



APPROVED

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, April 1, 2014
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 (7:16)	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Schreiber	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Present		

Council Member Vogt moved, supported by Council Member Jefferson to excuse the absence of Council Member Moeller . On a voice vote, the motion carried.

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. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Schreiber introduced Washtenaw County Commissioner Yousef Rahbi, Washtenaw County Commissioner Ronnie Peterson, Human Relations Chairman John Schuler, Human Relations Commissioner Jennifer Symanns, YCUA Executive Director Jeff Castro, Scott Westover, YCUA, Dwayne Harrington, YCUA, Tom Colis, Miller-Canfield, Kirk Profit, Lobbyist, Attorney Raymond Mullins, Assistant to City Manager Ericka Savage, City Attorney John Barr, Assistant City Attorney Dan DuChene and E.M.U. Students.

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Mayor Schreiber requested that the Human Relations Annual Report be moved from 'Communications from the Mayor' to 'Presentations'.

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

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

1. Legislative Update – Kirk Profit
2. Metro Act – Nathaneal Duffield
3. Human Relations Annual Report – Chair John Schuler **(Added)**

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING -

Ordinance No. 1218

1. YCUA Big Four Pump Stations and HVAC WWTP Grit System SRF Bond Sale
 - A. Resolution No. 2014-80, determination.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the contract and authorizing notice for the "YCUA Big Four Pump Stations and HVAC WWTP Grit System SRF Bond Sale" be approved at First Reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

Executive Director Jeff Castro gave a brief summary of the proposal.

- B. Open public hearing.
There were no speakers.
- C. Resolution No. 2014-81, close public hearing.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the public hearing to consider the "YCUA Big Four Pump Stations and HVAC WWTP Grit System SRF Bond Sale" be officially closed.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson

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

Council Member Robb asked the importance of this bond sale.

Mr. Colis stated the bonds are treated on a parity basis. There are limits of how much the city can incur for debt limits. The portion that the city owes, approximately 22% of the project, would be allocated towards the city's share of the full faith in credit. All of the city's debt is shared collectively on the bondholders. Revenue bonds have their own revenue stream to those bondholders. There are associated debt limits associated with each bond.

Council Member Murdock asked if the other pump stations were considered for any alternative energy possibilities as well.

Mr. Westover stated there were preliminary investigations into solar energy at the wastewater plant. Given the location, it is risky even at the wastewater plant. There wouldn't be much energy generation to justify that type of investment.

On roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2014-080 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	Yes		

VOTE:

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

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Mert Hershberger, 952 Sherman, opposed the resolution regarding same sex marriage.
2. HRC Chair John Shuler, 316 E. Forest, stated the HRC drafted the resolution and supports its approval.
3. Kyle Sutherland, 480 Owendale St, stated businesses should get fined for snow removal.
4. Timothy King, 1573 Mollie, presented a proclamation on behalf of the Willow Run Tea Party for a memorial for the Willow Run Bomber Plant.
5. Raymond Mullins, 4447 Swiss Stone, announced his candidacy as a Congressman for the United States House of Representatives.
6. Judi Bloss, 2060 W. Michigan, opposed the resolution regarding same sex marriage.

IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

Mayor Schreiber thanked all those who participated in audience participation. He stated his support of the resolution regarding same sex marriage.

Council Member Moeller asked Mr. Lange why Ahmos restaurant hasn't been cited for garbage removal.

Council Member Vogt stated he would support the resolution regarding same sex marriage as well.

Mr. Lange responded that Code Enforcement Officer James Jackson took a picture of the garbage and it was cleaned up.

Council Member Moeller disagreed that it was cleaned up.

Mr. Lange stated he would follow up and check the site himself.

Council Member Vogt asked about the standard for garbage disposal for businesses.

Mr. Lange stated he would check with code enforcement on the protocol.

X. MINUTES –

Resolution No. 2014-82, approving the minutes of February 25 and March 18, 2014.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the Minutes of February 25, and March 18, 2014 be approved.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb

SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro- Tem Richardson

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

XI. CONSENT AGENDA –

Resolution No. 2014-83

1. Resolution No. 2014-84, approving grant agreement with the Michigan Department of State to receive HAVA (Help America Vote Act) grant funds to upgrade the Qualified Voter File (QVF) infrastructure.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Elections, along with staff from the Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB), will upgrade the QVF Replica Servers and move to the Microsoft Windows 7 operating system and new version of the Oracle database software; and

WHEREAS, Microsoft Windows XP is an older software version that will no longer be fully supported, so a move to newer versions of the software is required; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan will use HAVA funds, with no matching fund required, to upgrade the Qualified Voter System (QVF) infrastructure to meet the objectives of Michigan's HAVA State Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approves the grant agreement between the State of Michigan and the City of Ypsilanti for the Qualified Voter File Upgrade Project and authorize the City Clerk to sign the agreement.

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

2. Resolution No. 2014-85, changing the regular meeting of Tuesday, May 6 to Thursday, May 8, 2014.

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI that because of the Special Election to be held on May 6, 2014, the City Council meeting scheduled for May 6 is hereby moved to May 8, 2014.

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

3. Resolution No. 2014-86, approving the designation and relocation of Ward 2, Precinct 2-4 to Estabrook Elementary School, 1555 W. Cross St., for the May 6, 2014 Special Election.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti is always striving to improve efficiencies when conducting elections; and

WHEREAS, Ward 2, Precinct 2&4, was previously located in the Ypsilanti Middle School, 105 N. Mansfield, and due to the recent school

consolidation, Ypsilanti Middle School has closed and is no longer available as a polling location;

WHEREAS, On March 28, 2014, the Ypsilanti Election Commission, approved the consolidation of precincts for the May 6, 2014 Special Election and a change of location to allow Ward 2, Precinct 2&4 to be moved to Estabrook Elementary School, 1555 W. Cross St..

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves the designation and relocation of Ward 2, Precinct 2&4 to Estabrook Elementary School, 1555 W. Cross St., for the May 6, 2014 Special Election.

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

4. Resolution No. 2014-87, approving allocations for park improvements.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti desires to maintain City parks and recreational facilities to safe and enjoyable conditions for visitors; and

WHEREAS, City staff evaluated Charles Street Tot Lot and Prospect Park and determined that certain improvements are necessary; and

WHEREAS, the cost to add new play swings, ground anchors, and fall base materials to Charles Street Tot lot is approximately \$10,500; and

WHEREAS, the cost to upgrade two basketball posts from junior size to regulation size, install four new basketball hoops, and install four new basketball backboards in Prospect Park is approximately \$5,000.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Ypsilanti hereby allocates \$15,500 in General Funds (101-7-7170-818-10) toward necessary improvements to the Charles Street Tot Lot and Prospect Park.

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

On a voice vote, the motion carried and the consent agenda was approved.

XII. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. Resolution No. 2014-88, approving right-of-way telecommunications permit of Great Lakes Comnet, Inc.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas Great Lakes Comnet, Inc. has, on February 21, 2014 filed an application with the City of Ypsilanti applying for a Right of Way

**Telecommunications Permit pursuant to the Metro Act, Act 48 of 2002;
and**

**Whereas Great Lakes Comnet, Inc. has paid the required \$500
application fee to the City; and**

Whereas the application meets all the requirements of the said Metro Act.

**NOW THEREFORE, the said Telecommunications Permit for Great Lakes,
Comnet, Inc. is approved, and the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to
sign said permit, for and on behalf of the City of Ypsilanti.**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Jefferson

Council Member Robb asked if Great Lakes Comnet, Inc can have switches in the right-of-way throughout the city.

Mr. Barr gave a brief description of the resolution and the Metro Act. He stated the city doesn't have much discretion in the matter.

Council Member Robb asked if they could set requirements for the companies.

Mr. Barr stated due to the Metro Act the city may not set requirements.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked what benefit the city would have if the resolution was approved.

Mr. Barr stated the city would earn revenue from the fees and permits.

Mr. Lange stated the \$50,000 from the Metro Act was funding ramps, electrical bills, and Prospect Road.

On roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2014-088 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	Yes		

VOTE:

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

2. Resolution No. 2014-89, regarding same sex marriage.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

**WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti motto includes "diversity" as an integral
identity of the City of Ypsilanti; and**

**WHEREAS, in 2004, Ypsilanti City Council enacted a nondiscrimination
ordinance that is inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity and
expression; and**

WHEREAS, in 2013, Ypsilanti City Council directed the city manager to extend benefits to same-sex partners of city employees; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights' 2013 "Report on LGBT Inclusion under Michigan Law" documents that Michigan's non-inclusive climate continues to precipitate significant negative consequences for local economies; and

WHEREAS, that the aforementioned report indicates that young, educated professionals indicate a lack of LGBT inclusion as a factor in their decision to outwardly migrate from the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, continuation of the appeals process by Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette – as directed by Governor Rick Snyder – will continue to cost Ypsilanti and Michigan taxpayers an indeterminate amount of money.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council supports the ruling of Judge Bernard Friedman as it pertains to the legal right of same-sex couples to marry and jointly adopt children in the State of Michigan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Ypsilanti City Council urges Governor Snyder and Attorney General Schuette to withdraw its appeal of this decision from the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council directs the Office of the City Clerk to forward this resolution in its entirety to the offices of the Honorable Rick Snyder and the Honorable Bill Schuette.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Jefferson

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated she will be voting no on the resolution due to feedback from the citizens. She believed it should go through the judicial cycle.

