Approved

CITY OF YPSILANTI
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – ONE SOUTH HURON ST.
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
Tuesday, June 16, 2015
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

Council Member Anne Brown	Present	Council Member Robb	Present
Council Member Nicole Brown	Present	Council Member Vogt	Present
Council Member Murdock	Present	Mayor Edmonds	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Present		

III. INVOCATION –

Mayor Edmonds 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 Edmonds introduced the following individuals: Downtown Development Director Tim Colbeck, Non-motorized Chairperson Bob Krzewinski, Assistant to the City Manager Ericka Savage, Marcus McNamara, OHM, DPS Director Stan Kirton, business owner Dave Heikkinen, DDA Chairperson Kevin Hill, Police Chief Tony DeGiusti, Economic Development Director Beth Ernat, Convention and Visitors Bureau Deb Locke-Daniels, and Assistant City Attorney Jesse O'Jack.

VI. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Council Member Anne Brown moved, supported by Council Member Nicole Brown to approve the agenda.

Council Member Nicole Brown moved to remove Resolution No. 2015-128, approving the fee schedule, from the agenda.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson supported the motion.

On a roll call, the vote to remove Resolution No. 2015-128 from the agenda was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Council Member Murdock moved to remove Resolution No. 2015-135, approving the adoption, amendment and restatement of the Depot Town Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing plan, and Resolution No. 2015-136, approving the City of Ypsilanti pay for the final installment of the Depot Town DDA Debt, from the agenda. He stated his motions are based on the fact that the modifications requested by Council have not been completed.

Council Member Vogt supported the motions.

On a roll call, the vote to remove Resolution Nos. 2015-135 and 2015-136 from the agenda was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	No	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	No
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	No		

VOTE:

YES: 4 NO: 3 (Nicole Brown, Anne Brown, Edmonds) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Council Member Murdock moved to move Resolution No. 2015-141, approving the implementation of Simple Recycling in the City of Ypsilanti, to be heard before Section X, "Ordinances".

Council Member Nicole Brown supported the motion.

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

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

- Resolution No. 2015-116, designating Ypsilanti, Michigan A Bee City USA – Mayor Edmonds.

Jamie Berlin stated she has been leading the Bee City campaign for the City of Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township. Ms. Berlin provided a presentation regarding Bee City USA.

Mayor Edmonds asked if it's okay for of the audience who came to address the Bee City Resolution to speak before Council votes.

City Attorney Barr responded the resolution would be delayed until after audience participation, audience participation could be moved, or special audience participation could be held, depending on the wishes of Council.

Mayor Edmonds asked Council if members of the audience that wish to speak toward Resolution No. 2015-116 could speak after the presentation rather than during audience participation.

Council Member Murdock moved to allow audience members who wish to speak about Resolution No. 2015-116, Bee City, be allowed to do so after the presentation, and before the vote.

Council Member Vogt supported the motion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated there are two other presentations during this meeting, and asked if those presenters mind waiting until after the audience participation for Bee City.

Chief DeGiusti replied he had no issue waiting.

CVB Director Debbie Locke-Daniels responded she had no issue with waiting.

Council Member Vogt requested Ms. Berlin forward the Bee City Power point presentation to Council. He stated that he would like to present it to his condominium board to see if it would consider a planting at Stadium Meadows. He stated during the presentation he did not hear a reference to Africanized bees, and the devastating effect they have on native and European honey bees. He stated he would also note that it is an issue of climate change. He stated as temperature begins to warm the Africanized bee population is spreading and in future generations the Africanized bee population could spread north, and decimate the native bee population.

Ms. Berlin responded that is an issue in places such as Florida, but to date Africanized bees have not adapted to the climate that is seen in Michigan. She stated they are not a threat in Michigan at the moment, but if they are able to adapt it could become a problem.

Council Member Anne Brown stated the resolution states that there needs to be a designated pollinator zones donated from the City, and that there would be a designated municipal department, or liaison. She asked has that been discussed within your organization, and what would the Bee Sub-Committee would consist of.

