



**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 PM - Tuesday, October 15, 2024
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order after ending the Special Meeting.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT at roll call were Mayor Brown, Council Member King, Council Member Tooson, Council Member McLean, Council Member Simmons, and Council Member Sweet. ABSENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxen

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 Amend the AGENDA by adding Resolution No. 2024-218 appointing 2 residents to City Commissions. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (4) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: 2 Michelle King, Desirae Simmons

Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxen

Council Member Simmons moved to Amend the AGENDA by indefinitely postponing Resolution No. 2024-240. Council Member King seconded the motion. The motion failed upon a roll call vote as follows:

Yes: (2) Michelle King, Desirae Simmons

No: 4 Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxen

Council Member Simmons requested to move Resolution No. 2024-240 up on the Agenda to Item A, Section IX. The amended Agenda was approved upon a voice vote.

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Budget Presentation for end of Fiscal Year 2023/2024**

VI. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS

- A. Resolution No. 2024-232 Approving and Adopting the Opt Out Option for the medical benefits plan coverage year 01/01/2024 through 12/31/2024 to comply with 2011 Public Act 152.**

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-232 Approving and Adopting the Opt Out Option for the medical benefits plan coverage year 01/01/2025 through 12/31/2025 to comply with 2011 Public Act 152. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxen

- B. Resolution No. 2024 -233 Approving a one-year contract from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, for Blue Cross Blue Shield and Blue Care Network benefit plans for all eligible participating employees and retirees, and a contract with EHIM to administer the self-funded WRAP and**

prescription portions of the BCBS Community Blue PPO program and coordinate all benefits and costs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024 -233 Approving a one-year contract from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, for Blue Cross Blue Shield and Blue Care Network benefit plans for all eligible participating employees and retirees, and a contract with EHIM to administer the self-funded WRAP and prescription portions of the BCBS Community Blue PPO program and coordinate all benefits and costs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxon

C. Postponed Resolution No. 2024-207 Authorizing the transfer of \$1.2 million from the general fund into the budget stabilization (rainy day) fund.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Postponed Resolution No. 2024-207 Authorizing the transfer of \$1.2 million from the general fund into the budget stabilization (rainy day) fund. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxon

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

3 Members of the public spoke.

A motion was made by Council Member Tooson, seconded by Council Member Sweet to suspend Public Comment due to disruptive behavior. The motion was withdrawn and public comment continued. 32 more members of the public spoke.

A motion was made by Council Member Simmons, seconded by Council Member Sweet, to extend the meeting until midnight. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

The Council took a brief recess at 10:15 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 10:34 p.m.

VIII. ORDINANCES FIRST READING

A. Ordinance No. 1440 - An Ordinance Entitled "An Ordinance to approve a supplemental allocation for Legal Services for Fiscal Year 24-25 and 25-26".

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-234, close the public hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-235, determination.

This item was removed by the City Manager.

A motion was made by Council Member Tooson, seconded by Council Member Sweet, to remove this item from the Agenda. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

IX. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

I. Resolution No. 2024-240 Directing the city manager to use all appropriate resources, including police presence, to ensure a safe downtown for all residents, visitors, and business owners; and that these resources shall be used to uphold and respect the civil rights of all residents, visitors, and business owners.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-240 and Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Tooson, seconded by Council Member Simmons, to extend the meeting until 1:30 a.m.. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

Council Member Simmons moved to Table Resolution No. 2024-240 Directing the city manager to use all appropriate resources, including police presence, to ensure a safe downtown for all residents, visitors, and

business owners; and that these resources shall be used to uphold and respect the civil rights of all residents, visitors, and business owners. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

A. Resolution No. 2024-238 Approving the minutes of the Council Meetings of September 17, October 1, and October 4, 2024.

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-236 (*NOTE: Resolution No. was incorrect on agenda*) Approving the minutes of the Council Meetings of September 17, October 1, and October 4, 2024. as presented. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

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

B. Postponed Resolution No. 2024-219 Approving a new 2024 Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and the DDA, which will replace the 2016 Agreement.

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Postponed Resolution No. 2024-219 Approving a new 2024 Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and the DDA, which will replace the 2016 Agreement. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

C. Postponed Resolution No. 2024-224 Approving an 18-month extension of the janitorial contract with RNA Facilities Management of Ann Arbor with a 3% increase in cost.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Postponed Resolution No. 2024-224 Approving an 18-month extension of the janitorial contract with RNA Facilities Management of Ann Arbor with a 3% increase in cost. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

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

D. Postponed Resolution No. 2024-225 Approving a service agreement with Stevens Disposal, current City contractor, to provide roll-off dumpster service to the Department of Public Works.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Postponed Resolution No. 2024-225 Approving a service agreement with Stevens Disposal, current City contractor, to provide roll-off dumpster service to the Department of Public Works. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

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

E. Postponed Resolution No. 2024-228 requesting that the Michigan Attorney General issue an opinion on whether the Police Budget ballot initiative may appear on a ballot, and also requesting that the Washtenaw County Clerk reject the ballot initiative and prohibit it from appearing on any ballot based on lack of clarity and/or lack of chronological coherence.

