



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, December 19, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
[Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)**

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. CLOSED SESSION

- A. 15.268 C Negotiations of a collective bargaining unit agreement

VI. PRESENTATIONS

- A. University Musical Society
B. City Manager Candidates from Amy Cell
C. FedUp Ministries: Food and Recreational Support for the Unhoused and Housing Unstable

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

VIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- A. Resolution 2023-246, Approving the Minutes of the December 5th, 2023, City Council Meeting. **(Pages 4-11)**
B. Resolution 2023-247, Approving a Letter of Understanding with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM). **(Pages 12-13)**
C. City Manager Candidates and Interviews Discussion
D. Resolution 2023-248, Approving rule changes for the Historic District Commission. **(Pages 14-15)**
E. Resolution 2023-249, Approving an Application Process for the Ward 2

Vacancy. **(Pages 16-22)**

- F. Decriminalization of Nature in Ypsilanti Ordinances Discussion **(Pages 23-31)**
- G. Resolution 2023-250, Approving a Friday 1 PM deadline for City Council Agenda Items. **(Pages 32-33)**
- H. Resolution 2023-251, Approving an Increase for Election Inspector Pay. **(Pages 34-36)**
- I. Resolution 2023-252, Approving Appointments to Boards and Commissions. **(Pages 37-39)**
- J. Resolution 2023-253, Approving the purchase of two police vehicles. **(Page 40)**

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Police Advisory Commission
- B. Human Relations Commission
- C. Parks and Arts Commission **(Pages 41-43)**
- D. Sustainability Commission
- E. Historic District Commission
- F. Planning Commission
- G. Zoning Board of Appeals

X. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. SEMCOG Update
- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
- C. Urban County
- D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority
- E. Friends of Rutherford Pool
- F. Bicentennial Committee

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Goal Sessions: January 9th, 16th, and 23rd at 6:00 PM

- B. Dorsey Estates Update **(Page 44)**

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

XV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Resolution No. 2023-254, adjourning the City Council Meeting. **(Page 45)**
- 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. 2023-246
December 19, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the minutes of the December 5th, 2023, City Council Meetings be approved.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:



**ACTION MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Meeting
7:00 PM - Tuesday, December 5, 2023
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Nicole Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Wilcoxon, Council Member Desirae Simmons, Council Member Me'Chelle King, Council Member Roland Tooson, Council Member Evan Sweet.

Absent: Council Member Jennifer Symanns.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A. I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.**

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Sweet moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Tooson. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Yes - 6, No - 0, Absent - 1 (J. Symanns)

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Awards for Ypsilanti Police Officers

B. City Manager's presentation regarding the City's financial capacity to purchase 599 S. Mansfield

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to rescind Resolutions 2023-216 and 217, approving the purchase of 599 S. Mansfield and a budget amendment for the purchase of 599 S. Mansfield. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Yes: (5) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

Abstain: (1) Desirae Simmons

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Ninety-five members of the public made comments.

Council Member Simmons moved to extend the meeting until 12:00 AM, seconded by Council Member Tooson. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Yes - 4, No - 1 (Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon), Absent - 2 (J. Symanns, E. Sweet)

Council Member King moved to extend the meeting until 2:00 AM, seconded by Council Member Sweet. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Yes - 5, No - 1 (Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon), Absent - 1 (J. Symanns)

VII. CONSENT

A. Resolution 2023-237, Approving the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Tooson moved to approve Resolution 2023-237, Approving the Consent Agenda. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown
No: 0 None
Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- That the following items be approved:

-
1. Resolution No. 2023-238, approving the minutes of the November 21, 2023, City Council meetings.

-
1. Resolution No. 2023-239, approving Ordinance 1422, an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A NEW DIVISION 9 TO CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE VII – DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CREATE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, CREATE THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, ESTABLISH THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, PROVIDE FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OF DEPARTMENTAL RULES AND REGULATIONS". (Second Reading)

1. **Resolution 2023-238, Approving the Minutes of 11/21/2023.**

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- THAT the minutes of the November 21st, 2023, City Council Meetings be approved.

2. **Resolution 2023-239, Approving Ordinance 1422, an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A NEW DIVISION 9 TO CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE VII – DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CREATE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, CREATE THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, ESTABLISH THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, PROVIDE FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OF DEPARTMENTAL RULES AND REGULATIONS." (Second Reading)**

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- be it resolved that AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A NEW DIVISION 9 TO CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE VII – DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CREATE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, CREATE THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, ESTABLISH THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, PROVIDE FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OF DEPARTMENTAL RULES AND REGULATIONS be approved on second and final reading.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

- A. **Revisiting Resolution 2023-222, Expressing support and solidarity with the Palestinian people of Gaza.**

Council Member Simmons moved to approve Resolution 2023-222, Resolution in Support for the Congressional and Worldwide Calls for an Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza and the Release of Innocent Civilians. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Yes: (4) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Desirae Simmons, Nicole Brown
No: 2 Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon
Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT FOR THE CONGRESSIONAL AND WORLDWIDE CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA AND THE RELEASE OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS

- **WHEREAS**, the City of Ypsilanti advocates for the dignity and safety of all residents in every community, regardless of religion, race, or nationality; and,

- **WHEREAS**, local community members have expressed fear due to rises in anti-Semitism, Islamophobia,

racism against Palestinians, and repression of opposition, along with suffering from mental and emotional health issues due to a feeling of helplessness while witnessing a war and humanitarian crisis unfold, and we believe that these tensions will be subdued with a permanent ceasefire; and,

- **WHEREAS,** we condemn the loss of innocent lives in Israel and Palestine where over one thousand people in Israel and an escalating number of more than fifteen thousand Palestinians in Gaza have been killed in a matter of weeks, of whom over five thousand are children; and,

- **WHEREAS,** we celebrate the release of some Israeli and Palestinian hostages and political prisoners, though we recognize that there are still children and women being held captive without being charged with any crime not only from Gaza but also in the West Bank; and,

- **WHEREAS,** Gaza is still in a dire humanitarian crisis that is getting worse with each passing day, with the only remaining hospitals running out of fuel and medical supplies, and over 1.5 million Palestinians facing displacement, homelessness, and starvation; and,

- **WHEREAS,** international organizations like Amnesty International, the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Rescue Committee, and many others have made a call for a ceasefire in order to prevent the further loss of life of civilians and to be in accordance with international humanitarian law; and,

- **WHEREAS,** according to the United States Campaign for Palestinian Rights, Ypsilanti residents' federal taxes contributes \$305,056 to Israel's weapons, which could instead fund, for example, 36 households with public housing for a year, 106 children receiving free or low-cost healthcare, 3 elementary school teachers, or cancel loan debt for 8 students; and,

- **WHEREAS,** the federal government holds immense diplomatic power to save Israeli and Palestinian lives, and local governments play a role in our democracy to urge needed legislative and policy changes at all levels; now, therefore, be it

- **RESOLVED,** the City of Ypsilanti urges the Michigan delegation, including Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, and Governor Gretchen Whitmer, to support H. Res. 786 calling for an immediate de-escalation and permanent cease-fire in Israel and occupied Palestine put forward by fellow Michigan Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib and others; and be it,

- **FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for an end to funding wars and military activity across the globe so we can focus our shared resources on addressing issues experienced by our residents in Ypsilanti.

