



MINUTES

City of Ypsilanti SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING Virtual Meeting

Monday, August 10, 2020
7:00 P.M.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:11 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Keith Michalowski	Present	Katy Greenwald	Present
Nancy Heine	Present	Beth Gibbons	Absent
Julia Bayha	Present	Christian Cannon	Absent
Bryan Foley	Present	Takunia Collins	Present

Also Present: Council Liaison Steve Wilcoxon
Staff Liaison Ron Akers, Public Services Director
Commission Recording Secretary, Nancy Hare-Dickerson

Additional Staff Present: Bonnie Wessler, Public Services Project Manager (Zoom Meeting Host)
Andy Aamodt, City Planner
Monica Hubahib, Human Resources Assistant
Mariela Pucci, Accounting Technician

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Amber Fellows, Ypsilanti City resident, provided comment regarding public accessibility to City meetings.

IV. **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Heine (Second: Foley) moved to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Commissioners Michalowski, Heine, Bayha, Foley, Greenwald, Collins

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Gibbons and Cannon

Motion: Carried

V. **INTRODUCTIONS** – none

VI. **PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Michigan Municipal Association for Utility Issues (MI-MAUI)**

Rick Bunch, Executive Director of MI-MAUI, provided a Power Point presentation outlining the history of the organization and its purpose, which is to serve as a collective, expert and fully engaged voice for local governments on utility issues. Topics presented included the following: MI-MAUI Membership & Services; Scope; 2020 Priorities; DTE Streetlight Outage Trends and Streetlight Management Issues; Government Access to Utility Customer Data; and Energy-Water Nexus.

[Commissioner query and comment occurred during and after the presentation]

2. Solarize

Bonnie Wessler, Public Services Project Manager, provided a presentation outlining the Solarize program, which is a partnership with the City of Ann Arbor and other municipalities to make it easier and more affordable for Washtenaw County residents to get solar on their homes. She explained how one would participate and the benefits of doing so. *[Commissioner query and comment followed]*

3. Resilience Hubs

A Power Point presentation entitled "A Community Approach to Building Resilience in Ypsilanti" was presented by Paige Porter, Trevor McCarty and Grant Faber, graduate students at the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability. Topics included what goes into a Resilience Hub and examples of surveys that help to provide information; how it could possibly be implemented in Ypsilanti; a project roadmap discussing inputs, outputs and outcomes; project modifications; areas of priority analysis and results; and next steps. *[Commissioner query and comment followed]*

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of July 13, 2020 minutes

Foley (Second: Bayha) moved to approve the July 13, 2020 Minutes as submitted.

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Commissioners Michalowski, Heine, Bayha, Foley, Greenwald, Collins
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Gibbons and Cannon
Motion: Carried

VIII. WORK SESSION-none

IX. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. Sustainability Plan Adoption

[Discussion ensued as to gardening/farming/food security language being added to the Sustainability Plan]

Collins (Second: Greenwald) moved to add food security language to the Sustainability Plan.

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Commissioners Michalowski, Heine, Bayha, Foley, Greenwald, Collins
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Gibbons and Cannon
Motion: Carried

At or about 9pm, Heine (Second: Collins) moved to extend the meeting time to approximately 9:30pm, to allow the completion of the Sustainability Plan discussion.

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Commissioners Michalowski, Heine, Bayha, Foley, Collins
Abstain: Commissioner Greenwald
Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Gibbons and Cannon
Motion: Carried

Public Services Project Manager Bonnie Wessler provided a Power Point overview of the August 2020 draft of the City of Ypsilanti Sustainability Plan, which topics included the Plan Basics; Financial Incentives; the Process, dating back to 2017; Plan Goals & Objectives; the Action Plan; and the Next Steps. *[Commissioner query and comment occurred during and after the overview]*

[Commissioners were asked to review the Draft and provide any edit requests as soon as possible in order to be able to move forward to the next step(s)]

2. **A2 Zero** – *[discussion moved to the next meeting]*

X. COMMISSIONER REPORTS-none

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT-none

XII. PROPOSED BUSINESS

Commissioner Michalowski notated items for the next meeting.

XIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, September 14, 2020

XIV. ADJOURNMENT: 9:39 p.m.

Foley (Second: Bayha) moved to adjourn the meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried