Approved

CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013
6:00 P.M. – CLOSED SESSION
7:30 P.M. – OPEN SESSION

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Council Member Jefferson	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Council Member Moeller	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Schreiber	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent		

Council Member Jefferson moved, supported by Council Member Moeller to excuse the absence.

On a voice vote the motion carried and the absence was excused.

III. INVOCATION

The Mayor 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

Mayor Schreiber requested the proclamation honoring Jane Schmiedeke be moved to the May 2, 2013 meeting.

On a voice vote the motion carried and the agenda was approved as amended.

VI. CLOSED SESSION (6:00 to 7:30 p.m.)

Closed Session to discuss collective bargaining OMA 15.268, Section 8(c).

On roll call, the vote to adjourn to closed session was as follows:

Council Member Jefferson	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Moeller	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Schreiber	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent		

VOTE:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: Carried

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:17 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 8:32 p.m.

VII. INTRODUCTIONS -

Mayor Schreiber introduced former Mayor Cheryl Farmer and Finance Director Marilou Uy.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

1. ~~Proclamation honoring Jane Schmiedeke – Mayor Schreiber~~
   (postponed to May 2, 2013 meeting)

2. Go Solar Presentation – ~~Catherine M. Baxter~~ Virginia Shannon

   Ms. Shannon gave a presentation outlining a vision for making Ypsilanti a solar destination. She shared that Ypsilanti has the third most solar projects in the DTE service area, only falling behind Detroit and Ann Arbor. She discussed the ways in which solar energy can build the local economy and serve as a good investment, as well as the benefits of using solar, a pollution-free energy source, to increase the health and safety of the community.

   Mayor Schreiber asked Ms. Shannon about the report being done by an EMU professor and students, which would estimate the number of roofs in the City of Ypsilanti that could go solar, and asked when it was expected to be completed.

   Ms. Shannon answered that it was being worked on in class and she does not know the exact date it will be finished.

   Council Member Murdock stated that several of the policy recommendations listed are things the City is already involved in, and some of the partnerships seem better suited to smaller groups like Solar Ypsi.

   Ms. Shannon stated that the partnerships are absolutely critical to their success and there are many opportunities for larger scale projects, in addition to the residential part of the project.

   Council Member Murdock stated that he is a supporter of solar energy and he thinks the City's main focus will be on energy efficiency.

   Ms. Shannon stated that energy efficiency is the first step and she thinks creating a vision for the future will help encourage and promote solar activity and growth.

   Mayor Schreiber stated that he attended the Go Solar event at the Corner Brewery and there was a lot of excitement. He said he also supports solar energy and would like to see the report being done by the professor and students, once it is finished. He stated that his understanding is that Ms. Shannon is looking for a policy commitment from the City, rather than a monetary commitment.

   Ms. Shannon agreed and said that a policy commitment would attract investments and promote solar on a local level.

   Council Member Murdock asked if there were places in Michigan that were manufacturing solar panels.

Ms. Shannon answered that there were a lot of manufacturers in Michigan and named some of the larger companies.

3. ~~Grove Road Update - Marcus McNamara, OHM Advisor~~ ***(postponed)***

IX. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 1187

1. 517-521 Tyler Road Rezoning

A. Resolution No. 2013-056, determination

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the proposed Ordinance entitled "517-521 Tyler Rezoning" be approved on First Reading.

An Ordinance Entitled "TYLER REZONING"

THE CITY OF YPSILANTI ORDAINS:

That the north portion of 517-521 Tyler, tax code ID# 11-11-10-360-023, currently zoned PL, Public Land be rezoned to M2, General Manufacturing.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

Teresa Gillotti gave an overview.

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND

The current owner has applied for a rezoning of 521-517 Tyler from B2, Community Business, and PL, Public Land, to M2, General Manufacturing; Planning Commission has recommended that only that portion currently zoned PL be rezoned to M2.

The parcel is currently used as a self-storage facility, with living quarters for a resident manager and truck rentals available. As some of the storage buildings are in the area zoned PL, they are considered a legal nonconforming use of legal nonconforming structures; this limits their ability to be rebuilt, per sections 122-205 and 122-206 of the zoning ordinance. The applicant is seeking rezoning in order to reduce the nonconformity, thereby removing barriers to refinancing, rebuilding, or future expansion.