B. Resolution 2023-240, Approving a Community Benefits Agreement for 206 N. Washington.

Council Member Sweet moved to approve Resolution 2023-240, Approving a Community Benefits Agreement for 206 N. Washington. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- Whereas, the City of Ypsilanti agreed to a Payment In Lieu Of Taxes for Avalon; and

- WHEREAS, the City and Avalon have agreed that the city form a citizen's ad-hoc "Community Benefits Committee" to discuss community benefits; and

- WHEREAS, the committee met four times over the past six months to negotiate a community benefits with the developer; and

- WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on November 7, 2023 on the Community Benefits Agreement; and

- Now therefore be it resolved that the Ypsilanti City Council approve the Community Benefits Agreement for 206 N. Washington.

C. Discussion regarding the Ward 2 City Council seat.

It was announced that Council Member Jennifer Symanns is resigning effective December 31st, 2023.

D. Resolution 2023-241, Approving the Election Commission's resolution to permanently combine Ward 2 Precincts 1-3 and Ward 3 Precincts 2-3 for all elections.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to approve Resolution 2023-241, Approving the Election Commission's resolution to permanently combine Ward 2 Precincts 1-3 and Ward 3 Precincts 2-3 for all elections. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown
No: 0 None
Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- Whereas, The Michigan state legislature's new maximum precinct population size is 4,999 voters; and

- Whereas, Combining Ward 2 Precincts 1-3 into Ward 2 Precinct A creates a new precinct with 3,896 voters as of November 29, 2023; and

- Whereas, Combining Ward 3 Precincts 2-3 into Ward 3 Precinct B creates a new precinct with 3,774 voters as of November 29, 2023; and

- Whereas, No voter's polling location will change with the creation of these new precincts; and

- WHEREAS, Having fewer precincts allows for more streamlining and efficiency, requires fewer election inspectors and less equipment, and helps keep the political party makeup of election inspectors at polling locations more balanced.

- Now therefore be it resolved that Ypsilanti City Council permanently combines Ward 2 Precincts 1-3 into Ward 2 Precinct A as well as combines Ward 3 Precincts 2-3 into Ward 3 Precinct B.

E. Resolution 2023-242, Approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.

Council Member King moved to approve Resolution 2023-242, Approving appointments to Boards and Commissions. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown
No: 0 None
Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- THAT, the following residents be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions as indicated below:

Name	Board	Expiration
Rex Richie 40 E Cross Street Ypsilanti, MI 48198	Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority	12/1/2027

F. Resolution 2023-243, Disbursing funds for Barrier Busters.

Council Member Simmons moved to approve Resolution 2023-243, Disbursing funds for Barrier Busters. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown
No: 0 None
Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- Whereas, Ypsilanti City Council included \$25,000 in our budget to support Barrier Busters for our residents; and,

- Whereas, Barrier Busters is a group of 100+ social service agencies committed to improving services and responding to emergencies for Washtenaw County residents in need; and,

- Whereas, the need to stabilize housing for our residents by preventing evictions and

utility shut-offs continues to grow.

- **Now therefore be it resolved,** the City of Ypsilanti will disburse the allocated funding to Barrier Busters for use with residents of the City.

G. Resolution 2023-244, City Council Meeting Schedule for 2024

Council Member Simmons made a friendly amendment to remove the February 20 and August 13 meetings from the 2024 schedule.

Council Member Sweet moved to approve Resolution 2023-244, City Council Meeting Schedule for 2024, as amended. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Jennifer Symanns

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

- The Ypsilanti City Council will hold Regular Meetings at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at One South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197, for the year 2024 on the following dates:

<u>January 9</u>	<u>July 2</u>
<u>January 23</u>	<u>July 16</u>
<u>February 6</u>	
	<u>August 27</u>
<u>March 5</u>	<u>September 3</u>
<u>March 19</u>	<u>September 17</u>
<u>April 2</u>	<u>October 1</u>
<u>April 16</u>	<u>October 15</u>
<u>May 14</u>	<u>November 12</u>
<u>May 28</u>	<u>November 26</u>
<u>June 4</u>	<u>December 3</u>
<u>June 18</u>	<u>December 17</u>

- The City of Ypsilanti encourages persons with disabilities to participate and will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signed for the hearing impaired, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) services, and audios of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities upon two (2) days notice to the City. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the City by writing or calling the following:

- City Clerk's Office
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197-5420
(734) 483-1100

- All persons are welcome to attend. Additional information may be obtained at the City Clerk's Office and written comments may be sent to the City Clerk's Office at the above listed address.

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

A. Police Advisory Commission

Chairperson Wolkoff sent the following update:

- Chairperson Wolkoff and Vice Chair Mohamed attended a virtual presentation for the Ypsilanti Police Department from a community engagement program.
- YPAC is developing a police interaction survey to be distributed via cards with QR codes.
- Many commission members have been attending interviews for new officers.

The next meeting is on December 21st.

B. Human Relations Commission

Still working on scheduling a meeting for January.

C. Parks and Arts Commission

Next meeting is on December 18th.

D. Sustainability Commission

No update.

E. Historic District Commission

No update.

F. Planning Commission

No update.

G. Zoning Board of Appeals

Next meeting is on December 6th.

X. LIAISON REPORTS

A. SEMCOG Update

No update.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

No update.

C. Urban County

Next meeting is on December 6th.

D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

Next meetings are on Decembr 13th and 21st.

E. Friends of Rutherford Pool

Not meeting at this time.

F. Bicentennial Committee

The Bicentennial year is drawing to a close.