This item was withdrawn by Council Member McLean.

F. Resolution No. 2024-237 Approving the agreement between the City of Ypsilanti and Recycle Ann Arbor to have Recycle Ann Arbor provide processing and materials marketing services for the City; also authorizing the City Manager to sign the contract documents and any change orders, subject to approval by the City Attorney, to complete the authorization of this contract.

Council Member Sweet moved to Amend Resolution No. 2024-237 by choosing the Flat Rate for this contract. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion.

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

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-237 Approving the agreement between the City of Ypsilanti and Recycle Ann Arbor to have Recycle Ann Arbor provide processing and materials marketing services for the City; also authorizing the City Manager to sign the contract documents and any change orders, subject to approval by the City Attorney, to complete the authorization of this contract, as amended. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

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

G. Resolution 2024-238 Approving the proposed modification to Section 5 of the membership agreement with WRRMA, to explore the possibility of issuing a joint RFP for solid waste collection and binding the City to that contract.

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution 2024-238 Approving the proposed modification to Section 5 of the membership agreement with WRRMA, to explore the possibility of issuing a joint RFP for solid waste collection and binding the City to that contract. as presented. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

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

H. Resolution No. 2024-239 Accepting the State of Michigan \$3,000,000 grant and certifying that not less than \$1,000,000 of the grant funds will be used for the Frog Island Parking Lot infrastructure improvements and the remainder be used for the Department of Public Works infrastructure improvements.

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-239 Accepting the State of Michigan \$3,000,000 grant and certifying that not less than \$1,000,000 of the grant funds will be used for the Frog Island Parking Lot infrastructure improvements and the remainder be used for the Department of Public Works infrastructure improvements. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-218 appointing 2 residents to certain Boards and Commissions. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Council Member Simmons moved to separate the two appointments. Council Member King seconded the motion. The motion to separate passed upon a roll call vote as follows:

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

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve the appointment of Colleen Kennedy to the Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2028. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

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

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve the appointment of Alexander Munro to the Police Advisory Commission with a term ending February 1, 2028. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Yes: (4) Evan Sweet, Roland Tooson, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean

No: (2) Michelle King, Desirae Simmons
Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxon

X. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

A. Police Advisory Commission

B. Human Relations Commission

Council Member King reported that the next meeting is Thursday at 6 p.m. and kudos to Council Member Tooson for doing a good job keeping track of Wards with YPAC appointments.

C. Parks and Arts Commission

Council Member Sweet reported that River Days was a great success and the next meeting is Monday.

D. Sustainability Commission

Council Member Simmons reported that there was not a quorum, so the last meeting was not held.

E. Historic District Commission

Council Member McLean reported that the commission has three applications (River, Maple and Michigan Ave) and working through the issues.

F. Planning Commission

No report.

G. Zoning Board of Appeals

No report.

XI. LIAISON REPORTS

A. SEMCOG Update

No report.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

Council Member Simmons reported that there was no meeting this month, but they will be hosting 2 open houses for feedback. One will be on Oct. 17th at the Library.

C. Urban County

No report. The next meeting is in November.

D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

The Mayor reported that the Council has passed the IGA, which was a long time coming. There will be a Trick or Treat event at Depot Town.

E. Friends of Rutherford Pool

No report.

XII. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member King -

- Question about Police losing officers? City Manager indicated he was only aware of 1 recruit who has resigned.
- Any update on speed bumps on Monroe? DPS Director Wessler stated it was discussed in the past, but no action had been taken.
- Still asking for Police Chief to attend Neighborhood Association meeting.

Council Member Simmons -

- Noted that AI is a hot topic and cautioned of environmental deterioration.
- The Fair Housing Center held their annual breakfast and have a toolkit available for municipalities.
- The Prospect Park Basketball Court needs attention.
- Suggesting a policy be created for protesters.

Council Member Sweet -

- There was a Luna Lake Garden clean up on the 6th with a large group and many thanks to DPS Director Wessler for her assistance.

Council Member McLean -

- Discussed tree issues.

Council Member Tooson -

- There will be a Downtown Clean up this Saturday, from 9am - noon.
- There will be a Trunk or Treat at Parkrdige Community Center on Oct. 26th from 3pm to 6pm.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Brown thanked Council Member Sweet for his service to the Council and the City.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Hellenga discussed an Organizational Meeting, and the Council set two, November 11th and November 18th.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

XVII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Resolution No. 2024-241, adjourning the City Council Meeting.

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.