



**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM - Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

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 Fellows. ABSENT: Council Member Tooson

III. A MOMENT TO CENTER AND FOCUS

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve the AGENDA as presented. Council Member King seconded the motion. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

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

V. PUBLIC COMMENT - 45 MINUTES TOTAL (3 MINUTES/EACH SPEAKER)

Council Member Tooson entered Council Chambers at 6:09pm.
9 Members of the public spoke.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Washtenaw Avenue (M-17) PEL Study

B. Budget Presentation

VII. ORDINANCES FIRST READING

A. Ordinance No. 1444 - An Ordinance entitled "2025-2026 Tax Levy Ordinance".

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2025-074, close the public hearing.

Resolution No. 2025-073, determination.

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1444 - An Ordinance entitled "2025-2026 Tax Levy Ordinance". Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Council Member Tooson moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 1444. Council Member King seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously upon a voice vote.

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1444 - An Ordinance entitled "2025-2026 Tax Levy Ordinance", upon first reading. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

Yes:	(7)	Michelle King, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean, Amber Fellows
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No:	0	None
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Absent:	(0)	
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B. Ordinance No. 1445 - An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026".

**Public Hearing Resolution No. 2025-076, close the public hearing.
Resolution No. 2025-075, determination.**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1445 - An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026". Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Council Member McLean moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 1445. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously upon a voice vote.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Ordinance No. 1445 - An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026", upon first reading. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

VIII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

A. Resolution No. 2025-077 Approving the minutes of the meeting of April 15, 2025.

Council Member Tooson left the Chambers at 8:57pm.

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-077 Approving the minutes of the meeting of April 15, 2025. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Roland Tooson

Council Member McLean left the Chambers at 8:58pm.

Council Member Tooson returned to the Chambers and Council Member Simmons left the Chambers at 9pm.

B. Resolution No. 2025-088 Creating an Ad Hoc Citizen Committee to Develop a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Water Street Redevelopment Area.

Council Member Simmons returned to Chambers at 9:02pm.

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-088 Creating an Ad Hoc Citizen Committee to Develop a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Water Street Redevelopment Area. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Mayor Brown left the Chambers at 9:02pm and returned at 9:04pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Amend Resolution No. 2025-088 to clarify #2-3 by enumerating membership as 3 Council Members, 6-8 City Residents, and up to two non-residents. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-088 Creating an Ad Hoc Citizen Committee to Develop a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Water Street Redevelopment Area, as amended. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

Council Member Simmons moved, seconded by Council Member Tooson, to extend the meeting until 11:30pm. The motion passed upon a voice vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon as the only no vote.

C. Resolution No. 2025-078 Granting the Special Event Fee Waiver request of Home of New Vision/WRAP for their 2025 Movie Nights at Frog Island Park in the amount of \$935.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-078 Granting the Special Event Fee Waiver request of Home of New Vision/WRAP for their 2025 Movie Nights at Frog Island Park in the amount of \$935. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean, Amber Fellows
No: 0 None
Absent: (0)

D. Resolution No. 2025-079 Granting the Special Event Fee Waiver request of Depot Town CDC for their 2025 Thursday Cruise Nights on Cross Street in the amount of \$2,285.

Council Member McLean left Chambers at 10:11 and returned at 10:14pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-079 Granting the Special Event Fee Waiver request of Depot Town CDC for their 2025 Thursday Cruise Nights on Cross Street in the amount of \$2,285. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean, Amber Fellows
No: 0 None
Absent: (0)

Council Member Fellows and Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon left the Chambers at 10:24pm.

E. Resolution No. 2025-080 Reappointing Residents Dieter Otto to the YDDA, with a term ending July 1, 2029, and Amanda Smith to the Planning Commission, with a term ending May 1, 2028.

Council Member Fellows returned to Chambers at 10:25pm.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon returned to Chambers at 10:26pm.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-080 Reappointing Residents Dieter Otto to the YDDA, with a term ending July 1, 2029, and Amanda Smith to the Planning Commission, with a term ending May 1, 2028. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean, Amber Fellows
No: 0 None
Absent: (0)

F. Resolution No. 2025-081 Appointing Non-DDA-Resident Audrey Hall to the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2029.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-081 Appointing Non-DDA-Resident Audrey Hall to the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2029. Council Member King seconded the motion. The motion failed upon a roll call vote as follows:

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

G. Resolution No. 2025-081 Appointing Non-Resident Corn Williams to the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2029.

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-081 Appointing Non-Resident Corn Williams to the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority with a term ending July 1, 2029. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion.