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

• **Council Member King -**

- Thank you to everyone who has made public comments regarding the ceasefire during the past few meetings. It is not my goal as a council member to make anyone feel unwanted. Supporting a Ceasefire resolution does not mean we do not support the Jewish community; we need to take a stance and acknowledge when people are suffering.
- Thank you for adding page numbers to the agenda.
- I have received concerns from residents regarding speeding on Perry Street by the school. We need to do more to protect the safety of the students and the crossing guards.
- Parkridge Community Center is having a Christmas party Saturday, December 9th, for senior citizens (60+) from 3-6 PM at 591 Armstrong. Please call me if you'd like to attend.

• **Council Member Simmons -**

- The fifth annual Christmas dinner is on Saturday, December 23rd, from 4-7 PM at the Freighthouse. This is a free community event.
- Attended an MML Training for new Council Members with Council Member King which taught roles, responsibilities, FOIA, Open Meetings Act, financial information, and more. Subcommittees and working groups should have noticing and public comments in the future.
- I would like to have a conversation with the police chief regarding YPD's interactions with protesters.

• **Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon -** No update in the interest of time.

• **Council Member Sweet -**

- Working in collaboration with staff, the Parks and Arts Commission, and the city attorney's office to establish a sled library at Riverside Park this winter. More details to come soon.
- Thank you to the business owners, library, and DDA for all the holiday decorations and lights this year. Depot Town looks amazing, and I look forward to Downtown.

- **Council Member Tooson** - No update in the interest of time.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

The Christmas Dinner on December 23rd at the Freighthouse is hosted by Women and Men Working for Change.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Dates for Goals Sessions are January 9th, 16th, and 23rd.
- Interviews have begun for the City Planner position.
- I have been participating in a Cybersecurity Workforce Simulator.
- We are strategizing to fill holes in the Clerk Department both short and long term.

A. Schedule of city hall closures for 2024 observed holidays.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Five members of the public made comments.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 AM.

A. Resolution No. 2023-245, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

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.

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.



REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION
December 19, 2023

For: Mayor and City Council

From: Kirk Moore, Police Chief

Subject: Resolution 2023-247, Approving a Letter of Understanding with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM).

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND: The City of Ypsilanti have entered into a collective bargaining agreement with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM), with an effective date of January 1, 2023. This agreement governs certain aspects of the employment of the non-command officers and their interaction with the Chief of Police, command staff, and the community at large.

The contract includes prescribed steps on when increases of salary are provided to employees. The City of Ypsilanti Police Department has struggled to maintain an acceptable competitive wage gap with other regional public safety agencies. The Wage disparity has contributed to a significant number of officers accepting other positions in other departments that provide higher salaries and incentivized educational benefits. The intent of this letter of understanding is to reward officers that have elected to stay committed to the city of Ypsilanti Police Department and in doing so have taken on additional ancillary duties and increased overtime to ensure that that we are providing a critical level of service. This measure is in line with our strategic efforts to not only attract but retain qualified candidates.

This letter of understanding is not an alteration in the structure of the steps included in the contract, but an appreciation for the dedicated staff that continue to serve this community.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023-247 LoU POAM Packet Version

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

COUNCIL AGENDA DATE: December 19, 2023

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL:



Resolution No. 2023-247
December 19, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the attached Letter of Agreement be approved, with the City Manager and the Chief of Police as authorized signatories.

[LETTER TO BE CREATED DURING THE CLOSED SESSION]

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:



Resolution No. 2023-248
December 19, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The Historic District Commission decided that applications can be processed efficiently meeting once per month with the administrative approvals staff currently has, and;

WHEREAS, The Historic District Commission decided to meet once a month to bring the commission's practices in line with common practice across the state; and

WHEREAS, A list of proposed rules changes was voted on and approved at two different Historic District Commission meetings.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the attached rules changes are approved and implemented for the Historic District Commission.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:

Historic District Commission Proposed Rule Changes for 2024

Rule changes proposed 11/14/23; due for a second, final vote to adopt 12/12/23:

11/14 Motion: Pettit moved (second: Byrge) that the commission consider making changes to the Rules and Regulations of the Historic District Commission to be considered again at our next meeting. These changes would include the following:

- In Section 4.1 regarding regular meetings. The text shall read, "The HDC shall normally meet once each month" as opposed to the current wording which is "twice each month." The rest of the language in that rule would remain unchanged.
- In Section 3.0 Application, Section 3.1 Action Items, Part A, there are words out of order. The current language says, "...and shall include payment any of fees" and the proposed language would read, "...and shall include payment of any fees."
- In that same section, Section 3.1 Action Items, Part C, there is a missing word. The current text reads, the commission shall render its decision "not more than sixty (60) days after receipt of the application by the HDC." Proposed new language would state, "not more than sixty (60) days after receipt of the complete application by the HDC," inserting the word "complete" before the word "application."
- In Section 3.3 Demolition and Moving, Part B, there is a typo. Current language states, "A proof of mailing shall be filed in the official file and shall be prima facia evidence of mailing to the addresses shown therein." The phrase *prima facia* should be *prima facie*.

Voice Vote - Ayes: Commissioners Pettit, Ratzlaff, Byrge, McCready, Van Bolt Nays: None. Motion carried.

Proposed Rule Changes Adopted 12/12/23:

Szumko moved (second: McCready) that the historic district commission adopt the rule changes that were proposed at the commission's last meeting November 14, 2023. The proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations of the Historic District Commission are as follows:

- In Section 4.1 regarding regular meetings. The text shall read, "The HDC shall normally meet **once** each month" as opposed to the current wording which is "**twice** each month." The rest of the language in that rule would remain unchanged.
- In Section 3.0 Application, Section 3.1 Action Items, Part A, there are words out of order. The current language says, "...and shall include **payment any** of fees" and the proposed language would read, "...and shall include **payment of any** fees."
- In that same section, Section 3.1 Action Items, Part C, there is a missing word. The current text reads, the commission shall render its decision "not more than sixty (60) days after receipt of the application by the HDC." Proposed new language would state, "not more than sixty (60) days after receipt of the **complete** application by the HDC," inserting the word "complete" before the word "application."
- In Section 3.3 Demolition and Moving, Part B, there is a typo. Current language states, "A proof of mailing shall be filed in the official file and shall be **prima facia** evidence of mailing to the addresses shown therein." The phrase *prima facia* should be *prima facie*.

Voice Vote - Ayes: Commissioners Pettit, Chesnut, Ratzlaff, McCready, Szumko, Van Bolt
Nays: None. Motion carried.



RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy for Council Member in Ward 2; and

WHEREAS, per Section 2.05(d)(3) of the City Charter requires that a Council Member to represent Ward 2 be appointed on or before the third Regular Council Meeting following the vacancy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the application and application process for the Ward 2 Vacancy.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:

OVERVIEW OF PROCESS

Ypsilanti City Council Ward 2 Appointment

1. Propose and agree to timeline and process (During 12/19/2023 Regular Meeting)
2. City Clerk will send out press release and publicly post timeline, process, and application materials. Send directly to any persons already having expressed interest in the position. Materials to be posted by 5pm on Wednesday, December 20. Include or reference in these materials:
 - a. Vacancy has occurred for Ward 2 seat
 - b. City Council member duties, expectations, and compensation.
 - c. Basic requirements of candidates (age, residency)
 - d. Candidate Application form
 - e. Overview of Process and Summary of Timeline
3. Application packets to be turned in by 4 pm on Thursday, January 4, 2024 to City Clerk, either in person or in hard copy at City Hall or electronically to City Clerk. Clerk will confirm receipt of application in writing via email.
4. City Clerk will verify identity and eligibility of each candidate. (*Affidavit of Identity*)
5. Clerk will compile all applicant materials and distribute to Council members by 5pm on Thursday, January 4, 2024. Council application materials will also be made available for public viewing on the city's website and at the City Clerk's office. Council Members will review materials and make selections for interview.
6. Council will inform the Clerk's Office their preferred top three applicants to interview. The City Clerk will communicate to all applicants whether they have been selected for an interview.
7. Council members can submit up to 2 questions to be asked of all candidates by 5 pm Monday, January 8, 2024. The Clerk will compile these and make a list of a total 12 questions for all candidates to be prepared to address during their interview.

SUMMARY OF TIMELINE

Ypsilanti City Council Ward 3 Appointment

Tuesday, December 19, during Council	Council decides on process & timeline
Wednesday, December 20, 5 pm	Council candidate application packet/information released
Thursday, January 4, 4 pm	Deadline for Council candidate application materials
Thursday, January 4, 5 pm	Compiled candidate application materials distributed to Council and posted for public
Monday, January 8, 5 pm	Deadline for Council members to submit interview questions to Clerk
Friday, January 12, 5 pm	City Clerk informs Council of ranking results, including top 3 candidates
Thursday, January 18, 6 pm	Council will hold Special Meeting to interview and possibly vote on choice among top three candidates. Potential Appointment
Thursday, January 18, 6 pm	Council will deliberate and vote on choice among top candidates. New Council member sworn in. If Necessary

8. Candidates selected for interviews will come before Council at 6 pm on Thursday, January 18th. Each candidate will have 1 minute to introduce themselves, and then one minute each to address the question. Council may deliberate and appoint during that meeting.
9. If needed Council will vote at its Regular Meeting of Tuesday, January 23rd. Deliberation will conclude when voting is complete. Council member appointee is confirmed when there are 4 of the 6 votes voting for a candidate in the affirmative.

Contact: Interim City Clerk Aaron Smith
City of Ypsilanti Clerk Office
1 S. Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone: (734) 483-1100
Fax: (734) 487-8742
ahellenga@cityofypsilanti.com



Press Release

City Council Accepting Applications for Ward 2 Council Member Vacancy

Ypsilanti MI, December 20, 2023. The Ypsilanti City Council is accepting applications to fill the Council Member – Ward 2 vacancy. Applications are available on the city's website at www.cityofypsilanti.com and at the City Clerk's office, 1 S. Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI.

To be eligible to be appointed to this position, you must have resided within the City of Ypsilanti Ward 2 for a minimum of 30 days prior to your appointment to Council; and you must have been a registered voter in Ward 2 on or before December 15, 2023.

All applications must be completed on the application form and received by the City Clerk **in person** at Ypsilanti City Hall **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 4, 2024**. Please note that City Hall is closed December 23rd – January 2nd for the winter holiday and reopens January 3rd at 8:00 AM. Candidate interviews will take place Thursday, January 18, 2024, with a **possible** Council vote and swearing in shortly thereafter.



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #2

Thank you for your interest in serving the community as a Ward 2 Council Member of the Ypsilanti City Council.

The timeline for filling the Council vacancy is as follows:

Thursday, January 4, 2024:	Applications due to City Clerk by 4:00 p.m.
Thursday January 18, 2024:	Candidate interviews
Tuesday, January 23, 2024:	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, January 4, 2024.** 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:

**Aaron Smith, Interim 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 #2 position, you:

- Must have continuously resided within the City of Ypsilanti Ward 2 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 2.

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.



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #2 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name _____

Residence Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-Mail _____

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, January 4, 2024.

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

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

**Aaron Smith, Interim City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE INVESTIGATION AND ARREST OF INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED WITH THE PERSONAL USE, GROWTH, AND POSSESSION OF ENTHEOGENIC PLANTS, INCLUDING THOSE SCHEDULED AT STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS, BE THE LOWEST PRIORITY FOR THE CITY OF YPSILANTI.

WHEREAS, Entheogenic Plants, defined herein as the full spectrum of plants, fungi, and natural materials and/or their extracted compounds, limited to those containing the following types of compounds: indole amines, tryptamines, and phenethylamines; that can benefit psychological and physical wellness², support and enhance religious and spiritual practices¹⁷, and can reestablish human's inalienable and direct relationship to nature; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse, addiction, recidivism, trauma, post-traumatic stress symptoms, chronic depression, severe anxiety, end-of-life anxiety, grief, cluster headaches^{9;23}, and other debilitating conditions are present in our community; and

WHEREAS, the use of Entheogenic Plants, which can catalyze profound experiences of personal and spiritual growth¹, have been shown by scientific and clinical studies and traditional practices to be beneficial to the health and well-being of individuals and communities¹⁷ in addressing these conditions⁷; and

WHEREAS, practices with Entheogenic Plants have long existed and have been considered to be sacred to human cultures and interrelationships with nature for thousands of years¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, individuals seeking to improve their health and well-being through the use of Entheogenic Plants fear arrest and prosecution due to current legal prohibitions; and

WHEREAS, the City Ypsilanti currently has many other priorities for the use of its funds, staff, and law enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations considers Entheogenic Plant material used for ritual purposes as excluded from Schedule 1 substances; and

WHEREAS, the Entheogenic Plant practices of certain groups are already explicitly protected in the U.S. under the principle of religious freedom; and

WHEREAS, Entheogenic plants such as Ibogaine have been shown to alleviate treatment resistant cases of opiate and methamphetamine addiction at higher rates than other treatment; and

WHEREAS, Entheogenic Plants or combinations of plants such as Ayahuasca contain Dimethyltryptamine (a naturally occurring compound in the human body) that can be beneficial in treating addiction, depression, and in catalyzing profound experiences of personal and spiritual growth¹; and

