

Approved Minutes

City of Ypsilanti Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting City Hall Council Chambers – 1 South Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Monday, March 11, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:01pm

II. ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Michalowski	Present
Commissioner Drennen	Present
Commissioner Heine	Present
Commissioner Zeuner	Absent
Commissioner Bayha	Present
Commissioner Foley	Present
Commissioner McKee	Present
Commissioner Greenwald	Absent
Commissioner Cannon	Absent

Also Present: Council Liaison Steve Wilcoxen
Andrew Hellenga, Acting City Clerk

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Bayha (Second Drennen) moved to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

IV. PRESENTATIONS:

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Brian Gieringer: Voiced concern regarding lack of kiosks to distribute information to the public. He was told this issue was in the purview of the Sustainability Commission.

Foley (Second Drennen) moved to approve recommend that the request be forwarded to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of February 11, 2019 Minutes

Heine (Second Bayha) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Approval of the February 11, 2019 Minutes as submitted.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

VII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

A. Resolution 2019-03-001 – Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority

Commissioner Heine: Not in favor of the authority based on potential effect on Department of Public Services (DPS) employees. If the Commission approves a resolution in support of the Authority it would need to be explicit in that it would not result in the termination of any employee.

Commissioner Foley: Agreed, and stated he spoke with DPS employees that were not in favor of the city entering into this authority.

Commissioner McKee: Stated the resolution would need to identify the fact the union contract would stay intact.

Theo Eggermont, Public Works Manager of the Office of the Water Resources Commissioner: The city has the potential to opt into the authority in the future. However, the board would need to vote to allow for new membership. He added the Articles of Incorporation do not dictate collective bargaining, individual members still control employee contracts.

Council Member Wilcoxen: Believes the Articles of Incorporation will be on a Council agenda within the next couple of meetings.

[Discussion ensued regarding how to express support for the authority yet at the same time protect city employee jobs]

Bayha (Second Foley) moved to table Resolution No. 2019-03-001 until later in the meeting.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

B. Resolution 2019-02-001 – Peninsular Park Dam *REVISTED*

Commissioner Michalowski: Stated there was an issue with the title when this resolution was forwarded to Council. The resolution was amended removing the title.

McKee (Second Bayha) moved to approve Revised Resolution 2019-02-001, and forward to Council for consideration.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

C. Resolution 2018-08-002 – Public Recycling Bins *REVISTED*

Commissioner Michalowski: Stated the city would greatly benefit if recycling bins were installed in the down town.

No Action Taken

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Sustainability Plan Committee - None
- B. MGC Challenge Subcommittee – Commissioner Heine stated the subcommittee is examining metrics, and are possibly at 50%. The subcommittee is pushing to reach 100%.
 - MGC metrics data collection
- C. Outreach Committee
 - Earth Day event – Commissioner Bayha stated she met with owners of Cultivate and asked the Commission to share the event on their social media pages.
 - Solar installation student project
 - Recycling education video campaign
- D. Master Plan: Housing Affordability & Access Committee – Commissioner Foley stated a working session was held to discuss land use zoning, senior housing, and advertising techniques. There was also discussion regarding housing stock and its effect on affordability.
- E. EMU Sustainability Commission

Bayha (Second McKee) moved to extend the meeting until 9:15 p.m.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

Heine (Second Foley) moved to remove Resolution No. 2019-03-001 from the table.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

Foley (Second Drennen) moved to extend the meeting until 9:30 p.m.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

Foley (Second Drennen) moved to amend Resolution No. 2019-03-001.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

Position Statement

RE: Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority (As Amended)

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority (WRRMA) has invited the City of Ypsilanti to join the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with our neighbors Ann Arbor Township, the City of Ann Arbor, the City of Dexter, Pittsfield Charter Township, the City of Saline, the Township of Scio, and the Charter Township of Ypsilanti; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Action Plan directs the City of Ypsilanti to seek an increase in recycling rates; and

WHEREAS, the Commission also has a strong desire to increase the quantity and quality of the recycling stream as well as a desire to move closer to zero waste over the long-term;

WHEREAS, the Commission supports the WRRMA goals of community education and outreach;

NOW THEREFORE the Sustainability Commission expresses the following concerns about Ypsilanti joining the WRRMA Board of Trustees:

- 1. That membership will not decrease the quality and quantity of existing services; and**
- 2. That membership will lead to no loss of jobs within the DPW; and**
- 3. There will be no contracted job duties that will be removed; and**
- 4. Any additional hiring within the City of Ypsilanti as a result of the WRRMA will be AFSCME union positions; and**

5. There will be no outsourcing of positions within the DPW; and
6. That the Constituent Member will vote as directed by City Council

Bayha (Second Heine) moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-03-001 as amended.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried

- IX. **COMMUNICATIONS**
- X. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**
- XI. **PROPOSED BUSINESS**
- XII. **NEXT MEETING DATE:**
Monday, April 8, 2019
- XIII. **ADJOURNMENT: 9:30pm**

Foley (second Drennen) moved to adjourn the meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried