



**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 PM - Tuesday, September 23, 2025
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT at roll call were Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon, Council Member McLean, Council Member Fellows, Council Member Simmons, Council Member King and Council Member Tooson. ABSENT: none.

III. A MOMENT TO CENTER AND FOCUS

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member McLean moved to Approve the AGENDA. Council Member Tooson seconded the motion. Two walk-on items were added as items O & P under section VII of the Agenda. Council Member Simmons asked to move Item N up to the first item in section VII of the Agenda. Original items A, B, & K were moved to a Consent Agenda.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve the AGENDA as amended. 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)

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

18 Members of the public spoke.

VI. ORDINANCES FIRST READING

**A. Ordinance No. No. 1453 - Entitled "Dark Sky Compliance Ordinance".
Public Hearing Resolution No. 2025-186, close the public hearing.
Resolution No. 2025-185, determination.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Ordinance No. No. 1453 - Entitled "Dark Sky Compliance Ordinance". Council Member Tooson seconded the motion.

Public Hearing Resolution No. 2025-186, close the public hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon left the Council Chambers at 8:04p.m. and returned at 8:05p.m.

Resolution No. 2025-185, determination.

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

No: 1 Michelle King

Absent: (0)

A. Resolution No. 2025-187 Approving the minutes of the September 9, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting and of September 12, 2025 Special Work Session.

Council Member Tooson moved to Approve the Consent Agenda, which includes Resolutions 2025-187, 2025-188, and 2025-197. 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)

B. Resolution No. 2025-188 Adopting Ordinance No. 1452, entitled "An ordinance to amend Chapter 50 "FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION", Article II, "FIRE PREVENTION CODE", upon second and final reading.

- K. **Resolution No. 2025-197 Appointing Delonzo Weaver, Building Compliance Officer as an officer delegate to the Municipal Employees' Retirement System annual meeting October 16-17, 2025, in Acme, MI.**

VII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

N. **Hearing to Review A Removal Action - Requested by Lorrie Thomas**

Council Member McLean moved to Amend the policy for a Hearing to Review A Removal Action by defining the time period for a Council decision. as 10 business days. Council Member Fellows seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0)

City Council made no determination, but will add this as a discussion at the October 7, 2025 meeting.

Council Member Simmons moved, supported by Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon, to extend the meeting until 11:30p.m. The motion passed unanimously upon a voice vote.

C. **Resolution No. 2025-189 Appointing Non Resident Elize Jekabson to the Ann Arbor/Ypsi SmartZone (LDFA), with a term ending June 30, 2029.**

Council Member McLean moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-189 Appointing Non Resident Elize Jekabson to the Ann Arbor/Ypsi SmartZone (LDFA), with a term ending June 30, 2029. 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)

D. **Resolution No. 2025-190 Reappointing Renee Smith to the Ypsilanti Housing Commission, with a term ending October 20, 2030.**

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-190 Reappointing Renee Smith to the Ypsilanti Housing Commission, with a term ending October 20, 2030. 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)

E. **Resolution No. 2025-191 Establishing an Ad-Hoc Tenants' Rights Subcommittee as outlined in the attached memo.**

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-191. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon moved to Amend Resolution No. 2025-191 by changing Section 4.1 as follows: 9 Members; eliminate B; F - 3 tenant residents from Ypsi. Council Member Fellows seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (1) Steve Wilcoxon

Council Member Fellows moved to Amend Resolution No. 2025-191 by adding Section 4.2 "C" Legal Services of Southeast Michigan. 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)

Council Member Fellows moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-191 Establishing an Ad-Hoc Tenants' Rights Subcommittee as outlined in the attached memo, as amended. 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)

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon made a friendly amendment, which was accepted, to strike "sub" everywhere in the text, so it just says "Committee".

F. Resolution No. 2025-192 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County to support the Warming Center operation beginning in November 2025 and ending in March 2026, Subject to City Attorney approval.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-192. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Council Member McLean moved to Amend Resolution No. 2025-192 by changing the ending date to March or April 2026, at the discretion of the City Manager, subject to availability of the Freighthouse. 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)

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-192 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County to support the Warming Center operation beginning in November 2025 and ending in March or April 2026, at the discretion of the City Manager, subject to availability and to City Attorney approval, 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)

G. Resolution No. 2025-193 Approving Change Order Request #1 for the Salt Barn Stabilization project from The Summit Company in the amount of \$92,419.00.

Mayor Brown left the Chambers at 9:58p.m. and returned at 10p.m.

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-193 Approving Change Order Request #1 for the Salt Barn Stabilization project from The Summit Company in the amount of \$92,419.00. 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)

H. Resolution No. 2025-194 Approving truck purchases in the total amount of \$509,948 to be expended from the appropriate motorpool capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-194. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Council Member Simmons left the Chambers at 10:03p.m. and returned to the Chambers at 10:05p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Amend Resolution No. 2025-194 by correcting the total amount to \$653,433. 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)

Council Member McLean left the Chambers at 10:09p.m. and returned at 10:11p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-194 Approving truck purchases in the total amount of \$653,433 to be expended from the appropriate motorpool capital accounts, with any change orders to be approved by the City Manager, 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)

I. Resolution No. 2025-195 Endorsing the principles of the "Leave the Leaves" campaign and encouraging residents, landowners, gardeners, and landscapers within the city to adopt leaf-friendly practices that enhance soil health and ecological resilience.