WHEREAS, Entheogenic plants such as cacti that contain phenethylamine compounds (such as mescaline), can be beneficial in the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction and for individual spiritual

growth¹, and have been utilized in sacred initiation and community healing by diverse religious and cultural traditions for millennia and continue to be used for healing and as religious sacraments in modern times¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, The Washtenaw County District Attorney's office has issued a statement in support of the resolution to decriminalize Entheogenic plants and fungi adopted by the Ann Arbor City Council and Mayor on September 21, 2020 and accordingly adopted a policy foregoing prosecution of cases involving the cultivation, use, or possession of Entheogenic plants and fungi across Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, psilocybin, naturally occurring in Entheogenic mushrooms, can alleviate end-of-life anxiety⁶ for hospice and terminal cancer patients, can reduce prison recidivism⁵; ²¹, can effectively treat substance abuse⁴, depression, and cluster headaches (a Johns Hopkins University study on "healthy-normals," found that Entheogenic plants can occasion mystical-type experiences, which were considered one of the top five most meaningful experiences in a subject's life, and positive lifestyle changes continued in a 14-month follow-up); therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Mayor and City Council hereby declare that it shall be the policy of the City of Ypsilanti that the investigation and arrest of persons for planting, cultivating, purchasing, transporting, distributing, engaging in practices with, or possessing Entheogenic Plants or plant compounds which are on the Federal Schedule 1 list shall be the lowest law enforcement priority for the City of Ypsilanti; and city funds or resources shall not be used in any investigation, detention, arrest, or prosecution arising out of alleged violations of state and federal law regarding the use of Entheogenic Plants; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution does not authorize or enable any of the following activities: commercial sales or manufacturing of these plants and fungi, possessing or distributing these materials in schools, driving under the influence of these materials, or public disturbance; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That if any provision of this resolution is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to any statute, regulation, or judicial decision, so that its applicability to any agency, person, or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this resolution and its applicability to any other agency, person, or circumstance shall not be affected.

1) Entheogens for Personal and Spiritual Growth

- Frecka, E., et al. (2012). Enhancement of Creative Expression and Entoptic Phenomena as After-Effects of Repeated Ayahuasca Ceremonies. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* 44(3), pp. 191-199.
- Hartogsohn, I. (2018). The Meaning-Enhancing Properties of Psychedelics and Their Mediator Role in Psychedelic Therapy, Spirituality, and Creativity. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 12 (129). doi:10.3389/fnins.2018.00129
- MacLean, K., et al. (2011). Mystical experiences occasioned by the hallucinogen psilocybin lead to increases in the personality domain of openness. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 25(11)14531461.
- Moro, L., et al. (2011) Voice of the Psychonauts: Coping, Life Purpose, and Spirituality in Psychedelic Drug Users. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 43 (3), pp. 188-198. DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2011.605661
- Nour, M., et al. (2017): Psychedelics, Personality and Political Perspectives. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*. DOI:10.1080/02791072.2017.1312643
- Sweat, N., et al. (2016). The Associations of Naturalistic Classic Psychedelic Use, Mystical Experience, and Creative Problem Solving. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 48(5), pp. 344-350, DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2016.1234090

2) Entheogens and Psychological Wellness

- Frecka E., et al., (2016). The Therapeutic Potentials of Ayahuasca: Possible Effects against Various Diseases of Civilization. *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, 7(35). doi: 10.3389/fphar.2016.00035
- McKenna, D. (2004). Clinical investigations of the therapeutic potential of ayahuasca: rationale and regulatory challenges. *Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 102(2), pp. 111-129.
- dos Santos, R. et al. (2017). Effects of the Natural (3- Carboline Alkaloid Harmine, a Main Constituent of Ayahuasca, in Memory and in the Hippocampus: A Systematic Literature Review of Preclinical Studies. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 49(1), pp. 1- 10, DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2016.1260189
- Wilcox, J. (2014). Psilocybin and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 46(5), pp. 393-395. DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2014.963754

3) Entheogens and Physical Wellness

Djamshidian, A., et al. (2015). "Banisteriopsis caapi, a Forgotten Potential Therapy for Parkinson's Disease?" *Movement Disorders Clinical Practice*: n/a-n/a.

Liu, X., et al., (2017) Harmine is an inflammatory inhibitor through the suppression of NF-kB signaling. *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.bbrc.2017.05.126>

Ly et al. (2018). Psychedelics Promote Structural and Functional Neural Plasticity. *Cell Reports* 23, pp. 3170-3182.

McCleary, J., et al., (1960). Antibiotic activity of an extract of peyote (*Lophophora Williamii*). *Economic Botany*, 14(3), pp. 247-249.

dos Santos, R. (2014) Immunological Effects of Ayahuasca in Humans. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 46 (5), pp. 383-388.

Samoylenko, V., et al. (2010). Banisteriopsis caapi, a unique combination of MAO inhibitory and antioxidative constituents for the activities relevant to neurodegenerative disorders and Parkinson's disease. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*, 127 (2), pp. 357-367. doi:10.1016/j.jep.2009.10.030.

4) Entheogens and Substance Abuse

Bogenschutz, M., et al. (2015). Psilocybin-assisted treatment for alcohol dependence: A proof-of-concept study. *Journal of Psychopharmacology* 29(3), pp. 289-299.

Bogenschutz, M., and Forcehimes, A. (2017). Development of a Psychotherapeutic Model for Psilocybin-Assisted Treatment of Alcoholism. *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, 57(4), pp. 389-414.

Johnson, M. et al. (2017). An online survey of tobacco smoking cessation associated with naturalistic psychedelic use. *Journal of Psychopharmacology* 31 (7), pp. 841- 850.

de Veen, B. (2017) Psilocybin for treating substance use disorders? *Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics*, 17(2), pp. 203-212. DOI: 10.1080/14737175.2016.1220834

5) Entheogens and Recidivism

Romero, S. (March 28, 2015). In Brazil, some inmates get therapy with hallucinogenic tea. *The New York Times*.

6) Entheogens and Anxiety

Sarris, J., et al. (2013). "Plant-based medicines for anxiety disorders, part 2: a review of clinical studies with supporting preclinical evidence." *CNS Drugs* 27(4), pp. 301-319.

7) Entheogens and Grief

Gonzalez, D., et al. (2017). Potential Use of Ayahuasca in Grief Therapy. *OMEGA— Journal of Death and Dying*, pp. 1 -26.

8) Ayahuasca and Diabetes

Wang, P. et al., (2015). A high-throughput chemical screen reveals that harmine- mediated inhibition of DYRK1A increases human pancreatic beta cell replication. *Nature Medicine* 21, pp. 383-388.

