



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
[VIRTUAL MEETING](#)
REVISED 1-10-2023**

Page

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

VI. WARD 3 VACANCY APPOINTMENT

- 4 - 11** A. [Evan Sweet Application](#)
- 12 - 19** B. [Ashanti Harris Application](#)
- 20 - 28** C. [Amber Fellows Application](#)
- 29 - 34** D. [Paul Adams Application](#)

VII. PRESENTATIONS

- 35 - 42** A. Multigenerational Programming at the Ypsilanti Senior Center - Monica Prince and Bruce Astrein
[IG Handout](#)

VIII. GOAL SESSIONS

- 43 - 80** A. 1. City Manager - Frances McMullan
2. City Clerk - Andrew Hellenga
3. Finance - Rheagan Basabica
4. City Attorney - John Barr

5. Downtown Development Authority - Christopher Jacobs
6. Human Resources - DuJuan Fisher
7. Department of Public Services - Bonnie Wessler
8. Fire Department - Ken Hobbs
9. Police Department - Brent Yuchasz
10. Community and Economic Development (Building/Code Enforcement/Planning) - Joe Meyers

[2023 Goals](#)

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

- 81** A. Resolution No. 2023-001, approving the Consent Agenda.
[2023-001 - Pdf](#)
- 82 - 88** B. Resolution No. 2023-002, approving the minutes of December 20, 2022.
[2023-002 - Pdf](#)
- 89 - 91** C. Resolution No. 2023-003, approving Ordinance 1404, an Ordinance Entitled "Zoning Test Amendment: Temporary Mobile Healthcare Establishments".
(Second Reading)
[2023-003 - Pdf](#)
- 92** D. Resolution No. 2023-004, approving the purchase of a vehicle for the use of the Fire Department from Gorno Ford.
[2023-004 - Pdf](#)

X. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- 93 - 94** A. Resolution No. 2023-005, accepting the employee evaluation of the City Manager.
[2023-005 - Pdf](#)
- 95 - 96** B. Resolution No. 2023-006, accepting the employee evaluation of the City Clerk.
[2023-006 - Pdf](#)

XI. BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS

- 97 - 98** A. **Bicentennial Committee**
Annie Somerville (New Member)
40 E Cross
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
[Application](#)

XII. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission.
2. Human Relations Commission.
3. Arts Commission.
4. Parks and Recreation Commission.

- ### XIII. LIAISON REPORTS

- #### **XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS**

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

XX. ADJOURNMENT

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APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #3 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Evan Sweet
Residence Address 731 Charles St, Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Home Phone [REDACTED] Work Phone [REDACTED]
E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Please return (*in person*) this form, your cover letter, resume, and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk, at Ypsilanti City Hall (1 S. Huron St.) **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2022.**

Applications received after 4:00 p.m. will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Evan Sweet

731 Charles St Ypsilanti MI, 49198 [REDACTED]

Dear Ypsilanti City Council,

Thank you for reviewing my application for the Ypsilanti City Council, Ward 3 position. I believe I would be an ideal candidate for city council, as I have been a resident of the City of Ypsilanti for almost seven years, with six of those years being a homeowner within the city. As such, I feel that I have a good understanding of the operation of the city as well as what is expected to be a successful city council member. Since December of 2015, I have served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for the city, with the past five years being in the role of Commission Chair. I have had a good working relationship with city council, serving on this advisory commission. I have also developed a good working relationship with many staff members from several departments. In addition to my role on the Parks and Recreation Commission, I have served on the Senior Center Board of Directors, and was heavily involved on the Ypsi Proud Day committee for several years.

I believe my work experience has laid a strong foundation for me to be successful as a city council member. I have worked for several large municipal organizations over the past several years, including Canton Township, the City of Ann Arbor, Oakland County, and the City of Taylor. I am currently employed with Canton Township, and have been employed there for the past nine years.

From working in these large municipal organizations, I have seen the different functions of municipal government, which has provided me with many skills that I feel will assist me in being an engaged member of city council. This skillset includes experience in municipal budgeting, project management, mass public communication, revenue generation, facility operations and management, and staff development among many others.

It is clear that you are looking for a council member that is extremely familiar with the City of Ypsilanti and municipal government operations in general. Given these expectations, I am certain that I have the necessary skills to successfully contribute to the City of Ypsilanti as a city council member. Especially given my short-term appointment on City Council from July-November 2022, I believe I can pick up very quickly.

After reviewing my resume, I hope you recognize my previous accolades and my devotion to my community, which I feel makes me an exceptional candidate for city council. I look forward to elaborating on how my specific skills and abilities will benefit the City of Ypsilanti.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Evan Sweet

EVAN SWEET

731 Charles St, Ypsilanti MI, 48198

Education:

Eastern Michigan University- Ypsilanti, MI

Bachelors of Science: April 2016

Major: Public Administration. Minor: Recreation and Park Management.

Employment:

Community Center Specialist

Canton Township Leisure Services Department – Canton, MI

May 2016 – Present

- Assists with facility operations within the Leisure Services Department, including providing supervision of the overall operation of the community center, and all programs and classes within the facility
- Involved in planning, organizing, and supervising the community center operations for over 10,000 members and 500,000 annual visitors.
- Oversees membership creation, retention, recruitment, and promotion to ensure revenue goals are met, (in excess of \$1.1 million annually).
- Responsible for Summit room rentals, both internal and external, necessitating interdepartmental coordination for maintenance, setup and cleanup resulting in \$150,000 in annual revenue.
- Plans, organizes and supervises the Birthday Party Program. Develops themes, party packages, secures staff etc., resulting in \$50,000 in annual revenue.
- Serves as the Departmental Lead with registration software and mobile applications, including working with tech support on troubleshooting, implementation, updates, and provides department-wide training for all staff including full-time, clerical, part-time, and seasonal employees. This software is utilized by the Summit on the Park, Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Canton Sports Center, and for all recreational programs - including online.
- Coordinate with Facility Services staff on facility capital projects, including identifying current projects and planning for future projects.
- Assist with marketing facility, including facility amenities, memberships, and content for bi-yearly program guide using print, website, and social media tools
- Develop partnerships with local business and organizations.
- Recruits, interviews, trains, schedules, and evaluates over 50 part-time and seasonal staff.
- Makes budget, purchasing, facility rules, regulation and policy recommendations.
- Assists with planning and implementing special events in the Summit and in the community, assisting the Recreation Division team with outdoor special events.

Assistant Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator

City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services – Ann Arbor MI

April 2015 – April 2016

- Planning volunteer service projects within city parks and facilities
- Working with universities and colleges, student groups, non-profit groups, corporate groups, and individuals on scheduling and planning service projects and events.
- Assisting with volunteer staffing for large city special events.
- Assisting with coordination of the Adopt-A-Park program.
- Working with staff from all city recreation facilities and evaluating needs of facility that volunteers can assist with.
- Creating and designing volunteer events and activities for different interests.
- Coordinating and planning for department special events.

Recreation Programs & Services Intern**Oakland County Parks – Recreation Programs & Services Division – Waterford MI****May 2015 – September 2015**

- Working within Oakland County Parks, Recreation Programs & Services Division.
- Planning and assisting in part-time and seasonal staff orientation.
- Assisting in the preparation and leading of part-time and seasonal staff training.
- Assisting in the execution of special events in county parks.
- Planning and leading special events in county parks.
- Responsible for packet preparations for Special Parks District Forum.
- Planning and preparing for annual Michigan Recreation and Park Association Conference.
- Developing an online application form for Oakland County Park's volunteer program.
- Assisting with operation of Mobile Recreation Division

Volunteer Experience / Activities:**Commission Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission****City of Ypsilanti****December 2015 – Present**

- Ensuring recreational programs and activities are available to all citizens,.
- Working with community partners, such as local businesses and non-profit organizations.
- Coordinating partnerships with neighboring municipalities for recreation programs and events.
- Responsible for communication to city staff and city council regarding parks and recreation.

Secretary, Board of Directors**City of Ypsilanti Senior Center****November 2016 – March 2022**

- Advising Senior Center Administrative staff on financial decisions.
- Promoting Senior Center programming and activities
- Ensuring stable continued operation of Senior & Community Center.
- Creating goals to improve Senior Center through programming, facility enhancements, financial benefits, and increased attendance and participation.

Ypsilanti Community Clean Up Day Committee**Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti Regional Chamber****October 2015 – May 2019**

- Ypsilanti Community Clean Up Day is a community-wide event intended to foster community pride and encourage local business growth by creating a clean and welcoming environment.
- Recruiting volunteers
- Lead volunteer site on day of event.
- Fundraising and seeking sponsorships
- Working with community groups to promote event and encourage participation

Certifications:

- **Certified Parks & Recreation Professional**
National Recreation and Park Association
May 2017 – September 2023

Evan Sweet – City of Ypsilanti, City Council Ward Three – Questionnaire

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

My main interest for serving as a Councilmember is to give back to the city that has been home to me since the fall of 2012, when I began my college career at Eastern Michigan University. I enjoyed Ypsilanti so much, that I immediately knew I wanted to settle down here and buy a home in the city that I had grown to love. I was able to do this in the summer of 2016 and have not looked back since. In 2015, I began immersing myself into the city government by becoming a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Within the same timeframe, in 2015, I joined the Ypsi Proud Day Committee, and served on the Board of Directors for the Ypsilanti Senior Center from November 2016 – March 2022. Most recently, I served a short term appointment on City Council from July-November 2022

Due to these previous experiences, I feel like I bring a good understanding and a deep experience for how local government works as well as how government can provide exceptional services to its residents. As someone who has worked in municipal government for several years, I feel my experiences have prepared me to serve as a councilmember to continue to improve city services for all residents and visitors.

2. What strength would you bring to the Council?

I would bring many strengths as a Councilmember. Firstly, is that I currently work in municipal government for Canton Township, and have worked in municipal government for several years. Knowing the operation of a government organization and how local governments in Michigan function will help me be a successful Councilmember.

Having served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for the past several years I have had the chance to see the operations of the city from a different perspective. I have made many connections with current staff members, all of whom I look forward to collaborating with to improve city services for all residents.

Being well connected with many other organizations and resources within the Ypsilanti area and greater Washtenaw County also will be something that I can bring to council. I feel that I have a strong connection with many individuals and organizations that can be helpful to the success of the city.

**3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address?
How would you propose to address these issues?**

The three largest priorities and issues that I believe the city needs to address are i). Investment in infrastructure, including roads, facilities, and parks. ii) Increasing housing stock within the city. Iii). Organizational structure and streamline services

Starting with priority number one, investment in infrastructure, including roads, facilities, and parks. Opportunities to help address investment in road infrastructure include funding and agreements from the State of Michigan, and Washtenaw County to get key road projects completed. Also prioritizing roads in need of major repair/replacement and increasing preventative maintenance on roads that are in good condition to extend their useful life in good condition.

Evan Sweet – City of Ypsilanti, City Council Ward Three – Questionnaire

In regards to facility investments, partnerships with existing organizations that currently manage city owned facilities, including Friends of Rutherford Pool, and Ypsilanti Senior Center are an opportunity to enhance those facilities. For other facilities, allocating funding towards a capital improvement plan (CIP) would allow future enhancements to other key city facilities, including City Hall, Fire Department, Police Department, Department of Public Services facility, and more.

Moving on to park investment, the opportunity here can come in the form of a dedicated parks millage to make needed improvements and investments in the city's park system. Many other local Michigan communities have successful park millages that allows for revenue and investment in the parks system, and decreases the burden on the general fund.

Priority number two is increasing the available housing stock within the city. It is well known that the housing stock within the city is older and well established. But, there are some opportunities to expand the housing stock. Selling any currently held land that is owned by the city to a developer to build homes or apartments would benefit the city and its residents.

Priority number three is organizational support to streamline services. The city, or any organization, is nothing without its employees. An organizational would help evaluate current city services and job responsibilities, that includes one on one interviews and focus groups with city employees. This assessment should include an evaluation of city services, to determine what might be able to be refocused or moved to a different department to enhance services to all residents. Also, to continue to attract top talent employees a review of the wage scale for all union and non-union employees should be conducted to review where the city stands in comparison to other municipalities and local employers for similar work.

- 4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.**

I have been involved since 2015 on the City's Parks and Recreation Commission and have served as Commission Chair for the past five years. This position has given me a closer look into the operations of the city and the connections between city council and city commissions. I have also been able to connect with many residents of the city through the commission as well as many other local organizations throughout the county that work to enhance services for city residents to increase their health and wellness.

I have served on the Ypsilanti Proud Day Committee from 2015-2019 where I played a key role in coordinating needs of the city parks system and improvement projects. This helped me connect with residents while focusing on the beautification of the city park system, which has many touch points with residents and visitors. The role allowed me to serve as a liaison between the planning committee and city staff on projects and working with both groups for coordination.

I also had the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors for the Ypsilanti Senior Center from November 2016 to March 2022, and was a board member during the transition of the group to an independent 501(c3) organization with a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the city

Evan Sweet – City of Ypsilanti, City Council Ward Three – Questionnaire

for operation of the facility. Again, with this role, I was able to work with Senior Center staff, and city staff on the coordination of operations and the MOU.

Most recently, I served as a City Council member from July-November 2022, and supported affordable housing developments within the city, and proposed the opportunity to adjust the tax exception status for city residents based upon income levels.

With all of these roles above, a key reoccurring theme is communication and coordination. I believe that as a councilmember I will be able to communicate well with fellow councilmembers, staff, and residents to accomplish the operations and services of the city to serve all residents.

5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

With this appointment, I would be dedicated to putting residents first, while balancing the needs of residents with the needs of the city as an organization that provides services to residents. I would like to identify methods to increase direct communication with residents and city government. One thing that has a proven track record in many other communities is the very high readership of a printed monthly newsletter from city government. Working with the Communications Director, other department directors, and the City Manager to improve communication and transparency to residents.

Pursue the implementation of raising the tax exception threshold to keep more residents in their homes, as the cost of living continues to increase in Michigan and across the country is very important.

Lastly, I will say that I look forward to working alongside all elected council members, the mayor, the City Manager, City Clerk, and all city staff to advance the city forward and pursue opportunities to continually improve services provided.

6. What is your vision for our City and community?

My vision for our city is that it serves as i) a place where residents want to be, ii) a place where residents feel as sense of belonging, and iii) a place where residents are proud to call home. I believe the city staff and city council drive the future of the city by managing the city's financial priorities and tackling critical issues that have tremendous impact on residents.

I want to see a place where the neighborhoods are diverse and that residents can enjoy the many amenities that the city has to offer and that they feel safe in the city that they live in.

7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

I am very passionate about the City of Ypsilanti and am very dedicated to seeing the city be successful as an organization that can provide high quality services to all residents. I feel I have relevant knowledge regarding government operations from my experience working for Canton Township, City of Ann Arbor, Oakland County, and the City of Taylor. All of these organizations have given me different perspectives to help me serve the residents of Ypsilanti.

✓
Affidavit of Identity

State of Michigan

County of Washtenaw

I, Evan Sweet do hereby affirm the following:

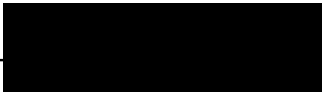
Name: Evan Sweet

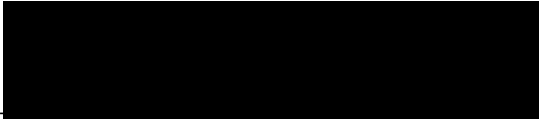
Address: 731 Charles St

Ypsilanti, MI

Date of birth: 01/31/94

I certify under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct.

Signature:  Date: 12/18/22

 Date: 12/18/2022
City of Ypsilanti Clerk Staff



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #3 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Ashant Harris

Residence Address 305 East Cross Street

Home Phone [REDACTED] Work Phone —

E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

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RECEIVED

DEC 15 2022
CITY OF YPSILANTI
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Ashanti Harris
305 East Cross Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

December 14, 2022

Andrew Hellenga
City Clerk City of Ypsilanti
1 S. Huron St
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Dear Andrew Hellenga,

I am grateful for the opportunity to submit my application for City Council 3rd Ward representative. I am committed and focused on being an advocate for my ward and I will take this responsibility seriously. I plan to seek out and represent the views of 3rd ward residents as well as effectively collaborate with other city council members. My hope is to ensure that my fellow Ward 3 residents have a role in decisions made that affect them. I want an exchange that informs residents of what is happening and/or planned in our city and then solicits their views on the issues that affect them with the goal of representing their opinions in decisions concerning the city as a whole.

I was born and raised in Washtenaw County and I am a graduate of Eastern Michigan University for both my undergraduate and graduate degrees. When I was looking for a city to live in, I immediately started looking in the Ypsilanti area. I explored other cities but I kept returning to Ypsilanti knowing that was where I wanted to buy a home and invest my money for the future. I have lived here for six years now and it has turned out to be one of the best decisions I have made. My neighbors in Ward 3 have been welcoming and contribute to my feeling of "home".

My background in the hospitality, meeting and event planning industry has provided me with the kind of experience that could benefit Ypsilanti City council. I need to plan ahead in a detail oriented way, and I am used to working within specific budget priorities on different topics and formats with widely divergent groups of people.