Council Member Tooson left the Chambers at 10:23p.m.

Council Member Simmons moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-195 Endorsing the principles of the "Leave the Leaves" campaign and encouraging residents, landowners, gardeners, and landscapers within the city to adopt leaf-friendly practices that enhance soil health and ecological resilience. as presented. Council Member Fellows 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 Tooson returned to Chambers at 10:25p.m.

J. Resolution No. 2025-196 Urging support that Cuba be removed from the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism.

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-196. Council Member Simmons seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon offered a friendly amendment to change "claims" to "claimed" in the third "Whereas" clause. The amendment was accepted.

Council Member King moved to Approve Resolution No. 2025-196 Urging support that Cuba be removed from the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism, as amended. 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)

L. Discussion regarding Budget Stabilization Fund Ordinance.

Council Member Fellows left the Chambers at 10:48p.m. and returned at 10:49p.m.

Council Member King left the Chambers at 10:59p.m. and returned at 11:04p.m.

M. Discussion regarding the removal or destruction of non-conforming buildings.

The Council requested this item be referred to the Planning Commission.

O. WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-198 awarding a contract for the Municipal Lots Rehabilitation to Somerset Paving for the total cost of \$191,950, with the DDA reimbursing the City for up to \$181,950.

Council Member McLean moved to Approve the WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-198 awarding a contract for the Municipal Lots Rehabilitation to Somerset Paving for the total cost of \$191,950, with the DDA reimbursing the City for up to \$181,950. 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)

P. WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-199 approves the request to waive the application, event and electricity turn-on fees totaling \$1,085 for the WMWFC Domestic Violence Awareness 5K Run.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-199. Council Member King seconded the motion.

Council Member Fellows moved to Amend WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-199 by waiving half the fees, in the amount of \$542.50. The motion died for lack of support.

Council Member McLean moved to Amend WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-199 by waiving half the fees, in the amount of \$542.50. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None

Absent: (0) Council Member Tooson abstained due to being President of WMWFC.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcoxon moved to Approve WALK ON Resolution No. 2025-199 waiving half the fees for the application, event and electricity turn-on fees in the amount of \$542.50 for the WMWFC Domestic Violence Awareness 5K Run, as amended. Council Member King seconded the motion.

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

No: 0 None
Absent: (0) Council Member Tooson abstained.
Council Member Fellows moved, supported by Council Member King, to extend the meeting until 12:15a.m. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

VIII. BOARD AND COMMISSION - LIAISON REPORTS

A. Police Advisory Commission

B. Human Relations Commission

C. Parks and Arts Commission

No report.

D. Sustainability Commission

No report.

E. Historic District Commission

Council Member McLean reported there was a discussion about 16 S Washington and the murals at the Farmers Market.

F. Planning Commission

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon reported they met and discussed a number of proposals, including the Gas Station off Ownedale. They were proposing to annex a lot, and it didn't pass with the Commission, but the owner wants the question brought to Council. This proposal has been rejected several times.

G. Zoning Board of Appeals

No report.

IX. LIAISON REPORTS

A. SEMCOG Update

No report.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

No report.

C. Urban County

No report.

D. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority

No report.

E. Friends of Rutherford Pool

No report.

X. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member Tooson - nothing at this time

Council Member Simmons -

- The Muna Lake Clean up is this Saturday, 10am-2pm
- Bringing it up that they're trying to make it a crime to protest, but doesn't believe it will pass House
- Don't approve things that ruin our natural habitat!
- HRC presented us with a request for a definition of Harm Reduction, but will this take more conversations?

The City Council asked that the HRC's request for a definition of Harm Reduction be referred to the Planning Commission.

Council Member Fellows -

- YDL passed a resolution to support a shelter in Ypsi
- Questions about the Water Street RFP and the process
- Looking for information on how the Mental Health Millage funds are being spent

Council Member McLean -

- Thanks to the Police Chief for his responsiveness to neighbors and speeding issues
- There is tree removal work going on along the B2B Trail and DTE work often looks bad

Mayor Pro Tem Wilcoxon -

- Last meeting there was public comment from several residents at Huron Vista. Wilcoxon has met with them. They are organizing a tenant union and are having a meeting Saturday, 12pm-2pm.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- There are always accidents at Washtenaw and Hamilton and we need to do something.
- Several incidents of cars crashing into buildings and what can we do to curb that?

XII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- YDL Resolution will be presented to you at the next meeting.
- There are concerns about the State budget and a decrease in revenue sharing - talk to the elected officials who can help.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Submitting a Resolution from the Human Relations Commission, dated August 21, 2025 requesting that City Council direct the Zoning Department to provide a clear definition of Harm Reduction Services.**

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

XV. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Resolution adjourning the City Council Meeting.**

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 12:13a.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.**