9) Entheogens and Cluster Headaches

Schindler, E., et al. (2015) Indoleamine Hallucinogens in Cluster Headache: Results of the Clusterbusters Medication Use Survey, *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 47:5 372-381, DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2015.1107664

10) Historical Use of Entheogens

El-Seedi, H., et al. (2005). Prehistoric peyote use: Alkaloid analysis and radiocarbon dating of archaeological specimens of *Lophophora* from Texas. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 107(1), pp. 238-242.

Guzman, G. (2008). Hallucinogenic Mushrooms in Mexico: An Overview. *Economic Botany*, 62(3), pp. 404-412.

Miller, L. et al., (2019). Chemical evidence for the use of multiple psychotropic plants in , a 1,000-year-old ritual bundle from South America. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. DOI :10.1073/pnas. 190217411

Samorini, G. (1992). The Oldest Representations Of Hallucinogenic Mushrooms In The World (Sahara Desert, 9000 - 7000 B.P.). *Integration, Journal of Mind-moving Plants and Culture* 2/3.

11) Iboga/Ibogaine for Addiction Therapy

Alper, K., et al. (1999). Treatment of acute opioid withdrawal with ibogaine. *American Journal of Addictions*, 8(3), 234-242. doi:10.1080/105504999305848

Brown, T. K. (2013). Ibogaine in the treatment of substance dependence. *Current Drug Abuse Reviews*, 6(1), 3-16. doi: 10.2174/15672050113109990001

Brown, T. and Alper, K. (2017): Treatment of opioid use disorder with ibogaine: detoxification and drug use outcomes. *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*. DOI: 10.1080/00952990.2017.1320802

Luciano, D. (1998). Observations on treatment with ibogaine. *American Journal of Addictions*, 7(1), pp. 89-89. doi:10.1111/j.1521-0391.1998.tb00472.x

Mash, D., et al. (2001). Ibogaine in the treatment of heroin withdrawal. In K. Alper, & G. A. Cordell (Eds.), *The alkaloids: Chemistry and biology* (1st ed., Vol. 56, pp. 155— 171). London: Academic Press/Elsevier.

Mash, D., et al., (2018) Ibogaine Detoxification Transitions Opioid and Cocaine Abusers Between Dependence and Abstinence: Clinical Observations and Treatment Outcomes. *Frontiers in Pharmacology*. 9:529. doi: 10.3389/fphar.2018.00529

Sheppard, S. G. (1994). A preliminary investigation of ibogaine: Case reports and recommendations for further study. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 77(4), 379-385. doi: 10.1016/0740-5472(94)90049-3

12) Ayahuasca Experience similar to Near-Death Experience

Liester, M. B. (2013). Near-death experiences and ayahuasca-induced experiences- two unique pathways to a phenomenologically similar state of consciousness. *Journal of Transpersonal Psychology* 45(1), p. 24.

13) Ayahuasca for Addiction Therapy

Barbosa, P. et al. (2018) Assessment of Alcohol and Tobacco Use Disorders Among Religious Users of Ayahuasca. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 9 (136). doi:10.3389/fpsyt.2018.00136

Brierley, D., and Davidson, C. (2012). Developments in harmine pharmacology - Implications for ayahuasca use and drug-dependence treatment. *Progress in Neuro- psychopharmacology & Biology* 39(2), pp. 263-272.

Liester, M. and Prickett, J. (2012) Hypotheses Regarding the Mechanisms of Ayahuasca in the Treatment of Addictions. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 44 (3), pp. 200-208. DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2012.704590

Loizaga-Velder, A. and R. Verres (2014). Therapeutic effects of ritual ayahuasca use in the treatment of substance dependence-qualitative results. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* 46(1), pp. 63-72.

Mabit, J., et al. (1996). Takiwasi: The Use of Amazonian Shamanism to Rehabilitate Drug Addicts. *Yearbook of Cross-Cultural Medicine and Psychotherapy*. W. Andritzky. Berlin, International Institute of Cross-Cultural Therapy Research.

Talina, P., and Sanabriab, E. (2017). Ayahuasca's entwined efficacy: An ethnographic study of ritual healing from addiction. *International Journal of Drug Policy* 44, pp. 23-30.

Thomas, G., et al. (2013). Ayahuasca-assisted therapy for addiction: results from a preliminary observational study in Canada. *Current Drug Abuse Review* 6(1), pp. 30- 42.

14) Ayahuasca and Depression

- Anderson, B. (2012). Ayahuasca as Antidepressant? Psychedelics and Styles of Reasoning in Psychiatry. *Anthropology of Consciousness*, 23(1), pp. 44-59.
- de L. Osorio, F., et al. (2015). Antidepressant effects of a single dose of ayahuasca in patients with recurrent depression: a preliminary report. *Revista Brasileira de Psiquiatria* 37(1), pp. 13-20.
- Palhano-Fontes, F., et al. (2014). The Therapeutic Potentials of Ayahuasca in the Treatment of Depression. *The Therapeutic Use of Ayahuasca*. B. C. Labate and C. Cavnar, Springer: Berlin, Heidelberg, pp. 23-39.
- dos Santos, R., et al. (2016). Anti-depressive, anxiolytic, and anti-addictive effects of ayahuasca, psilocybin and lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD): A systematic review of clinical trials published in the last 25 years. *Therapeutic Advances in Psychopharmacology*, 6(3), pp. 193-213. doi:10.1177/2045125316638008

15) Ayahuasca and Personal Growth

- Bouso, J. C., et al. (2012). "Personality, Psychopathology, Life Attitudes and Neuropsychological Performance among Ritual Users of Ayahuasca: A Longitudinal Study. *PLoS ONE* 7(8).
- Kuypers, K., et al. (2016). Ayahuasca enhances creative divergent thinking while decreasing conventional convergent thinking. *Psychopharmacology*. DOI 10.1007/S00213-016-4377-8
- Soler J., et al. (2018). Four Weekly Ayahuasca Sessions Lead to Increases in "Acceptance" Capacities: A Comparison Study With a Standard 8-Week Mindfulness Training Program. *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, 9 (224). doi: 10.3389/fphar.2018.00224

16) Ayahuasca and Spiritual Growth

- Harris, R., and Gurel, L. (2012). A Study of Ayahuasca Use in North America. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* 44(3): 209-215.
- Trichter, S., et al. (2009). Changes in spirituality among ayahuasca ceremony novice participants. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* 41(2), pp. 121-134.
- Tupper, K. (2010). Entheogenic healing: The spiritual effects and therapeutic potential of ceremonial ayahuasca use. *The healing power of spirituality: How faith helps humans thrive*, Volume 3. J. H. Ellens. Santa Barbara, Praeger: pp. 269-282.
- Tupper, K. W. (2002). Entheogens and Existential Intelligence: The Use of Plant Teachers as Cognitive Tools. *Canadian Journal of Education* 27(4), pp. 499-516.