The area bounded by the east-west alley south of Maus, Emerick, Tyler, and Prospect was rezoned in the mid-1990s to the current B2/M2/PL configuration from M1 as part of a City-wide zoning ordinance update. It appears that the parcel boundaries on the map used for this exercise were out of date or otherwise incorrect. A 1986 Washtenaw County equalization print shows the northern boundary of this site as it is today; the plat/parcel-based zoning maps apparently used in the rezoning effort show a different boundary, reflected in the boundary of the zones. Staff discovered the error as part of a routine zoning verification request by the owner. The owner is requesting the rezoning in order to refinance the parcel. Staff views this rezoning as means to address the previous administrative zoning boundary issue.

When an applicant requests rezoning, also called a map amendment, Planning Commission is obligated to review that request in the context of the neighborhood and the Master Plan. This area is within the "Gateway Area / Perry Neighborhood," and the Future Land Use Map, excerpted below, shows the site as partially community commercial, the equivalent of B2, but with the majority of the site master planned for light industrial/high technology.

The master plan recommended a light manufacturing district; that district's purpose is "to provide locations for wholesale activities, warehouses, and industrial operations which produce minimal external impacts that are detrimental in any way to other uses in the district." It is roughly equivalent to M1, Light Manufacturing. The storage facility would be consistent with the intent of M1 zoning; however, current uses of other, adjacent M2-zoned areas area do not fit with the M1 goal. Thus, Planning Commission recommends pursuing only the requested rezoning for this specific site, rather than that of the area as a whole.

Planning Commission held a public hearing at its 16 January 2013 meeting, and notice was given in accordance with the ordinance. A representative of the owner was present; no neighbors attended. Consideration was given to rezoning both the B2 and the PL portions of the site to M2, but as the B2 portion of the site contains no structures and is contiguous with B2-zoned areas, Planning Commission recommends re-zoning only that portion of the property currently zoned PL to M2.

The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council rezone that portion of 517-521 Tyler currently zoned PL, Public Land, to M2, General Manufacturing.

Mayor Schreiber asked Ms. Gillotti to discuss the portion of the Planning Commission minutes where all but one Commissioner supported the motion to leave the B2 section as is.

Ms. Gillotti stated that the original request was for the entire property to be rezoned as M2 even though the master plan recommends the property be zoned as M1. She said she believed the Commissioner that voted against the motion probably felt they should follow the master plan. She added that it was her understanding that the other Commissioners realized the zoning error that was made previously and wanted to rectify it, as it should have been rezoned along with the adjacent parcels, since the rezoning was done prior to the 1998 master plan.

Mayor Schreiber asked how the current master planning process would impact the zoning of this property.

Ms. Gillotti stated that she did not know because it was too soon in the process to tell.

Mayor Schreiber asked Ms. Gillotti to describe the difference between M1 and M2 zoning.

Ms. Gillotti stated that M2 was the most permissive for heavy manufacturing and intensive industrial uses. She stated that, in reference to the food ordinance, there is some slaughtering and sugar production that could be done in an M2 zone, with a special use permit. She said that self-storage is permitted in an M1 zone however the parcel would be split.

Council Member Robb asked if a grow facility was allowed in an M2 zone.

Ms. Gillotti answered that it was allowed in both M1 and M2 zones with a special use permit.

B. Open public hearing

Mayor Schreiber read the rules for audience participation.

1. Maurice Pogoda, owner of the property, stated that he has had the property since the late 1990s and was surprised to find, when in the process of refinancing, that part of the property seems to be in a non-conforming use. He said that since it was an error in the past, it would better to have the entire property zoned the same. He added that the portion of the property that the Planning Commission voted to be zoned as B2 is a closed driveway, exiting on to Prospect that the company does not utilize. He stated that he appreciated Council's consideration of his rezoning request and hoped they would take his comments under advisement when considering their decision.

C. Resolution No. 2013-057, close public hearing

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing on the proposed Ordinance entitled "517-521 Tyler Rezoning" be officially closed.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

On a voice vote, the motion carried and the public hearing was closed.

Council Member Robb asked Ms. Gillotti if she foresaw any unintended consequences that could occur as a result of rezoning the property.

Ms. Gillotti answered that she believes the property will remain a self-storage facility and stated that the master plan could include more of a buffer if Council desired. She said this was more of a technicality that they were trying to remedy.

On roll call, the vote to adjourn to approve Resolution No. 2013-056 was as follows:

Council Member Moeller	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Schreiber	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent	Council Member Jefferson	Yes
Council Member Robb	Yes		

VOTE:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: Carried

Mayor Schreiber thanked Mr. Pogoda for attending.

