



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, December 6, 2022
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Council Member Jennifer Symanns, Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, Mayor Nicole Brown, Council Member Desirae Simmons, Council Member Annie Somerville, Council Member Michelle King, and Council Member Roland Tooson

ABSENT: None

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm

II ROLL CALL

III 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.

IV AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Somerville to approve the agenda. On a voice vote, the motion carried and the agenda was approved.

V WORK SESSION

- a) Police Chief Search Process Work Session - City Manager Frances McMullan and Joyce Parker, MML Facilitator

VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Four members of the public spoke

VII RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2022-272, approving the minutes of November 14th and 15th, 2022 City Council Meeting.

Council Member Michelle King moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-272

**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:
THAT the minutes of November 14 and November 15, 2022 City Council Meeting be approved.**

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Michelle King
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

- b) Resolution No. 2022-273, approving appointment to boards and commissions.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2022-273

**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>
Shawn White 118 Bell St Ypsilanti, MI 48197	ZBA	5/1/2025
Brian Jones-Chance 504 Maus Ypsilanti, MI 48198	Planning	5/1/2024

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Roland Tooson
SECONDER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

- c) Resolution No. 2022-274, approving the process to fill the vacancy that will occur in Ward 3.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-274

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, there is soon to be a vacancy for Council Member in Ward 3; and

Whereas, per Section 2.05(d)(3) of the City Charter requires that a Council Member to represent Ward 3 be appointed on or before the third Regular Council Meeting following the vacancy.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the application and application process for the Ward 3 Vacancy.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon

AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson
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- d) Resolution No. 2022-275, approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Washtenaw County Shelter Association for an overnight warming shelter, revenue sharing agreement with the Downtown Development Authority, and subsequent budget amendment.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-275

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti recognizes the importance of an overnight warming shelter during the cold harsh winter months in Michigan and seeks to assist our most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, the City operates the Ypsilanti Freighthouse and generates revenue to help support the ongoing maintenance and community purpose of the space; and

WHEREAS, the investment in a warming center at the Freighthouse is part of a broader strategy to prioritize community health collaboration with community partners like the Shelter Association and Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, St Luke's Episcopal Church has offered to host an overnight warming shelter at 120 N Huron St and the Shelter Association will provide operational support as detailed in the following memorandum of understanding

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the budget amendment as provided, the revenue sharing agreement with the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County and St Luke's Episcopal Church to jointly operate an overnight warming shelter at 120 N Huron beginning in December 2022 and ending by April 2023 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign on behalf of the city.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Roland Tooson
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

- e) Resolution No. 2022-276, approving a budget amendment to support the New Year's Eve Bicentennial Ball Drop on South Washington St.

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2022-276

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS; The Bicentennial Committee has planned the 2023 New Year's Eve event to take place downtown and has chosen TLS Productions to implement the ball drop at midnight; and

WHEREAS; The Bicentennial Committee requests that funds from the Bicentennial account be released upon final invoice for services to not exceed \$15,000 by the City Manager and Finance Director,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the budget amendment as provided to support the New Year's Eve Bicentennial Ball Drop on South Washington Street.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
SECONDER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

- f) Resolution No. 2022-277, approving engineering proposals from OHM for the Leforge and Factory Street Bridges.

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-277

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti have been allocated funds by the Michigan Department of Transportation to perform rehabilitation work on the Factory and Leforge Street Bridges; and,

Whereas, the City engineer OHM has prepared a proposal to provide design engineering services for the project; and,

Whereas, design engineering is necessary prior to bidding;

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the proposal from OHM for design engineering services for an amount of \$88,500

AND FURTHER THAT any change orders may be approved by the City Manager, to facilitate the completion of this work.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Jennifer Symanns
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

- g) Resolution No. 2022-278, approving the construction engineering proposal of OHM for Forest Street.

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-278

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti have been allocated funds by the Michigan Department of Transportation to perform rehabilitation work on the Forest Street Bridge; and,

Whereas, the City engineer OHM has prepared a proposal to provide construction engineering services for the project; and,

Whereas, construction engineering is necessary to begin the project in the 2023 construction season;

Now therefore be it resolved that that the City of Ypsilanti approves the proposal from OHM for construction engineering services for an amount of \$268,210

THAT the City Manager is authorized to sign this proposal and any change orders may be approved by the City Manager, to facilitate the completion of this work.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Council Member Desirae Simmons
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

- h) Resolution No. 2022-279, authorizing the creation and submission of the SPARK Grant Application.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-279

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City strongly supports safe nonmotorized transportation and safe access to recreation opportunities for people of all abilities and incomes; and

WHEREAS, the playground at Prospect Park is heavily used by both the neighboring public Ypsilanti International Elementary School and members of the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City is the recipient of a bequest from the estate of Grace Sweeney for the installation of an accessible playground in Prospect Park; and

WHEREAS, the adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan calls out the need for both accessible pathways into the parks as well as accessible playgrounds; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the City Council hereby authorizes the submission of an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Spark Grant Program in the amount of \$600,000 for the Prospect Park Project, matched by the bequest from the estate of Grace Sweeney.

RESULT:	CARRIED.
MOVER:	Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxen
SECONDER:	Council Member Annie Somerville
AYES:	Jennifer Symanns, Steven Wilcoxen, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, Annie Somerville, Michelle King, and Roland Tooson

VIII BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS

- a) **Bicentennial Committee**
 Sean Driscoll - New Member
 1315 Pearl Street
 Ypsilanti, MI 48197
[Application](#)

IX BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. - None
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- None

X LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update - None
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - Council Member Symanns stated WATS is creating it's own safety standards above and beyond those created by the state. She stated that data has indicating that people have a more diverse travel program and that more funding will become available in 2023.
3. Urban County - None
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - Mayor Brown stated that the DDA recently held their yearly retreat.
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - None
6. Bicentennial Committee - Council Member Somerville stated that she is excited about the New Year's Even Event.

XI COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

- a) **King**
1. None
- b) **D. Simmons**
1. Stated concerns regarding the Human Relations Commission not meeting and how can City Council empower the commission.
 2. Stated there are issues, as seen during the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, with the supportive housing ordinance and reviewing policy requirements for housing and developments.
 3. Stated there is still work to be done on the issue with solar paneling.

c) Wilcoxon

1. Stated the Non-Motorized Committee is working to establish routes around the city and creating connectors.
2. Stated applications have been submitted that would provide adequate funding to remove the dam.

d) Somerville

1. Encouraged Council to continue to allocate funding for Barrier Busters.
2. Asked for an update regarding the Relocation Ordinance.
3. Requested that the Supportive Housing Ordinance be updated.

e) Symanns

1. Stated there are deposits of gravel located on Roosevelt, Courtland and Whittier, and Collegewood and Cambridge.

f) Tooson

1. The CREAM Inc. will be having a winter empowerment event at several locations in the city. He will inform Council of the locations at a future meeting.

XII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Stated several organizations are accepting donations for a Toy Drives.
2. Stated the Mayor's Office located on the fourth floor of City Hall will be for all of Council and times and dates can be worked out.

XIII COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- a) Update on Resolution No. 2022-253 regarding the City's procurement policy
- b) I am happy to report that the city once again completed our Annual Comprehensive Financial Review and received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021.

XIV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

One Member of the public spoke

XV REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVI ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2022-280, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 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.