Ms. Berlin answered coordinating with national pollinator week, her organization would work with the City to develop a small piece of land, her native plants could be developed, and a natural habitat be created. She stated the dedicated municipal department could be any department best suited to implement this kind of work.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated the resolution reads the Bee City liaison is comprised by a sponsor and a city employee. She stated that with the current workload of City employees she cannot imagine how any employee would have the time for this task. She stated the most likely department to handle this task would be the Department of Public Works, and that department is already stretched thin.

Ms. Berlin responded she spoke with the head of the program which was designed to be flexible, and it is not required to include a city employee liaison. She stated that she would be allowed to be the primary party responsible for the designation, and a city employee would only be a contact person.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked that to be included within the resolution.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson moved to omit City employee from the resolution, and replace it with volunteer.

Motion accepted as friendly amendment.

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY OF YPSILANTI AS A *BEE CITY USA®*

WHEREAS, the goal of *BEE CITY USA* is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for bees and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the tremendous diversity of wild native bees, along with the honey bees that were brought here from Europe in the 1700s, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts and vegetables: *"One in every three bites of food we eat is courtesy of insect pollination. Even our meat and milk trace back to insects that pollinate the alfalfa and other feed for beef cattle and cows"* (Mace Vaughan, Pollinator Program Director for the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation); and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to a combination of habitat loss, use of pesticides, and the spread of pests and diseases, with grave implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

WHEREAS, cities and their residents have the opportunity to support bees and other pollinators on both public and private land; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions among community stewards such as commercial and backyard beekeepers, farmers, children, educators, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, plant nurseries, municipalities, neighborhoods, and garden suppliers and clubs; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefits of the City of Ypsilanti bee-friendliness are:

- **Healthy ecosystems--insect pollinators are required for pollination and reproduction of about 85% of flowering plants globally, plants that: 1) are vital for clean air and water; 2)**

provide food, fiber and shelter for people and wildlife; and 3) support the very insects that pollinate our crops and form the basis of food webs.

- **Increased vegetable and fruit crop yields due to bee pollination.**
- **Increased habitat for natural enemies of crop pests and therefore reduced need for and costs associated with pesticides.**
- **Increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local nurseries and growers.**
- **Income earned by beekeepers and others through the sale of bee products, beekeeping equipment and supplies, and hive rentals for pollination; and, heightened prestige and premium asking prices for place-based honey, which enhances the visibility and reputation of its community of origin; and**

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti should be certified a *BEE CITY USA* community because:

- **Michigan is among the leading states in honey production and honey bee assisted agricultural throughout the United States and the world.**
- **Honey bees are beneficial to mankind and to Michigan in particular, by providing agricultural fruit and vegetable pollination services in tandern with home garden vegetable and fruit production and by furnishing honey, beeswax and other useful products.**
- **The City of Ypsilanti passed Ordinance No. 1113 on December 1, 2009 to allow for beekeeping in the city.**

WHEREAS, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat:

- **Provides diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from plants blooming in succession.**
- **Provides clean water for drinking, nest-building, cooling, diluting stored honey, and butterfly puddling.**
- **Is pesticide-free or has pesticide use carried out with least ill effects on pollinators.**
- **Is comprised of mostly, if not all, native species of annual and perennial wildflowers, shrubs, trees, and grasses because many native pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-evolved.**
- **Includes, where possible, designated pollinator zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build awareness.**
- **Provides for safe and humane removal of bees when required.**
- **Provides undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, un-mowed fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for native pollinators; and**

WHEREAS, in order to enhance understanding among municipal staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each

of us can do to sustain them, the City of Ypsilanti agrees to meet the following commitments required of all *BEE CITY USA* communities:

1) **Pass this *BEE CITY USA* resolution (which articulates these commitments).**