I want to mention here that I realize the impact local businesses have on our community's tax base, especially in a city where taxable properties are so limited. Therefore I love to see how supportive our local businesses are to each other, and how much they want to be a part of the planning and development of our city as a whole. I fully understand how a city council member for the 3rd ward must work with these businesses and with all aspects of a ward that is not homogenous.

I believe that Ypsilanti needs to be both fiscally responsible and budget creative. In my current position at The University of Michigan I have had vast experience with grant funding and managing budgets that utilize federal funds which are open to auditing.

Thank you for considering me for this vacancy. Please let me know if you or the City Council have any other questions that I can answer.

Sincerely,

Ashanti Harris

ASHANTI ALLONA HARRIS, CMM, CMP, CTA

305 East Cross Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

Themes

SOLUTIONS – HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT – COMMUNITY

Experience

2000–Present

Meeting and Special Events Manager University of Michigan - Institute for Social Research (ISR)

Meetings/Event Coordinator – Non Profit (2006-2013)

Staff Development Coordinator (2002-2006)

Conference Facility Assistant (2001-2002)

Program Assistant (2000-2001)

- **MANAGEMENT/STAFFING:** Developed the training team from a group of 2 ½ full time to a team of 5 ½ full time staff. Responsible for the coordination of small and large scale trainings, meetings, travel, and events throughout United States and internationally for groups up to 300 people. Consistently scores exemplary on annual appraisals for work and behavioral competencies.
- **LOGISTICS:** Responsible for planning, contracting, budget, technology, staffing, food & beverage, travel, promotional incentives, documentations/materials, purchasing, tours, group dinners/special events, international travel logistics, evaluation, vendor relationships, and training. Manage over 60 meetings/trainings per year that range from one to 14 days with multiple rooms and locations.
- **GLOBAL:** Managed logistic details for World Mental Health Consortium Annual Meeting for 12 years which was held in different cities throughout the US and four countries including France, The Netherlands, Belgium, and Portugal with participants from over 20 countries.
- **TECHNOLOGY:** Responsible for registration development and coordination for 3MC conference in Germany and Chicago. Skilled in BlueJeans Meeting and Events and Zoom video technologies. Skilled in Qualtrics survey development and implementation in addition to Google forms and programs. Experienced in Canvas Learning Platform. Trains others in Zoom platform skills for staff and trainers. Experienced in using Canva for flyers and brochures.
- **RESEARCH:** Facilitated focus groups and conducted cognitive interviews.
- **PRESENTATION:** Presented training budgets at the 2008 International Field Director's and Technologies Conference.

1995–2000

Restaurant Manager Mainstreet Ventures

- **TRAINING:** Developed new training materials for new restaurant openings, meeting agenda, and bi-yearly all staff meetings.
- **MANAGEMENT:** Management for seven different dining room concept restaurants and kitchens for a staff of up to 80 people.
- **LOGISTICS:** Accountable for all budgets for front and back of the house, food & beverage inventory and audits, special event planning, hiring, employee reviews, disciplinary action, vendor development, food preparation, kitchen supervision, food and beverage ordering, lead trainer, and training development.

Ashanti A Harris

Professional Affiliations

City of Ypsilanti Park and Recreation Commission Commissioner- 2017- 2020
City of Ypsilanti Park and Recreation Commission Commissioner- Vice Chair - 2018 -2019
ISR – Martin Luther King Planning Committee Member – 2019
Institute for Social Research Diversity, Inclusion, Equity Committee Member – Staff Initiatives -2017- 2019
Certified Tourism Ambassador – 2015- Present
Certified Meeting Management Professional (CMM) – 2012 – Present
Meeting Professional International Member. – 2008 – 2020
Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) – 2006- Present
Society of Government Meeting Professionals – 2005-2009
Institute for Social Research Diversity Advisory Committee – Chair – 2003-2004
Institute for Social Research Diversity Committee – 2000-2003

Volunteer

University of Michigan – M-Healthy Wellness Champion – 2014- Present
Running Fit Race Volunteer Team (various events/roles) – 2010 – Present
Laurie Staples Scholarship Fund Auction Committee Member – 2006– Present
Fermenta: Michigan Women's Craft Collective (Event Planning Committee) – 2016- 2017
University of Michigan Commencement Volunteer – Golf Cart - 2018
University of Michigan Commencement Volunteer – Guest Assistance & Programs Tent Supervisor – 2012-2014
University Event Planners - 2003-2013
ISR Census Video Contest Committee Member - 2010
Institute for Social Research Peer Advisor - 2007-2015
Girls on the Run Southeastern Michigan – Head Coach Angell School – 2006-2014
ISR Take Your Child To Work Day Planning Committee – 2006

Education

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan

- Master of Science – Hotel and Restaurant Management

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan

- Bachelor of Science – Recreation and Park Management

Ashanti A Harris

Supplemental Questions - 3rd Ward Vacancy - December 2022 - Ashanti Harris

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

I have a strong commitment to be involved in my community in a way that is helpful and can make a real difference. As a council member I know I can contribute to keeping Ypsilanti a city that is inclusive and welcoming; a place that people want to call home.

2. What strength would you bring to the Council?

I am a detail oriented person. I like to work the steps. To accomplish this, I first need to be sure that I ask questions and gather the information needed to make thoughtful and informed decisions. All too often decision makers don't listen as closely as they should and information is missed that could help us make better, more informed decisions. Then I make a clear plan, advocate for it with relevant others, and come up with a mutual decision that we can communicate to our constituents.

In the work that I do at U of M I need to be engaged in and responsible for financial stewardship of my projects. That talent transfers to the work that I would need to do as a council member. I will continually seek to understand funding decisions as they relate to the 3rd ward and the city as a whole. There may be times when quick decisions are needed, but even when time is of the essence, the final result will be better if we have done our homework ahead of time.

3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?

Development: Without stable finances we cannot address the many challenges facing the city. We need to develop sustainable ways to bring tax revenue to the city. This must not have a negative impact on our current residents and that includes transferring costs to renters. I would seek proposals that add to the city budget as well as look at alternate ways of funding such as grants and partnerships.

Staffing: Reducing staff shortages and turnover is critical. We have major gaps in the police and fire departments at the same time as the city seeks to solicit new businesses and increase our population with new housing in the 3rd ward and elsewhere. To do this, I suggest encouraging internships with area educational institutions and researching grants to provide funding for police and fire protections. Collaborating with the City Manager and city staff to move forward is essential. We need to hire/retain candidates that intuitively, or through training, understand and appreciate the diversity of our area. We need to know that they are committed to equity for all residents, and support inclusive behavior within their teams and value community relationships. However, we also have to ask this big question: how do we provide salaries and/or benefits to make these police, fire and other city positions competitive?

We need to have our city commissions fully staffed so that needed decisions can move forward efficiently as required by ordinances and policies already in place. It is important to be sure that the charges of the commissions are clear and communicated to BOTH young and older

residents. Lets actively promote the various opportunities everywhere from colleges to Senior centers. As a city council member I also need to be sure that the commissions are empowered and that their work is valued.

Maintenance and upgrades to bridges, roads, and buildings: Let's keep actively finding ways to fund work on projects we have already identified, while at the same time moving ahead with items that are fully funded. We must also look forward to what will be an issue 10 years down the line so we can prepare for them. I believe our city council is not presently looking far enough ahead to anticipate issues (both positive and negative) associated with our new housing projects. Funding deficits already contribute to delays on other things, so looking at ways to recognize, name and address all the elephants in the room is important. Yet the most pressing and ongoing question continues to be how to solve all these problems without increasing the already daunting burden on taxpayers? Perhaps breaking the council into groups to study each of these issues would be helpful.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.

I was co-chair on the City of Ypsilanti Parks and Recreation Commission for three years. I am proud of the work that the commission did analyzing the parks in the city and the type of work needed to ensure that the parks are a safe and fun place for community members. We also continued the Ypsi Fall River Day in Riverside Park with fun animal and nature exhibits, walks, and canoe rides.

Our parks and recreation areas are important to our city and to the health and well-being of our residents. There is a strong economic benefit to maintaining our parks and green areas which help build community engagement and financial opportunities for local businesses. My experience in this area is obviously very important for a 3rd ward councilperson when you consider all the major parks in our ward and the related activities located in and around them.

I volunteered as a coach for Girls on the Run in Southeastern Michigan (GOTRSEMI) for eight years in Washtenaw County. The mission of GOTR resonated with me and I volunteered because the impact and benefit to young girls in Washtenaw County was important to all of us. The organization is reputable and passionate in their desire to have a positive learning experience for GOTR members. This experience helped me to understand the need for us to provide opportunities for young people to learn ways to make healthy decisions in all aspects of wellness such as social, mental, emotional, physical, financial, and educational.

5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

My hope is to develop continuing long and strong communication practices with my fellow Ward 3 neighbors. I believe it is important to encourage as much community participation as possible. Including my neighbors in the governing process and in things such as clean up activities in neighborhoods and parks builds pride and commitment. Making sure people's opinions are solicited and included in decision making is my understanding of the job which is good representative government. Physical involvement in neighborhood activities is icing on the cake and provides further proof that I am committed to being visible and accessible in my job.

During this term I would also like to help explore options and support initiatives that would bring more development and tax revenue into our city. This includes developing the Water Street area as well as other vacant and undeveloped sites in order to bring new housing and businesses to these underserved areas.

Another goal is to be sure that Ward 3 voices are included in the staffing decisions as we hire a chief of police and other crucial staffing positions within the city.

6. What is your vision for our City and community?

I envision a city that is vibrant and unique. It is relatively safe and mostly fiscally stable. Our community has areas for parks, recreation, and community building while being active in sustainable issues. A community that provides a pride of belonging and a welcoming environment for residents and visitors who seek out our businesses and green areas. I believe communication is essential and understand that sticking around and following up is vital to our future success. I am reliable, stable and detail oriented as a person. I will devote all my energies to the task of creating and maintaining this vision.

7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Campaigning for 3rd Ward representative this past election showed me how valuable the connection with my neighbors is in creating and maintaining a vibrant, interactive community. I appreciated all the people who talked to me and shared their thoughts openly and honestly. I heard a wide range of viewpoints that, taken together, can contribute to a stronger, healthy, financially stable, and inclusive city. These experiences and the support from neighbors who jumped in and helped during my campaign solidified my desire to be of service to our city as a Ward 3 representative on city council.

Affidavit of Identity

State of Michigan

County of Washtenaw

I, Ashanti Harns do hereby affirm the following:

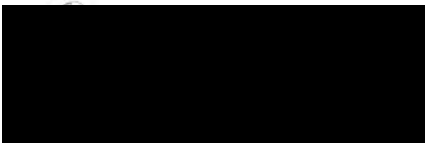
Name: Ashanti Harns

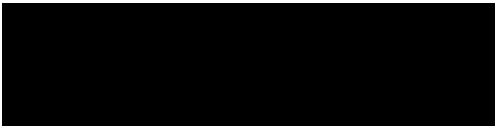
Address: 305 East Cross

Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Date of birth: 0/14/1971

I certify under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct.

Signature:  Date: 12-15-22

 Date: 12/15/22
City of Ypsilanti Clerk Staff



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #3 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Amber Fellows

Residence Address 320 Vinewood Ct.

Home Phone [REDACTED] Work Phone [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Please return (*in person*) this form, your cover letter, resume, and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk, at Ypsilanti City Hall (1 S. Huron St.) **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2022.**

Applications received after 4:00 p.m. will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #3

Thank you for your interest in serving the community as a Ward 3 Council Member of the Ypsilanti City Council.

The timeline for filling the Council vacancy is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Thursday, December 15, 2022: | Applications due to City Clerk by 4:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday, December 20, 2022: | Candidate interviews |
| Tuesday, January 10, 2023: | Council vote and swearing in of new Councilmember |

To be considered, your application must be completed and received by the City Clerk (*in person*) at Ypsilanti City Hall (1 S. Huron St.) **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2022.** Applications received after 4:00 p.m. will not be accepted. Additional written information after this date will not be accepted, unless requested by the City Council.

Please submit the following items:

- Application form
- A **1 page** cover letter indicating your interest and general qualifications for the position.
- A resume of **no more than 2 pages.**
- Answers to the Supplemental Questions of **no more than 3 pages total.**

For further information, please contact
Andrew Hellenga at 734-483-1100
ahellenga@cityofypsilanti.com

The application and any correspondence
should be addressed to:

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti

1 S. Huron St

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Councilmember Eligibility, Requirements, & Public Disclosure

To be eligible to be appointed to the Ypsilanti City Council Ward #3 position, you:

- Must have continuously resided within the City of Ypsilanti Ward 3 for a minimum of 30 days prior to your appointment to the Council, and
- Must be a registered voter in the City of Ypsilanti Ward 3.

If you hold, participate in or are involved in any contract(s) with the City of Ypsilanti, please explain your involvement in your cover letter.

If you hold any other elected public office, please state what office and where in your cover letter.

Please note that:

- Once a Councilmember application is filed with the City, it is a public record available to the public.
- Applications received from all candidates who meet the minimum requirements, along with the answers to the supplemental questions, will be posted on the City of Ypsilanti website as part of the Council's meeting packet the week of the initial interview.
- If appointed, you will be required by state law to file financial disclosure statements with the Washtenaw County Clerk's Office (www.ewashtenaw.org).



City Council Duties

- Attendance is required at regular City Council meetings, which are held on the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm and occasionally later. From time to time, the City Council or Mayor may call special City Council meetings to handle city business.
- Ypsilanti City Councilmembers are bound by state and federal law and the Ypsilanti City Charter. Ypsilanti City Councilmembers must follow Ethical Principles that are set out in the Ypsilanti City Charter and the provisions of the state law and city ethics ordinance.
- Ypsilanti City Councilmembers are bound by the Michigan Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act. These acts provide for full disclosure of the actions of council members. Councilmembers are required to report all financial dealings with the city annually.

Amber Fellows
320 Vinewood Ct
Ypsilanti, MI 48198



12/14/2022

Hello Council,

I ran an entire mayoral campaign in the general election this fall and was vetted by my team and the greater community to a level that far outstretches this application. This year I earned 1201 votes citywide as a nonpartisan candidate running in a partisan electoral system, and in Ward 3 I received 529 votes, higher than any other candidate who can apply for this position.

The people of this City deserve to have me in this role as shown both by the amount and depth of public support that my campaign received, as well as in consideration of the commitment I have toward dismantling existential threats that our community faces in systemic racism, homelessness, environmental catastrophe, poverty, community violence, and other forms of oppression. To ~~vote for~~ ^{appoint} me is to demonstrate that you care about the results of our democratic process.

I have worked both inside and outside of establishment structures and feel particularly at home within diverse groups resolving practical and ideological sites of tension. I have volunteered my time and labor to the City of Ypsilanti and wielded my limited power as a public official to raise consciousness, build consensus, and pass legislation around issues of housing, transparency, public participation, immigration, and policing, and to elevate the voices and concerns of community members that are rarely heard. A [resolution \(page 9\)](#) I wrote for the repeal of the state-wide ban on rent control was adopted this year to the Michigan Democratic Party platform demonstrating my ability to bridge regional concern to wider sites of institutional power.

I have founded and led multiple grassroots organizations, single issue campaigns, and coalition groups through mission and strategy development, outreach and engagement, membership growth, and direct actions, as well as through media blackouts, membership atrophy, conflictive theories of change, and disinformation campaigns. I have successfully worked with issue stakeholders through political impasse. I have [written articles](#) and co-founded a print and web publication to fill gaps in news coverage. I have organized large events and written speeches that have spurred my community to action.

My professional work in outreach and advocacy is within an ever-changing environment that requires flexibility, patience, and an openness to change. In the 18 years living and engaging in public life in Washtenaw County I have deepened connections with community members, activists, academics, and workers within a variety of industries all over southeast Michigan.

Please see amber4thepeople.com for more information on my campaign and vision.

Amber Fellows

Amber Fellows

WORK EXPERIENCE

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at CSSW, WashCo — Director

September 2021 - Now

I am the director of a federally-enacted volunteer program to help senior residents maintain connection to community via service opportunities that benefit both the volunteers and the recipients/orgs they serve. In my role I recruit new volunteers and engage with existing membership, establish connections to high-impact community partners, analyze bureaucratic limits and restructure programs to prioritize equity, create promotional materials and events, and support an advisory council to effectively govern.

Avalon Housing, Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti — Support Coordinator for Adult Services

January 2017 - September 2021

I collaborated closely with community partners, families, lawyers, healthcare, immigration, and benefit agencies to support stability and well being of individuals impacted by chronic houselessness. My direct care responsibilities included crisis intervention, safety planning, counseling, and tenant advocacy. Notably, I've organized a wraparound legal team to support a client in ICE detention to leave and gain legal status, and coordinated activists and lawyers to preserve housing for tenants at Arbor One which widened to legal advocacy for tenants in all of Washtenaw County.

Ozone House, Ann Arbor — Youth Specialist

March 2016 - November 2018

I supported young people in developing skills toward interdependence and self-determination through shared domestic work, physical activity, boundary setting and communication, media and financial literacy, and creative exploration. I facilitated group meetings and created lesson plans to support self-esteem, visioning, and family reunification.

