020-214

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, voter traffic has increased in City Hall on Election Day since same day registration was made law in Michigan; and

Whereas, COVID-19 has caused a need for people to maintain distance as a matter of health and safety; and

Whereas, to decrease levels of walk-ins not related to voting, and to

encourage City Hall staff to assist the Clerk Department register voters, further assisting lines move quickly, and ensuring health and safety.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council that on Election Day, November 3, 2020 business at City Hall will be by appointment only to all departments other than the Clerk Department to maintain health and safety and election efficiency.

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

- d)** Resolution No. 2020-215, recognizing Indigenous People's Day in the City of Ypsilanti.

Council Member Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nicole Brown, to approve Resolution No. 2020-215

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti recognizes that Indigenous peoples, including from the Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Wyandot tribes, lived upon the land and along the Huron River in our community for many hundreds of years before our city's founding;

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti recognizes that dislocation, disease, war, disenfranchisement, and other atrocities devastated these communities at various times, causing most Indigenous peoples to be expelled from their homes in this area by the 1830s; and

WHEREAS, today's current quality of life for indigenous peoples across the country, and here locally are of great concern; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti understands that in order to help close the equity gap, government entities, and other public institutions should change their policies and practices to better reflect experiences, culture, history, and contributions of the people they serve; and

WHEREAS, the second Monday of October is the federal holiday, Columbus Day, and is viewed by some as a celebration of our country's rich immigrant and, in particular, Italian and Catholic heritage; and

WHEREAS, the idea of Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United Nations - sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, in 1990 representatives from 120 Indigenous Nations at the First Continental Conference on 500 Years of Indian Resistance unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus Day into an opportunity to educate the rest of the country about pre-existing Indigenous cultures that have survived an often violent colonization process and continue to exist and thrive in present day America; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska, the cities of Seattle, WA; Berkeley, CA; Minneapolis, MN; and many others have voted to rename Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples Day to honor the culture, heritage and contributions of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, in Michigan, Traverse City, Alpena, Ann Arbor, and Washtenaw County have voted to rename Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples Day to honor the culture, heritage and contributions of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians has passed a Resolution (1) officially recognizing the Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday in October, and (2) that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of indigenous peoples on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that the Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and other indigenous peoples and to communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The City of Ypsilanti shall recognize Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday of October;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous people on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that the Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and other indigenous peoples add to communities throughout Michigan the Great Lakes, and all over the world.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, The City of Ypsilanti encourages businesses, organizations, and other public entities to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, The City of Ypsilanti encourages all Ypsilanti public schools, charter schools, and other educational facilities operated within the city to include Indigenous Peoples centered curricula.

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

- e)** Discussion regarding Halloween/Trick-or-Treating during time of COVID.
- f)** Discussion Regarding Public Meetings after Supreme Court Ruling

IX LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
3. Urban County
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool
6. Housing Equity Leadership Team
7. Youth Community Connection

X COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

XI COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- a) Thanking Commissioner Gannon of the Sustainability Commission for his service.
- b) Scheduling date for the Housing Affordability Work Session.

XII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XIII COMMUNICATIONS

a) **NOMINATIONS**

Ypsilanti Housing Commission - (Exp. 10/20/2025)

Renee Smith - **Reappointment**

1112 Congress

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

XIV ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2020-216, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 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.