



**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 PM - Tuesday, June 18, 2024
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7 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 (arrived at 7:06 p.m.), and Council Member Sweet.

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 Tooson moved to Amend the agenda by moving Items D, E, F, and G from Section VIII to the Consent Agenda, Section VII and removing Item A, Section VIII, Resolution No. 2024-140. 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)

Council Member McLean moved to approve the Agenda as amended. 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)

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

15 members of the public spoke.

VI. ORDINANCES FIRST READING

- A. Ordinance No. 1435 - An Ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, by adding a Fair Chance Housing section."
Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-135, close the public hearing.
Resolution No. 2024-134, determination.**

Council Member King moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1435 - An Ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend Article III Discrimination of Chapter 58 Human Relations, by adding a Fair Chance Housing section." Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-135, closes the public hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-134, determination.

Yes: (6) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown
No: 1 Patrick McLean
Absent: (0)

B. Ordinance No. 1436 - An Ordinance Entitled "Planned Unit Development (PUD) & Site Condominium: Mixed-Use and Multi-Family Development at 124 Pearl Street and 120 Pearl" Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-137, close the public hearing. Resolution No. 2024-136, determination.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1436 - An Ordinance Entitled "Planned Unit Development (PUD) & Site Condominium: Mixed-Use and Multi-Family Development at 124 Pearl Street and 120 Pearl". Council Member King seconded the motion.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-137, closes the public hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-136, determination.

Yes: (4) Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Desirae Simmons, Nicole Brown
No: 3 Roland Tooson, Steve Wilcoxon, Patrick McLean
Absent: (0)

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Resolution No. 2024-138 approving the minutes of the May 28, 2024 regular Council Meeting.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-138 approving the minutes of the May 28, 2024 regular Council Meeting. 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)

B. Resolution No. 2024-137, approving the minutes of the June 4, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-137, approving the minutes of the June 4, 2024 Regular Council Meeting. 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. 2024-140 approving the 2nd amendment to the 2016 City and DDA Intergovernmental Agreement as amended.

This item was removed from the Agenda for further review and discussion.

B. Resolution No. 2024-141 extending the towing contract with Wall Street Towing, Inc., dba Budget/Stadium Towing for an additional two years, with the storage fees increased to \$40 per day, and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the extension agreement for and on behalf of the city, subject to the approval by the City Attorney.

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-141 extending the towing contract with Wall Street Towing, Inc., dba Budget/Stadium Towing for an additional two years, with the storage fees increased to \$40 per day, and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the extension agreement for and on behalf of the city, subject to the approval by the City Attorney. as presented. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (6) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean
No: 1 Michelle King
Absent: (0)

- C. Resolution No. 2024-142 approving the purchase of thirty-one (31) Axon 7 Tasers from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the Police Department in the total amount of \$157,668 to be dispersed over the next 60 months to come from the Capital Equipment account #414-7-9370-987-40.**

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-142 approving the purchase of thirty-one (31) Axon 7 Tasers from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the Police Department in the total amount of \$157,668 to be dispersed over the next 60 months to come from the Capital Equipment account #414-7-9370-987-40. 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. 2024-143 authorizing the application for an Annual Permit that will allow the City of Ypsilanti to work within the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) right-of-way to complete work under the conditions of the permit.**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-143 authorizing the application for an Annual Permit that will allow the City of Ypsilanti to work within the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) right-of-way to complete work under the conditions of the permit. 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. 2024-144 reappointing Brian Jones-Chance to the Planning Commission with a term ending May 1, 2027.**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-144 reappointing Brian Jones-Chance to the Planning Commission with a term ending May 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)

- F. Resolution No. 2024-145 Appointing Tom Roach to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending May 1, 2027**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-145 Appointing Tom Roach to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending May 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)

- G. Resolution No. 2024-146 Appointing Emmanuelle V Maurer to the Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2028**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve the Resolution No. 2024-146 Appointing Emmanuelle V Maurer to the Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2028 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)

A motion was made by Council Member Tooson to extend the meeting until Midnight. 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)

H. Resolution No. 2024-147 approving the request of ACE Pyro, LLC. for a Pyrotechnics Permit for June 21, 2024 at EMU.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-147 approving the request of ACE Pyro, LLC. for a Pyrotechnics Permit for June 21, 2024 at EMU. 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)

I. Resolution No. 2024-148 opposing the ballot initiative known as Ax MI Tax and all related legislation.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-148 opposing the ballot initiative known as Ax MI Tax and all related legislation. 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)

J. Resolution No. 2024-149 disbursing \$50,000 from the Housing Trust Fund to support the staffing, access to showers, and food programming being offered by FedUp Ministries in partnership with efforts to support our most vulnerable populations.

Resolution No. 2024-149 was offered by Council Member Simmons and supported by Council Member King.