Planned Parenthood, Detroit & Ann Arbor — Health Care Educator and Patient Advocate

December 2012 - February 2016

I specialized in patient advocacy for youth navigating the legal system seeking abortion access. My responsibilities included reproductive healthcare counseling, assisting youth in preparing for and attending court hearings, and medical and surgical assisting.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Rising for Economic Democracy in Ypsi (REDY) — Co-Founder

December 2017 - Present

I organized this Ypsilanti-based coalition that ran a public outreach campaign for the Community Benefits Ordinance (CBO) and collaborated with City legal staff and City Council to develop and enact a finalized ordinance in the fall of 2018.

What's Left Ypsi — Co-Founder, Publisher, Writer, and Issue Co-Editor

January 2019 - Present

I co-founded this community-driven quarterly print and web publication to fill a gap in local news coverage. I was the issue co-editor when the pandemic began and transitioned the quarterly print newspaper to a rolling release web publication, bringing underreported news and perspectives to residents including in-depth municipal coverage of events.

SKILLS

Outreach & Recruitment
Campaign Strategy
Grassroots Organizing
Public Speaking
Web and Print Publishing
Education and Counseling
Event Planning
Research and Analysis

EDUCATION

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti — Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences, Language Studies, and Creative Studies

Fall 2009 - Spring 2013

Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor — Associate of Science in Math and Computer Programming

Fall 2003 - Spring 2006

Defend Affordable Ypsi (DAY) — Co-Founder

May 2017 - Present

I co-founded DAY with another renter as a response to growing discontentment in Ypsi around housing affordability. DAY's membership activated around a controversial luxury development proposal slated for one of Ypsi's last remaining city-owned parcels. In 4 years DAY has elevated the issue of gentrification and the housing crisis into the community consciousness. Our accomplishments include:

- Researching, writing, and launching a Tenant Protections Petition in 2020 that included rent control, tenant right of first refusal, a landlord registry, and just-cause renewal policies
- Assisting in two campaigns for City Council seats in 2018
- Mentoring youth in Staying Power, a local anti-gentrification group funded by the National Endowment for the Arts
- Forming a partnership with Legal Services of South Central Michigan for research and guidance for policy strategies

Human Relations Commission (HRC) — Chair

October 2016 - October 2019

I facilitated regular meetings, reviewed community concerns, and created human rights policies for the city of Ypsilanti. In 3 years, our commission elevated the profile and advocacy power for human rights issues in Ypsilanti. Our accomplishments include:

- Democratizing the city commission appointment process by passing two City Charter updates via general election in 2020 by 77%
- Strengthening the Non-Discrimination Ordinance to include 'immigration status' and 'gender expression,' and housing vouchers and student loans as 'sources of income'
- Building intention into our bylaws with language like "The Commission shall study problems in the city relating to prejudice and discrimination and make policy recommendations to the City Council to identify and remove discriminatory structures and practices, and act to remediate the legacy of historical oppression."
- Requiring landlords to provide Tenants' Rights handbooks and voter registration information upon lease signing
- Developing onboarding processes and materials for commissioners, which became boilerplate city-wide
- Passing resolutions for racial equity in recreational marijuana permitting town hall, which turned into multiple social equity townhalls
- Making commission applications a part of public record to increase transparency around racial equity in appointments to public office
- Beginning to integrate historic trauma into discussions of public policy

Housing Affordability & Accessibility Committee — Member and HRC Liaison

January 2018 - December 2020

I advocated for the formation of this committee under the Planning Commission and later joined as a liaison of the HRC. Over the next three years, this group studied housing issues in Ypsilanti, launched a public outreach campaign which culminated in a public forum and two surveys with a response rate of 5% of the city population. The committee analyzed and synthesized results into 11 community-driven recommendations for housing policy change in Ypsilanti, and presented the data and findings to City Council in a 75-page report for inclusion in the Ypsilanti Master Plan update.

Ypsi Immigration Enforcement Forum — Event Leader and Organizer

November 2017

Through the HRC, I proposed and organized a community forum to discuss a new city immigration enforcement policy ('Don't Ask') and created a safer space for residents to engage and question city representatives about the efficacy of current policies, regardless of residency status. I coordinated event promotion, child care, live Spanish translation, and confidentiality measures for the event.

International Village and Affordable Housing Town Hall — Event Leader and Organizer

September 2017

Through the HRC, I proposed and organized a town hall—the largest public meeting in Ypsilanti in 20 years—to discuss a \$30 million development for Water Street called International Village. Hundreds of attendees and dozens of speakers convened on the issue of rising housing costs and public land use, many for the first time, in an impassioned and genuine community dialogue. I coordinated event promotion, sound, video, and leaflet distribution, and I opened the event with a speech framing the details of the development within the context of Ypsilanti's housing crisis. Later meetings organized by Defend Affordable Ypsi nurtured community interest and media coverage that led to an official investigation revealing fraud, and resulting in the eventual dissolution of the development.

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

As a 20 year resident of Ypsilanti, EMU alum, and 18 years experience renting in a majority renter community I am committed to expanding the people's voice in broadening power, reparations, and housing justice in Ypsi and beyond.

I have served 6 years in city government as chair of both the Human Relations Commission and 220 N Park CBA subcommittee, and as a commissioner of the Housing Affordability & Accessibility Subcommittee. I led the largest public meeting in 20 years that spurred discussion on International Village and affordable housing. I helped democratize the commission appointment process by creating two City Charter updates that passed by 77% via city-wide vote in 2020. This summer I led negotiations for affordability and first-time Ypsi homebuyer priority for the new N Park development, and outlined a path for housing justice in the city. In 2021 I wrote a repeal of the state-wide ban on rent control adopted by the MI Democratic Party platform.

I am interested in bringing my track record and commitment to transformative goals to the service of residents in the City of Ypsilanti.

2. What strength would you bring to the Council?

My strength is in advocacy on behalf of community interests for material gain. Time and again I have elevated important issues that residents face to the City government, through commission work and at Council. This summer I led, alongside commission members, the 220 N Park community benefits negotiations to secure deep tangible benefits for the development now referred to as Dorsey Estates.

3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you

propose to address these issues?

At nearly 70%, Ypsilanti has the highest percentage of rental households in the state. The rising costs of rent and worsening conditions of rental units in Ypsilanti intersect with every other issue—Black and brown, disabled, queer and trans, immigrants, and fixed-income residents are all overrepresented in Ypsi's rental market. At the same time, 26% of YCS students are experiencing homelessness. I am committed to fight the landlord monopolies, advocate for the end of the state-wide rent control ban, ramp up tenant protections, and create avenues for homeownership to existing residents.

Black and Indigenous residents are owed debts on municipal-level systemic racism including redlining, the destruction of Black neighborhoods and businesses to build I-94, urban renewal, a neglectful Covid-19 response that devastated Black residents here in particular, and land grabs from Indigenous groups. A Reparations Commission could audit resources, conduct surveys, and make policy recommendations.

The municipal government of today does not serve the interests of the vast majority of Ypsilanti residents. The agenda of city hall has followed too closely with the desires of capital owners, with too few making decisions that impact thousands. It doesn't have to be this way. We can begin to expand decision-making power beyond city hall, and we have the tools to do this: city-wide ballot voting for important and controversial issues facing the city like development (Water Street), budget allocations

(police and unarmed crisis response team), and resource distribution would empower thousands more to participate in decision-making.

In order to realize the goal of equity and inclusion of all residents in the political process in a meaningful way, marginalized residents of Ypsilanti must be made politically and economically whole. At a minimum, the federal, state, and city government must repair for past harms and neglect of Black and Indigenous residents in the form of reparations.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community.

I served as a member and eventually chair of the Human Relations Commission, as chair of the 220 N Park Community Benefits Commission, and as a member of the Housing Affordability & Accessibility Committee. On each commission I have ushered in tangible material changes for residents of the City of Ypsilanti and value, in turn validating these commissions' worth and stakes in the community.

5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

I am committed to reparations for Black and Indigenous residents, dismantling landlord monopolies, and broadening decision-making power.

6. What is your vision for our City and community?

The strongest leadership happens when the community is able to govern itself without unbalanced power at the top. The people of Ypsilanti are what makes this community special. We can move toward a thriving populace by making life easier for everyone in Ypsi, first focusing on repairing damage to historically harmed communities, while expanding power and voice in critical decision-making to issue stakeholders and everyone.

Ypsilanti also has an incredibly rich green and natural world; together we can support and care for the abundant and biodiverse community among us. Some of the ways this could happen is by relaxing lawn ordinances and encouraging native pollinator gardens on public and private property, by appropriately valuing the city's non-developed land, by improving our infrastructure's climate resilience and municipalize our power grid, by incentivizing tree planting and reforestation, by envisioning ways to reduce the size of parking lots and increase the number of green spaces, by prioritizing the magnificent Huron River and surrounding habitat, and many other possibilities.

7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Most of you know some about me and if not, please do not hesitate to reach out! My email is [REDACTED] and you can find a lot more about me at amber4thepeople.com

Affidavit of Identity

State of Michigan

County of Washtenaw

I, Amber Fellows do hereby affirm the following:

Name: Amber Fellows

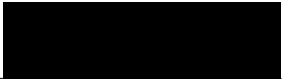
Address: 320 Vinewood Ct.

Ypsilanti MI 48197

Date of birth: 4/28/1983

I certify under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct.

Signature:  Date: 12/15/2022

 Date: 12-15-22
City of Ypsilanti Clerk Staff



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #3 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name PAUL ADAMS
Residence Address 218 W. Michigan Ave Apt C2 Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Home Phone [REDACTED] Work Phone [REDACTED]
E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Please return (*in person*) this form, your cover letter, resume, and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk, at Ypsilanti City Hall (1 S. Huron St.) **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2022.**

Applications received after 4:00 p.m. will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Paul Adams

218 W Michigan Ave Apt C2 Ypsilanti, MI 48197 [REDACTED]

12/12/2022

Andrew Hellenga
City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
1 South Huron St
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Seasons Greetings Mr Hellenga,

My name is Paul Adams and I am submitting my request for consideration for the vacant City of Ypsilanti City Council seat. Revisiting my college notes from EMU sparked an interest that I've always had, but never had the opportunity to use. My Political Science degree along with my decade of community service work in Ypsilanti and Detroit had me thinking I could be worthy of consideration. I became a resident of Ward 3 in 2004 and after leaving in 2007, I moved back and have been a registered voter for the last 10 years. I understand the residents and the business owners of Ward 3 as well as their needs. This is a position not only for the people, but a position that listens to the people. I hope my humble efforts deem worthy of an opportunity with this wonderful and diverse city. Happy Holidays to you sir and Thank You.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Paul Adams

Paul Adams
218 W Michigan Ave Apt C2
Ypsilanti, MI 48197



OBJECTIVE

To become a team player for an organization that best utilizes my skills, education and experience, to make positive and relevant decisions for the Ypsilanti community.

EXPERIENCE

Media Specialist

Ypsilanti Community Schools, Ypsilanti, MI
07/2022 to Present

Finance Manager

Victory Automotive Group, Canton, MI
10/2010 to 06/2020

Customer Service Representative

Speedway LLC, Ypsilanti, MI
01/2006 to 01/2009

Housing Intake Director

Doorstep West Homeless Shelter, Highland Park, MI
04/2001 to 10/2003

VP of Operations/Logistics

Ferndale Foodland, Ferndale , MI
01/1989 to 01/2000

EDUCATION & TRAINING

B.A., Political Science, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti MI

HONORS, AWARDS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. (Life Member). Two-time Americorp National Service Award winner.

Supplemental Question Answers

1. My interest to serve as a Councilmember comes from my desire to serve the community and my desire to use the political knowledge I acquired in college. I have always wanted to contribute to and analyze policy in a formal and regulated political setting.
2. I would bring strength in the areas of public policy, legal language and political competence, community service, and knowledge of Ward 3.
3. The priority issues that the City needs to address are affordable housing and community recreation, community health and wellness, and public safety and crime prevention.
4. I have never been a representative on any public boards in Ypsilanti. I have however been a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated for 33 years. My organization was formed on the ideals and morals of community service. Membership requires annual amounts of community service hours to stay active with the organization. I have multiple service hours at the Salvation Army, Hope Clinic, YMCA, SOS, Messiahs Temple Church, Ypsilanti Trunk or Treat, EMU Alumni Foundation, Food Gatherers and St Joe Hospital. Each task completed focused on supporting the people in need and being welcome to their concerns. Also, my former employer, Doorstep West Homeless Shelter in Detroit gave me a better understanding of non-profit management. Similarly, I did 2 years of Americorp National Service at Capuchin Soup Kitchen. In those 2 years I received hands on learning with the Volunteer Coordinator, Kitchen Manager, Donations Coordinator, Director of Horticulture and the Director of Children's Programming. It is very important to have experience in community service when serving as a councilmember. A strong connection with the people is important for a successful councilmember term.
5. I wish to gain the trust and respect of the residents of Ypsilanti and represent Ward 3 in a professional manner. I wish to gain the trust and respect of my colleagues and constituents on the council and in other positions throughout City Hall. Lastly, I wish to gain the trust and respect of The City of Ypsilanti Public Safety and Public Works Departments.

6. I envision a city with safe streets, affordable housing, renewable energy options, health and wellness initiatives and facilities, family recreation, and the creation and availability of jobs via economic development.
7. I am currently an employee of Ypsilanti Community Schools. I believe having a YCS employee as a councilmember would be very beneficial to the panel. I think understanding the perspectives of adults and children is important for the growth of any community.

Affidavit of Identity

State of Michigan

County of Washtenaw

I, Paul Adams do hereby affirm the following:

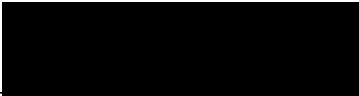
Name: Paul Adams

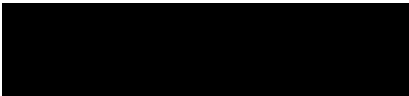
Address: 218 W Michigan Ave Apt C2

Ypsilanti MI 48197

Date of birth: 6/11/1969

I certify under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct.

Signature:  Date: 12/13/2022

 Date: 12/13/2022
City of Ypsilanti Clerk Staff



Handout #1: Introducing Intergenerational

*"Aging influences nearly every aspect of our communities.
The opportunities are limitless, the benefits are powerful, the time is now."
~ John Feather, PhD, CEO, Grantmakers in Aging*

A Few Facts:

- Michigan is #1 – at getting old: More than one quarter of the state's counties have a median age that is eligible for AARP membership. (Source: Bridge Michigan; 2021)
- The United States is in the midst of a profound demographic transformation with both younger and older people making up an increasing proportion of the population. Michigan is about to become the first state in the union to have any many citizens over the age of 65 as it has citizens under the age of 18. (Source: Multiple Sources; 2021)

A Brief Overview

What Are Intergenerational Programs and Practices?

Intergenerational programs intentionally unite the generations in ways that enrich participants' lives and help address vital social and community issues while building on the positive resources that young and old have to offer each other and to their communities.

Why Are They Relevant (Particularly at This Time)?

As all of us continue to face multiple health, economic, climate and social justice challenges, intergenerational programs can help chart a way to a healthier, more inclusive and more equitable society for all.

Who Benefits – and in What Ways?

A growing body of research shows that all age groups – from early childhood to parents and grandparents (as well as caregivers, providers and community organizations) – benefit when different generations come together for a common cause. Personal benefits range from reduced isolation and improved health to greater understanding and mutual respect.

How "Intergenerational" Provides a Strategic Lens for Today's Leaders?

- It speaks directly to multiple challenges currently facing us
- It offers a wide range of successful and cost-effective solutions
- It has an established and documented history of accomplishment
- It engages both younger and older populations around common interests

- It provides an innovative set of strategic approaches, models and initiatives
- It builds on the best of exemplary efforts and promising practices nationwide
- It employs a rich set of resources, from training & TA to toolkits and publications
- And finally, intergenerational programs are meaningful, important, and fun – and they are booming across the U.S. and around the world.

(Source: Primarily from Generations United)



Handout #2: Engaging One and All

"We believe in a world that values and engages all generations."
~ Generations United

Changes, Challenges & Opportunities

As noted, Michigan - and Ypsilanti - are facing 21st Century changes in demographics that will have profound effects on how we live, work, learn, play and age in the future.

At this time, every community in Michigan and nationwide continues to deal with the ongoing set of unprecedented crises and challenges – from health-related and economic disruptions to heightened racial injustice and increased social isolation.

The solutions to these core concerns are not easy but they are within reach. It will take time and leadership – from all sectors and all neighborhoods. By working creatively and collaboratively, there is a rare opportunity to truly re-imagine a healthier, more engaged and more equitable City of Ypsilanti that can better advance the quality of life for all.

The City appears ready – as evidenced by the many efforts to stabilize its neighborhoods, assist people with food security, improve the environment, and address additional issues affecting the community's most vulnerable populations: its younger and older residents.

The stakes are high. We clearly realize there are many ways to address these dramatic changes and approach these complicated challenges. The one that we are proposing – because it benefits young and old, families, caregivers, providers and the city as a whole – involves a commitment to actively applying "an intergenerational lens", whenever providing services, establishing programs, creating policies and developing budgets.