2) **Designate a municipal department as the municipality's Bee City USA sponsor and a volunteer as the Bee City USA "liaison;" and assign facilitation of the local Bee City USA program either to a) a new or existing city commission or b) a non-profit organization, to encourage and coordinate local pollinator habitat and awareness activities. This body will serve as the intermediary between the citizenry and the municipality on matters of enhancing pollinator awareness, health and habitat, fulfilling the following commitments:**

    - **Annually celebrate National Pollinator Week (third full week of June) or some other appropriate occasion with educational events, pollinator habitat plantings or restoration, proclamations or promotions that showcase the municipality's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat.**

    - **Annually celebrate our Bee City commitment by developing pollinator habitat, through planting or restoration annually, on city donated property, in order to showcase the municipality's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat, and in partnership with the Bee City Committee, and organized and implemented by the Bee City Committee.**

    - **Annually apply for renewal of the community's designation and submit a report of the previous year's *BEE CITY USA* activities following the format provided.**

3) **Publicly acknowledge the community's commitment by agreeing to a) install/maintain at least one authorized *BEE CITY USA* street sign in a prominent location, and b) create/maintain links on appropriate pages of the municipal website which includes, at minimum, links to a PDF of this signed Resolution and the national *BEE CITY USA* website, contact information for the municipality's *BEE CITY USA* liaison and designated "facilitator commission or non-profit organization committee," and reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the municipality has accomplished the previous year(s).**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Anne Brown
SUPPORTED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson

1. Charlotte Kerson, 109 Woods, encouraged City Council to adopt this resolution because bee populations are under enormous stress across

the country. She stated bee keepers are mostly small business owners that now need to ship their bees to Florida during the winter because of the health hazard. She asked that Council assist in creating healthy bee habitats in Michigan to assist not only bees but small business owners.

2. Erin Richie, 1065 Maplewood Ave, stated the chance of the Africanized bees coming north is very low.

3. Will Teepen, 424 Madison, Bee City USA Sub-committee, stated he is not a bee keeper, or even all that fond of bees, but as a resident of Ypsilanti he sees this as a positive event for the City.

Council Member Robb stated the representative to the Parks and Recreation Commission is Council Member Anne Brown, and her name should be substituted in the resolution. He stated clause "B" should be stricken from the resolution.

Mayor Edmonds stated the representative would be the Parks and Recreation Commission itself not Council Member Anne Brown.

Council Member Robb responded than Clause "A" and "B" will be omitted from the resolution. He asked if the liaison would need to be named now, or could it be done on a later date.

Mayor Edmonds asked if the liaison would need to be a formal appointment.

Council Member Robb responded it is a requirement of the City to appoint all liaisons.

Council Member Murdock asked if the Parks and Recreation Commission would appoint the Bee City USA Liaison, or would Council.

Mayor Edmonds asked if the resolution could include Jamie Berlin's name in the resolution.

City Attorney Barr stated the amendments can be accepted as friendly amendments.

Council Member Anne Brown replied she accepts the friendly amendments.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson accepted the friendly amendments.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution 2015-116 as amended was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Resolution No. 2015-116 as adopted reads as follows:

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY OF YPSILANTI AS A *BEE CITY USA®*

WHEREAS, the goal of *BEE CITY USA* is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for bees and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the tremendous diversity of wild native bees, along with the honey bees that were brought here from Europe in the 1700s, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts and vegetables: *"One in every three bites of food we eat is courtesy of insect pollination. Even our meat and milk trace back to insects that pollinate the alfalfa and other feed for beef cattle and cows"* (Mace Vaughan, Pollinator Program Director for the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation); and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to a combination of habitat loss, use of pesticides, and the spread of pests and diseases, with grave implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

WHEREAS, cities and their residents have the opportunity to support bees and other pollinators on both public and private land; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions among community stewards such as commercial and backyard beekeepers, farmers, children, educators, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, plant nurseries, municipalities, neighborhoods, and garden suppliers and clubs; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefits of the City of Ypsilanti bee-friendliness are:

- **Healthy ecosystems--insect pollinators are required for pollination and reproduction of about 85% of flowering plants globally, plants that: 1) are vital for clean air and water; 2) provide food, fiber and shelter for people and wildlife; and 3) support the very insects that pollinate our crops and form the basis of food webs.**
- **Increased vegetable and fruit crop yields due to bee pollination.**
- **Increased habitat for natural enemies of crop pests and therefore reduced need for and costs associated with pesticides.**
- **Increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local nurseries and growers.**
- **Income earned by beekeepers and others through the sale of bee products, beekeeping equipment and supplies, and hive rentals for pollination; and, heightened prestige and premium asking prices for place-based honey, which enhances the visibility and reputation of its community of origin; and**

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti should be certified a *BEE CITY USA* community because:

- **Michigan is among the leading states in honey production and honey bee assisted agricultural throughout the United States and the world.**
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- **Is comprised of mostly, if not all, native species of annual and perennial wildflowers, shrubs, trees, and grasses because many native pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-evolved.**
- **Includes, where possible, designated pollinator zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build awareness.**
- **Provides for safe and humane removal of bees when required.**
- **Provides undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, un-mowed fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for native pollinators; and**

WHEREAS, in order to enhance understanding among municipal staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the City of Ypsilanti agrees to meet the following commitments required of all *BEE CITY USA* communities.

2) **Pass this *BEE CITY USA* resolution (which articulates these commitments).**

3) **Designates Bee City USA sponsor, Jamie Berlin or her designee, to coordinate through the Ypsilanti Parks and Recreation Commission (the City's liaison), to encourage and coordinate local pollinator habitat and awareness activities. A Bee Committee will serve as the intermediary between the citizenry and the municipality on matters of enhancing pollinator awareness, health and habitat, fulfilling the following commitments:**

    - **Annually celebrate National Pollinator Week (third full week of June) or some other appropriate occasion with**

educational events, pollinator habitat plantings or restoration, proclamations or promotions that showcase the municipality's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat.

- **Annually celebrate our Bee City commitment by developing pollinator habitat, through planting or restoration annually, on city donated property, in order to showcase the municipality's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat, and in partnership with the Bee City Committee, and organized and implemented by the Bee City Committee.**

- **Annually apply for renewal of the community's designation and submit a report of the previous year's *BEE CITY USA* activities following the format provided.**

4) **Publicly acknowledge the community's commitment by agreeing to a) install/maintain at least one authorized *BEE CITY USA* street sign in a prominent location, and b) create/maintain links on appropriate pages of the municipal website which includes, at minimum, links to a PDF of this signed Resolution and the national *BEE CITY USA* website, contact information for the municipality's *BEE CITY USA* liaison and designated "facilitator commission or non-profit organization committee," and reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the municipality has accomplished the previous year(s).**

- Resolution No. 2015-132, in recognition of Gun Safety Week – Police Chief Tony DeGiusti

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti Police Department and the City Council are committed to enhancing the safety and well-being of all the residents of the City of Ypsilanti and public safety can be increased by raising awareness and educating residents about how to keep themselves and their families safe; and

WHEREAS, specifically educating the public and increasing knowledge about gun safety issues and encouraging responsible gun ownership can help protect our community and our families; and provides a public service which benefits everyone, especially our children; and

WHEREAS, though national attention is often drawn only to large scale tragedies, gun violence is a serious local as well as national problem affecting many Americans and Michigan

residents, as gun violence and injures occur daily throughout too many of our municipalities; and

WHEREAS, guns are the most common weapon used in domestic violence against women and access to firearms increases the risk of homicide by more than 5 times, and individuals suffering from mental illness are at greater risk of being perpetrators or victims of gun violence, especially suicide, recognition of early warning signs and knowledge of how to respond can reduce gun violence and potentially save lives; and