Council Member McLean moved to Amend Resolution No. 2024-149 to disbursing \$20,000 from the Housing Trust Fund to support the staffing, access to showers, and food programming being offered by FedUp Ministries in partnership with efforts to support our most vulnerable populations. as presented. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. Motion failed as follows:

Yes: (2) Roland Tooson, Patrick McLean

No: 5 Michelle King, Evan Sweet, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown

Absent: (0)

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon moved to Postpose Resolution No. 2024-149 disbursing \$50,000 from the Housing Trust Fund to support the staffing, access to showers, and food programming being offered by FedUp Ministries in partnership with efforts to support our most vulnerable populations. 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)

Absent: (0)

K. Resolution No. 2024-150 regarding the lowest law enforcement priority for the City of Ypsilanti and the specifics for investigation and arrest of persons in possession of a controlled substance.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve the Resolution No. 2024-150 regarding the lowest law enforcement priority for the City of Ypsilanti and the specifics for investigation and arrest of persons in possession of a controlled substance. as presented. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Yes: (3) Michelle King, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon

No: 3 Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Patrick McLean

Absent: (1) Nicole Brown

A motion was made by Council Member Tooson, supported by Council Member Sweet to extend the meeting until 12:30 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

L. Discussion regarding the Community Benefits Ordinance.

M. Discussion regarding the Fee Schedule.

N. Discussion regarding Fireworks Ordinance.

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

A. Police Advisory Commission

Council Member Tooson reported the next meeting is June 20th, 7p.m, here in Council Chambers. There will be a joint meeting with the HRC on June 27th at the YBL Superior Township location, 1900 Harris Rd., to discuss and plan the community forum series on public safety.

B. Human Relations Commission

Council Member King reported that the HRC will meet at the Ypsilanti District Library, Superior at 6 p.m., before the joint meeting with YPAC.

C. Parks and Arts Commission

Council Member Sweet reported they had a productive meeting, discussing the parks and arts ordinance, the Parks & Recreation Plan and goals and priorities.

D. Sustainability Commission

Council Member Simmons reported that the City joined the Ann Arbor 2030 District and submitted a letter of support for County resiliency updates for the Towner building.

E. Historic District Commission

Council Member McLean reported that the commission met on June 11th and discussed 206 N River St. The next meeting is July 5th.

F. Planning Commission

Council President Pro Tem Wilcoxon reported that the commission has not met.

G. Zoning Board of Appeals

No report.

X. LIAISON REPORTS

A. SEMCOG Update

Council President Pro Tem Wilcoxon reported that the general assembly meets June 27th and he will be attending.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

No report.

C. Urban County

No report.

D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

Mayor Brown reported the commission will meet on Thursday, and the primary focus will be reviewing the IGA.

E. Friends of Rutherford Pool

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon reported that they met; thank you to City Manager Hellenga for facilitating the reimbursement for resurfacing; the pool is open and lots of folks were there last night - it was great to see all the kids running around. Enrollment in swim lessons with electronic registration through Metro Parks has been problematic - they're requiring lots of information and it's difficult for many.

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member King -

- Happy Juneteenth!
- If you're in town this weekend, come down for the festivities!
- Speed Radar by Perry School is again not working.
- Was able to participate in the repainting of Black Lives Matter Boulevard. Was informed that they want to start the repaint of Riverside park, but it does need some road repair.

Council Member Simmons -

- Very excited that the City has applied to join a cohort of pro bono support for an unarmed response team, through the Harvard Kennedy School.
- Update regarding Ann Arbor City Council adding to their agenda how to reallocate their ARPA funds, as well as receiving a grant from the Michigan State Police for community crisis response. Wondering how we can obtain grants like that. But, these items were actually struck from their agenda and no conversation was had on this topic.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon -

- Attended Bike Rodeo at EMU this past Saturday as a representative of Non-Motorized Commission, and it was a great community event. Talked to the EMU Chief about the utilization of bikes for officers.
- At Freighthouse for DDA presentation for options for the Plaza, and there was a fairly good turnout. There were mixed reviews. Some folks believe you shouldn't lead with design, but more with the uses of the area. It seemed like some community members were left with distrust feeling they were left out of the process.
- During our Coffee Hours, residents were complaining about rats...particularly on Summit. Can we please get the property inspected as it seems like it's a junk yard.

Council Member Sweet -

- Nice to see Ypsi Pride on the 7th alive and thriving in Depot Town. There was a huge turnout. Kudos to the organizers and all the work that goes into that event.
- Excited to see the Senior Center RFP going out to update the area and do some additional outdoor patio work to make it a more active space for our Senior Community.

Council Member McLean -

- Heads up to Council that McLean will be bringing forward some kind of action to make a historic district of the Peninsular Dam Building.
- Thank to DPS Director Wessler for helping get the work on Congress St. completed.
- Pointing out an issue of the mass shooting in Rochester, involving guns that we can't regulate. There was a good article in Bridge Michigan regarding the red flag laws and how they don't go far enough to protect.
- Noted that he will be absent from July 2nd meeting for a scheduled vacation and asked about the regulations regarding remote participation. City Manager Hellenga explained that, if joining remotely, a Council Member may participate in discussion, but cannot vote.

Council Member Tooson -

- Last Monday had the opportunity to attend Baldwin on the South, hosted by the Supreme Felons at Parkridge Park, and the event will be every Monday for the next 9 or so weeks at 6 p.m. There will be a 3-on-3 tournament for the youth to come out, play a basketball tournament, and win some prizes.
- Highlight the Moorish Science Temple, #43 who hosted a shoe giveaway at Parkridge Community Park that was very successful - all the shoes were given away before the actual start time of the event.
- Reminding of and Highlighting the Juneteenth celebration in Ypsi. The event is Friday to Sunday in the South Huron lot. Come down and celebrate with us.
- 734 Motor Club is hosting a Car Show at Christie's on Washtenaw Saturday evening.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Department Heads will begin strategic planning for the next budget cycle in July.
- Wishing everyone a happy Juneteenth.

A. A discussion regarding Boards and Commissions Funding Distribution.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

3 members of the public spoke.

XVI. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 12:26 a.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.