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

H. Resolution No. 2025-082 Authorizing the City Manager to submit Solar for Savings, the MI Solar for All Pilot Program Grant application, and for the City to act as Fiduciary in its administration.

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-082 Authorizing the City Manager to submit Solar for Savings, the MI Solar for All Pilot Program Grant application, and for the City to act as Fiduciary in its administration. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

Yes: (7) Michelle King, Roland Tooson, Desirae Simmons, Steve Wilcoxon, Nicole Brown, Patrick McLean, Amber Fellows
No: 0 None
Absent: (0)

I. Resolution No. 2025-083 Authorizing the City Manager to sign the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Reimbursement Agreement, subject to review by the City Attorney.

Council Member King left the Chambers at 11:02pm and returned at 11:06pm.

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-083 Authorizing the City Manager to sign the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Reimbursement Agreement, subject to review by the City Attorney. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

J. Resolution No. 2025-084 Approving the agreement with Washtenaw County for a Subaward of Federal Financial Assistance and authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign the agreement on the City's behalf, subject to review by the City Attorney.

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-084 Approving the agreement with Washtenaw County for a Subaward of Federal Financial Assistance and authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign the agreement on the City's behalf, subject to review by the City Attorney. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

K. Resolution No. 2025-085 Awarding the Recreation Park Pathway contract to Hartwell for the bid amount of \$46,445.00; also authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign this contract, subject to review by the City Attorney.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-085 Awarding the Recreation Park Pathway contract to Hartwell for the bid amount of \$46,445.00; also authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign this contract, subject to review by the City Attorney. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

L. Resolution No. 2025-086 Awarding the Facility Condition Assessment contract to DLZ for both scopes in the amount of \$58,590; also authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign this contract, subject to review by the City Attorney.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-086 Awarding the Facility Condition Assessment contract to DLZ for both scopes in the amount of \$58,590; also authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign this contract, subject to review by the City Attorney. Council Member McLean seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

M. Resolution No. 2025-087 Supporting Low Mow May.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-087 Supporting Low Mow May. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

Council Member Tooson moved, seconded by Council Member King, to extend the meeting until 11:45pm. The motion passed upon a voice vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon as the only no vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon left the Chambers at 11:30pm.

IX. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

A. Police Advisory Commission

Council Member Tooson reported that at the last meeting some members discussed attending Peacenic on behalf of YPAC & they'd like to wear some swag for visibility. They also discussed YPD and hiring incentives. Next meeting is the third Thursday of this month.

B. Human Relations Commission

No report.

C. Parks and Arts Commission

No report.

D. Sustainability Commission

Council Member Simmons reported that they hosted the Earth Day gatherings and the next meeting is Monday.

E. Historic District Commission

Council Member McLean reported that the meeting is next Tuesday.

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 updates.

C. Urban County

No report.

D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

Mayor Brown reported that the meeting is next week.

E. Friends of Rutherford Pool

No report.

XI. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member King -

- Council Members are invited to the EMU Bright Future's at Perry School for a Mad Science Carnival on May 28th, 5pm-7pm.
- Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers!

Council Member Simmons -

- Ward 3 resident, John Allen Taylor, released his first poetry book, *To Let the Sun*
- Ward 3 resident, Monica King passed away last month. She was very involved in the community. Sending Remembrances to friends & family.
- Discussed issues regarding Fraternity House issues and reports of sexual violence.
- Requesting that the Administration draft an AI usage policy for review, hopefully by the end of summer. Administration will research.
- Reminder for Ward Meeting this Thursday with Council Member Fellows at Freighthouse.

Council Member McLean - No report.

Council Member Fellows -

- Congrats to the Farmer's Market opening day of the season!
- Asking fellow Council Members to think about putting their budget amendments together as one resolution ahead of time, for clarity.
- River Street residents are upset because long-term rentals are being converted to short-term rentals - this is a reminder that the Short Term Rental committee needs to meet.

Council Member Tooson -

- Thanks to DPS for installing the speed humps on Washington! Now traffic is diverting to Adams; what is the possibility of adding speed humps there too? DPS Director Wessler indicated it would need to be initiated by a resident petition and then a speed study.

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

No report.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- City received first part of \$3M funding earmarked by Senator Irwin's office. This \$750,000 will be used for ongoing activities at the DPW yard.
- Police Chief interviews are tomorrow.
- Recently asked to sit on Huron River Watershed Investment Strategy Advisory Committee.
- Volunteer Work Day sponsored by DPW in Riverside Park on May 17th, 9am-12pm.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT - CONTINUED (3 MINUTES/EACH SPEAKER)

XVI. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Resolution adjourning the City Council Meeting.

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:46p.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.

[MIN_FOOT]