Central Intergenerational Goals: Both Short-Term and Long-Term

1. Addressing Basic Needs
2. Optimizing Health and Well-Being
3. Promoting Social and Civic Engagement
4. Supporting Inter-Dependent Living for All

Critical Intergenerational Leadership: Partners Working in Collaboration

1. Elder & Youth Related Groups
2. Public Sector & City Government
3. Health & Public Health Institutions
4. Other Important Community Partners: Local Businesses; Higher Education; Faith-Based & Civil Rights; The Arts & Recreation; Food Security & Nutrition; Caregiving & Family Support

Common Concerns; Intergenerational Interests

Issues of fundamental importance to both young and old – now and into the future.

- Cultural Respect
- Creative Pursuits
- Lifelong Learning
- Foods & Nutrition
- Economic Security
- Climate Responses
- Civic Engagements
- Social Connections
- Religious Tolerance
- Equal Justice for All
- Affordable Housing
- Safe Neighborhoods
- Environmental Actions
- Responsive Government
- Accessible Transportation
- Public Spaces & Recreation
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Caregiving & Family Support



Handout #3: “An Ypsilanti for All Ages” – by Design
“It goes without saying, we are all aging...” (What happens next?)

What’s Working: *Current Efforts/Increasing Interests*

At the Local Level:

➤ Current Efforts

- Committed Partners:
 - Nonprofits (e.g., Meals on Wheels; Parkridge Center; Educate Youth; Ypsilanti Public Library; Growing Hope)
 - Higher Ed. (e.g., Eastern Michigan University; Washtenaw Community College)
- Potential Partners (e.g., Riverside Arts; Hope Clinic; Corner Health; Mosaic Church)
- City Resources (e.g., City of Ypsilanti Parks & Recreation (in most recent 5 Year Plan))
- County Resources (e.g., Washtenaw County Commission on Aging)

➤ Fundraising Possibilities

- Lead Funders: Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation; Blue Cross/Blue Shield
- Local Fundraising: Special 60th Anniversary Campaign (for “The Little House”)

At the State Level:

➤ Current Efforts

- Key State Agencies (e.g., Health & Human Services – Aging Services)
- Key State Leadership ((e.g., Area Agencies on Aging; AARP; MLPP – Kids Count)

➤ Fundraising Possibilities

- Intergenerational Funders (e.g., Michigan Health Endowment Fund; Ralph Wilson)
- Other Youth and/or Aging Funders (e.g., Council of Michigan Foundations)

At the National Level:

➤ Current Efforts

- National Support/Partner (Generations United)
- Leading Organizations (e.g., National Council on Aging)

➤ Fundraising Possibilities

- Intergenerational Funders (e.g., Robert Wood Johnson)
- Other Youth and/or Aging Funders (e.g., Grantmakers in Aging)

What’s Needed: *An Expanded City-Wide Commitment*

➤ Stated Aims

- To improve the well-being and quality of life – across the generations
- To encourage and help advance intergenerational understandings and efforts

- To increase civic engagement and leadership among and between the younger and older generations
- Strategic Actions (Inspired by City Leadership)
 1. Become an “Age-Friendly City” (AARP)
 2. Adopt Intergenerational Planning Approaches
 3. Encourage New Citywide Intergenerational Efforts
 4. Actively Support Current Intergenerational Efforts
(Through Public Support, Partnerships and Resources)



Handout #4: The Center's Intergenerational Plan

"People are healthier when they are part of a community that offers possibilities for healthy living that are aligned with the realities of their life and support their everyday activities." ~ H. Kang, 2015

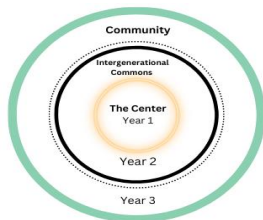
The City: The City of Ypsilanti is approximately 4 square miles in size and has an estimated population of 20,000. Its residents are 65% White and 28% Black, with Hispanics, Asians and others making up the remaining 7%. The median age is 24 years, and median household income is \$36,982. Those over the age of 65 represent 8% of the total population – and 1/3 of these seniors have annual incomes of less than \$20,000. Overall, about 1 of every 3 residents, and 2 of every 5 children under age 18 live below the official poverty level, a rate (in zip code 48197) higher than most of Michigan.

The Center: A little over 60 years ago, "the Little House" in the middle of Recreation Park began an important journey. In the early 1960s, it grabbed firmly onto the idea of becoming a dedicated "Senior Center". This was a very bold vision for those times, but one that proved to be more important and successful than anyone could have imagined.

Six decades later, the Ypsilanti Senior Center has another vision – this time to benefit not only the City's older population, but to establish an ambitious intergenerational plan that will creatively involve and support their families, caregivers and neighbors. If successful, it will begin to change how all the City's generations can better thrive and connect.

The Vision: A re-imagined Ypsilanti Intergenerational Center that will not only continue its current offerings (informational, educational, cultural, civic and health & wellness) to its senior residents, but will identify and advance – with partner organizations – a set of shared programs and common agendas (e.g., health & well-being; food & nutrition; arts & culture) that brings together, engages and empowers Ypsilanti's older and younger populations.

The Plan: Over the next three years, the Ypsilanti Senior Center will build on its recent and ongoing intergenerational efforts and aspirations to accomplish the following:



- **In Year One:** To plan and carry out a transition from a traditional Senior Center to an innovative "Intergenerational Center";
- **In Year Two:** To continue the make-over of the Center and begin the work of designing and raising funds to transform Recreation Park (where the YSC resides) into an "Intergenerational Commons"; and finally,

- In Year Three: To build on/broaden the progress and outreach of both the Center and the Commons by developing and introducing intergenerational approaches and solutions that benefit all the neighborhoods within the City.

Initial Funding: The Ypsilanti Senior Center received a planning grant (of \$25,000) in 2022 from the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation to create an ambitious vision and action plan that focuses on the transformation of the current Center into an Intergenerational Hub. It also provided modest resources to begin working on the design of an intergenerational “Commons” (in Recreation Park), and eventually to expand to Community-based efforts. This was followed by a three-year grant award for \$180,000 (in total) that will allow the Center to hire a full-time Intergenerational Program Specialist, among many other things.

Ongoing Funding: In addition to grants from various philanthropies (local, state and national), the Center will continue to raise additional support to sustain its work over time through a combination of more traditional fundraising strategies, including: Donor contributions; Special events; and (hopefully) potential public sector budgetary support.



City Council Goals

Order of Goals: Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon, Council Member Symanns, Council Member Simmons, Council Member King, and Council Member Tooson

Mayor Brown
1. Continue research and potential partnerships to develop an unarmed crisis response team
2. Re-open park bathrooms - potential partnerships?
3. Youth mini grants
4. Fix/update frog island parking lot
5. Barrier busters - provide financial support for 97/98
6. Reassess county expungement program participation from social equity funds

Council Member Wilcoxon			
Area	Objective	Goal	Task
Public Safety	Establish non-police emergency response plan	Eliminate the proposed social worker position within the police department	
		Re-define the Social Worker coordinator's position	
		Hire social worker to report to the city manager	
		model after the county sheriff/CMH model ride along	
Public safety/community	improve citizen confidence in the police department	develop community policing plan with greater public input	
Community	Improve communication with public	Create a comprehensive communication plan for internal and external communications. Engage Communications firm to analyze current efforts and suggest improvements.	
Infrastructure	Remove Peninsular Dam: engineering study	Partially fund the second phase engineering study to determine sediment mediation plan, restoration plan, and structural analysis of infrastructure	DNR grant has been funded, follow through with matching
Infrastructure	Remove Peninsular Dam: engineering study	submit proposal for EGLE dam risk reduction grant for \$4.5M for engineering design and implementation of deconstruction	
Infrastructure	Pave the Frog Island parking lot	partner with County and other entities to secure funding for design and construction consistent with the parking plan including green infrastructure (bikes, charging, pervious pavement, stormwater management)	funding plan in hand, construction contract

economic development	Develop Waterstreet property to reflect the Ypsilanti values	Engage developer through the MDED with added marketability from Brownfield remediation funding and work	proposal in hand consistent with master plan
economic development	dissolve the DDA	deny renewal of the contract for Depot town DDA	
policy	clarify the language of the city charter regarding vacating and filling the mayors seat	organize a charter commission to address the dated language and lack of language for the process	
policy	restructure zoning ordinance to allow for better utilization of current housing stock		
	enhance city's walkability and bikability	Implement city wide connectability routes with signage and interactive map	
infrastructure		implement the plan DPS Director Wessler has devised to address EGLES recommendations/requirements for Pen Dam area work and maintenance	

Council Member Symanns
* Switch to bi-weekly recycling schedule with the implementation of the larger collection bins
* Focus on hiring/retention for Police Department - highest priority
* Prioritize maintenance and repairs of neighborhood roads before they get worse
* Continue to prioritize road preservation efforts throughout city
* Increase salaries based on market research to provide competitive salaries for current staff and to attract high quality candidates
* Continue to look for options to hire a social worker in our PD - partnership?
* Create a non-violent response / mental health crisis team - explore partnerships to do so
* Develop a robust non-sworn component to support our police department in areas as appropriate
* Focus on improving our current infrastructure (roads, city sewers, etc.)

Council Member Simmons			
Area	Objective	Goal	Task
Community Engagement, Communications, Governance	Build Democratic Practices and Shared Knowledge	1) Increase resident participation, esp among those typically not engaged 2) Improve 2-way communication between residents and local government; this is esp needed for crisis situations 3) Grow decision-making power of our commissions and build a diverse leadership pool	- Host recruitment and resource fair for our Commissions and for potential neighborhood associations/hubs - Recruit and appoint new commissioners to the Human Relations Commission so they can be a resource to support residents who may face source of income discrimination among other issues - create a plan and budget to support neighborhood groups to support city goals
Public Safety, Environmental Justice, Economic Equity, City Planning	Improve Infrastructure for Safe Movement for All	1) Improve pedestrian and nonmotorized vehicle transportation to reach environmental justice outcomes 2) De-center motor vehicles in medium and longterm infrastructure projects for more vibrant business districts that attract local residents 3) Decrease resident concerns about traffic safety across the City while building buy-in to the timeline and process by engaging them in finding solutions	- Create a committee to focus on traffic calming measures that could be used based on neighborhood needs, this could be part of a current group like the nonmotorized committee (though would need new members.) - Find creative ways to address parking concerns without building new and expensive infrastructure - Improve pedestrian crossing areas by being creative about ways to increase visibility and to give the clear right-of-way - create more infrastructure and spaces for bikes and wheelchairs that is separated from traffic

Public Safety	Invest in Alternatives to Armed Response	1) Provide an alternative to police and law enforcement response for issues related to mental health and poverty 2) Provide resources to help community members to resolve conflicts outside of the legal system and to address gun violence, esp. impacting youth 3) Collaborate with county efforts to transform what public safety means	- Hire a Police Chief that understands the role that unarmed response plays and that it needs to be located outside of the police department - Learn about and connect with efforts across the county that is focused in this area (eg Ann Arbor's current process, recommendations coming from the Washtenaw Equity Partnership in the spring.)
Housing, Community and Economic Development, Land Use	Increase Housing Stock while Prioritizing Housing Affordable to All	1) Support current affordable and supportive housing projects to be successful 2) Convene a community process to create a specific Masterplan for Water Street 3) Address the need for Tenant Protections including unjust rent increases, evictions, unsafe and unhealthy living environments, barriers to housing etc. 4) Explore systemic ways to increase affordability for low- income and fixed income residents, esp given our aging population such as Community Land Trusts and Cooperatives	Identify ordinances that need to be amended or removed based on current and future circumstances to end unjust barriers for residents. - Put forward ordinances for Tenant Protections and/or support community organizing efforts - assist Building Department efforts to hold landlords accountable for poor living conditions. - Address vacant properties as well as potential housing spaces that are primarily used for short-term rental

Council Member King
Continue to build on and support youth programming and opportunities.
Continue making housing developments priority.
Develop plan to build closer relationships with schools in the community.
Implement procedures that address residents' complaints, and neighborhood conditions in a timely manner. ex. improvements to sidewalks).
Enhance how we share information with the public and how we engage residents.
Reparations: form a reparations committee.
Prioritize the needs of senior citizens.
Create develop a plan to begin having a Juneteenth parade.

Tooson
1. Develop water street
2. Increase youth mini grants
3. Expand collaboration with WCC/EMU for additional programming at Parkrigde
4. Balanced budget



Departmental Goals

Order of Goals: City Manager McMullan, City Clerk Hellenga, Finance Director/Treasurer Basabica, City Attorney Barr, DDA Director Jacobs, Human Resources Director Fisher, Department of Public Services Director Wessler, Fire Chief Hobbs, Interim Police Chief Yuchasz, Community and Economic Development Director Meyers.

City Manager	
1. Secure letter of intent for Water Street development	
2. Hire Police Chief	
3. Work on the framework for an Emergency Response Team	
4. Continue to support securing funding to complete removal of Penn Dam	
5. Increase employee morale and retention through	
	a. Promoting work-life balance
	b. Instituting schedule for nonunion full-time employee raises and performance-based incentives.
	c. Investment in trust and team building events and exercises
	d. Securing City facilities and reviewing public access policies
	e. Develop hybrid work from home policy and schedules for applicable positions
	f. Quarterly HR check ins with random sampling of City employees to discuss their goals, how they are managed, and what could be improved.
	g. Prioritize employee mental health
	h. Require all department heads and managers to take training on best practices and policies annually.

6. Identify equity and diversity gaps	
	a. Stakeholder interviews with boards, commission members and area businesses
	b. Improve communication strategies with underrepresented or under resourced constituencies
	c. Establish policies aimed at recruiting and retaining diverse candidates and employees
	d. Identify programs that can begin to bridge gaps in equity and commit funding to those best practices
	e. Invest in social services that can respond to non-emergency calls for assistance in the community
	f. Target programs aimed at home ownership assistance, rent assistance, home improvement, and other services to areas with the highest need
	g. Invest in community education, vibrancy and culture by continually providing events that promote unity, youth, sustainability and family through collaboration with YCS, the County, neighboring municipalities and non-profit organizations
7. Add security to City Hall (Capital Improvement)	

Department	Yr	Area	Objective	Goal	Task	Long Term/Short Term
Clerk	FY 23-24	Record Retention	Modernize Record Retention Strategies	All documentation with a Permanent Retention Classification digitized	Work with the Michigan Archives to digitize records currently held in the Basement of City Hall to ensure their permanent status	Both
Clerk	FY22-23	Elections	Implement Proposal 22-2	Work with regional partners to ensure nine days of early voting can be present to the public efficiently. Potentially purchase additional voting equipment to manage early voting sites. (As a side note, both the Michigan House and Senate have forecasted that the financial burden will be placed on the local jurisdictions. Be prepared to see state and federal elections budget increased by \$40,000 to \$45,000)	Work on MOUs with County and regional partners to provide sites for early voting. Standardize inspector pay throughout Washtenaw County to facility greater cohesion throughout the county.	Both
Clerk	FY22-23	Administrative Hearings Bureau	Enhance Efficiency	Correct processes to ensure case and timeline management	Work with company to develop software that better communicates with current Building Department Software	Short
Clerk	FY 22-23	Boards and Commissions	Increase Recruitment/Member Knowledge	All Advisory Boards and Commissions at full capacity	Define what it is meant by "advisory body" and create a process for how it would respond to Council.	Both
Clerk	FY22-23	Customer Service	Mordenize payment processing	Provide an online payment modal for fines, and for all city functions	Develop moduals for online submission for permits, fees, and fines similar to how parking permits and fines are collected	Short

Department	Yr	Area	Objective	Goal	Task
FINANCE	2022-2023	Accounting	Improve the integration of Payroll into Finance and make the process more efficient where possible	Better workflow on financial process	Create a workflow where everyone is involved and avoid relying too much on an individual
FINANCE	2022 on wards	Accounting	Convert paper documents to electronic copies	Less use of paper and better access to documents	Scan documents and use Content manager
FINANCE	2022-2023	Assessing	Improve record keeping	Accessibility of documents	Scan important documents and attach to BS&A Software
FINANCE	2022-2023	Assessing	Building Permit Maintenance	Conduct annual inspections	Property Assessments all Classes
FINANCE	2022-2023	Payroll	On-line access for Paystubs and Employee Forms	Acquire a software for this service	Find a software which have online/phone access for employee pay stubs
FINANCE	2022-2023	Treasury	Improve parking permit process and collection	Efficient parking process	Coordinate with Parking Manager and software provider
FINANCE	2022-2023	Treasury	Speed up entering transactions that don't come through city hall, achieved by daily monitoring our bank accounts for tax direct deposits, DDA dumpster payments, online meter/parking payments, and police transactions through Stripe	Real time recording of Cash collections	Check reports daily from bank and other software
FINANCE	2022-2023	Treasury	Re-training and cross training of	Employees to be able to cover other	Establish efficient training procedures and
FINANCE	2023 on wards	Accounting	Continuous training and testing of employees regarding Cyber Security	Ensure a risk free and secure environment for keeping data network and devices against security threats	Create a system that will regularly train and update employees regarding cyber security

FINANCE	2023-2024	Treasury	Find a solution to be able to accept miscellaneous payments via electronic payments	Make available to customers and residents the option to pay on-line	Look for a provider that will be able to provide this service
FINANCE	2023-2024	Treasury	Improve physical security in the City	Safeguard employees, city assets and facilities	Install physical deterrents to criminal entry and identify public places at the City hall.