Mr. Pogoda stated that he has put a lot of money into the property to clean it up and invited Council to visit the property because he feels they would be very pleased.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Schreiber read rules for audience participation.

1. Former Mayor, Dr. Cheryl Farmer, 214 N. Huron St., stated that she wanted to thank those who voted to delay the Water Street redevelopment project to let the Shape Ypsilanti master planning process move forward before making a final decision. She added that she feels businesses wishing to build on the Water Street property should have to demonstrate why they need to be on the river because it is a very special asset and businesses should take advantage of it, rather than turn their backs to it. She further said that the way in which Water Street is developed will have an enormous impact on the future of the community and the Shape Ypsilanti process should help in developing that parcel, and the river, in ways the City will be proud of. She stated that she also wanted to thank the Council members who helped to make Hamilton Crossing a reality. She ended by saying that she wants to encourage Council to consider a moratorium on Marijuana facilities in the City.

X. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber stated that he appreciated former Mayor Cheryl Farmer's comments. He said that Hamilton Crossing was a hard project, which required a lot of group effort, but he saw it as a success.

XI. MINUTES

Resolution No. 2013-058, approving the minutes of March 19, 2013

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the Minutes of March 19, 2013 be approved.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Moeller
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

On a voice vote, the motion carried and the minutes were approved as submitted.

XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. Resolution No. 2013-059, approving DTE lease and easement for Solar Array on City landfill.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The Ypsilanti City Council seeks to put underutilized City property to productive use; and

WHEREAS, DTE has issued a request for proposal for development of a solar array in a highly visible location; and

WHEREAS: SunDurance Energy has approached the City to utilize the former City Landfill, parcel ID # 11-11-37-101-007 as part of their proposal to DTE for the construction a Solar Array; and

WHEREAS: the City of Ypsilanti approved a Letter of Intent with SunDurance for development of the solar array on the former City Landfill site on Dec. 4, 2012; and

WHEREAS upon selection the attached 20-year lease agreement will be executed for up to 4.5 acres for either $40,000 or $44,000/year depending on final size of the installation as depicted in the attached lease/easement agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approve the attached easement/lease agreement between the City of Ypsilanti and DTE for the potential development of a solar array on the City former landfill property; and

FURTHER, that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the easement/ lease agreement upon selection, with approval from the City Attorney.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Murdock

Ms. Gillotti provided the background.

BACKGROUND

On December 4, 2013, Ypsilanti City Council approved a Letter of Intent with SunDurance Systems for the development of a solar array on the City's former landfill as part of a request for proposals issued by DTE for sites and solar power generating systems. The proposal, including the City landfill property has passed the first cut, and as part of the second stage of proposals to DTE, the City is being asked to approve a lease/agreement for the project in advance of DTE's final selection.

As a reminder, the DTE RFP indicated that developers of the project should select sites that have high visibility and be within the DTE service area, with emphasis on locations in the City of Detroit.

Proposals will be compared to each other for final selection based on various factors including location, price, etc. SunDurance has since been refining the proposal based on feedback from DTE. The initial proposal submitted was for a 1.3 MW installation. DTE has indicated to SunDurance that they are interested in a smaller installation on this site, preferably around the 750 watts. SunDurance asked that the City approve two different sized installations as options DTE can consider in weighing the proposal (below).

As per the terms of the LOI, the City received $2,000 from SunDurance for continuing to hold the property for this potential development.

Current proposal
The majority of the elements previously discussed will remain the same. As the site was a former City landfill, the proposed array will be a ground-mounted, fixed-tilt system, requiring minimal or no penetration of the surface of the site. As noted, SunDurance is requesting two options for sizing/locating the array as depicted in the exhibits below. Both options are included in the attached easement/lease agreement with slightly varying rental rates.

Option 1 – 750 kW system to be located west of existing access road
Option 2 – 1000 kW system located on both sides of existing access road

DTE Lease/Agreement
As was noted in the previously approved LOI, the project itself would require a 20-year lease between the property owner (City) and DTE with the potential to extend each year for 10 years.