WHEREAS, during the week of June 21, 2015 through June 27, 2015 the Ypsilanti Police Department will join other law enforcement agencies in Washtenaw County in order to increase the safety of our residents will be providing free gun locks and gun safety information to members of the public and collaborating with community organizations to enhance public knowledge and promote gun safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of The City of Ypsilanti in order to increase public safety and awareness about gun safety hereby declares the week of June 21, 2015 through June 27, 2015 as Gun Safety Week in The City of Ypsilanti.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

Chief DeGiusti stated there is not a limit on gun locks per individual. He stated a resident who has five guns can receive five locks. He stated there is also literature provided with each lock that lists safety suggestions. He added on June 22nd there will be a press conference in front of the Sherriff Station including all the police agencies in Washtenaw County, and that begins at 11:00 a.m.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if the press conference would be posted on the City website.

Chief DeGiusti responded that is certainly something he could do.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution 2015-132 was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

– Presentation on *Branding* – Debbie Locke-Daniels, Ypsilanti Convention and Visitors Bureau

Deb Locke-Daniels, CVB Director, Provided the background for a presentation regarding the CVB branding campaign. She introduced Jim Hume, Phire, who was contracted to work on the branding campaign.

Jim Hume, Phire, provided an overview of the branding campaign.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked who the individuals were that he spoke with on the street.

Mr. Hume replied, as a part of the study, he spoke to 30 or 40 individuals.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked where the people that were spoken to were.

Mayor Edmonds responded in the commercial district as a part of First Fridays.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated First Fridays in the downtown district does not provide a full representation of Ypsilanti. She added also that the pictures for "Ypsi Real" seem chauvinistic.

Ms. Lock-Daniels responded the pictures are only place holders and will not be the pictures used for the actual branding.

Mr. Hume added currently Phire is reaching out to the community for volunteers to be in photos for the branding campaign.

Council Member Robb stated 86% of all place brands fail within a year, and asked why this campaign would be any different.

Mr. Hume responded it will be different because this campaign is relying on the community to help develop the brand, and those will be the individuals who will use the branding.

Council Member Robb asked who was it that said "Ypsilanti is like Austin".

Mr. Hume stated that is what Phire heard from the community. He stated the exact quotes were 20 years age Austin began a branding strategy called keep Austin weird, and it grew and was embraced by the community.

Council Member Robb stated the City should no longer use "hipsilanti".

Ms. Locke-Daniels responded one downfall to providing this information in a short period of time is that the complete process is unable to be explained. She stated Phire performed several surveys which were used to develop the marketing strategy. She stated several points were made about Ypsilanti several times such as; "authentic", "original", and "real". She stated in her tenure as the CVB director she has been apprehensive about taking on a branding campaign because it is impossible to make everyone happy. She added that tourists were surveyed as well, and they echoed the same characteristics of "real", "original", and "authentic". She stated she is hoping for buy-in because this will not work if the CVB is the only entity using the branding. She stated she hopes that the branding campaign will roll out as a part of the First Friday's in September.

Mayor Edmonds stated there were four initial concepts, and as a part of that she recommended several key demographic groups that should be reached out to. She stated that if Council has any recommendations of demographic groups that should be reached-out to for additional information, it should be shared with Ms. Locke-Daniels.

Mr. Hume stated if there is an event or any engagement that Council would like Phire to attend, he is completely willing to do so because this process is about community involvement.

Mayor Edmonds stated the photos that Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson alluded to earlier were all men that seemed to be stand-offish, and that was not something that she felt worked for the brand. She stated the brand should reflect the realness of individuals that have lived here their whole life, as well as other demographics within Ypsilanti.

Mr. Hume responded he appreciates the feedback. He stated this is still just high level concepts, and the campaign is dedicated to using Ypsilanti businesses.

Council Member Anne Brown suggested "Keep Ypsi Real" as a possible slogan.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated this was also her least favorite of the four initial concepts, and her favorite was the "Made Fresh Daily" concept. She thanked Ms. Locke-Daniels for performing the branding campaign, and said she will suggest some groups that should be approached about this campaign.

Ms. Locke-Daniels stated every photo that is used in this campaign will be vetted by her personally, and she will make sure that Council feels comfortable with the pictures.