Office of the City Attorney John M. Barr

The Ypsilanti City Charter establishes the office of the Ypsilanti City Attorney. The City Attorney is charged with representing the City in all litigation and providing legal service and advice to the City Council and City departments. The City Attorney provides advice on City legislation, ordinances and resolutions and prosecutes City ordinance violations. The City Attorney attends Council meetings, and other City meetings upon request of a City official. John M. Barr of the law firm of Barr, Anhut & Associates, P.C. is the City Attorney.

1. Attend all Council meetings
 - a. Regular
 - b. Special
2. Attend Department Head meetings
3. Attend code enforcement meetings
4. FOIA coordinator
 - a. Receive requests
 - b. Log requests
 - c. Examine requests
 - d. Respond to requests
 - e. File and index requests and responses
5. Review all contracts (City Charter 10.01)
6. Prepare contracts
7. Prepare legislation
 - a. Meetings to discuss proposed legislation
 - b. Review legislation
8. Legal advice to City Manager and Department Heads
9. Legal advice to City Council
10. Election commissioner (City Charter 3.14)
11. Prosecute all ordinance violations for City

Staff of office of City Attorney: John M. Barr, City Attorney, Jesse O'Jack Deputy City Attorney, Jennifer Healey, Office manager, Deputy FOIA Coordinator, Ashlee Roberts, Office Assistant, Tim McMacken, Para-legal, Elizabeth Taylor, Finance Officer

Goals: Continue to deliver effective, efficient, cost effective legal services to the City and support the efforts of City Council, City Manager, Department Heads and staff.

Department	Yr	Area	Objective	Goal	Task	Long Term/Short Term
Downtown Development Authority	2023-2024	Downtown, Depot Town, West Cross	Complete Equity Needs Assessment	Identify gaps and opportunities for how resources can be more equitably distributed within our organization	Stakeholder engagement surveys, interviews, monthly meetings to advance the project	Both, the assessment should be complete in the short term and have long term implications
Downtown Development Authority	2023-2024	Downtown, Depot Town, West Cross	Prioritize Community Health Solutions	Support the daytime and overnight warming shelters and identify opportunities to fill 3 day gap in services. Support community health responses to reduce public nuisance conflicts in our business districts.	Identify and support organizations qualified and willing to engage stakeholders and reduce public nuisance challenges by providing community and mental health services	Long Term
Downtown Development Authority	2023-2024	Downtown	Tax Increment Financing Renewal	The Downtown Tax Increment Financing district is set to expire in the next five years unless otherwise extended. The DDA Board seeks to begin work on that extension with the City in 2023	Get quotes from consultants for TIF plan renewal and community engagement plan	Long Term

Downtown Development Authority	2023-2024	Downtown	Streetscape Redesign	The Downtown District is now financially positioned to make a historic investment in our streetscape that is badly needed due to overgrown trees and their roots destroying sidewalks and public spaces. These areas have deteriorated and must be invested in to preserve the longterm viability of our public spaces for the next 25 years	Request for Proposal to identify qualified firms, bonding to pay for improvements.	Long Term
Downtown Development Authority	2023-2024	Downtown, Depot Town, West Cross	Building Façade, Rehabilitation and Solar Grants	Direct support in the form of grants for physical improvements to our historic commercial building stock and sustainability helps leverage public dollars for private investment. The DDA Board wishes to prioritize funding for these types of projects in each district over the next several years	Engaging property owners about grant opportunities, especially those that add residential units to mixed use buildings	Short Term

Department	Yr	Area	Objective	Goal
HR	2023-2024	Retention	Create continuous Improvement Program	Decrease employee retention and increase company Morale
HR	2023-2024	Career Path	Progression Plan	Create a roadmap detailing how a specific employee will advance through your company.
HR	2023-2024	Recruiting	Target Selection training	Expand talent pool
HR	2023-2024	Human Resources	Improve Processes	Reduce manual processes and automate
HR	2023-2024	Human Resources	Retention	Implement compensation study of non-union employees to structure the salary scale
HR	2023-2024	Human Resources	Retention	Evaluate staff pay and implement employee raises

Department of Public Services

Area	Goal	Objective	Task	Long Term/Short Term
Operations	Continue to improve recruitment and retention.	Improve worker safety	Codify existing work rules	
Operations	Continue to improve recruitment and retention.	Improve worker safety	Develop clear and consistent training plan	
Operations	Continue to improve recruitment and retention.	Improve worker safety	Develop clear and consistent safety policy document	
Operations	Continuously evaluate staffing levels	Ensure staffing levels are sufficient to meet goals	Perform review of hours of service in each major budget segment vs goals achieved in years prior	
Operations	Provide a clear, consistent, and timely permit review process	Improve permitting process	Update permit application and fee schedule to be more legible	
Operations	Provide a clear, consistent, and timely permit review process	Improve permitting process	Develop written permit standards	
Operations	Provide a clear, consistent, and timely permit review process	Improve permitting process	Review ordinances for best practices	

Operations	Provide emergency/after-hours response	Continue to work with YFD, YPD, and other partners on updating City emergency response plan		
Operations	Provide emergency/after-hours response	Continue to work with EGLE, YFD, and YPD and other partners on updating Peninsular Dam emergency response plan		
Operations	Provide emergency/after-hours response	Continue to work with Washtenaw Emergency Department on operationalizing the Countywide Snow Emergency Plan	Review and update existing snow removal policies as needed, including signage	
Operations	Provide timely and efficient fleet services	Ensure the fleet can continue to meet the existing needs of the community	Inventory DPS fleet (vehicle and equipment)	

Operations	Provide timely and efficient fleet services	Ensure the fleet can continue to meet the existing needs of the community	Develop full replacement schedule	
Operations	Provide timely and efficient fleet services	Ensure the fleet can continue to meet the existing needs of the community	Sell surplus vehicles and equipment.	
Operations	Provide timely and efficient fleet services	Ensure the fleet can continue to meet the existing needs of the community	Develop electrification plan for passenger/light-duty fleet	
Admin	Provide continuous and predictable service to the public	Improve internal process documentation.	Continue to document processes for budgeting, permitting, office procedures, and operational processes.	
Admin	Provide continuous and predictable service to the public	Improve recordkeeping	Clear onsite storage container and increase use of Iron Mountain for long-term storage	
Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's bridges	Develop plan for repair of the Cross Street Bridge	Continue to work with OHM and other partners to identify and apply for funding	

Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's bridges	Complete the Forest Avenue bridge project	Continue to work with OHM and contractor	
Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's roadways	Develop five-year preventative maintenance plan for both major and local streets	Issue RFP for 3-year contract for cracksealing and one-year surface restoration	
Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's roadways	Complete the Huron River Drive reconstruction project	Continue to work with OHM and contractor	
Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's roadways	Complete Hamilton/Huron/Washtenaw road diet, watermain replacement, and I-94 crossing	Continue to work with YCUA and MDOT on local road renovation project	
Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's roadways	Continue to develop pavement, signs, and signals inventory	Hire temporary worker to perform field inventory	
Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to maintain the City's roadways	Maximize state trunkline maintenance budget	Identify and prioritize maintenance needs	

Streets (& bridges, & signs/signals, & sidewalks)	Continue to work with MDOT Rail and other railway partners on rail maintenance and improvement	Coordinate with MDOT Rail on corridor and crossing improvements and site maintenance	Maintain communication with MDOT Rail	
Stormwater	Maintain and improve stormwater quality and prevent or mitigate destructive flooding.	Maintain compliance with the MS4 permit	Retain contractor to inspect and perform sampling at all known outfalls	
Stormwater	Maintain and improve stormwater quality and prevent or mitigate destructive flooding.	Repair known existing failures	Inventory failures and solicit quotes	
Stormwater	Maintain and improve stormwater quality and prevent or mitigate destructive flooding.	Implement asset management system.	Hire temporary worker to perform field inventory	
Stormwater	Maintain and improve stormwater quality and prevent or mitigate destructive flooding.	Ensure permit requirements align with goals	Review permit requirements and develop written standards document	
Forestry	Maintain and improve the City's urban forest.	Work with DTE and other partners to remove all known hazard trees within the rights of way and parks.	Create inventory of hazard trees and note those with overhead utility conflicts	

Forestry	Maintain and improve the City's urban forest.	Plant trees to offset those removed.	Develop a system for accepting donations (of materials and of money) for tree planting.	
Forestry	Maintain and improve the City's urban forest.	Track trees planted and removed	Update digital tree inventory using existing records	
Parks	Continue to make safety and operational improvements at parks and recreation facilities in partnership with local and regional partners	Obtain funding for the upgrade of the Prospect Park Playground		
Parks	Continue to make safety and operational improvements at parks and recreation facilities in partnership with local and regional partners	Work with WCPRC and other partners to develop trail maintenance and stormwater control plan for Riverside Park		
Facilities	Provide functional facilities for City business.	Ensure all City-owned facilities are safe for workers and guests and can safely store records and equipment.	Develop a plan to improve and maintain safety at all City -owned facilities.	

Facilities	Provide functional facilities for City business.	Ensure each City business facility (CH, PD, FD, DPS) can meet the existing needs of the City, and are safe for workers and guests and can safely store records and equipment.	Develop a plan	
Facilities	Provide functional facilities for City business.	Ensure each City facility can meet the future/strategic goals of City leadership (ex, fleet electrification, emergency response), and meet the existing needs of the City safely.	Develop a plan	
Solid Waste	Continue to provide recycling, yard waste, and other solid waste disposal services	Improve recycling quality & quantity	Continue to work with WRRMA and MRC to improve recycling quality and quantity.	

Solid Waste	Continue to provide recycling, yard waste, and other solid waste disposal services	Improve recycling quality & quantity	Locate and review case studies regarding multifamily & public recycling.	
Solid Waste	Continue to provide recycling, yard waste, and other solid waste disposal services	Provide value for service	Compare costs and benefits of altering yard waste pickup schedule vs providing/promoting alternatives, including grass mulching and utilizing the Township compost center	
Parking	Continue to implement the recommendations of the parking study & strategy	Begin systematic improvement of parking lot surfaces	Work with MDOT and/or YCUA pavement contractors to coordinate repaving of downtown lots	
Parking	Continue to implement the recommendations of the parking study & strategy	Develop rollout plan to update and expand paid parking downtown	Obtain pricing from existing vendors	

Parking	Continue to implement the recommendations of the parking study & strategy	Continue to work with DTE on public charger placement	Continue to check status of "Charging forward" and other grant programs from DTE and others	
Special Events & Internal service (abatements, DDA stuff)	Develop clear and consistent tracking for DPS "internal contracting" services			
Special Events & Internal service (abatements, DDA stuff)	Continue to improve efficiency while maintaining level of service			

Fire Department

<u>GOAL</u>	<u>TASK OR OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>MEASURABLE OUTCOMES</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>LONG/SHORT TERM</u>
Professional Development (Administration)	To increase the opportunity for advancement within the department.	Improve quality and service	\$ 10,000.00	Long Term
Professional Development (Fire Suppression)	To increase the opportunity for advancement within the department.	Improve quality and service	\$ 15,000.00	Long Term
Public Education	Promote fire safety and awareness	Increase fire safety and awareness in the community	\$ 5,000.00	Long Term
Keep our workforce diversified	As we continue to hire new personnel, we intend to have our department reflect the community we serve.	Reflect the community we serve.	None Monetary	Long Term

Partnerships	Continue to create and maintain partnerships with EMU, Washtenaw Cty, Parkridge Community Center, Public Safety Alliance, SPARK, and neighboring businesses.	Maintain and improve existing relationships	None Monetary	Long Term
Hiring	According to the IAFF Contract, we must maintain a hiring and promotional list.	Complete the hiring process by January 2023	\$38,000 -\$40,000	Long Term
Promotions	According to the IAFF Contract, we must maintain a hiring and promotional list.	Completed for 2022, new list has been established to eliminate personnel gaps.	\$10,000 - \$11,000	Long Term

Capital improvement (Fire Marshal's vehicle)	The Fire Marshall's current vehicle is inadequate. It was not purchased for practical use. The FM vehicle should accommodate his gear and all necessary tools and equipment to do inspections and arson investigations. It should also be equipped with emergency lights and siren.	Improve quality and service	\$ 37,000.00	Long Term
Capital improvement (YFD Parking Lot Concrete and Drains)	The current YFD parking lot is in need of repair and reinforcement. There are numerous broken concrete slabs in the parking lot, and the drains are sinking.	This will prevent further damage to the parking lot and will be cost effective in the long run.	Per OHM \$125,000	Long Term

Capital improvement (YFD Apparatus Bay Doors)	Current bay doors are original equipment, and require regular maintenace. Looking into replacing doors to include all hardware, to update all electrical components.	Upgrade the facilities, and to make it more accessible to AMA partmeners and other departments who have to backfill the station.	This project will have to be put out to bid and we will provide an estimate later.	Long Term
Capital improvement (Office Building Maintenance)	Continue to update facilities and amenities.	Improve quality and service	\$ 20,000.00	Long Term

Department	Yr	Area	Objective	Goal	Task
Police	2023			Continue MACP accreditation	
Police	2023		improve community relations	Implement community policing	
Police	2023		Improve mental health response	Expand CIT team	
Police	2023		Increase transparency	Implement Axon in car / body camera merger	approved capital 21/22

**Community and
Economic Development**

Area	Objective	Goal	Task	Long Term/Short Term
Citywide except R1 and CN-SF	Provide zoning text amendments that eliminate parking minimums and supportive housing occupancy limits.	Work with planning commission sub committee on housing affordability to identify additional barriers to housing affordability.	Reconvene housing affordability subcommittee and review proposed changes for implementation.	Short Term
Ward 1	Use community development block grant funding to repair Parkridge pavilion restrooms and provide new solar installations in ward 1	Bid out the restroom project with Washtenaw County OCED support. Identify property owners for solar rebates in ward 1 or use the solar funds at YHC properties.	Draft RFP and continue to engage property owners or YHC to get environmental clearance on both projects	Short Term

Citywide	Continue growing community events and programming in our park system and city facilities like the Senior Center, Rutherford Pool, Freighthouse and Parkridge Community Center.	We hope to see a 50% increase in the number of community events in our park system and city facilities following the promotion of our adopted community events policy	Marketing city facilities and parks to community leaders, organizers, and neighborhoods.	Long Term
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Historic District	CLG Resurvey	The original survey work was completed in the late 1970s and early 1980s and survey standards and technology have changed since then. We hope to resurvey and take photos of all of the 820 addresses including houses, buildings, structures, etc in our historic district.	Use a program like ARC GIS's Survey 1 2 3 so we can better integrate our survey records into BSA and so we can better tell the story of our district and our city. Engage EMU faculty and staff in the historic preservation program about how we can work with students to include them in this initiative.	Long Term
Ward 3	206/210 N Washington Affordable Housing Redevelopment	Navigate HDC, Planning Commission, and Community Benefits Agreement approval steps with Avalon Housing	Review application for PILOT, Site Plan, and Demolition Permits expected in early 2023	Short Term

Ward 3	Identify locations to host Friday-Sunday daytime/overnight warming shelter services	Continue progress at Freighthouse by growing revenue to support capital improvements plan and warming center services to close the three day gap Friday-Sunday	Increase Freighthouse revenues by 50% by amending fee schedule and booking more events. Review and make recommendations from recently completing Freighthouse Business Plan	Short Term
City Hall	Allow for online payments	Work with all departments to allow for payments online for payments and permits	Work with city vendors or identify new vendors to take payments for building, planning, code enforcement, parking and	
City Hall	Digitize Records	Work with all departments to digitize records	find a vendor to work to digitize records to eliminate the needs for physical storage.	

2022-2024	Ward 1 and 3	Redevelop long-term vacant sites in the city	Redevelop Water Street, 220 N. Park and Angstrom.	Work with various developers to secure purchase agreements for water street and begin development at 220 N. Park.
2022-2024	All Wards	Work to improve the city and private sidewalks to the city code standards	Create a comprehensive plan to address sidewalk issues in the city	Create a timeline for the start of a replacement program
2022-2023	All Wards	Streamline the rental inspection process	Purchase new equipment and software to allow for reports to be created on	Purchase upgraded BSA software



Resolution No. 2023-001
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following items be approved:

1. **Resolution No. 2023-002, approving the minutes of the December 20, 2022 City Council Meeting.**
2. **Resolution No 2023-003, approving Ordinance 1404, an Ordinance Entitled "Zoning Test Amendment: Temporary Mobile Healthcare Establishments". (Second Reading).**
3. **Resolution No. 2023-004, approving the purchase of a vehicle for the use of the Fire Department from Gorno Ford.**

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this 10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-001



Resolution No. 2023-002
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of December 20, 2022 City Council Meeting be approved.

