



Approved

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2012
6:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL-

Council Member Bodary	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Council Member Jefferson	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Schreiber	Present
(6:10 p.m.)			
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Present		

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Richardson, supported by Council Member Bodary, to excuse the absence. Motion carried.

III. INVOCATION-

Mayor Schreiber asked all to stand for a moment of silence.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

"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."

V. AGENDA APPROVAL-

On a voice note, the agenda was approved as presented.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION-

Mayor Schreiber read the rules of audience participation.

Mr. Lee Tooson stated that he is overwhelmingly happy and in support of retaining Chief Walker. He said he is disappointed in the millage efforts and that they did not pass; he feels the information was not presented correctly. He hopes Council does not make a hasty decision on choosing a City Manager as he feels they have not done due diligence in investigating the candidates.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR-

Mayor Schreiber stated that he appreciates Mr. Tooson's comments.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS-

1. Resolution 2012-090 to form a subcommittee to negotiate a city manager contract.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City Council previously engaged the services of the Michigan Municipal League to perform a professional executive recruitment for the position of City Manager; and

WHEREAS, the City Council at Special Meetings held on April 26th and 27th, 2012 conducted interviews with five (5) candidates for the position of City Manager; and

WHEREAS, the City Council established the requisite knowledge, skills, abilities and relevant experience that the City Manager should possess in order to be an effective chief administrative officer of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the City to establish an ad hoc committee to draft an Employment Agreement by and between the City and the candidate that it believes best matches the position profile that the Council established for the position of City Manager.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council does hereby authorize and direct Mayor Schreiber, Councilperson _____, and Councilperson _____ to draft an Employment Agreement by and between the City of Ypsilanti and City Manager Candidate _____ to be considered for approval at a later date by the City Council as a whole.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Bodary

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated that she thought tonight there would be a discussion, prior to making a decision on one candidate. She indicated that she would like to see a second interview with the remaining candidates that council was most interested in; she stated she is not ready to name a final candidate tonight.

Council Member Jefferson asked if Council was going to choose even though there was no deliberation. He stated there was no background check and felt more research needed to be done in addition to contacting the candidates' references.

Council Member Robb stated that candidates were interviewed two weeks ago and asked why the time hadn't been taken to do due diligence.

Council Member Vogt suggested discussing the candidates tonight as he wished to see this resolved tonight.

Council Member Bodary asked where things were left off with Ms. Parker in regards to the investigation and suggested we narrow it down to once candidate and if that candidate didn't pass the background check the next candidate could be selected.

Mayor Schreiber stated that this is a big task and the sooner the City Manager is in place and able to work with the budget the better off the city will be.

Council Member Vogt stated that he would like to hear what the concerns of the Council Members are and have a discussion relating to the concerns.

Council Member Murdock stated that he was willing to move ahead tonight with no more interviews but suggested that others may need to do their due diligence by conducting further research on the candidates.

Mayor Schreiber suggested Council target the best candidates and narrow it down to two candidates to interview.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated that she did not feel as if she got to know the candidates and wants to be able to tell if the candidates will fit in and work with the community and the Council.

Mayor Schreiber mentioned that there is contact information and the candidates can be called for follow up conversations.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated that she feels this is the most important decision that this council will make and she wants the candidates to present themselves and their ideas to the entire council, especially because when the first interviews were conducted with a hope that the ballot proposals may pass, and now they have not.

Council Member Murdock stated that if the ballot issue was that big of a concern to a candidate, they would not come. He asked who should be suggested for a second interview.

Mayor Pro-Tem responded that she wished to see follow-up interviews with Mr. Vick, Mr. Ottenwess, and Ms. McMullan.

Council Member Robb stated that two weeks have passed since the interviews and he mentioned that previously he had contacted his top candidate and asked further questions and then lobbied his choice to Council; though this candidate wasn't chosen the due diligence was done.

Council Member Jefferson asked if Council was going to choose two candidates tonight to do background checks on. He agreed that narrowing the list of candidates down was a good idea but stated he did not feel a final choice should be made.

Mayor Schreiber stated that he has done his due diligence, followed up with Mr. Vick, and spoken to others about his work in Grosse Point Shores and has heard nothing but good things about him. He stated that Mr. Vick is young and energetic and has the right amount of experience. He added that Ms. McMullan has done a good job.

Council Member Bodary stated that he has no problem with narrowing down the list to two candidates. He shared that he made a call about Mr. Vick and feels he has done a good job and would be a good choice. He added that he feels all the candidates have strengths and weaknesses and he has no problem narrowing down the list and then going on from there.

