



Approved

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

Council Member Jefferson	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Council Member Moeller (7:08)	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Schreiber	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Present		

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 –

None

VI. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Schreiber introduced Planner Teresa Gillotti, Intern Connie Locker and Planning Commissioner Phil Hollifield.

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

None

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING –

Public hearing for Proposed Special Assessment District in the City of Ypsilanti for the LED conversion of streetlights. (***Adjourned August 8, 2013***)

Manager Intern Connie Locker gave the background via PowerPoint presentation. She indicated the presentation is from a completely revised report based on the August 6th resolution passed by Council.

Ms. Locker stated that E.M.U. is exempt due to state law and the city is exempt because it is paying for the conversion and maintenance costs.

1. Open Public Hearing

- Dr. Ernest Terry, 1927 Roosevelt opposed the special assessment and said he is still confused about what the actual proposal is. He said he received a flyer in the mail and it still stated 18 years and asked for clarification. City Manager Lange explained that Council made the decision to change to two years after the printing deadline. Dr. Terry said he understands what the city is facing but he feels this is a revenue generating idea with little benefit.
- Emily Jones, 802 Jefferson, said she is concerned about the type of streetlights that will be installed. She added that the recently installed lights are not beneficial and trees often cover them.
- Julie Brown, 317 Maple, noted that the information she received said \$100 would be assessed. She said she didn't receive the revised information; however any assessment is not good because citizens currently pay a lot of taxes. She said she is opposed and feels that fixing the roads is more important.
- Constance Bridge expressed concern about the kind of streetlights being installed and questioned the brightness and whether they would affect the wildlife in the area and the ability to see the night sky.
- Mr. Stefan Graf, owner of Luminart in downtown Ypsilanti, stated that lighting in the commercial districts needs improvement. He said the problem with the conversion is its focus is on energy efficiency and not lighting qualities. He encouraged City Council to lighting quality factors and institutes a formula for outdoor lighting design which also addresses the dark sky issue.
- Resident, 817 Hemphill, spoke in opposition of the special assessment. The resident said the lights work fine now, however the roads need improvement. He encouraged staff to focus on paving Prospect Street and save beautification things for later.

2. Resolution No. 2013-154, closing public hearing for proposed Special Assessment District in the City of Ypsilanti for the LED conversion of streetlights.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing on the proposed Special Assessment District in the City of Ypsilanti for the conversion, operation and maintenance of streetlights 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 Moeller clarified for the public that the assessment is \$55 not \$100 and said she understands the concerns citizens have with the condition of the roads.

Mr. Lange explained that he is aware of the condition of Prospect and indicated that it is on the list to be repaired.

Council Member Moeller stated that Prospect is the next road to be repaired and noted that the entire state is having road problems.

Council Member Vogt agreed that Prospect is the next road for repair and explained how road funding comes from various sources but expenses for streetlights are paid from the general fund.

Mr. Lange added that the lights will be softer and more natural.

Council Member Vogt added that the focus of light with the new lights is tighter to give darker sky and less light leakage.

Council Member Murdock said the proposed lamps are LED and are softer, whiter and more focused on where the light needs to go, and the lamps are close to dark sky compliance. He noted that improvements to Prospect are coming and money has been set aside for the design engineering in case additional road money become available. He assured the public that Council is well aware of the condition of Prospect. He added that the previous bond was for local streets and the city borrowed money that will not be paid off until 2016 or 2017.

Mr. Murdock commented the streetlights are a good investment that will save the city over ½ million dollars.

Mayor Schreiber added that the new streetlights will decrease the carbon footprint and reduce maintenance which helps the city's budget.

Mayor Schreiber encouraged the public to call the city clerk's office to report trees that are covering streetlights.

Council Member Jefferson commented that the city's budget is in bad shape and the assessment will be a benefit in two ways, it will provide a benefit and help sustain the budget.

3. Resolution No. 2013-155, ordering district and directing Assessor to prepare Special Assessment Roll for the Streetlight Special Assessment District.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2013 City Council passed Resolution 2013-127, a Resolution of Necessity for a Streetlight Special Assessment District, in which City Council determined that the improvement was necessary, set forth the nature thereof, estimated the cost, prescribed what proportion would be paid by special assessment upon the property especially benefitted, determined the benefits received by the affected properties and what proportion, if any, would be paid by the city at large, designated the limits of the special assessment district to be affected, designated the manner in which it would be assessed, ordered the complete information to be filed in the office of the City Clerk where it could be found and examined, and directed the City Clerk to publish a notice of a public hearing to be set for Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall, 1 S. Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, at which time and place opportunity would be given interested persons to be heard; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2013, City Council held a Public Hearing pursuant to Resolution 2013-127 and determined that Highland Cemetery should be assessed and that the operation and maintenance of the streetlight fixtures for eighteen years should be removed from the improvement and that the improvement will solely phase upgrades of 1,189 streetlight fixtures to LED over two fiscal years and be paid over two years; and, thereafter, passed Resolution 2013-137, a Revised Resolution of Necessity and Adjournment of First Public Hearing for the Streetlight Special Assessment District, in which City

Council determined that the improvement was necessary, set forth the nature thereof, estimated the cost, prescribed what proportion would be paid by special assessment upon the property especially benefitted, determined the benefits received by the affected properties and what proportion, if any, would be paid by the city at large, designated the limits of the special assessment district to be affected, designated the manner in which it would be assessed, ordered the complete information to be filed in the office of the City Clerk where it could be found and examined, and directed the City Clerk to publish a notice of a public hearing to be set for Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall, 1 S. Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, at which time and place opportunity would be given interested persons to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Public Hearing set for August 20, 2013 was properly noticed as required by City Code sections 90-47 and 90-48 and held;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council hereby declares and orders that:

1. The City of Ypsilanti shall proceed with the public improvement to phase upgrades of 1,189 streetlight fixtures to LED over two fiscal years, beginning in FY 2013-2014 and ending in FY 2014-2015, as set forth in Resolution 2013-137, the "Revised Resolution of Necessity and Adjournment of First Public Hearing for the Streetlight Special Assessment District;" and

2. A special assessment district is established as set forth in Resolution 2013-137, the "Revised Resolution of Necessity and Adjournment of First Public Hearing for the Streetlight Special Assessment District" that includes all parcels in the City of Ypsilanti; (however, those parcels belonging to Eastern Michigan University and the City of Ypsilanti will not be assessed while owned by Eastern Michigan University and the City of Ypsilanti respectively); and

3. The improvement set forth above and proposed in Resolution 2013-137 is ordered; and

4. The City Assessor is directed to prepare a special assessment roll in accordance with Resolution 2013-137, the "Revised Resolution of Necessity and Adjournment of First Public Hearing for the Streetlight Special Assessment District," based on the estimated costs to the City of Ypsilanti, which Resolution says:

a. The cost of the improvement is estimated to be \$555,664 for the conversion. The annual cost to each parcel is estimated to be \$57.51; and

b. 100% of the cost of the streetlight fixture conversion will be paid by special assessment on 4831 parcels especially and directly benefitted by added safety, security, deterring crime, reducing the carbon footprint, assisting in the ease of movement on streets and sidewalks, lessening the danger of collisions, and positively affecting property values, and be divided and paid over two (2) years; and

c. The special assessment district will include all parcels in the City of Ypsilanti; however, those parcels belonging to Eastern Michigan

University and the City of Ypsilanti will not be assessed while owned by Eastern Michigan University and the City of Ypsilanti respectively; and

d. The special assessment will be divided equally among the parcels being assessed and last, in total, for two (2) years.

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

Council Member Vogt pointed out grammatical errors in the resolution regarding parcels belonging to EMU or the City of Ypsilanti and stated that the language suggests that the parcels are exempt if owned by both E.M.U. and the City and the intent is for either of them to be exempt.

Council Member Vogt moved, supported by Council Member Jefferson to correct the language in paragraphs 2 and 4c to state the following:

However, any parcels belonging to EMU or the City of Ypsilanti will not be assessed while being owned by E.M.U. or the City of Ypsilanti, respectively.

On a roll call, the vote to amend the language was as follows:

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

VOTE:

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2013-155 as amended was as follows:

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

VOTE:

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

4. Resolution No. 2013-156, ordering assessment roll for the Streetlight Special Assessment District to be filed for public examination and setting a date and time for review and public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2013, City Council held a Public Hearing giving all interested persons an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed improvement; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2013, City Council held a properly noticed continued Public Hearing giving all interested persons an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed improvement; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2013, following the Public Hearing and after

all interested persons had been given an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed improvement, City Council passed Resolution 2013-____, a "Resolution Ordering District and Directing Assessor to Prepare Special Assessment Roll for the Streetlight Special Assessment District;" and