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this
10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-002



MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, December 20, 2022
Council Chambers

The REGULAR COUNCIL of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Tuesday, December 20, 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 (Absent 6:04 PM – 7:08 PM: resigned 8:45 PM), Council Member Roland Tooson, and Council Member Michelle King

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

The agenda was approved as submitted

V WARD 3 COUNCIL SEAT INTERVIEWS 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

- a) Even Sweet - (added)
- b) Ashanti Harris - (added)
- c) Amber Fellows - (added)
- d) Paul Adams - (added)

The meeting recessed at 7:08 PM and reconvened at 7:15 PM

VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Fourteen Members of the Public Spoke

VII ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- a) Ordinance 1404, an Ordinance Entitled "Zoning Text Amendment: Temporary Mobile Healthcare Establishments".
1. Resolution No. 2022-281, determination
 2. Public Hearing
 3. Resolution No. 2022-282, closing the public hearing

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to approve Resolution No. 2022-282

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

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, Resolution No. 2022-281

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

VIII CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Resolution No. 2022-283, approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-283

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

- b) Resolution No. 2022-284, approving the minutes of the December 6, 2022 City Council Meeting.
- c) Resolution No 2022-285, approving the revised Community Benefits Agreement with Renovare Developers for 220 N Park.

IX RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- a) Resolution No. 2022-286, approving an amendment to the Community Benefits Agreement with Lincoln Capital for the Development of 845 and 945 Clark Road.

Council Member Desirae Simmons moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-286

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

- b) Resolution No. 2022-287, approving the budget amendment for water street activities and approve the proposal form AKT Peerless .

Council Member Annie Somerville moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to approve Resolution No. 2022-287

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

- c) Resolution No. 2022-288, approving appointments to boards and commissions.

Council Member Roland Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-288

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

- d) Resolution No. 2022-289, approving a Budget Amendment for Parkridge Community Center for application to the AACF Grant Program.

Council Member Michelle King moved, seconded by Council Member Annie Somerville, to approve Resolution No. 2022-289

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

X BOARD AND COMMISSION - NOMINATIONS

a) Historic District Commission

Alexander Petit (Reappointment) Exp. 12/31/2025
945 Sheridan
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

James Chesnut (Reappointment) Exp. 12/31/2025
1223 Sherman St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon moved, seconded by Council Member Jennifer Symanns, to suspend the rules and immediately reappoint Alexander Petit and James Chestnut to the Historic District Commission

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

XI BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

1. Police Advisory Commission. - Clerk Hellenga stated that the Commission requested holding two joint meetings with City Council yearly and asked to have the same amount of representation on the Police Chief Interview Panel as City Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon add that he attended the meeting and it involved some really great discussion and all members were engaged.
2. Human Relations Commission. - None
3. Arts Commission. - None
4. Parks and Recreation Commission.- None
5. Sustainability Commission. - Council Member Simmons stated Teresa Gillotti presented the Washtenaw County's Opportunity Index. The Commission also requested holding a joint meeting with City Council.
6. Historic District Commission. - None
7. Planning Commission. - Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon stated the meeting will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, December 21st.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals - None

XII LIAISON REPORTS

1. SEMCOG Update - None
2. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study - None
3. Urban County - None
4. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority - Mayor Brown stated the Board discussed the funding for the Ball drop on New Year's Eve.
5. Friends of Rutherford Pool - Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon stated the Board discussed the seeking a SPARK Grant to resurface the pool.
6. Bicentennial Committee - Council Member Somerville stated the Committee has been planning for the New Years Eve event and are now creating Bicentennial Merchandise.

XIII COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

a) King

1. Stated that there will be a food and coat drive at the Mosaic Church in Ypsilanti on December 31st from 12 pm until 3 pm.

b) Simmons

1. Referenced a complaint received from a resident regarding issues with noise and questioned why they only recourse they had is to call the police, there should be another way to resolve conflict.
2. Stated there has been discussion regarding a Board and Commission fair and potentially expanded it to a resource fair.
3. She stated that she would like to show support for the Graduate Employee Organizations (GEO) bargaining sessions.
4. There is an issue with traffic calming in the neighborhoods and is hoping there is a more holistic approach to slowing down speeders, potentially a resident committee, or a current commission, such as the Non-Motorized Committee.
5. She asked what the process is for Council to schedule a community, or Ward meeting.

c) Wilcoxon

1. Stated he attended a training for retailers that was provided by the Ann Arbor Police and Community and mental health on how to diffuse a mental health crisis. He recommended that this be provided for downtown merchants.

d) Somerville

1. Submitted her resignation from there Ward 3 Council Seat, effective immediately.

e) Symanns

Council Member Jennifer Symanns moved, seconded by Council Member Roland Tooson, to select a replacement for the Ward 3 vacancy during tonight's meeting.

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

f) Tooson

1. Stated that CREAM Inc. is holding a Winter Empowerment in five locations and recommended visiting their website for additional information.

XIV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Thanked Former Council Member Annie Somerville for her service to Ypsilanti.
2. Thanked former Assistant City Attorney Karl Barr, and wished him luck.
3. Informed Council that there will be a toy drive at Lot G and Puffer Reds at Noon on the 23rd.

XV COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- a) Manager Proposed Goal Setting Dates:
 - 1. January 10, 2023 at 6:00 pm, in Conjunction with the Regular Meeting.
 - 2. January 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm, Special Meeting.
 - 3. January 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm, in conjunction with the regular meeting (if needed).

XVI COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Council Goals are due by close of Business December 21st.

XVII PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Two members of the public spoke

XVIII REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XIX ADJOURNMENT

- a) Resolution No. 2022-290, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

The meeting adjourned 9:09 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.



Resolution No. 2023-003
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that mobile health clinics serve an important role in the health care system, providing care to some of the most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that this action creates access to direct medical care, screening and protective measures that may lead to a more stable and healthier workforce, as well as the prevention of long-term illness, hospitalization, or death; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that protecting our citizens, local employees, entrepreneurs, and service providers from social and physical health difficulties fully addresses the broader community's economic conditions; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the Zoning Text Amendment provision in the zoning ordinance to allow for temporary mobile healthcare establishments in the Center, Parks, GC, NC, HHS and PMD zoning districts, on Second and Final Reading.

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this 10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-003

City of Ypsilanti
Notice of Adopted Ordinance
Ordinance No. 1404

An Ordinance Entitled "Temporary Mobile Healthcare Establishments"

THE CITY OF YPSILANTI ORDAINS:

ARTICLE III: Development Procedures and Administration

DIVISION 2: Permits

SUBDIVISION 3: Temporary Use Permits

Sec. 122-335 (i) Temporary mobile healthcare establishments. The City Planner may authorize a temporary special permit to temporary mobile healthcare establishments for no more than 365 consecutive days in one calendar year, with the following standards:

- (1) Permits expire on December 31st of each year.
- (2) Temporary mobile healthcare establishments are only permitted in Center, Parks, General Corridor, Neighborhood Corridor, Production Manufacturing Distribution, and Health and Human Services zoning districts.
- (3) The area occupied by temporary mobile healthcare establishments and their accessory materials may not occupy more than 20% of the required parking spaces for the principal/permanent use(s) of the site. This requirement does not apply in Center or in Historic Corridor zoning districts.
- (4) Sanitary facilities shall be provided. This requirement may be met via a temporary sanitary facility such as a port-a-john or via an agreement with a neighboring establishment with the same operating hours as the temporary healthcare establishment.
- (5) Operating hours shall be no later than 10pm Sunday through Thursday, and 11pm Friday and Saturday; nor any earlier than 7am on any day of the week.
- (6) No outdoor amplified music, sound, or noise shall be permitted. Outdoor generators shall be identified on the sketch plan; no outdoor generators shall be permitted within 200 feet of a property line that is not zoned Center, Parks, General Corridor, Neighborhood Corridor, Production Manufacturing Distribution, or Health and Human Services zoning district.
- (7) All outdoor lighting shall be down directed and fully shielded.
- (8) The temporary mobile healthcare establishment and all accessory materials shall be located on a paved surface, or evidence submitted that placement on an unpaved surface will not increase stormwater runoff or pose an accessibility challenge for patrons who may use a mobility assistance device, such as a wheelchair or walker.

(9) A sketch plan of the proposed location shall be provided if and when requested; location of any seating, waste containers, fuel storage, sanitary facilities, lighting, generators, or other accessory materials shall be shown.

(10) The standards in subsection (h) of this section also apply to temporary mobile healthcare establishments.

MADE, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL THIS ____ DAY OF _____,
_____.

Attest

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk

I do hereby confirm that the above Ordinance No. 1404 was published in the Washtenaw Legal News on the ____ day of _____, ____.

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTING

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Ordinance passed at the regular meeting of the City Council held on the ____ day of _____, ____.

Andrew Hellenga, City Clerk

Notice Published:

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Published:

Effective Date:



Resolution No. 2023-004
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Fire Department desires to replace one (1) Fire vehicle a with 2024 Ford Explorer, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Fire Department was allocated \$32,000.00 in the FY 2022-23 budget for the purchase of one (1) vehicle, and

WHEREAS, Gorno Ford of Woodhaven, Michigan has provided State of Michigan bid pricing in the amount of \$37,547.00, and

WHEREAS, due to price changes to purchase the Fire Marshal's vehicle a budget adjustment in the amount of \$6,000.00 was made from account 641.7.9340.818.00 into account 641.7.9340.987.11.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fire Chief be authorized to sign all necessary documents needed to execute the vehicle purchase.

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this 10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-004



REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: John Barr
DATE: January 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Evaluation of City Manager

DESCRIPTION:
Evaluation of City Manager

SUMMARY:

The City manager is evaluated annually by City Council. Attached is a resolution to accept the Manager's evaluation.

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Resolution to accept evaluation of City Manager.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adoption of the resolution

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: _____ COUNCIL AGENDA DATE: _____

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: _____

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL: _____



Resolution No. 2023-005
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City Manager reports directly to the City Council and is supervised by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has evaluated City Manager Frances McMullan for her performance over the evaluation period; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Ypsilanti City Council hereby accepts the evaluation of City Manager McMullan.

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this 10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-005



REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: John Barr
DATE: January 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Evaluation of City Clerk

DESCRIPTION:
Evaluation of City Clerk

SUMMARY:

The City Clerk is evaluated annually by City Council. Attached is a resolution to accept the Clerk's evaluation.

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Resolution to accept evaluation of City Clerk.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adoption of the resolution

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: _____ **COUNCIL AGENDA DATE:** _____

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: _____

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL: _____



Resolution No. 2023-006
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City Clerk reports directly to the City Council and is supervised by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has evaluated City Clerk Andrew Hellenga for his performance over the evaluation period; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Ypsilanti City Council hereby accepts the evaluation of City Clerk Andrew Hellenga.

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this 10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-006

Citizen Advisory Boards and Commissions Participation Resume

The people of Ypsilanti are involved in their City government and are an important part of the community's achievements. Individuals interested in receiving more information in regards to serving on an advisory board or commission are invited to contact the City Clerk's Office at 734-483-1100. Alternatively, citizens who would like to participate can submit their information in the form below.

Qualifications

Must be a resident/business owner in the city for at least two years. Or Council must determine your expertise is essential and not available in an applicant that meets the qualifications above. Must be eligible to vote in the state if not applying for youth membership.

Name	Annie Somerville
Email Address	
Address	40 E CROSS ST
City	YPSILANTI
State	MI
Zip Code	48198
Phone Number	
Number of Years in the Community	10
Ward You Live In	3
Education	Bachelor of Political Science from Eastern Michigan
Occupation	State Legislative Staff
Employer	Michigan Senate
Are you applying for youth membership?	No
Are you registered to vote in the City of Ypsilanti?	Yes
I would like to be considered and could devote sufficient time to serve on the following board or commission:	Field not completed.
Party Affiliation	Democrat

Field not completed.

Why are you interested in serving on these boards/commissions?

I have been working with the Bicentennial Commission for the last year to produce a 200 year celebration that everyone from Ypsilanti can enjoy. I would love to be an official member of the commission.

Work/volunteer experience related to the board or commission:

I currently volunteer in several Bicentennial subcommittees.

I understand that appointment to a City of Ypsilanti board or commission requires regular attendance at board meetings.

Yes

I hereby certify that all of the information above is true.

Yes

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



City of Ypsilanti

Department of Public Services

December 2022

2022 Annual Report Parks & Recreation Commission Ypsilanti, Michigan

INTRODUCTION

The Parks & Recreation Commission of the City of Ypsilanti is empowered by Chapter 78 of the Code of Ordinances to make recommendations concerning the recreation and parks needs of the city, including how park improvement funds are used; update the parks and recreation master plan; review and approve "Adopt-A-Park" applications; expand park and recreational opportunities through commission sponsored events when appropriate.

In 2021, the Parks & Recreation Commission's membership was as follows:

Evan Sweet (chair through August)	Julia Collins (resigned June)
Dillon Navarre (chair)	Brian Merlos (vice chair)
Ben Connor-Barrie (vice-chair)	Blake Harrity (appointed July)
Cathy Thoburn (secretary)	Lola Malmer
	Tarik Fermin

Per Chapter 78- 49(6), the Commission must provide an annual report to City Council.

OPERATIONS

The Commission held regular monthly meetings from March onward during 2022 in a hybrid format, with Commissioners present and public participation welcomed via Zoom. The Commission was regularly updated by the Friends of the Rutherford Pool, Parkridge Community Center, and the Friends of the Ypsilanti Senior Center, and also heard periodic updates on the status of the Peninsular Dam removal project. In the summer, the PRC heard from staff regarding a plan for better promoting the events in the parks and making information about the parks easier to access. Huron River Day, an event that the Commission traditionally supports, was held in the fall in partnership with the Huron River Watershed Council and funding from mParks and MDHHS.

The Commission reviewed proposals for work in the parks from several groups. This year, that included the potential naming of an open area at the north-east corner of Spring Street and the Huron River, placement of a memorial bench in Prospect Park honoring Grace Sweeney and Pete Murdock, and the naming of the baseball field in Waterworks Park in honor of William Anhut and his role in opening Little League to players of all genders. Volunteers performed multiple clean-up days throughout the parks system.

Included in this year's annual report is the implementation matrix from the 2020 Parks Master Plan.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Parks and Recreation Commission looks forward to future progress on the following projects and goals:

- Progress on the removal of the Peninsular Dam and the plans for the expanded Peninsular Park
- Capital budget review on parks improvements
- Progress with Prospect Park and Frog Island improvements

ACTION

The Parks and Recreation Commission adopted this report at its regular December meeting and approved transmittal to City Council.

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
GOAL 1: ENSURE PARKS ARE ATTRACTIVE AND ACCESSIBLE				
Objective 1: Ensure safe routes to parks and recreation facilities from neighborhoods, schools, and business districts, for people of all ability levels.				
Frog Island, Freighthouse & Market Plaza				
Construct pedestrian crossing from Frog Island parking to Freighthouse at Market Street.	\$	★	✓	
Riverside Park				
Install bollards along drive (both sides) to prevent unauthorized access.	\$	★	✓	Improved signage 2022.
Construct ADA-compliant barrier-free access from street sidewalk at north and south ends of park.	\$	★	✓	South access complete 2017
Recreation Park				
Connect walking track to sidewalk along Woods Road at both east and west ends.	\$	★	✓	Feasibility study complete 2021
Waterworks				
Construct sidewalk along Catherine Street frontage; continue to Factory Street.	\$	★	✓	
Haab Brothers Memorial Park				
Construct sidewalk on both sides, to Factory Street.	\$	★	✓ ✓	
North Bay Park				
Construct accessible crossing of driveway north of bridge over I-94, and sidewalk from driveway to bridge.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	Completed 2021
Objective 2: Ensure each park has a visible presence, entrance, and sign on adjacent rights-of-way.				
All Parks				
Design and place consistent signage about rules, hours, and other information for each park.	\$	★	✓	Complete 2022