Council Member Murdock stated that he is prepared to move forward this evening as he feels he has enough information to get this done and come to a conclusion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated that she feels there needs to be a unanimous decision on this matter and she does not feel she would have to say 'No' to the choice that seems to be most popular amongst the Council.

Council Member Jefferson stated that out of the five candidates there were good qualities and adequate experience in city government. He expressed a slight concern with Mr. Vick and indicated that he would rather have time with this candidate in person. He added that Ms. McMullan has good experience with the city government in the Clerk's office and she has vision and he knows she can carry out that vision. He indicated that this should not be a political decision because the city needs a person that can be trusted and who understands the dynamics of the City of Ypsilanti.

Mayor Schreiber shared that he spoke with Mr. Vick to clarify some concerns and was told that in Grosse Point Shores the City Attorney reports to City Council and not the City Manager and was also told that there was no proof there was ever an overpayment.

Council Member Murdock addressed the tolling concern with Mr. Vick by saying that he probably did what he did so it would not end up in court and indicated that this is a common process. He further stated that he does not oppose giving Mr. Vick a second interview on Monday.

Council Member Vogt shared that he wants to move forward as he has a top candidate in mind that he has ranked good and above the others from the very beginning; he indicated that it would not, however, be impossible to change his mind based on second interviews.

Mayor Schreiber asked how many candidates should be invited back for second interviews and who should be invited back.

Council Member Vogt asked if two candidates or only one should be chosen.

Mayor Schreiber asked when and what time second interviews should be conducted.

Council Member Murdock said he is available any day.

Council Member Murdock also stated he is available any day.

Council Member Robb asked if there was anyone who cannot make it for second interviews on Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson shared her top three candidates: Ottenwess, Vick, and McMullan.

Mayor Schreiber mentioned that Ottenwess didn't have as much experience as was preferred and worried that he lives far away and may not be able to make it to a second interview on Monday with such short notice.

Council Member Robb indicated his top choices were McMullan and Vick.

Council Member Bodary stated his top choices were Vick and Lange.

Council Member Vogt said his top choices were McMullan and Vick.

Council Member Jefferson agreed with the choices of McMullan and Vick.

Council Member Murdock added his support for Lange suggesting he also be brought back for a second interview.

Mayor Schreiber confirmed that McMullan, Vick, and Lange would be brought back for second interviews and asked if there were any objections. He stated it might be better to meet Monday at 6p.m. as there would be three candidates to interview. He asked Administrative Services Director Mr. Kowal to contact these candidates to set up interviews, one each, at 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Kowal deferred the responsibility of contacting the candidates to Human Resources, as he will be on vacation tomorrow.

Council agreed unanimously.

Council Member Vogt asked if this was a closed or open session, for clarification.

Mayor Schreiber confirmed that the interviews would be conducted as an open session with no scripted questions.

Council Member Jefferson moved, supported by Council Member Vogt to postpone Resolution 2012-090 to the meeting on Monday May 14, 2012.

IX. PRESENTATION OF BUDGETS-

1. Motor Pool – Pages 137 thru 142

2. General Fund Revenues Review (FY2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14)

Mayor Schreiber called for a 10 minute recess at 8:15 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:32 p.m.

3. General Fund Expenditures Review (FY2011-12, 2012-13,2013-14)

- Motor Pool – Page 137-142
- City Council Budget – Page 11
- City Manager's Office – Pages 11 & 12
- Finance-General Accounting – Pages 12 & 13
- Clerk's Office – Pages 13 & 14
- Treasurer – Page 14
- Assessing – Page 15
- Voter Registration and County Elections – Pages 15 & 16
- Legal Services – Page 18
- Human Resources – Page 19
- Police Services (Administration, Field Services, Lawnet, Parking Enforcement – Pages 19 thru 24
- Fire Services (Administration, Suppression) – Pages 24 thru 26
- CDBG Demolition – Page 27
- Building Department and Ordinance Enforcement – Pages 27 & 28
- Administrative Hearings Bureau – Page 29
- Planning and Development – Page 33

- Friends Groups (Senior Center, Rutherford Pool, Parkridge Community Center, Freight House) – Pages 34 & 35
- Historic District Commission – Page 35
- City Insurances – Page 36
- MTT and Charge Backs – Page 36
- Transfers Out and Contribution – Page 36

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION-

XI. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR-

XII. ADJOURNMENT-

1. Resolution No. 2012-091 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 two (2) members of Council.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Jefferson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

On a voice vote, the vote to approve Resolution 2012-091 adjourning the City Council Meeting carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.