



**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
7:00 PM - Tuesday, November 12, 2024  
Council Chambers  
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

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**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 McLean, Council Member Simmons, and Council Member Sweet. ABSENT: Council Member Tooson

**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 McLean moved to Approve the AGENDA as presented. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

Council Member McLean requested to move Resolution No. 2024-246 up to the Presentation section.

Council Member Simmons requested Resolution No. 2024-245 approving the minutes be postponed due to the minutes not being included in the packet.

Motion to approve the Agenda, as amended, passed upon a voice vote.

Council Member Sweet moved to excuse Council Member Tooson. Council Member McLean seconded the motion and the motion passed upon a voice vote.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)**

8 Members of the public spoke.

**VI. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Proclamation honoring Jane Schmiedeke.**

- B. FedUp Ministries update and report, per agreement with the City of Ypsilanti.**

- C. WATER STREET PCB Site Characterization and Cleanup Plan Update.**

- C. Resolution No. 2024-246 honoring the First United Methodist Church of Ypsilanti on its Bicentennial Anniversary.**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-246 honoring the First United Methodist Church of Ypsilanti on its Bicentennial Anniversary. Council Member Sweet seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Roland Tooson

**VII. ORDINANCES FIRST READING**

**A. Ordinance No. 1441 - An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 80, Entitled "Parks and Arts" of the Code of Ordinances.**

**Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-242, close the public hearing.**

**Resolution No. 2024-243, determination.**

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1441 - An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 80, Entitled "Parks and Arts" of the Code of Ordinances. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon moved to Amend Ordinance No. 1441 by amending Section 80-4 to add the wording "and non-residents shall make up not more than 20% of the members". Council Member Simmons seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and Director Wessler will bring slight changes to the Ordinance at the Second Reading. Wilcoxon and Simmons withdrew their motion.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2024-242, close the public hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-243, determination.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Roland Tooson

**VIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING to allow for public comment regarding the USEPA Clean Up Grant Application. Resolution No. 2024-244, close the public hearing.**

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing to allow for public comment regarding the USEPA Clean Up Grant Application.

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-244 to close the Public Hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

**B. Resolution No. 2024-245 Approving the minutes of the Regular and Special Council Meetings of October 15, 2024.**

This item was postponed to the next Council Meeting.

**D. Resolution No. 2024-247 Approving the contract for legal services with Conlin, McKenny, and Philbrick, P.C. and of Randolph T Barker as City Attorney, and Allen J. Philbrick, W. Daniel Troyka, Stephen K. Postema, Marjorie M Dixon, and John M. Barr as Assistant City Attorneys, and Randolph T Barker as FOIA Coordinator and Jennifer Healy as Deputy FOIA Coordinator.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-247 Approving the contract for legal services with Conlin, McKenny, and Philbrick, P.C. and of Randolph T Barker as City Attorney, and Allen J. Philbrick, W. Daniel Troyka, Stephen K. Postema, Marjorie M Dixon, and John M. Barr as Assistant City Attorneys, and Randolph T Barker as FOIA Coordinator and Jennifer Merritt as Deputy FOIA Coordinator. as presented. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Roland Tooson

**E. Resolution No. 2024-248 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County to support the warming center at the Freighthouse.**

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-248 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County to support the warming center at the Freighthouse. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Roland Tooson

**F. Resolution No. 2024-249 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, the City of Ypsilanti, and St. Luke's Episcopal Church.**

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-249 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, the City of Ypsilanti, and St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

**G. Resolution No. 2024-250 Approving the updated Memorandum of Understanding with Growing Hope for their Farmers Market.**

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-250 Approving the updated Memorandum of Understanding with Growing Hope for their Farmers Market. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

**I. Resolution No. 2024-252 Approving vehicle purchases for DPW in the total amount of \$524,598 to be expended from the appropriate motorpool capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.**

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-251 Approving vehicle purchases for DPW in the total amount of \$524,598 to be expended from the appropriate motorpool capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

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

Council Member King moved to Extend the meeting until Midnight. Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

**H. Resolution No. 2024-251 Approving changes to the Fee Schedule for the Department of Public Works, as presented.**

Council Member Sweet moved to Approve Resolution No. 2024-252 Approving changes to the Fee Schedule for the Department of Public Works, as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

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

**J. Discussion Regarding Conflict Resolution and a Commitment to Conflict Resolution.**

**K. Discussion Regarding the City Council Organizational Meeting.**

The Organizational Meeting was rescheduled to be part of the next regular Council Meeting on November 26, 2024, starting at 6:30 p.m.

**L. Discussion Regarding Youth Mini Grants.**

**IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS**

**A. Police Advisory Commission**

No report.

**B. Human Relations Commission**

Council Member King reported the next meeting is this Thursday at 6 p.m.

**C. Parks and Arts Commission**

Council Member Sweet reported the next meeting is on November 18th.

**D. Sustainability Commission**

Council Member Simmons reported that they recently held a meeting and discussed how their plans for an Earth Day celebration are changing and what they want that to look like. More information to come.

**E. Historic District Commission**

Council Member McLean reported that there was a meeting tonight.

**F. Planning Commission**

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon was not able to attend the last meeting.

**G. Zoning Board of Appeals**

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon was not able to attend the last meeting.

**X. LIAISON REPORTS**

**A. SEMCOG Update**

No report.

**B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study**

No report.

**C. Urban County**

Mayor Brown reported there is a meeting coming up.

**D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority**

Mayor Brown reported that there is a meeting next week.

**E. Friends of Rutherford Pool**

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon reported that the last meeting was cancelled.

**XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS**

**Council Member King -**

- Residents have been complaining about graffiti on walls on Madison and Jefferson - can that please be addressed?
- Requesting an update on the Patient Station

**Council Member Simmons -**

- Sharing resources with fellow Council Members regarding Finding You Way - A Roadmap to Social Services and Resources in Washtenaw County and a Harm Reduction Presentation on Opioid Crisis.
- Met with residents who had concerns over enforcement.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon -**

- Concerns regarding a house at Roosevelt and Cornell that has had sewer work done - there is a large gap and who's responsible for that. Director Wessler reported that the contractor has not finished that work and she will look into the matter.
- The gas station on Washtenaw posted they are now open 24 hours and residents are concerned that the area is not zoned for that.
- There was an inquiry about parking on Owendale, but the issue is resolved. However, the service station on the corner has issues.

**Council Member Sweet -**

- Acknowledged that this is his last meeting and thanked everyone for allowing him to serve, having appointed him to fill Annie Summerville's term. Council Member Sweet also offered congratulations and the best of luck to incumbent Amber Fellows and the entire Council body.

**Council Member McLean -**

- Last Wednesday was the 2nd meeting around Community and it was a really good start. Thank you to the Mayor, Police Chief and City Manager for participating.
- Commend Council Member Sweet on his service to the Council, the City and the community.

## **XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

- The Community Chats are going well and we will continue them!
- Thanking Council Member Sweet for all his work and commending him on being such an avid supporter of the community.

## **XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

- The Community Chats have been very positive. The next two include Dec. 18th at 6 p.m. for Ward 1 and December 19th at 8:30 a.m. for Businesses at the DDA meeting.
- City Manager Hellenga has completed an Assests Management Course.
- In discussions with Ypsi Township to partner in a potential Shine Program.
- The staff will be meeting with OHM to discuss the DPS facility.

## **XIV. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. A Summary of Activities and a Draft Budget from the Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority (WRRMA).**

## **XV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)**

## **XVI. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR**

## **XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Resolution No. 2023-, adjourning the City Council Meeting.**  
Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:44 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.**