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Riverside Park				
Install signage at Riverside Arts Center entrance; improve visibility.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	The RAC ownership has been transferred to the Riverside Arts Center nonprofit as of 2022. Any signage updates must be taken in partnership.
Frog Island				
Place signage at center parking lot entrance.	\$	★	✓	
Relocate north entrance signage as part of 2020 project.	\$	★	✓	Completed 2020
Parkridge				
Landscape and improve access at south Hawkins entrance.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	Removable bollard installed to maintain pedestrian access while excluding vehicles in 2022.
Peninsular				
Repair and consider reorienting the LeForge Street signage to be legible to vehicular traffic.	\$	★	✓	
Prospect				
Install signage at the Prospect/Cross corner as well as the Oak/Prospect corner, consistent with signage at other locations, to distinguish this location as a public park.	\$	★	✓	Sign installed on Prospect frontage midblock
Install secondary park identification signage at the parking lot on the southeast corner of the park, near the parking lot.	\$	★	✓	
The Spanish-American War Memorial, Edith Hefley Tot Lot, Ainsworth Park, Carrie R Mattingly Tot Lot, and the Haab Brothers Memorial Park				
Install signage indicating that these are public parks, consistent with signage at other locations.	\$\$	★	✓	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Pavilions, gazebos, and other rentable or reservable facilities.				
Install small signs or notices advertising the reservation system.	\$	★ ★	✓	
Nonmotorized connections				
Evaluate City-owned parcels for their ability to serve as nonmotorized connections between neighborhoods.	\$	★ ★	✓ ✓	
Provide signage for those parcels determined to be needful to serve a nonmotorized transportation purpose.	\$	★	✓	
Objective 3: Ensure that each park presents a well-maintained and clean image.				
Improve maintenance, either through engaging additional volunteers, adding staff time, or a combination of both.				Staff added 2021-22
Regular annual or seasonal inspections should be performed with an eye for cosmetic and other issues that can be addressed by volunteers.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	
Regular scraping and repainting of structures and facilities, either by volunteers or as part of an annual cleanup event, should be encouraged.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	
Integrate volunteer efforts into long-term landscaping plans.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	
Improve waste collection in all parks.				
Regularly evaluate location and number of trash receptacles; eliminate those in low-volume or inaccessible areas and add more where need seems to be greater.	\$	★	()	Added additional waste cans in 2021 Added recycling cans in 2022.
Engage volunteers or service groups for periodic litter cleanup days.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	
Encourage special events to make use of non-profit or service organizations in post-event clean-up efforts.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	
Encourage special events to coordinate with ZeroWaste efforts.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Objective 4: Ensure all parks, park shelters, trails, and other facilities are physically accessible to people of all ages and ability levels.				
Riverside Park				
Provide barrier-free access at north and west entrances.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Link pavilion to trails.	\$	★	✓	
Mark additional barrier-free spaces in parking areas.	\$	★	✓	
When reconstructing trails, bring to current barrier-free standards.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Frog Island Park				
Provide barrier-free access at north, east (center) and south entrances.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	North 50% and south complete.
Improve parking area; provide additional barrier-free spaces.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	Grant awarded 2021
When reconstructing trails, bring to current barrier-free standards.	\$\$\$	★	✓	Trail improved 2020
Recreation Park				
Provide additional barrier-free spaces near facilities, such as playgrounds, Senior Center, and the Rutherford Pool.	\$	★	✓	
When reconstructing trails, bring to current barrier-free standards.	\$\$	★	✓	
Upgrade play area and surfacing to barrier-free standards.	\$\$	★ ★	✓	
Pave walking path and connect to sidewalk system to the south	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	Feasibility study complete 2021
Parkridge Park				
Provide barrier-free access at south Hawkins entrance.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Link pavilion to trails.	\$\$	★	✓	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
When reconstructing trails, bring to current barrier-free standards.	\$\$\$	★	✓	Frog Island 2020.
Upgrade play area and surfacing to barrier-free standards.	\$\$\$	★★	✓	Complete 2020
Candy Cane Park				
Provide barrier-free access at south and north entrances.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Provide handicap placard parking.	\$\$	★	✓	On-street space signed 2021.
Create a paved path linking north & south ends of park, pavilion, and play area.	\$\$	★	✓	Sidewalk constructed from street to play area 2020.
Upgrade play area and surfacing to barrier-free standards; provide barrier-free access.	\$\$\$	★★	✓	Complete 2020
Peninsular Park				
Provide barrier-free access from LeForge.	\$\$\$	★★	✓ ✓ ✓	
When constructing or reconstructing trails, bring to current barrier-free standards.	\$	★	✓	
Link pavilion to trails.	\$	★	✓	
Improve parking area; provide barrier-free spaces.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Provide barrier-free access to dock	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Prospect Park				
Provide barrier-free access from entrances to south pavilion and link to trail.	\$\$	★	✓	
Improve parking area at south-east corner; provide barrier-free spaces.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Work with YCS to upgrade the play area and its surfacing to barrier-free standards.	\$\$	★★	✓	Grant application submitted 2022.

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Pave sidewalk along south side of Oak, Vought to Charles	\$\$	★	✓	Grant application submitted 2022.
Waterworks Park				
Provide sidewalk along east side of Catherine.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Improve parking area; provide barrier-free spaces.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
GOAL 2: PROVIDE PARKS THAT MEET YPSILANTI'S RECREATION NEEDS				
Objective 1: Ensure existing facilities can continue to meet the needs of park users.				
Develop a parks-specific maintenance and capital improvement plan, to be integrated with the larger City-wide Capital Improvements Plan.	\$\$	★	✓	Development underway 2022.
Continue to perform regular, scheduled safety inspections of playground and sports equipment, repairing, removing, or replacing equipment as necessary and as resources permit.	\$	★	()	
Perform annual safety inspections of picnic pavilions.	\$	★	()	
Perform annual or seasonal inspections of electrical systems used in festivals and events.	\$	★	()	
Institute a "move in and move out" checklist for large events, such as Class III and IV events.	\$	★	✓	
Work with Friends groups, Adopters, and regular event-holders to help ensure the ongoing maintenance of facilities.	\$	★★★	()	
Address ongoing stormwater issues in Riverside, Frog Island, and Recreation Parks.	\$\$\$	★★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Clarify boundary between Parkridge Park and Perry School.	\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Consider installing an intergenerational playground in Recreation Park, adjacent to and with the aid of the Senior Center.	\$\$	★★	✓ ✓	
Consider installing a dog park in Waterworks Park.	\$\$	★★	✓ ✓	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Work with the Ypsi-Arbor Little League to develop plans for continuing use of Recreation Park and Candy Cane Park, including scoreboard installation or replacement, fencing improvements, lighting improvements, and ballfield improvements.	\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓	
Continue to work with the adjoining public schools to ensure that children have safe, accessible, and appropriately challenging places to play during the school year and year round.	\$\$	★ ★	()	
Continue to expand the network of shared use paths and connectors.	\$\$	★	()	
Objective 2: Ensure that parks are safe and appear to be safe.				
Lighting should be consistently provided in parks.				
Community Parks				
Provide lighting under pavilions, at entrances, and along paths at Riverside, Frog Island, Recreation, and Parkridge Parks.	\$\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	Lighting added at Frog Island 2021.
Neighborhood Parks				
Provide lighting under pavilions, at entrances, and along paths; these lights can be motion-sensitive, photocell, on a timer, or a combination.	\$\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Mini-parks				
Evaluate the need for lighting on a per-park basis.	\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Improve sightlines				
Clear brush at entrances, bends in trails, and at park borders.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
When renovating or replacing pavilions, maintain at least three open sides.	\$\$\$	★	()	
Redesign area at top of Riverside Arts Center/Riverside Park stairway to improve visibility and feelings of safety.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	The RAC ownership has been transferred to the Riverside Arts Center nonprofit as of 2022. Any updates must be taken in partnership.

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Address vandalism issues promptly and thoroughly.	\$	★ ★	()	Ongoing
Create standards for amplified sound in Frog Island and other parks to ensure compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods.	\$	★ ★	✓	
Objective 3: Provide upgrades to the parks that increase their long-term durability and reduce operation costs.				
When renovating pavilions or other structures in the parks, consider long-term maintenance and operating costs as well as the initial cost.	\$	★	()	
Consider replacing decommissioned restrooms with accessible and durable facilities, either permanent or seasonal.	\$\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Use landscaping to beautify the parks, help to provide shade, improve the ecology of the parks, and offset stormwater impacts.				
Remove invasive species, and replace with gardenized spaces.	\$	★ ★ ★	✓ ✓	
Pursue streambank restoration.	\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓	
Investigate slope stabilization plantings for Frog Island, Riverside, Peninsular, and Parkridge Parks.	\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓	
Work to install shade tree plantings adjacent to play and picnic areas.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	✓	
Use raingardens to control stormwater and drainage issues; work with skilled volunteers to install and maintain.	\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓	
Plant trees to replace those lost in the past decade.	\$\$	★ ★	()	Ongoing
Objective 4: Provide upgrades to the parks that increase recreation opportunities.				
Ensure each park has sufficient benches, picnic tables, waste cans, dog waste stations, lighting, barrier-free parking, and bike parking.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	()	
Ensure each park has sufficient trees.	\$\$	★ ★	()	
Ensure each park's attractions are accessible.	\$\$	★	()	
Riverside				

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Pursue implementation of the vision proposed in the 2008 Parks & Recreation Master Plan, particularly stormwater improvements and trail repair, and consider updating the site plan.	\$\$\$	★ ★	()	
Frog Island				
Pursue implementation of the vision proposed in the 2008 Parks & Recreation Master Plan, and consider updating the site plan.	\$\$\$	★ ★	()	
Recreation Park				
Pave walking path around park; ensure that the path width is a consistent ten feet wide and that the grade meets accessibility standards.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Resurface former tennis courts- currently basketball courts.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Work to improve stormwater drainage in the open playing fields to the south of the Rutherford Pool and baseball fields.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Repair or remove nonfunctional lighting poles.	\$	★	✓	
Repair or replace outfield fencing, work with Little League to ensure adequate fencing is provided.	\$	★ ★ ★	✓	
Stripe additional barrier-free spaces in both parking lots.	\$	★	✓	
Parkridge Park				
Install picnic tables &/or benches and shade trees near the play area in southwest area of the park.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	✓	
Update the play area; expand the playground facilities and ensure they are accessible and appeal to a broad range of ages and abilities.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	✓ ✓	Updated summer 2020
Finish and landscape the parking area off of Monroe Street, or close curb cut and use as pedestrian entrances.	\$\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Create ADA-accessible connections to Monroe Street via paved pathways.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Provide needed repairs to ballfield, basketball courts, tennis courts, and pavilion; remove disused sand volleyball court.	\$	★	✓ ✓	Volleyball court removed 2021; basketball court repaired 2021. Funding obtained for softball field repairs.
Candy Cane				
Install an accessible pathway through Candy Cane, linking the pavilion, the existing sidewalk to the north, the playground, and the sidewalk to the south.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓	
Replace play equipment.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	✓	Complete 2020
Work with Little League to provide needed updates to the ballfield.	\$	★ ★ ★	✓ ✓	
Work with partners to mark historic Little League/Carolyn King events.	\$	★ ★ ★	✓	
Peninsular Park				
Remove the dam.	\$\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Create a barrier-free walking path along the Huron River.	\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Install an accessible canoe/kayak launch.	\$\$\$	★ ★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Work with local stakeholders such as volunteer groups to install functional plantings, such as butterfly/pollinator gardens and raingardens, as well as interpretive and educational signage.	\$	★ ★ ★	✓ ✓	
Following dam removal, work to restore the newly exposed impoundment area.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	✓ ✓	
Seek a private partner for re-use of the historic Powerhouse.	\$	★	()	
Repair the access to the concrete dock downstream of the dam, and add an accessible path to the dock.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Prospect Park				
Work with YCS to ensure the play equipment is maintained and replaced as needed.	\$	★	✓	
Continue to work with YCS on other projects to improve the park's functionality as both a school playground and a community playground.	\$\$	★★★	()	
Work with the skate park volunteer group on maintenance, improvement, and expansion projects.	\$	★★★	()	
Repair the existing basketball courts.	\$	★	✓	
Repair the pathways and ensure they are linked throughout the park.	\$	★	✓	
Waterworks Park				
Continue to work with the Ypsilanti American Little League and private partners to renovate the existing ball diamond.	\$	★★★	()	
Continue to work with the Ann Arbor Area Disc Induced Sports Club (A3 Disc) to ensure the disc golf course is maintained.	\$	★★★	()	
Work with area stakeholders and potential partners to explore the need for, design of, and potential fundraising mechanisms for a dog park.	\$\$	★★★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Tot Lots and Mini-Parks				
Maintain and replace play equipment as needed.	\$\$	★★★	()	
Border-to-Border Trail				
Repair and maintain the portions of the Border to Border trail that run through Frog Island and Riverside Parks.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓	Frog Island pathway replacement complete 2020.
Shift portions of the Border to Border trail that are split between bike lanes and sidewalks to shared-use paths wherever possible.	\$\$\$	★	✓ ✓ ✓	
Link the Border-to-Border Trail with the parks and to the nonmotorized transportation system.	\$\$\$	★	()	Ongoing

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Continue to expand the City's bike lane and trail system, linking parks and the B2B Trail to the City's commercial and cultural centers, as well as to regional resources.	\$\$\$	★ ★	()	Ongoing
Huron River Shoreline				
Continue assembling access and/or conservation easements on private shoreline.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
Pursue opportunities to construct a riverfront trail system as they arise.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
GOAL 3: WORK WITH VOLUNTEERS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES TO CITY RESIDENTS				
Objective 1: Improve relationships with entities that provide recreation opportunities within the City.				
Continue to formalize relationships wherein another entity is operating a city-owned facility.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	MOU with the Senior Center adopted 2021
Continue to help provide resources to established partners, such as expertise, historical information, and joint purchasing where feasible.	\$\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
Work with adjacent schools, daycare centers, and other institutions in parks improvements and maintenance.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
Coordinate with neighboring communities and the County to implement regional planning goals.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
Objective 2: Encourage volunteerism.				
Strengthen and streamline the Adopt-A-Park program.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing
Create a volunteer manager position, or merge volunteer management responsibilities with a new position that will also coordinate Special Events.	\$	★ ★	✓ ✓	
Objective 3: Continue to improve the Special Events and park reservations program.				
Increase the visibility of and publicize the Special Events program.	\$	★ ★	✓	

PROJECT	COST	VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT	TIME TO COMPLETE	STATUS
Ensure that the City website can be a resource to those seeking to volunteer, to reserve a park, or simply to find a park or an event.	\$	★ ★	()	Ongoing. City website significantly updated in 2022 for better parks & recreation communications.
Continue to work with well-established partners to support and promote recreation in the City.	\$	★ ★ ★	()	Ongoing



**2022 Annual Report
Sustainability Commission
Ypsilanti, Michigan**

INTRODUCTION

The Sustainability Commission of the City of Ypsilanti is governed by the City of Ypsilanti's Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Section 171, allocates the following tasks to the Sustainability Commission:

- a. To create a model of sustainability through efforts to advocate, educate and promote the social, economic and environmental health of the community now and into the future.
- b. To broaden the lens and scope of energy and environmental needs in the future such as wind, solar, clean air, water and improving infrastructure.
- c. To recognize natural resources as chief assets of the City of Ypsilanti and encouraging responsible stewardship of these assets.
- d. To collaborate with citizens, employees, employers, service providers and other governmental agencies and educational agencies to share ideas.
- e. To create a Sustainability Plan.
- f. To review the City of Ypsilanti's Climate Action Plan, Alternate Fuel Policy, the Michigan Green Communities Challenge, and other plans and policies and to continue the work of said plans and policies.
- g. To prioritize sustainability policies.

In 2022, the Sustainability Commission's membership was as follows:

Beth Gibbons (chair)
Nancy Heine (vice-chair)
Julia Bayha
Bryan Foley
Takunia Collins

Liz Ratzloff (joined 11/2022)
Shannon Baer (joined 7/2022)
Keith Michalowski (resigned 11/2022)
Desirae Simmons (resigned 11/2022)

There was one vacant regular seat and two vacant youth seats as of December 2022.

As a best practice and per §2-174(e), the Commission shall provide an annual report to City Council. This report discusses,

1. The operations of the Commission during the past year
2. The status of any on-going activities, including the Michigan Green Communities Challenge
3. The progress towards the goals laid out in the Climate Action Plan and Energy Plan
4. Recommendations to the legislative body related to sustainability

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION OPERATIONS

The Sustainability Commission held regular monthly meetings during 2022; these meetings were held in-person with public participation in person and via Zoom.

The Commission passed a resolution in support of the Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) for 945 Clark and heard a presentation on the process for 220 N Park. The Commission was trained on how to use the Washtenaw County Opportunity Index; The City won Gold in the 2022 Michigan Green Communities Challenge.

The Commission learned about such topics and activities as passage of the two CBAs, the solar rebate programs (DDA/Sweeney & NEZ/Sweeney) and Washtenaw County Climate Plan ("Resilient Washtenaw").

Commissioners continued advancing sustainability efforts across the City including:

- The establishment of a Resilience Hub at Parkridge Community Center;
- The planning of the 4th Annual Earth Day Event (upcoming on April 16, 2023);
- Advancing of the process to remove the Pen Dam including the sediment study completion and public event sharing those results;
- Educating youth on the importance of urban farming and the history of urban farming in our community;
- Collaborating with educators at Ypsilanti Community Schools via the Southeast Michigan Stewardship Coalition

(SEMIS) to educate youth on sustainability and the role of the City.

The Commission acknowledges and appreciates work taking place across the City advancing Sustainability Plan goals including: a preproposal submitted for the next phase of dam removal work; receipt of a recycling program grant for carts and education; the nonmotorized crossing of I-94 at Huron Street; the beginning of the construction project to establish bike lanes on Hamilton, Huron, and Washtenaw; the removal of lead water service leads and mains; and work done to improve HVAC functionality and efficiency at the Fire Station and Parkridge Community Center; the adoption of the Resilient Washtenaw plan; and the DDA's and City's solar rebate program.

Included in this year's annual report is the implementation matrix from the adopted Sustainability Plan.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Sustainability Commission plans to focus on implementation of the following Sustainability Plan goals:

- Continue to recruit additional members, including youth members.
- Participate in the Michigan Green Communities Challenge for 2023.
- Continue working with the University of Michigan SEAS program regarding resiliency hubs.
- Help to secure additional grants to advance the removal of the Peninsular Dam.