Basic details follow:

Lease Payments:	A one-time construction payment of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.00) shall be made within thirty days of execution of the Lease. After commercial operation of the System at the Premises, Lessee agrees to pay Customer annually by December 1st for each year of the Term the sum of Forty Four Thousand Dollars ($44,000.00 for 1000 kW system or $40,000 for 750 kW system.
Lease Term:	20 years, subject to Lessee's option to extend the Lease for 10 additional and successive 1 year periods.
Removal penalty:	If the City determined that the land would be better suited for another use(s) and wanted to move the solar array, the City would be responsible for all relocation expenses up to $500,000.
Personal Property Tax	The lease (as in the LOI) indicates that if the State of Michigan exempts or otherwise extinguishes Personal Property tax, DTE will be responsible for a payment in lieu of taxes
Final size/location determination	The final executed lease/easement will include the final area which will be finalized in the zoning approval phase.
Access	Existing access easement to digital billboard will be maintained.

City approval process and next steps
If the proposal is selected, SunDurance would submit site plans and a Planned Unit Development application for approval with the City. The PUD process would first go to Planning Commission for a recommendation and then to City Council for a public hearing and approval. DTE is still interested in a project going into service by the end of the calendar year.

Landfill history and environmental issues
City ownership of the former landfill occurred prior to 1949. The estimated closure date of the Landfill is between 1957 and 1967. The closure did not include a formal sealing or capping of the landfill, and the property is known to have environmental contamination although it is not known to what extent. Initial testing was undertaken by the Traverse Group in 1998, but it did not include a formal Phase I or Phase Ii environmental assessment.

Since the LOI was adopted the City received two grants from the Downriver Community Conference as part of our membership in the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment. The first grant covered costs of a Phase I environmental assessment. The second grant, currently underway, will involve sampling of the landfill site, and should provide information as to the extent of the landfill area, as well as a more detailed picture of existing contaminants on-site. Staff will be following up with DEQ as the process proceeds to make sure due diligence procedures are being followed.

Mayor Schreiber introduced Dan Thomson from SunDurance and invited him to make a statement.

Mr. Thomson stated the first step in the process would be to submit the formal proposal and have the lease agreement executed. He said that he was there to answer any questions and thanked Council for their support.

Mayor Schreiber stated that all of the feedback he had received about the project was positive.

Mr. Thomson agreed and said that the location was ideal and he hopes DTE will select it for the next phase of the project.

Mayor Schreiber asked if the second phase was the last phase or if there were subsequent phases that needed to be completed.

Mr. Thomson answered that this was the last phase and said they would know fairly quickly, after the proposal was submitted, whether or not the location has been chosen.

Council Member Murdock stated that he feels it is a great project and asked if the City would be able to find Michigan-built solar panels to use as a part of the project or if they would have to use panels build overseas.

Mr. Thomson stated that DTE has asked that the panels be American-made, so they will not be imported from overseas, however he does not know where the panels will be built.

Mr. Lange mentioned that he had given them the names of some of the American-made solar panels, because he has a background in the field, and they have been very receptive to locally available suppliers.

Council Member Robb asked Ms. Gillotti what led to changing the language of the personal property tax clause from the original.

Ms. Gillotti answered that the wording in the original was broader than the intent that they initially had, and she is not surprised that they had requested a change.

On roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2013-059 was as follows:

Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Schreiber	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent	Council Member Jefferson	Yes
Council Member Robb	Yes	Council Member Moeller	Yes
Council Member Vogt	Yes		

VOTE:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: Carried

2. Resolution No. 2013-060, approving three-year contract with Abraham & Gaffney for Professional Auditing Services beginning fiscal year June 30, 2013 through June 30, 2015.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti Council under the Ypsilanti City Code requires a change in auditing firms after a five-year continuous annual auditing of the City; and

WHEREAS the Finance Department posted the Requests for Proposals on at www.mitn.info (The Michigan Inter-governmental trade network) on November 19, 2013; and

WHEREAS Abraham & Gaffney completed the living wage ordinance compliance report; and

WHEREAS Abraham & Gaffney's proposal for a three-year contract was $123,025 that includes audit and reporting services for the City of Ypsilanti, Economic Development Corporation, Downtown Development Authority, Single Audit, Police and Fire Retirement System, provide advice and assistance in preparing the City to meet the current Statement of Auditing Standards; and assist in preparing comprehensive annual financial reports for submission to Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to participate in Certificate of Excellence award.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council approve a three-year contract with Abraham & Gaffney in the amount of $123,025 for Professional Auditing Services beginning with fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, through June 30, 2015.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Jefferson
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Moeller

Finance Director Marilou Uy gave an overview of the request and distributed a handout of the public bid tally sheet for the financial audit.