Council Member Robb stated he will be voting yes on the resolution.

Council Member Murdock stated he will be voting yes on the resolution as well and said it is normal protocol for supporting policies.

Mayor Schreiber stated he would be voting yes on the resolution and said he is strongly in favor of it.

On roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2014-089 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	No		

VOTE:

Yes: 6

No: 1 (Richardson)

Absent: 0

Vote: Carried

XIII. LIASON REPORTS –

A. SEMCOG Update

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated she attended the General Assembly meeting.
She requested a proclamation for Paul Tait's retirement.

B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

C. Washtenaw Metro Alliance

D. Urban County

Mayor Schreiber stated they are conducting a five year update.

E. Freight House

XIV. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

Richardson

- Reported she received a letter from Mr. Beal about a house at 416 or 418 S. Washington. She sent an email to Mr. Lange and Chief DeGiusti for an investigation to be conducted to see if it violated the nuisance ordinance.

Murdock

- Stated multiple businesses get busy over the weekend and their garbage piles up excessively, but the city needs to assist in solving the problem.
- Stated they are planning to clean up trash near the DDA areas on Saturday, April 12th and Sunday, April 13th. Invited others to attend.

Robb

- Requested that Code Enforcement be sent out to issue tickets about garbage disposals.
- Stated he will not be attending the next City Council meeting. He will be in China.
- Stated he spoke to Mr. Duchene regarding empty buildings.

Moeller

- Asked about communication with Mr. Lange because he hasn't been responding promptly.

Mr. Lange reassured Ms. Moeller that she is contacting him correctly and said if he is busy Nan or Ericka will respond.

Council Member Robb suggested that the Action & Request Center be utilized more because it is the best way for accountability.

Ms. Savage stated that it is very useful and city employees check them frequently.

Mr. Lange stated it is a good tracking method.

Council Member Murdock commented that there are no details or feedback on the tickets submitted to let you know when and how the issue was resolved.

Ms. Savage stated the report doesn't show what occurred.

Vogt

- Stated he sends emails to Mr. Lange regarding complaints and usually gets a response.
- Reported he received an inquiry about the street cleaning schedule

Jefferson

- Stated that the Michigan Ave road diet is very dangerous and needs to be fixed.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

~~Human Relations Annual Report~~ **(Moved)**

Nominations:

Parks and Recreation Commission

Linda Horne (new appointment)
205 Oak Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Term Expires: 11/1/2015

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

- Stated the Council Information Letter was sent out.
- Stated he attended the SEMCOG reception with Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson.
- Stated he spoke to the safety engineer with the Washtenaw County Road Commission regarding the road diet. Hopes to have information available at next city council meeting.
- Stated the bridge on Prospect Road will be done this year and a safety upgrade grant was awarded to the city.
- Stated they chose speed humps with caps and will be ordered shortly. They will be removed during winter and they can be used in other places as well.
- Stated 12 sections of roads were due for road maintenance. He may pull some money for the Major Streets Line.
- Stated he has been working on the Capital Budget projects.
- Stated the 690 streetlights should be installed this spring.
- Stated they will be submitting a trash bid soon.
- Stated if anyone is attending the event in Ann Arbor that he is willing to carpool.
- Stated the border to border trail is moving in the right direction.
- Stated he had a call on the city's bond rating.

Council Member Murdock stated he sent Mr. Lange an email regarding the street crossing on Miles Street and Prospect Road and hasn't received a response..

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson recommended that Council and the public send pictures of Prospect Road to Lansing.

Council Member Jefferson stated he was contacted by a contractor regarding paperwork he submitted to the city.

XVII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Amanda Edmonds mentioned that Council should keep the safety of the citizens in mind when making decisions regarding the road diet because a lot of her employees travel by bike.
2. Judi Blaus, 2060 W. Michigan, stated she opposed the passing of the resolution regarding the same sex marriage.
3. Timothy King, 1573 Mollie, suggested the Mayor join the Steering Committee to gain funding from the state.
4. City Attorney John Barr, 1200 Whittier, stated the Ypsilanti Library Board is supporting the additional funding to the AAATA. The local libraries are honoring Library weekend with guest speakers. He also mentioned the fundraiser at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.
5. Jennifer Symanns, thanked the Council for supporting the resolution regarding same sex marriage.
6. Mert Hershberger, 952 Sherman, stated he opposed the passing of the resolution regarding same sex marriage.
7. HRC Chair John Schuler stated he would like for Council to honor Mary Louis Foley for her service.

XVIII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR -

Mayor Schreiber thanked those for participating in audience participation.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT -

Resolution No. 2014-90, 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 9:37 p.m.