Council Member Anne Brown stated EMU uses students and faculty for their pole banners so that the people are known.

Ms. Locke-Daniels responded the pole banners will contain community members that are known.

VIII. <u>AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION</u> –

1. Tim Ott asked if Council has ever heard of Ypsi Gypsi Beer, and suggested that it be included in the branding campaign. He stated the main reason he is here tonight is Beal Properties, and how a friend of his was killed while working on the Thompson Block construction. He stated he was at the site working that day, and he almost lost his life as a part of that accident. He stated the shortcuts in safety to save in cost resulted in the loss of his friend's life. He stated once the OSHA report is completed he will bring it to Council, and he asked that they take a good look at it and that something be done about it.

2. Bob Krzewinski, Non-Motorized Committee Chairperson, stated he appreciated the tenacity and hard work by everyone in the City that helped make the Border to Border Trail project a reality. He stated this path is not only great for recreation

but it will act as an economic driver. He stated there is a homestead map in city hall that is over one hundred years old that illustrated the city park system along the river. He asked that Council keep that map and the Border to Border trail in mind when going through their budget deliberations.

3. Janice Anshuetz, 101 E. Forest, supportedthe Border to Border Trail, and thanked Council for the work done toward the completion of the trail. She stated during the opening of the Dexter segment of the trail she counted over 800 adults crossing it, and the count did not include children. She said the trail was been so well used that it is helping to drive the economy of Dexter. She added her dream is that the trail will extend through Ypsilanti, and that it will produce the same success.

4. Mark Hergott, 111 Miles, stated the City has a $1.2 million deficit and it is dumping huge amounts of money into capital improvements. He stated the success of the City depends on revenues, and the approval or disapproval of capital improvement plans. He stated City Manager Lange is attempting to add as many capital improvements on or near Water Street in order to better sell Water Street. He stated if the City does not improve Water Street, the City will bankrupt and if Council approves these projects, and Mr. Lange is unable to attract buyers the City will go bankrupt. He stated even if Council approves these projects, and Mr. Lange is able to attract buyers for Water Street the City may still go bankrupt. He stated Mr. Lange feels that these projects are the best way to save the City, and in his opinion the City has nothing to lose.

5. Jamie Berlin, 201 N. Normal, thanked Council for supporting the Bee City USA designation.

6. Sallie Richie, 40 E. Cross, stated after the meeting on May 8th Council Member Murdock posted on social media that City Council moved to extend the Depot Town Tax Increment Financing Plan and Development Plan for the next 25 years with the City recouping a portion of the 74% of the TIF revenue. She stated the calculation of the 100% of TIF revenue captured is 63% would stay with the DDA, and 27% would return to the City. She stated this would reduce DDA administrative and other expenses, and would leave the DDA to maintain the same discretionary funds they have for programing. She stated it is her understanding that the DDA Board is its own authority, and it has to create the change to the TIF for approval by City Council. She stated City Council does not have the authority to generate change in the DDA. She said when she became aware of the council meeting tonight she contacted the Michigan Legislature to clarify City Council's role in approval of a TIF plan and was informed that her understanding was correct. She stated it is not Council's job to make changes to the TIF and Development Plan. She urged everyone to read Section 125.166, Section 14, Sub-section 5 of the Michigan Legislature to see that what City Council is doing is illegal.

7. Rex Richie, 40 E. Cross, stated he is dissatisfied with the politics surrounding this issue. He stated he wanted to see this matter resolved one way or the other, and said he was happy to see at least three Council Members willing to vote on the

TIF plan at this meeting. He stated he is holding off a big building project because he refuses to put any more money into this City until Council makes a decision on the TIF plan.