WHEREAS, the City Assessor has completed the ordered assessment roll and filed it with the City Clerk for presentation to City Council for review and certification;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council hereby declares and orders that:

1. The special assessment roll be filed in the office of the City Clerk for public examination; and
2. The City Clerk is directed to publish a notice of public hearing to be set for Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall, 1 S. Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Such notice shall be given as provided in Ypsilanti City Code sections 90-47 and 90-48, and include the following: Appearance and protest at this hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal if an appeal is desired. An owner or party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at this hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter with the City Clerk prior to the close of this hearing and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. A property owner or any person having an interest in the real property subject to the proposed special assessments may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the State Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll if that special assessment was protested at the hearing held for the purpose of confirming the roll; and
3. At the public hearing scheduled for September 3, 2013:
 - a. City Council shall review the special assessment roll and consider all objections thereto; and
 - b. An owner or party in interest, or their agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file their appearance or protest by letter and their personal appearance shall not be required. Such objections shall specify, in detail, in what respect the objectors deem themselves aggrieved; and
 - c. City Council shall maintain a record of parties who appear to protest at the hearing. If a hearing is terminated or adjourned for the day before a party is provided the opportunity to be heard, a party whose appearance was recorded is considered to have protested the special assessment in person; and
 - d. City Council may correct or amend the roll as to any assessment or description of property or any other matter appearing therein; and
 - e. City Council may reject the special assessment roll and the same proceedings shall be had in making a new roll as in the making of the original roll, or approve determine that assessments are in proportion to benefits derived or to be derived, and confirm the roll.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Murdock

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2013-156 was as follows:

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	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: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

Mayor Schreiber read rules for audience participation.

1. Lafiest Galimore thanked Council Member Jefferson and Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson for supporting the resolution to repeal the Michigan version of the Stand Your Ground Law and said this is needed in the city of Ypsilanti to prevent what happened in Florida from happening here. He explained what the Stand Your Ground law is and urged City Council to support the resolution. He noted that this initiative will go to the Governor and State legislators this fall.
2. Lucia Heinold, 1224 Wines Dr., supported the resolution to repeal the Stand Your Ground legislation and said she is concerned about the violence the law encourages. She stated that statistics show that over half of the killings are black and unarmed. She said the resolution is similar to what the City of Ann Arbor passed and should be taken seriously. She thanked the Mayor for being a part of Mayors Against Guns and Council Members Jefferson and Richardson for their support of the resolution.
3. Julie Brown, 317 Maple, stated her biggest concern is with the Water Street project. She asked how much money the city invested in this project. She said there was a lot of tax payer wasted money and she is upset about it.
4. Fredrick West, 7544 Oakland Ville Dr., founder of Washtenaw Raiders, a new football program, asked the City for approval to use Frog Island park for 2 home games. He said the organization is non-profit and is helping at risk youth and those who cannot afford to pay for team sports.
5. Titania Sutton spoke in favor of the Washtenaw Raiders and said the organization's fees are low so that parents can afford it. She said they have sponsors who've helped keep the costs low and would like the City of Ypsilanti to donate Frog Island for 2 games. She said the program has 60-80 kids now and it would be good for the kids to see that there is support from city.
6. Rev. Darnell Williams, Washtenaw Raiders sponsor, said he prays with the team and talks on various subjects to teach the players values and teamwork. He said he is trying to build character and respect, while encouraging them to use their talents. He said more fathers are participating now and invited Council to stop by to observe the program when they have time.
7. Dr. Earnest Terry, 1927 Roosevelt, expressed his displeasure in Council's decision to approve the streetlight special assessment. He said residents have said no to an income tax twice

and the City is still trying to find a way to charge people more. In regards to benefit, he said most crimes in his neighborhood occur during the day, so streetlights will not help.