17) Peyote for treatment of alcohol and drug dependence

Winkelman, M. (2014). Psychedelics as Medicines for Substance Abuse Rehabilitation: Evaluating Treatments with LSD, Peyote, Ibogaine and Ayahuasca. *Current Drug Abuse Reviews* 7, pp. 101-116.

18) Peyote

Calabrese, J. (2007). The Therapeutic Use of Peyote in the Native American Church
Chapter 3 in Vol. 1 of *Psychedelic Medicine: New Evidence for Hallucinogens as Treatments*.
Michael J. Winkelman and Thomas B. Roberts (editors). Westport, CT: Praeger/Greenwood.

Feeney, K. (2007). The Legal Basis for Religious Peyote Use. Chapter 13 in Vol 1 of
Psychedelic Medicine: New Evidence for Hallucinogens as Treatments. Michael J. Winkelman and
Thomas B. Roberts (editors). Westport, CT: Praeger/Greenwood.

19) Psilocybin for End-of-Life Anxiety

Blinderman, C. (2016). Psycho-existential distress in cancer patients: A return to entheogens. *Journal of Psychopharmacology* 30 (12), pp. 1205-1206.

Kelmendi, B., et al. (2016). The role of psychedelics in palliative care reconsidered: A case for psilocybin. *Journal of Psychopharmacology* 30(12), pp. 1212-1214.

Ross, S., et al. (2016). Rapid and sustained symptom reduction following psilocybin treatment for anxiety and depression in patients with life-threatening cancer: a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 30(12), pp. 1165-1180.

20) Entheogens and Reduced Recidivism

Hendricks, P., et al. (2014). Hallucinogen use predicts reduced recidivism among substance-involved offenders under community corrections supervision. *Journal*

of *Psychopharmacology* 28(1), pp. 62-66.

Walsh, Z. , et al. (2016). Hallucinogen use and intimate partner violence: Prospective evidence consistent with protective effects among men with histories of problematic substance use. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, pp. 1-7. DOI:
10.1177/0269881116642538.

21) Psilocybin and Treatment-Resistant Depression

Hendricks, P., et al. (2015). Psilocybin, psychological distress, and suicidality. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 29(9), pp. 1041-1043.

Lyons, T. and Carhart-Harris, R. (2018). Increased nature relatedness and decreased authoritarian political views after psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 32(7), pp. 811-819.

22) Psilocybin and Cluster Headaches

Schindler, E. et al., (2015) Indoleamine Hallucinogens in Cluster Headache: Results of the Clusterbusters Medication Use Survey, *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 47(5), pp. 372-381. DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2015.1107664



REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION
December 19, 2023

For: Mayor and City Council

From: Aaron Smith, Interim City Clerk

Subject: Resolution 2023-250, Approving a Friday 1 PM deadline for City Council Agenda Items.

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND: One of the Clerk Department's goals for 2024 is to work with City Council to establish more transparency in legislative processes and strengthen the public's trust in local government. Both the public and the full City Council body deserve time to review and consider agenda items carefully prior to City Council meetings, and establishing a deadline for agenda items to be submitted or significantly changed ensures that everyone has this time.

A deadline of 1 PM on the Friday before a regular Tuesday City Council meeting guarantees that the agenda can be posted on Friday afternoon, giving plenty of time for review. It also guarantees that anyone checking the agenda on a Friday does not need to worry about the agenda being substantially different on Monday or Tuesday. Giving several days to review each item on the agenda will streamline both City Council discussions and public comments and allow each item to get the thoughtful consideration it deserves.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Implement the Friday 1 PM Deadline

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023-249 1 PM Deadline Resolution

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

COUNCIL AGENDA DATE: December 19, 2023

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL:



Resolution No. -
Meeting Date

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That a deadline be established to add or significantly change items to a City Council agenda. The deadline will be 1:00 PM on the Friday before a regular Tuesday meeting. New items can still be added to a meeting's agenda at the table during the agenda approval process of each meeting.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:



REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION
December 19, 2023

For: Mayor and City Council

From: Aaron Smith, Interim City Clerk

Subject: Resolution 2023-251, Approving an Increase for Election Inspector Pay.

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND: The City of Ypsilanti used to be one of the highest-paying municipalities in Washtenaw County for Election Inspectors and Precinct Chairpersons, but we are currently one of the lowest. The table below compares our current rates with many of our neighbors:

<u>Community</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Inspector</u>
City of Ypsilanti	\$14.00	\$13.00
City of Chelsea	\$15.00	\$13.00
City of Saline	\$18.00	\$15.00
Saline Township	\$18.00	\$16.00
Pittsfield Charter Township	\$20.00	\$16.00
Scio Township	\$20.00	\$16.00
York Township	\$18.00	\$15.50
Lyndon Township	\$23.00	\$21.00
Bridgewater Township	\$13.50	\$12.00
Augusta Charter Township	\$17.00	\$15.00
Manchester Township	\$20.00	\$16.00
Freedom Township	\$16.00	\$15.00
Lodi Township	\$13.50	\$13.00
Superior Township	\$16.00	\$14.00
City of Ann Arbor	\$18.00	\$16.75

Election days are nearly as long for inspectors and chairpersons as they are for staff, and the people

doing this vital work deserve a living wage. The raise is already affordable since combining precincts allows us to function with fewer election inspectors.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Raise Precinct Chair pay to \$20/hour and Inspector pay to \$19/hour

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023-251 Election Inspector Pay

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

COUNCIL AGENDA DATE: December 19, 2023

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL:



Resolution No. 2023-251
December 19, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the rate of pay for Election Inspectors be permanently raised to \$19/hour, and the rate of pay for Precinct Chairpersons be permanently raised to \$20/hour.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE:



Resolution No. 2023-252
December 19, 2023

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT, the following residents be appointed to the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions as indicated below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
John VanBolt 516 N River Ypsilanti, MI 48198	Historic District Commission	12/31/2026

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE:

Board and Commission Application for Reappointment

First Name	John
Last Name	VanBolt
Address	516 North River St
City	Ypsilanti
State	MI
Zip Code	48198-2819
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Board or Commission of Reappointment	Historic District Commission
Number of Terms Served	1
Did you hold a Position of Leadership?	No
Are you reapplying to continue as a youth member?	No
During your time, how did you assist your Board or Commission to achieve its purpose as stated in the enabling legislation?	Since my appointment in July, 2023, I have familiarized myself with the city's Historic District Ordinance and the Secretary of the Interior Guidelines and have participated in the discussions and votes on permit applications upon due consideration of those guidelines.
How will you continue to assist your Board or Commission to achieve its purpose if reappointed?	I will continue to attend the regularly scheduled meetings of the HDC, to carefully review the material circulated prior to each meeting, and to weigh each application in a manner consistent with a fair interpretation of the Commission's rules and guidelines.
Number of absences	3
If you had over 3 absences in a calendar year please	NA

explain? (this information
will not be made available
to the public)

Electronic Signature
Agreement

I agree.