ACTION

The Sustainability Commission adopted this report at its regular January 2023 meeting and approved transmittal to City Council.

Plan Implementation Matrix

Capital Improvements Plan = CIP; Zoning Ordinance = ZO; CED = Community & Economic Development; DPS = Department of Public Services

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
Sustainability Goals: Earth			
GOAL: Eliminate new instances of soil contamination and responsibly deal with the legacy of existing polluted sites			
Explore creation of an overlay zone, or other zoning or building regulations, to control the types of uses that may be permitted in areas with soils that would allow for easy transmission of contamination, or uses that have a high risk of contamination near ecologically sensitive areas, such as waterways.	Mid	CED	
Research and confirm existing sites of contamination with EGLE	MID	CED	
Use Brownfield TIF capture to fund remediation of sites that may be redeveloped.	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to work with the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to remediate sites.	ONGOING	CED	
Explore and pursue grant opportunities to remediate sites that may not be good candidates for commercial redevelopment or that pose an immediate threat.	ONGOING	CED	
GOAL: Ensure buildings and infrastructure are constructed in a manner complementary to soil structure, slopes, and drainage.			
Make soil information available to all, and directly provide information on soil structure to those who choose to build a new structure that requires a foundation.	ONGOING	CED	
Incorporate green infrastructure into planned capital improvement projects wherever possible, and identify potential sites for demonstration projects.	ONGOING	DPS	
Strengthen zoning protections to limit erosion in areas of steep slopes.	NEAR	CED	
Sustainability Goals: Water			
GOAL: Protect the watershed from further contamination.			
Consider a sensitive features overlay zone providing a buffer around the Huron River and Paint Creek that provides site and use regulations tailored to the proximity to these waterbodies	MID	CED	
Invest in consistent enforcement for compliance to the sensitive feature overlay zoning district	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to pursue updates to the zoning ordinance, such as tree protection regulations, that preserve and improve vegetation that can mitigate stormwater impacts.	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to support the work of the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner and other partners to educate members of the public, particularly single-family homeowners, on stormwater issues.	ONGOING	DPS	
Monitor adherence to the City's phosphorous fertilizer and tar sealcoat ordinances for effectiveness.	ONGOING		
Work with Washtenaw County Environmental Health to research the status of remaining private wells and provide resources and recommendations for testing water quality to property owners	ONGOING		
GOAL: Preserve and expand the City's capacity to deal with heavy rainfall to mitigate negative effects on people and property.			
Incorporate capacity upgrades for grey stormwater management into the CIP based on predictions for greater precipitation	ONGOING	DPS	
Update the flood maps, including FIRM, based on climate projections and changes to the river channel since the FIRM formulation in the 1970s	LONG	DPS	

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
Investigate an equitable stormwater fee schedule that encourages converting impervious to pervious surfaces and proper use of rain barrels or other detention/retention systems.	MID	COUNCIL/ DPS	
Consider banning basements or enforce floodplain standards in boundaries where the soil has limited capacity to handle stormwater	LONG	CED	
Develop a Stormwater Management Plan	MID	DPS	
Continue to pursue the removal of the Peninsular Dam	ONGOING	MANAGER	
Continue to maintain City lands that are in the flood zones and vacant for stormwater and floodwater mitigation.	ONGOING	VARIOUS	
Pursue GSI projects in the City parks, particularly in the flood zones.	ONGOING	DPS	
Pursue conservation &/or access easements along the Huron River.	ONGOING	CED	
Explore offering incentives to property owners to retrofit existing buildings and site improvements with stormwater-friendly infrastructure, including rain gardens.	LONG		
Explore the potential to equitably enact a stormwater fee structure to encourage private retrofit stormwater infiltration and detention infrastructure	LONG		
GOAL: Promote resources for water conservation and testing to ensure access efficiency upgrades and clean water			
Work with YCUA to develop home and business water efficiency financing programs	MID		
Promote Great Lake Water Authority program WRAP to perform conservation audits and funds for repairs to help reduce low-income households reduce water bills	ONGOING		
Collaborate with YCUA on water conservation and infrastructure improvement projects.	ONGOING		
Sustainability Goals: Energy			
GOAL: Decrease the community's emissions by 171,310 metric tons of CO₂e by 2030.			
Work with the City of Ann Arbor to investigate bulk buying of renewable energy through the Community Choice Aggregation Legislation.	ONGOING		
Purchase renewable energy credits (RECs) for City operations.	LONG		
Promote state policies, incentives, grants, and Community Energy Management programs that encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy to property owners.	ONGOING		
Promote Washtenaw County's weatherization program for low-income homeowners.	ONGOING	CED	
Work with community stakeholders to initiate an energy competition. The university and City can partner together to challenge another city and university to an energy reduction competition.	LONG		
Implement an inter-departmental site plan review process with attention to sustainability-related strategies such as energy use and efficiency, generation and offsetting of emissions, on-site water management and infiltration, etc.	ONGOING	CED	
Investigate the feasibility of a microgrid.	LONG		
Review and incorporate aspects of the International Dark Sky Model ordinance to reduce energy waste (i.e. motion activated lighting on municipal buildings)	MID	DPS	
Participate in or sign-on to regional, national, or international commitments to energy, climate, and sustainability including but not limited to the Paris Climate Agreement, the Sierra Club's "Ready for 100" pledge, the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.	SHORT	COUNCIL	

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
Develop an electric charging vehicle infrastructure strategy	MID	DPS	
Create a green rental certification program to encourage energy-efficient improvements	MID	CED	
Work with the HDC to incorporate historically compatibly fixtures that are dark sky compliant	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to pursue policies and projects that improve nonmotorized transportation.	ONGOING	DPS/CED	
Continue to encourage solar energy installations throughout the City.	ONGOING	CED	
Partner with other agencies, such as YCUA , DTE, and MiSaves to provide education and incentives for energy use reductions, both residential and commercial.	ONGOING		
Continue to participate in local, regional, national, and international efforts for climate mitigation and adaptation.	ONGOING		
Continue membership in communities such as ICLEI that help support local efforts to combat and adapt to climate change.	ONGOING		
GOAL: Decrease government operation emission in support of attaining citywide net zero by 2030			
Establish an Energy Manager position to be responsible for the following duties:	MID	MANAGER	
o Improve knowledge of energy management among city staff and appointed officials among staff			
o Create a data-driven system that is replicable over time, and includes annual forecasts, benchmarks for energy use reductions, and an internal reporting protocol			
o Work with the Sustainability Commission to produce an annual report that highlights where emission reductions and procedural improvements have been made			
o Improve communications with facility managers, utility providers, and relevant contractors to resolve issues quickly			
o Increase outreach to and participation of industrial and commercial customers in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects			
o Research and utilize the most efficient equipment available			
Continue to incorporate renewable energy into the energy portfolio of each government building including back-up generation	ONGOING	DPS	
Re-establish the City's revolving loan fund for energy efficiency projects.	MID	MANAGER	
Conduct a GHG inventory every 5 years using input from 2012 & 2018 findings in the ICLEI GHG framework	LONG	DPS	
Improve fleet fuel efficiency with clean diesel, alternative fuels, and electrification.	ONGOING	DPS	
Publicly report on progress made toward energy goals.	ONGOING	DPS/CED/MANAGER	
Continue to make energy-efficiency improvements to City owned facilities	ONGOING	DPS	
ENERGY: Reduce the amount of waste generated in Ypsilanti that enters landfills			
Conduct a waste audit to understand the baseline composition of the waste stream at the municipal operations and community level	SHORT	DPS	
Help publicize local re-use opportunities, such as the Buy Nothing Project and Freecycle.	ONGOING	CED	
Implement an educational campaign on existing recycling and composting options	SHORT	DPS	
Expand recycling to public spaces and all City facilities by placing artful, educational, and engaging waste sorting stations throughout the community	MID	DPS	

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
Create a coordinated recycling system that has a one stop for difficult-to-recycle materials including electronics and refrigerant management	LONG	DPS	
Increase access to curbside recycling services to multi-family units	MID	DPS	
Define Zero Waste for Ypsilanti using the Zero Waste hierarchy. Set a goal for City operations to be zero waste (excluding medical waste) by a specific date with annual benchmarks.	LONG		
Require that any events with a City permit provide for recycling, compost, and provide a discount for Zero Waste events	LONG		
Require government operations to use durable or compostable materials	MID		
Implement a pilot program for a municipal kitchen compost system with high food-waste generators.	LONG		
Investigate a partnership with a commercial-scale compost operation	MID		
Pilot curbside community composting services for leftover food	LONG		
Investigate funding sources to bring down the cost of a biodigester	MID		
Permit onsite composting of mulched leaves	DONE		
Continue to explore options to improve recycling and composting opportunities within the City and with partners.	ONGOING	DPS	
Sustainability Goals: Biodiversity			
GOAL: Expand and protect natural habitats			
Incorporate model language for rewilding landscaping into the city's ordinance	SHORT		
Create informational materials for property owners on preferred and prohibited plants	SHORT	SUSTAINABILITY	
Rezone undeveloped land on Mansfield and on Clark to a more protective zoning district	MID	CED	
Continue to support the local food system	ONGOING	CED	
Support traffic calming and other infrastructure design that help reduce animal road crossing mortality	ONGOING	DPS/CED	
Promote "bird safe" designs and "lights out" programs during migratory season	SHORT	CED	
Consider programs for habitat improvement such as bat houses, pollinator gardens, and others as they develop			
Train inspectors to spot wildlife-friendly plants to prevent their removal	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to monitor health of the city's wetlands and work with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation to protect them	ONGOING		
Partner with the County to inventory land that could be nominated for NAPP			
Encourage warm light to protect insects	ONGOING	CED	
Encourage use of native and climate-change adapted plants wherever possible	ONGOING		
Work with DTE to provide warmer, more night-sky friendly public lighting.	ONGOING	DPS	
Review the existing lighting ordinance and update to explicitly permit motion-sensitive lighting.	SHORT	CED	
Review and incorporate aspects of the Dark Sky Model Lighting Ordinance to reduce negative effects on insects and migratory birds	MID	CED	

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
GOAL: To preserve and expand a resilient tree canopy			
Implement a tree preservation ordinance	MID		
Plant additional street trees and trees in parks in accordance with the Urban Forest Management Plan, with a particular prioritization of those sites indicated by the Tree Equity map.	ONGOING	DPS	
Increase and diversify the public tree stock according to the Urban Forest Management Plan	ONGOING	DPS	
Invest in tree maintenance	ONGOING	COUNCIL	
Continue the City's Arbor Day Tree City USA designation	ONGOING		
Coordinate tree planting efforts with sidewalk maintenance efforts and considerations.	ONGOING		
Update street planting guidelines to prioritize tap roots species and vary pit size by species	SHORT		
Sustainability Goals: Complete Neighborhoods			
GOAL: Maintain and expand transportation options including the development of bicycle, pedestrian, and sharing networks.			
Implement a parking cash-out alternative benefit option for City employees	SHORT	HR	
Prioritize transit-oriented development	ONGOING	CED	
Partner with the DDA and AATA to provide a discounted transit pass as an alternative to downtown parking permits	MID	DPS	
Encourage corporate sponsorship of transit passes and infrastructure to encourage employee bus and bikeshare ridership	MID	DPS	
Consider pursuing car, scooter, or bike-sharing programs with Eastern Michigan University as a partner.	ONGOING	CED	
Close sidewalk gaps	ONGOING	DPS	
Add bicycle lanes to major thoroughfares and trunklines	ONGOING	DPS	
Retain the mix of uses within each corridor but allow them throughout the area.	ONGOING	CED	
Restore two-way function to Cross, Huron, and Hamilton Streets.	LONG	DPS	
Separate Cross and Washtenaw for vehicle traffic.	LONG	DPS	
Restore Harriet Street as the Main Street of adjacent neighborhoods.	LONG	CED	
Prioritize pedestrians at crosswalks, and investigate where pedestrian walk signs can be made automatic	MID	DPS	
Work with MDOT to make state-owned roads more accessible to nonmotorized users	ONGOING	DPS	
Coordinate with Townships and WCPRC on Border to Border (B2B) trail development	ONGOING	DPS	
Encourage police enforcement and legislative support for bike and pedestrian safety	ONGOING	YPD	
Improve neighborhood walkability by improving sidewalk connectivity and conditions. Prioritize the improvement of nonmotorized connections that link neighborhoods and job centers.	ONGOING	DPS	
Continue to support the development of intercity and commuter rail	ONGOING	MANAGER	
Coordinate citizens to advocate for slower traffic speeds on state owned corridors	ONGOING		

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
GOAL: Incentivize energy efficient and socially responsible development			
Consider density bonuses, particularly on transit and commercial corridors, in exchange for developers meeting criteria that achieve city goals	MID	CED	
Incentivize US Green Building Council's LEED for Neighborhood Development standard for new development	MID	CED	
Develop a Green Business/Neighborhood Certification program	LONG	CED	
Seek affordable housing development and identify parcels where it can locate near services	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to prioritize infill development	ONGOING	CED	
Continue to provide a variety of housing options, including affordable housing and missing middle housing.	ONGOING	CED	
Provide a Sustainability Commissioner liaison to a neighborhood interested in developing an eco-district	ONGOING	SUSTAINABILITY	
GOAL: Increase neighborhood resiliency during times of disruption.			
Identify walkable/bikeable neighborhood resource centers throughout the City, such as community centers, churches, schools, or social clubs.	SHORT		
Work with these identified resources to increase their capacity to serve as emergency resource centers, including backup power generation, emergency shelter, and food and resource distribution.	MID		
Work with the Health Department and other partners to make resources available for community leaders who wish for their homes to serve as small-scale resources during disruptions.	ONGOING		
Sustainability Goals: Communication			
GOAL: Play a leading role in educating Ypsilanti residents on sustainability topics.			
Implement an educational series about energy efficiency in different venues with a focus on teaching the most vulnerable populations about resources that help reduce their utility bills	ONGOING	SUSTAINABILITY	
Continue to work with sustainability-related organizations to develop and offer in school guest lectures, field trips, and other learning opportunities with local schools	ONGOING	SUSTAINABILITY	
Work with schools to reduce waste and incorporate reusable items on campus	ONGOING	SUSTAINABILITY	
Determine a designated point person on city staff to direct sustainability-related questions or comments to the correct department			
Promote the city's energy, climate, and sustainability vision through the established online newsletter and develop other municipal marketing materials to update residents on city efforts, key sustainability topics, and easy-to-follow tips at home	ONGOING	SUSTAINABILITY	
Organize competitions between municipal employees, business owners, and neighborhoods that promote sustainability-focused activities:	ONGOING	SUSTAINABILITY	
o "Bring Your Green to Work,"			
o Energy treasure hunts,			
o Adopting catch basins or green infrastructure,			
o Zero waste days,			
o Smart commute weeks, and challenges to bike, walk, or take public transit to work.			

	Timeframe	Lead Party	Status
Partner with Ypsilanti Community Schools on communication and education efforts.	ONGOING		
Consider creating a Communications Specialist position to lead and coordinate communication and education efforts within the City.	MID	MANAGER	Complete
Make critical public documents accessible and multilingual	ONGOING	MANAGER	
Publicize available efficiency and support programs, such as the County's weatherization program and YCUA's water assistance program.	ONGOING		
GOAL: Develop the datasets necessary to determine where disaster relief should be targeted			
Conduct an Environmental Justice analysis that identifies vulnerable populations and structures that are disproportionately impacted by climate change	LONG		
Work with SEMCOG and the County to expand local air quality monitoring system	SHORT		
Investigate infrastructure materials that can weather extreme weather	ONGOING		
GOAL: Mitigate the damage inflicted on residents, infrastructure, and property from extreme weather.			
Implement renewable backup power systems for areas of refuge and emergency facilities	ONGOING	DPS	
Collaborate with landlords, YCUA, and DTE to ensure that in a time of crisis essential water and gas/electricity are not shut off	ONGOING	CED/MANAGER	
Work with Washtenaw County to develop a Hazard Mitigation Plan.	MID	YPD/YFD/DPS	
Partner with Washtenaw County to expand emergency preparedness and communication tools including a multilingual and universally accessible plan that includes climate change predictions	MID	MANAGER	
Work with the County to identify additional accessible warming and cooling shelters	MID		
Require occupied residential rental units to have one air-conditioned room	MID	CED	
Review response protocol and update where needed to respond to severe storm events	MID	MANAGER	
Continue to explore Resilience Hubs in coordination with local community partners and facilities.	MID		
Publicize available utility assistance programs, such as THAW, leading into and during peak heating and cooling seasons.	ONGOING		
Work with Washtenaw County and utility partners to ban utility shutoffs for nonpayment during states of emergency or extreme weather events.			
Improve snow and ice response for sidewalks	ONGOING	DPS (PUBLIC) CED (PRIVATE)	



Resolution No. 2023-007
January 10, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned, on call, by the Mayor or three (3) members of Council.

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:

This resolution is adopted by the Council of the City of Ypsilanti and approved by the Mayor this
10 day of January 2023

#Resolution No. 2023-007