8. Quinn Phillips, 305 E. Cross, spoke regarding the Prospect skate park renovations and stated that some skaters have been replacing wooden ramps with concrete ramps and it may be demolished if not up to code. He said he is an Educational Coordinator at Ozone House and works with at risk youth so recreational activities are important for youth. He said skating is great for them because it is affordable and accessible. He asked City Council to support allowing skaters to renovate and continue using the park because it is a resource in the community.
9. Stephen Taylor, 413 Ferris, a 28 year resident, spoke against repealing the Stand Your Ground law. He said this effort is a symbolic gesture. He said he was a victim of carjacking last year and it would be a shame to limit ones right to self-defense. He stated that he will monitor Council member's votes and if they vote to limit his constitutional rights he will see to them being replaced.
10. Laxmi Avernani, 1111 W. Cross, questioned the cost of \$100 per household for streetlights and said she can pay \$3 to \$4 to change her own light bulb. She said she would like to see what DTE is charging the city. She expressed concern about what will happen after the 2 years are up.
11. Blaine Coleman supported the resolution to repeal the Stand Your Ground law in Michigan and said the law has come to be perceived as a hunting license against black men and boys and that is how it is being used. She said she hopes City Council will support the resolution because the problem is deeper. She said there is not enough value placed on black life in the country.
12. Mozghan Savabiensfahani spoke in support of the resolution to repeal the Stand Your Ground law and stated that many people feel racism is alive and present in society. She said the law is a license to lynch blacks. She asked City Council to follow the City of Ann Arbor and support the resolution. She congratulated Council on passing the streetlights resolution and their recognition of emissions in the city.
13. Robert St. Peter, 309 Miles, said there is a difference between the Stand Your Ground law and self defense. He said Stand Your Ground is never used during trial only self defense and he thinks it is wrong that the law requires a person to have to walk away even if someone comes up to them.
14. Jim Anderson supported the resolution to repeal the Stand Your Ground law and said it encourages violence and crime and will cause a blood bath in the streets.
15. Jan Katz, 1824 Roosevelt, thanked City Council for replacing streetlights with energy efficient LEDs and said it is good for the environment and the city's pocketbook.
16. Larry Young, Ann Arbor resident, said he didn't know what racism was in the 8th grade until he got in trouble because of the color of his skin. He asked when racism will stop and said he doesn't understand how this was allowed in the Trayvon Martin case. He said this law doesn't protect but gives the right to kill.
17. Joann Lindstrom said she is a proud mother of a skateboarder. She said the kids are in a panic because they are afraid they will lose their park. She said her son loves it and is excited. She said she has met most of the skaters and she feels her son is safe there. She explained that if no permits were pulled for the work done to the park, it's because they didn't know. She explained that they were given a generous donation to improve the park from a donor out west and most of the equipment was donated.

18. Eli Stevic, 205 Prospect, spoke in support of the skate park and said he is trying to meet with those in the City to make sure things are done correctly. He said people visit the park from Toledo and Kalamazoo. He said they started building the ramps and assumed they could build both wood and concrete. He said he has a friend who's helped and who is making sure the job is done right. He said they are asking the city to help with the yearly insurance.
19. Resident, 320 N. Washington, supported the skate park and said it creates synergy among youth and older people. He said the park is kept clean and safe, and it is beneficial to the community. He said kids from Ann Arbor come here to skate and it supports community interaction.
20. John Evans, 1301 Kingwood, thanked City Council for the implementation of LED lights. He Supported the request from the Washtenaw Raiders football organization and the skate park. Mr. Evans encouraged City Council to support the resolution to repeal the Stand Your Ground law and send a message to Lansing that it is morally wrong.
21. Resident of 748 Harriet spoke in support of the skate park and said it is a great place. He stated that he has made a lot of friends from being a skate boarder and professional skaters have come out and have made donations. He said they have even had a few competitions.

X. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Schreiber thanked the audience for being respectful.

Mr. Schreiber commented that the City of Ypsilanti is limited on recreational activities since the Parks and Recreation Department closed. He spoke highly of Rutherford Pool and the Senior Center for continuing to serve the community and encouraged the Skateboard Supporters to speak to city staff to see how the city can help keep the park going. He said the skate park is new to him; however he said he looks forward to learning about it.

He appreciated the comments on the streetlight assessment. Skate park is new to him tonight. Looks forward to learning about it.

Council Member Murdock said he just became aware of the skate park and they've been great in Prospect park. He said he is surprised there are issues and thinks it is communication problems. He said the park is established and is putting things on hold until they meet with DPS and the City Manager.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson commented on the request from the Washtenaw Raider to use Frog Island and stated she supports their request for a waiver and asked City Council to consider granting the request.

Council Member Jefferson commented on the Washtenaw Raiders football program and said it is wonderful to see Parkridge park full during the week the team is practicing. He said it is great that the organization is making it more affordable to the youth and said he sees no problem with granting the use of the Frog Island because it will help the children.

Council Member Jefferson shared a personal experience of being profiled and encouraged repealing of the Stand Your Ground law.

City Manager Lange stated that the City Assessor is present tonight to physically present the assessment roll.

The streetlight assessment roll was presented to the City Clerk.

XI. MINUTES –

Resolution No. 2013-157, approving the minutes of August 6, August 13, (7:30 a.m.) and August 13, 2013 (6:00 p.m.)

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the following minutes be approved:

- **August 6, 2013**
- **August 13, 2013 (7:30 a.m.)**
- **August 13, 2013 (6:00 p.m.)**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Jefferson

On a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. Resolution No. 2013-158, designating voting delegates for the 2013 Michigan Municipal League Annual Convention.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

**THAT _____ be appointed as Delegate and
_____ be appointed as Alternate for the Annual
Convention of the Michigan Municipal League (MML), to be held
September 17-20, 2013 in Detroit, Michigan, to cast the vote of the
municipality for election of trustees, policy and other business as may properly
come before the meeting.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Jefferson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson was suggested as delegate and Council Member Jefferson as alternate.

On a voice vote, the motion to approve the resolution as amended in order to fill the blanks with Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson and Council Member Jefferson carried unanimously.

The resolution as approved reads as follows:

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

**THAT Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson be
appointed as Delegate and Council Member Jefferson be
appointed as Alternate for the Annual Convention of the Michigan Municipal
League (MML), to be held September 17-20, 2013 in Detroit, Michigan, to
cast the vote of the municipality for election of trustees, policy and**

other business as may properly come before the meeting.

2. Resolution No. 2013-159, calling for repeal of Michigan's Stand Your Ground Law and for strengthening of firearm regulations.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI THAT:

Whereas, African Americans and Latinos account for the majority of victims of gun homicides, and gun violence is the leading cause of death for black teens, and one of the leading causes of death for Latino and American Indian teens;

Whereas, Stand Your Ground laws threaten to lead to unnecessary use of deadly force by eliminating the common-law duty to retreat and break off a confrontation where that can be accomplished with reasonable safety;

Whereas, Research by the Urban Institute suggests a troubling pattern of racial disparity in the application of Stand Your Ground laws, in which white-on-black shootings are more likely to be found justified, and black-on-white shootings less likely to be found justified, in states with those laws;

Whereas, Research by Texas A&M shows that after states passed Stand Your Ground measures, they saw no drop in robberies, burglaries, and aggravated assaults, and an increase in murders;

Whereas, In a Tampa Bay Times review of 192 cases of deaths in which the Florida Stand Your Ground Law led to the release of the killer, 70% of the victims were unarmed.

Whereas, In 2006, Michigan passed public act 309, the Michigan Self Defense Act, which mirrors the Stand Your Ground laws of other states;

Whereas, Public Act 309 of 2006 effectively eliminated Michigan's long standing common law necessity requirement for lawful use of deadly force;

Whereas, Ypsilanti City Council believes that Public Act 309 of 2006 can place an unreasonable burden on prosecutors to overcome the presumption that a defendant claiming self defense acted upon a reasonable and honest belief of imminent death, great bodily harm, or sexual assault, especially in cases in which the only witness who could rebut the presumption is dead; and

Whereas, Public Act 319 of 1990, the Firearms and Ammunition Act, impedes local units of government from protecting the public health, safety and welfare by preventing the establishment of reasonable local regulations concerning the sale, transfer, transportation, or possession of firearms and ammunition;

NOW THEREFORE, the Ypsilanti City Council calls on the Michigan State Legislature and Governor to repeal Public Act 309 of 2006 and Public Act 319 of 1990;

RESOLVED, That Ypsilanti City Council calls on the Michigan State Legislature and Governor to adopt common-sense gun regulations such

as improved background checks, strengthened gun-free zones, and limits on the sale of high-capacity magazines; and

RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to Governor Rick Snyder, Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, State Senator Rebekah Warren, Speaker of the House Jase Bolger, State Representative Adam Zemke and to members of the Michigan House and Senate Judiciary Committees.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Jefferson

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson made a friendly amendment to the resolution to add State Representatives David Rutledge and Gretchen Driskell.

Council Member Jefferson supported the friendly amendment.

Mayor Schreiber stated he was moved by the incident described by Council Member Jefferson and said there are too many guns in the country and Mr. Jefferson's story illustrates that. He recalled his experience while in the police academy and said proper training is needed. He appreciated all of the speakers and said he will support the resolution. agree. Will support the resolution tonight.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson described an incident that occurred with her nephew.

Council Member Vogt pointed out the irrationality of changing the previous language that worked for many years to what we have now. He said the previous language was reasonable and rational and for no justification, the law was changed and the result has led to unnecessary deadly force which creates an unreasonable burden on prosecutors to justify self-defense. He said he cannot justify the change of the law and he supports the former language which worked well, therefore, apart from racial issues, he will support the resolution on the basis of its core.

Council Member Robb referred to the Castle doctrine which passed in 2006 with bipartisan support and said the other incidents that have occurred are a tragedy. He said if people want to review the doctrine they should. He said the Michigan law is not the same law as in Florida and said he will vote against the resolution.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2013-159 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	Yes
Council Member Jefferson	Yes		

VOTE:

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

XIII. LIASON REPORTS -

- A. SEMCOG Update –
- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – meeting tomorrow
- C. Washtenaw Metro Alliance – meeting in September
- D. Urban County - none
- E. Freight House- none

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

Richardson

- Thanked City Council for supporting the resolution to repeal the Stand Your Ground law in Michigan and said she hopes it brings forth more conversation within the City and State.
- Said she supports a minimal fee or waiver of fees for the use of Frog Island park by the Washtenaw Raiders football organization.
- Reported she received a phone call from a resident regarding the need for a "Slow Children Playing" sign at Ferris and East Ainsworth.

Murdock

- Spoke regarding the skateboard situation and said he supports the park.
- Inquired if the City has a policy on the use of herbicides or pesticide chemicals and said if not, one should be developed.

Robb

- Inquired about when Council would receive a Water Street update

Mr. Lange replied in September.

- He said rumors are flying around regarding MSDA housing to utilize Water Street land.

Moeller

- Reported receiving complaints regarding long grass and said city staff is handling them very expeditiously.
- Reported that College Heights citizens are complaining about the condition of Cornell. She said police have placed speed monitors up and are monitoring it physically. She said she is wondering if a stop sign at E. Cross could be erected to help slow things down.

Vogt

- He reported that ticketing is working this year.

Council Member Moeller said staff did a good job with the hole on Washtenaw. She also asked if dogs are being tasers.

Mr. Lange wasn't sure and said he would follow up.

Council Member Jefferson explained that there was a recent situation with a pitbull but it wasn't tasered. He said the dog was harming smaller dogs.

Jefferson

- Announced the Parkridge Summer Fest will be held Saturday, August 10th from 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

- Status on city clerk evaluation.

Council Member Robb said he is waiting on an evaluation from Council Member Vogt.

- He announced that a committee for the City Manager evaluation is needed and asked for volunteers.

Council Members Moeller and Vogt volunteered.

Council Member Moeller received two votes and Council Member Vogt received 4.

Council Member Vogt will serve on the City Manager Evaluation committee along with Council Member Robb and Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson.

Council Member Robb indicated that he is in the process of rewriting the evaluation form so that it is relevant to the position and he will obtain Council's final approval of the form.

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

- Appreciated streetlight moving forward.
- Gave accolades to those who supported the MITrain event.
- Regarding the skate park, he said he is placing a moratorium on it so that staff will not bother it.
- Said he will direct staff to waive the fee for the Washtenaw Raiders football program.

Council Member Robb suggested the waiving of the fee come to Council for a vote.

Council Member Moeller said there needs to be procedure on how waiving of fees can occur.

- Announced the City won a case with the tax tribunal regarding the Forest Health (former Beyer Hospital).

Assistant to the City Manager Ericka Savage clarified how the complaint system works and said it is better if people go the website first (Action request Center) because it allows better tracking for city staff and reporting.

XVII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION -

- **Steven Taylor, 413 Ferris, thanked Council Member Robb for his position on the repeal resolution and said it was the smartest decision.**
- **Resident of 817 Hemphill thanked Council for listening to his comments tonight and said he is not grinding at Council personally. He said he likes that residents are taking an interest in their children.**

XVIII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

- **Reported he attended the MYTrain exhibit and it was a good opportunity for the Heritage Festival and a time to look back on the city's heritage and how things have improved.**
- **Appreciated remarks from Mr. Taylor.**

XIX. CLOSED SESSION –

Closed Session to discuss labor negotiations (OMA 15.268, Section 8(c).

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

Council Member Vogt	Yes	Council Member Murdock	Yes
Mayor Schreiber	Yes	Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes

Council Member Jefferson
Council Member Moeller

Yes
Yes

Council Member Robb

Yes

VOTE:

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

XX. ADJOURNMENT –

Resolution No. 2013-160, 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 to closed session at 9:38 p.m.