OVERVIEW

The revised Ypsilanti City Code, under the Independent Annual Audit, Section 5.14 of the City Charter, requires a change in auditing firm after a five-year continuous auditing service. Past practice has been to contract three years with the option to extend the contract for an additional two years at the discretion of the City. The auditing firm, Rehmann Robson, has served the City of Ypsilanti for five years.

Requests for Proposal were posted at www.mitn.info (The Michigan Inter-governmental trade network) on November 19, 2012. Seven proposals were received on January 22, 2013, with the following results:

AUDITING FIRMS	**FULL AUDIT 3-YEAR PROPOSAL**	**WITH ASSISTANCE FROM REHMANN**
Abraham & Gaffney, P.C.	$153,100	$123,025
Yeo & Yeo, P.C., CPA	$166,800	$148,800
Stewart, Beauvais & Whipple	$170,000	$120,000
Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.	$188,345	$148,840
Plante Moran, PLLC	$193,500	$149,850
UHY LLP	$196,700	$196,650
Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC	$216,000	$178,500

The criteria used to evaluate the proposals was as follows:

Qualification	30%
Prior auditing experience	30%
References	30%
Proposed fee	10%
Total	100%

We examined each firm's involvement in municipal activities, municipal experience of staff assigned to audit, expertise in GASB 34, experience with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) certificate of achievement award, knowledge of the current Statement of Auditing Standards which will enable them to provide advice and assistance in preparing the City to meet new Auditing Standards with which we need to comply by June 30, 2014. We also compared the number of municipalities currently being audited and their other governmental experiences. Reference checks were made regarding meeting deadlines as required by state and federal requirements, staff turnover, staff knowledge in municipal accounting and auditing, principal or partner involvement with the audit, and the overall assessment of the audit firm. Finally, we compared the audit fees. Three firms completed the Living Wage Ordinance compliance report.

After summarizing our evaluations, I recommend awarding Abraham & Gaffney, P.C. a three-year engagement for a total cost of $123,025. My recommendation was based upon the overall criteria, their qualifications, their experience and expertise with municipalities, their current and prior clients' stellar recommendations, and their proposed fee. The approval of the contract will be contingent upon the City Attorney's review as to form.

Mayor Schreiber asked if the average annual increase was $5,740 over what would be paid if Sallea Tisch, Accounting Supervisor, were to remain employed in her current position and asked Ms. Uy if she was happy with the services provided by Rehmann Robson.

Ms. Uy answered yes and stated that the average annual increase was $5,740. She said she was very happy with Rehmann Robson and feels the city received the best service for the lowest price.

Mayor Schreiber asked if the reason the city could no longer use Rehmann Robson was because of the Charter statute limiting the number of years a company could provide auditing services.

Ms. Uy answered yes and said due to the charter a company could only serve the city for five years. She said the new company would serve for three years with an optional two year extension.

Mayor Schreiber asked if the city could then go back to Rehmann Robson.

Ms. Uy answered yes the city could go back to Rehmann Robson at that time.

Mr. Lange stated that he had worked with Ms. Uy on this and they tried to get the best deal and had hoped that this would be transitional and a new in-house auditor could eventually be trained to pick up more duties and responsibilities to replace Ms. Tisch and help drive the costs down.

Council Member Murdock asked if Ms. Tisch was going to be replaced.

Mr. Lange answered yes and said Ms. Tisch would be retiring June 30th.

Council Member Murdock asked if advertising for the position had begun.

Mr. Lange answered yes interviews have already started. He explained that there would be a bit of an overlap because Ms. Tisch would be staying on, as a contract employee, for a month or two to train her replacement.

Council Member Murdock asked if there would be a new employee, along with Ms. Tisch and Rehmann Robson, as a contractor, all at the same time.

Ms. Uy replied yes and explained that Ms. Tisch will retire on time if the new employee is able to do the job more quickly than expected.

Council Member Murdock stated that there would already be two months of overlap for training, if the new employee was hired now.

Mr. Lange stated that he did not know how long it would take to complete interviews and go through background checks, so the overlap period is just an estimate.

On roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2013-060 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent	Council Member Jefferson	Yes
Council Member Robb	Yes	Council Member Moeller	Yes
Council Member Vogt	Yes	Council Member Murdock	Yes
Mayor Schreiber	Yes		

VOTE:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: Carried

3. Resolution No. 2013-061, approving engagement letter with Rehmann Robson for accounting services.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS The Accounting Supervisor for the City of Ypsilanti will be retiring June 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS The new General Accountant will not have time to learn all of the GASB standards and procedures for their implementation prior to commencement of the fiscal year 2012-2013 audit; and

WHEREAS Rehmann Robson is familiar with the City of Ypsilanti of finances, GAAP and GASB standards, and CAFR preparation; and

WHEREAS The agreement between Rehmann Robson and the City of Ypsilanti has been approved by the City's legal counsel as to form.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council approve a two-year agreement with Rehmann Robson to perform

general accounting services under the direction of the Fiscal Services Director.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Moeller
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

Attorney John Barr stated that he read the agreement and approved it on principle, however there was one final thing he would like to follow up on.

On roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2013-061 was as follows:

Council Member Robb	No	Council Member Moeller	Yes
Council Member Vogt	Yes	Council Member Murdock	Yes
Mayor Schreiber	Yes	Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent
Council Member Jefferson	Yes		

VOTE:

Yes: 5 No: 1 (Robb) Absent: 1 (Richardson) Vote: Carried

4. ~~Resolution No. 2013-051, approving POAM contract.~~ ***(Removed)***

XIII. LIASON REPORTS

A. SEMCOG Update:

- Council Member Murdock stated that Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson had been elected as a delegate for Washtenaw County.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study:

- Council Member Vogt stated that they are expecting another wave of funds to come through for the following year, for entities that have spent their funds and completed projects which should encourage the completion of current projects and submission of proposals for new projects.

C. Washtenaw Metro Alliance:

- None

D. Urban County:

- Mayor Schreiber stated there was a public hearing for the 5 year consolidated plan and said funding from the Federal government was projected to go down quite a bit which may stretch out projects. He added that the board voted on keeping the HUD-funded formula as-is. He said one change that was made was that there is now a 10% set-aside of funding for any projects that have county-wide benefit.

E. Freight House:

- Murdock stated the drawings and cost estimates should be ready in the next couple of weeks, for the next meeting in May.

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member Murdock

- Stated that the Charter Commission had brought up items that merit looking at. He suggested piggybacking on the statewide election to make the following Charter amendments:

    - Limiting the activities requiring an ordinance.
    - Changing the Council meeting schedule.
    - Opening up the public notice required for a hearing on an ordinance to include the use of electronic media, the state allows.
    - Eliminating the prohibition of City Council members sitting on commissions.

He said three of the items have already gone to the Governor so there shouldn't be a problem.

Council members voiced no objection to Council Member Murdock's comments. Mr. Murdock said the street lighting special assessment is controversial and he's trying to avoid putting those types of issues on the ballot. He said the last charter question was rejected because it was loaded with controversial issues.

Council Member Moeller

- Reported that she and Council Member Vogt recently attended a College Height's neighborhood meeting. She said the discussion was mostly about Candy Cane park. She said she thinks the president is interested in being on the Recreation Commission.

Council Member Vogt

- Added that they also talked about the city's financial problems at the neighborhood association meeting.

Council Member Jefferson

- Reported that Parkridge Community Center recently received computers and a wide screen television for the center.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber stated that he is in favor of a policy statement supporting the goal of solar roofs in Ypsilanti.

Regarding Council Members serving on Boards and Commissions, Mayor Schreiber said it seems that Council members are already liaisons to commissions. He said he didn't know how it would work for Boards like Zoning Board of Appeals.

Attorney Barr said there are some state requirements and prohibitions regarding Council members serving on committees.

Nominations:

Planning Commission
Phil Hollifield (reappointment)
125 Hawkins St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Expires: 5/1/2016

Zoning Board of Appeals
John Bailey (reappointment)
514 Fairview
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Expires: 5/1/2016

Planning Commission
Rod Johnson (reappointment)
310 N. Grove
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Expires: 5/1/2016

Recreation Commission
Conan Malmer (new appointment)
913 Pleasant Dr.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Expires: 4/23/2016

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Reported that the street lighting assessment project is well on its way
- Announced he is an official Ypsilanti resident
- Reported that the Rutherford Pool is moving along in the right direction.

Planner Gillotti distributed the *Shape Ypsilanti* schedule, a master plan event, and encouraged Council and the public to become engaged and attend the sessions.

XVII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

XVIII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR

None

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

A. Resolution No. 2013-062, 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

On a voice vote, the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.