Electronic Signature

John F. VanBolt



RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Police Department desires to replace two (2) Police vehicles with 2023 Ford Explorers, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Police Department was allocated \$100,000.00 in the FY 2022-23 budget for the purchase of one (2) vehicles, and

WHEREAS, Varsity Ford, Michigan has provided State of Michigan bid pricing in the amount of \$48,952.03, and \$46,418.10, and

WHEREAS, there will be additional saving as a result of two police Ford Taurus vehicles traded in, and

WHEREAS, the purchase was made from account 641.7.9330-987-10.

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

OFFERED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YES:

NO:

ABSENT:

VOTE:



Parks & Arts Commission 2023 Annual Report

19 December 2023

INTRODUCTION

The Parks & Arts Commission of the City of Ypsilanti was established in the summer of 2023 by combining the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Arts Commission. This new commission covers both previous commissions' general responsibilities, namely making recommendations concerning the recreation and arts needs of the city and its residents; making recommendations on funds use in related matters; updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan; reviewing and approving 'Adopt-A-Park' applications; reviewing and making recommendations on public art project submissions; and expanding artistic and recreational opportunities through commission-sponsored events if and when appropriate.

MEMBERSHIP

As of November 2023, the Parks & Arts Commission membership is:

Anne Baxter

Dillon Navarre

Ben Connor-Barrie

Aaron Seagraves

Lola Malmer

Cathy Thorburn, Secretary

Brian Merlos, Vice Chair

Kimmie Wolfe

Michael McAtee, Chair

City Council Liaison – Evan Sweet, Ward 3

Staff Liaisons:

- Bonnie Wessler, Director – Department of Public Services
- Elize Jekabson – Interim Director – Planning & Development Director & DDA Coordinator

There are currently 3 vacant seats, one of which is reserved for a youth member

OPERATIONS

Operations for both the Parks and Recreation and Arts Commissions were impacted by declining commission membership and was among the needs addressed by combining these Commissions. This was particularly acute for the Arts Commission as it was unable to officially meet in the months of March, April, and May due to membership having fallen below quorum requirements set out in that commission's bylaws. Since the decision to combine the commissions was made, most of all parties' time and effort has been focused on the transition.

When regular meetings were possible, both the Arts Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission held monthly in-person meetings with Commissioners present and public participation welcomed. Since September, the combined Parks and Arts Commission has held regular monthly in-person meetings focused on logistics and continuity.

The commissions have received, as appropriate, regular updates from the Friends of the Rutherford Pool, Parkridge Community Center, the Friends of the Ypsilanti Senior Center, an ongoing Artist Survey project, and the Youth Poet Laureate program, along with periodic updates on the status of the Peninsular Dam removal project and local Little Leagues.

The commissions have reviewed both arts and recreation proposals, notably including Fall River Day and the second annual Embracing Our Differences exhibition.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Proposed update to smoking ordinance in city parks, to expand ordinance to prohibit smoking within 15 feet of a park playground. The ordinance has since been approved by the City Council.
- Held the annual Fall River Day Event on Sept. 24 to offer discounted paddle trips on the Huron River in Ypsilanti and connect residents to engaging outdoor experiences. This event had over 100 people enjoy a kayak trip down the Huron River from Frog Island Park to Ford Lake
- Successfully implemented merger of Arts Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission. Reviewed and approved new Commission By-Laws, which have been approved by the City Council.
- Nominated the Bill Anhut Memorial Field in Waterworks Park for the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (mParks) Park Project Award and was presented the statewide award at the annual mParks conference in March 2023 in Lansing.
- Continued to advance the Artist Survey and Ypsilanti Youth Poet Laurette Program

LOOKING FORWARD

The Parks & Arts Commission hopes to make progress on the following projects and goals:

- Consolidation of norms and practices from ancestor commissions
- Removal of the Peninsular Dam and plans for the expansion of Peninsular Park
- Engagement with an Ypsilanti Youth Poet Laureate
- Review of capital budget and exploration of funding opportunities for parks improvement
- Distribution of and response from the Artist Survey
- Exploring and leveraging the synergies of our combined commission



RENOVARE DEVELOPMENT
13 N. WASHINGTON STREET
YPSILANTI, MI 48197

December 18, 2023

Andrew Hellenga
Interim City Manager
City of Ypsilanti
1 South Huron
Ypsilanti MI 48197

Re: Dorsey Estates

Dear Mr. Hellenga:

We are writing this letter to provide you and the City Council with an update on the current environmental assessment that is underway at the Dorsey Estates development located at 220 North Park Street.

The site qualifies as a “brownfield site” due to fill that was brought in after the previous building was demolished. With residential construction, the Developer is required to meet residential standards under Part 201 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) on the residential lots.

The Developer has been working with a diverse team of specialized experts including hydrogeologists, geologists, chemical engineers, and microbiologists to analyze the contaminated fill at the property and create a plan to meet residential requirements. Currently, the plan involves excavating contaminated fill in the residential area of the site and isolating it under a geotextile liner and clean fill in the stormwater detention area of the property. Any excess fill that must be excavated in the residential area, will be treated as contaminated and disposed of off-site in accordance with applicable regulations.

Once the excavation is complete, verification sampling will be conducted to ensure that the residential lots meet the requirements set forth by Part 201 of NREPA. We have been made aware of public comment claiming that the contaminated soils will be placed back on the residential lots. This is not accurate. The plan does not include placing contaminated soils back onto residential properties.

If there are any further questions, we are happy to meet with Council to provide further updates.

Thank you,

Shannon Morgan

Shannon Morgan
Managing Partner

Jill Ferrari

Jill Ferrari
Managing Partner



Resolution No. 2023-254
December 19, 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: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE: