



**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM - Tuesday, June 4, 2024
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT at roll call were Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon, Council Member King, Council Member Tooson, Council Member McLean, Council Member Simmons, and Council Member Sweet (arrived at 6:05 p.m.).

ABSENT: None

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 Simmons moved, supported by Council Member King, to add a resolution for a fee waiver for Growing Hope's Farmers Market. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Simmons requested to table Resolution No.2024-132.

The request failed as follows: Yeas: (3) Simmons, King, and Wilcoxon; Nos: (4) Brown, Sweet, Tooson, and McLean.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

9 members of the public spoke.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

VII. ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 1433 - An ordinance to amend Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, being Section 58-67 Information and investigation, to enhance transparency, impartiality, and effectiveness in addressing complaints of discriminatory practices within the city".**

Resolution No. 2024-119, determination.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-120, close the public hearing.

Council Member King moved to Postpone, until after the June 20th HRC meeting, the first reading of Ordinance No. 1433 - An ordinance to amend Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, being Section 58-67 Information and investigation, to enhance transparency, impartiality, and effectiveness in addressing complaints of discriminatory practices within the city".

Resolution No. 2024-119, determination.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-120, close the public hearing. as presented. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

- B. Ordinance No. 1434 - Entitled "An ordinance to amend Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, Sections 58-61 Intent, to eliminate ambiguous language that inadvertently permits discrimination against individuals with felony and misdemeanor criminal records". Resolution No. 2024-121, determination.**

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-122, close the public hearing.

Council Member Simmons moved to Postpone Ordinance No. 1434 - Entitled "An ordinance to amend Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, Sections 58-61 Intent, to eliminate ambiguous language that inadvertently permits discrimination against individuals with felony and misdemeanor criminal records".

Resolution No. 2024-121, determination.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-122, close the public hearing. as presented. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

- C. Resolution No. 2024-123, adopting Ordinance No. 1426, entitled "2024-2025 Tax Levy Ordinance". (Second Reading)**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-123, adopting Ordinance No. 1426, entitled "2024-2025 Tax Levy Ordinance". (Second Reading) as presented. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

- D. Resolution No. 2024-124, adopting Ordinance No. 1427, entitled "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 2023-2024". (Second Reading)**

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-124, adopting Ordinance No. 1427, entitled "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 2023-2024". (Second Reading) as presented. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

- E. Resolution No. 2024-125, adopting Ordinance No. 1428, entitled "An Ordinance to Adopt Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 24-25 and 25-26". (Second Reading)**

Council Member Simmons moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to add \$285,795 for an unarmed response pilot program. Council Member King seconded the motion. Council Member McLean offered, supported by Council Member Tooson, to table the motion. Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean No: (1) Desirae Simmons. Absent: (0)

Council Member King moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to include a 4.5% raise for Council Members. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion. Yes: (2) Michelle King and Desirae Simmons; No: (5) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean; Absent: (0)

Council Member King moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to include \$2,000 for the Human Relations Commission. The motion died for lack of support.

Council Member McLean moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to include establishing a Budget Stabilization Fund, as follows:

That there is hereby established a Budget Stabilization Fund in the accounts of the City of Ypsilanti. The Budget Stabilization Fund shall contain moneys for the purpose of providing financial resources in times of economic downturn or fiscal emergency when normal revenue streams are severely reduced.

That there is hereby transferred \$2 million from the fund balance of the General Fund (Fund 101) into the Budget Stabilization Fund.

That removal of funds from the Budget Stabilization Fund shall require the affirmative vote of five members of City Council.

Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, and Patrick McLean No: (0); Absent: (0)

Council Member McLean moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to include establishing a vacancy credit, as follows:

That there is hereby established a vacancy credit within the budget of the city of Ypsilanti. The vacancy credit shall reduce personnel appropriations for each agency by a percentage that represents the anticipated vacancy levels for the fiscal year 2024-25 and 2025-26. The vacancy credit shall be shown in each departmental budget as a negative appropriation, and the overall departmental budget shall be reduced by a like amount.

The vacancy credit shall be set at 4.5 percent for fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26.

The vacancy credit shall apply only to personnel paid in whole or in part by the General Fund (Fund 101).

The Director of Finance shall establish a non-departmental appropriation line equal to 20 percent of the total vacancy credit. This line shall be used to cover necessary personnel expenses in cases where a departmental vacancy level is less than the established vacancy credit level.

Council Member Wilcoxon seconded the motion. Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, and Patrick McLean No: (0); Absent: (0)

Council Member McLean moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to reduce some line items and increase other line items as follows:

That the following line items within each departmental budget are reduced by the stated percentages:

- Contractual Services - 2.5%
- Office Supplies - 7%
- Professional Development - 3%
- Operational - 5%

That the following sources of revenue are increased by the amounts stated:

- Marijuana dispensaries - \$110,000
- Investment income - \$85,000
- PA 289 - \$200,000

Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, and Patrick McLean No: (0); Absent: (0)

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon, supported by Council Member Sweet, to extend the meeting to 10:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McLean moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to regulate the expenditure of unappropriated funds. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon, supported by Council Member Simmons, to table the motion. Yes: (5) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, and Desirae Simmons, No: (2) Roland Tooson, and Patrick McLean; Absent: (0)

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon moved to remove from the table the motion by Council Members Simmons and King to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to add \$285,795 for an unarmed response pilot program. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Tooson, supported by Council Member Simmons, to extend the meeting to 1:00 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

With a motion on the floor by Council Members Simmons and King, Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon moved, supported by Council Member Sweet, to call the question. The question motion passed unanimously. Council voted on the unarmed response pilot program as follows: Yes: (3) Michelle King, Steve Wilcoxon, and Desirae Simmons; No: (4) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean; Absent: (0)

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon moved to remove from the table the motion by Council Members McLean and Tooson to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to regulate the expenditure of unappropriated funds. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Council voted on the resolution as follows: Yes: (4) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean; No: (3) Michelle King, Steve Wilcoxon, and Desirae Simmons; Absent: (0) The amended resolution reads as follows:

That subsequent to the approval by City Council of the annual budget appropriations ordinance, any resolution or ordinance that requires expenditures for which funds have not been appropriated requires a written statement of the anticipated cost and the source of such funding.

That any resolution or ordinance for which the source of funding is the General Fund (Fund 101) fund balance shall require an affirmative vote of five members of the City Council if the cost is greater than or equal to \$10,000.

Council Member Simmons moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to add \$50,000 to the Housing Trust Fund both years. Council Member King seconded the motion. Yes: (5) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, and Desirae Simmons; No: (2) Roland Tooson, and Patrick McLean; Absent: (0)

Council Member Simmons moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to move \$7,500 from the Council Budget, Membership and Dues to utilize for Boards and Commissions. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion. Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Nicole Brown, Desirae Simmons, and Patrick McLean No: (0); Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxon.

Council Member Sweet moved to amend Ordinance No. 1428 by amending the Budget to add proposed DPS seasonal part-time staffing positions, which will be funded from Salary and Wages Budgets, across all funds. Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, and Patrick McLean; No: (0); Abstain: (1) Desirae Simmons; Absent: (0)

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-125, adopting Ordinance No. 1428, entitled "An Ordinance to Adopt Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 24-25 and 25-26", as amended. (Second Reading) Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

F. Resolution No. 2024-126, adopting Ordinance No. 1431, entitled "an ordinance to amend Chapter 10, Article VI - Events ". (Second Reading)

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-126, adopting Ordinance No. 1431, entitled "an ordinance to amend Chapter 10, Article VI - Events ". (Second Reading) as presented. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

G. Resolution No. 2024-127, adopting Ordinance No. 1432, entitled "an ordinance to amend Chapter 86, Article II – Collection and Disposal". (Second Reading)

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-127, adopting Ordinance No. 1432, entitled "an ordinance to amend Chapter 86, Article II – Collection and Disposal". (Second Reading) as presented. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

VIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

A. Resolution No. 2024-128, approving the minutes of the May 28, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

This resolution was moved to the next agenda.

B. Resolution No. 2024-129, authorizing the City Treasurer to levy and assess the Summer 2024 Special Assessments.

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-129, authorizing the City Treasurer to levy and assess the Summer 2024 Special Assessments. as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

C. Resolution No. 2024-130 Appointing Carl Schier to the Planning Commission with a term ending May 28, 2027

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-130 Reappointing Carl Schier to the Planning Commission with a term ending July 1, 2027 as presented. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

D. Resolution No. 2024-130 Appointing Michael Simmons to the Planning Commission with a term ending July 1, 2027

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-130 Reappointing Michael Simmons to the Planning Commission with a term ending July 1, 2027 as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

E. Resolution No. 2024-132 Appointing Bryan Foley to the Sustainability Commission with a term ending May 1, 2027

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-132 Reappointing Bryan Foley to the Sustainability Commission with a term ending May 1, 2027 as presented. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (5) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 1 Desirae Simmons

Absent: (1) Michelle King

F. Resolution No. 2024-133 Appointing Georgina Hickey to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending July 1, 2027

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-133 Reappointing Georgina Hickey to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending July 1, 2027 as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Michelle King

G. Resolution waiving all Special Event fees, in the estimated amount of \$1,035, for the Growing Hope Farmers Market on July 27, 2024.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve the Resolution waiving all Special Event fees, in the estimated amount of \$1,035, for the Growing Hope Farmers Market on July 27, 2024. as presented. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

A. Police Advisory Commission

Council Member Tooson reported that residents can attend the next meeting on June 20th, or the joint meeting with HRC on June 27th.

B. Human Relations Commission

Council Member King reported that the meeting of June 13th might move to June 20th before the joint meeting with YPAC, so the HRC can meet on their own as well.

C. Parks and Arts Commission

Council Member Sweet reported that the Fall River Day will be Sunday, September 19, 2024.

D. Sustainability Commission

Council Member Simmons reported that the next meeting is next week.

E. Historic District Commission

Council Member McLean reported that the next meeting is next week.

F. Planning Commission

No report.

G. Zoning Board of Appeals

No report.

X. LIAISON REPORTS

A. SEMCOG Update

No report.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

No report.

C. Urban County

Mayor Brown reported that the next meeting is tomorrow.

D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

Mayor Brown reported that they will meet soon and the IGA is under review.

E. Friends of Rutherford Pool

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxen reported that the pool is open!

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member King -

- Please update the City website for current members of the HRC.
- Wondering about the zipline project & DPS Director indicated there is currently no timeline set.

Council Member Simmons -

- Attended Freighthouse Plaza Stakeholders meeting.
- Participated in the Bike Ypsi & Non-Motorized Committee sponsored ride.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxen -

- Also attended bike event and commented on the great addition of the bike box at intersections.
- College Heights neighborhood is having their garage sale this weekend.
- Reiterating an offer to Council Members for a canoe ride to the Dam and down to Spring Street.

Council Member Sweet -

- Reminder for DDA meeting on June 10th regarding the potential of a plaza project.

Council Member McLean -

- Thank you to Council and the Administration for all the Budget work.

Council Member Tooson -

- Wants to highlight all the high school graduates and uplift them for all of their accomplishments.

- Attended the Ann Arbor African American Festival last weekend which got him excited about Ypsi's Juneteenth festivities.
- Come out to Parkridge Park on June 10th for baseball.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Pleased with the turnout for the Plaza meeting.
- The next few days will be hot, so try to stay cool and safe - there are County cooling sites.
- The Secretary of State is bringing a mobile SOS Unit to our Saturday Juneteenth celebration.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

The administration will bring forward an IGA at the next meeting.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

XVI. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Resolution No. 2024-134, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:59 p.m.

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.