8. Dave Hiekkinen, business owner 133 W. Michigan, stated he is in support of the approval of the Depot Town TIF renewal, but he would like to address other matters. He stated the major issue the City faces is that it is $13 million in the negative, and that must be the City's focus. He said the City needs to sell as much property as it's able, and if it is able to sell all City property that would generate $4 million. He stated the City Manager and Mayor should fundraise for $1 million, Commissioner Peterson should raise $1 million, as well as State Representative Dave Rutledge, Congresswoman Dingell and Governor Snyder. He stated he does not understand why Ypsi is not the brand of the City.

9. Erin Richie, 1065 Maplewood Ave, stated Depot Town is a very unique area in Ypsilanti. She stated the area has a great deal of historic value, and is one of the greatest assets the City has. She said there are a number of business owners putting money into Ypsilanti who are very passionate about Depot Town, and she does not understand why Council is trying to take funding out of Depot Town when that is the one thing that the City is doing right.

10. Kevin Hill, 108 Washtenaw #4, stated when he moved here the City was never referred to as "Ypsi", but it seems things have changed. He stated the term "Ypsi" happened organically, and that should be embraced. He stated one of the major attractions in Depot Town was Sallie Richie's establishment "Mother's Ice Cream". He stated that was one of the best businesses that ever operated in Ypsilanti. He stated he is the Chairperson of the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority, and at the beginning of the TIF renewal process he knew its importance. He said the revenue would allow the City a chance for some improvement in the park and along the riverfront. He encouraged Council to approve the Depot Town TIF renewal as submitted.

IX. <u>REMARKS BY THE MAYOR</u> –

- Thanked Mr. Hiekkinen for his creative ideas.

- Stated the accident at the Thompson Block was a tragedy, and Council is eagerly awaiting the MIOSHA report, and working to ensure that tragedies such as these do not happen in the future.

- She stated after speaking with the DDA Attorney, City Council can offer amendments to a TIF plan but cannot offer a separate ordinance. She stated it can be a future amendment but not a separate ordinance. She stated she is in favor of approving the Depot Town TIF plan as submitted.

  Council Member Murdock stated Council already amended the Depot Town TIF plan during First Reading.

Mayor Edmonds responded the TIF plan was approved as submitted during first reading.

Council Member Murdock stated the act requires Council to approve a TIF plan, and the DDA's budget. He stated nothing of what Council is doing now is illegal.

- Resolution No. 2015-141, approving the implementation of Simple Recycling in the City of Ypsilanti.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti desires to partner with Simple Recycling, a company that collects usable clothing, shoes, textiles and household goods for reuse and recycling; and

WHEREAS, Ypsilanti residents will have the opportunity to set these materials out at the curbside on their normal recycling day and Simple Recycling will provide special bags and tags to residents to set out these items; and

WHEREAS, Simple Recycling will provide this service for free to both the City and residents, as well as pay the City a nominal fee for recyclables collected; and

WHERAS, and as a component of City-wide initiatives to become more energy efficient and reduce waste, residents are still encouraged to contribute to charitable organizations, thrift stores, and charitable donation options.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign a contract with Simple Recycling, subject to the approval by the City Attorney.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

Scott Brady, Simple Recycling Representative, was present to answer questions from Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated she was sorry she did not invite representatives from the Ypsilanti Thrift Shop, but as a member of the Thrift Shop she will speak on its behalf. She stated the Thrift Shop has been in Ypsilanti since 1942, and has partnered with two other agencies; Dawn Farms and Catholic Social Services. She stated the Thrift Shop has gifted back over $30,000 to the community such as; former inmates becoming re-acclimated, and helping residents with their utility bills. She stated if Council adopts this resolution it will take away the ability of the Ypsilanti Thrift Shop to assist the community. She stated for those reasons she is opposed to this resolution.

Mr. Brady responded Simple Recycling's program is not competing with charities, it is competing with the landfills. He stated the EPA stated only 15% of unwanted clothing is donated in the traditional fashion, and the remainder ends up in a landfill. He stated Simple Recycling respects all charitable organizations, it is Simple Recycling's goal to make it easy on the residents of Ypsilanti to donate the 85% that is not donated, and at the same time benefit the City and provide an environmentally sustainable service. He stated Assistant to the City Manager Ericka Savage has vetted Simple Recycling, and is in support of the company.

Mayor Edmonds asked if the concern of the effect on local charities was discussed during the vetting.

Ms. Savage responded East Lansing noted during the transition period there were complaints on the effect to local charities, and confusion regarding pick-up. She stated once it was explained to residents those complaints dissipated.

Mr. Brady stated Republic Services, who the City contracts for waste pick-up, also endorses Simple Recycling.

Council Member Anne Brown asked how the pick-ups are scheduled.

Mr. Brady responded pick-ups mirror the waste pick-up schedule to minimize confusion.

Council Member Nicole Brown asked DPS Director Stan Kirton how he felt about this program.

DPS Director Stan Kirton asked if Simple Recycling has a call center.

Mr. Brady replied yes, and the 800 number is listed on all provided literature.

Mr. Kirton stated that sounds good, but more than likely residents will call DPS, and the department only has two clerical employees.

Mr. Brady replied DPS could forward calls to Simple Recycling.

Mr. Kirton stated staff would still have to answer the phones.

Mayor Edmonds asked if the phone number is written on the bag itself.

Mr. Brady replied yes.

Mayor Edmonds asked if Simple Recycling has experience in other communities they provide their service to, and if there was increased call volume.

Mr. Brady responded the only period of higher call volume is during the first week of the program.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution 2015-141 was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	No	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	No		

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 2 (Richardson, Anne Brown) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

X. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING –

1. Resolution No. 2015-133, approving Ordinance No. 1249, an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and major Organizational Unit for FY 2014/15 and FY 2015/16 be approved on Second and Final Reading.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That Ordinance No. 1249 entitled, "An Ordinance to Amend Budget Appropriations by Department and Major Organizational Unit for the Fiscal Years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016", be approved on Second and Final Reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

City Manager Lange provided an overview of the budget process thus far. He stated there is a very hard decision to make regarding the Border to Border Trail. He added that the Department of Natural Resources grant can no longer act as a match to the Transportation Alternative Program grant. He stated if Council wishes to move forward with the mid-block crossing, the Heritage Bridge, and the Border to Border Trail it will increase the deficit from $1,211,438 to $1,317,438. He stated a main requirement is that the deficit be lower than the Water Street debt payment which is $1,376,342. He stated the second option is to approve the construction of just the Border to Border Trail which would save $100,000 from the Economic Development Corporation Fund, and the net cost to the Major Street Fund would be $74,000. He said around $1 million in grant money would be lost.

Council Member Murdock stated when this project began it was $500,000 over budget, and through negotiations staff was able to bring the number down to $145,000. He asked in the current scenario how much over budget will the City pay for the completion of all Border to Border Trail projects.

Mr. Lange responded it would cost around $231,000. He stated it would not include the tail of the trail. He recommended the City allocate the funds set aside for non-motorized for this project in order to preserve the Major Street Fund.

Council Member Murdock stated the Adams Street project increased slightly.

Mr. Lange responded the cost increased, but then was negotiated back down.

Council Member Murdock stated to complete the project in its entirety it would cost $231,000, and if Council approves to construct just the trail no additional funds would be needed.

Mr. Lange responded the City would save an additional $100,000 in EDC funds, and $34,000 more would be spent from Major Street Fund.

Council Member Murdock asked if this cost would complete the Trail to the Recreation Center, and connect to Ford Lake.

Mr. Lange responded yes.

Council Member Murdock asked when this decision must be made.

Mr. Lange responded it should be made tonight because the City needs to award the contract, or it drops the project.

Mayor Edmonds asked if the mid-block crossing was removed would the City lose around $1 million in grant funding.

Mr. Lange responded the mid-block crossing and the Heritage Bridge cannot be separated.

Economic Development Director Beth Ernat stated these three projects are vital to the success of Water Street. She stated the connection goes from Water Street to Depot Town, at the same time connecting Depot Town to the Downtown. She stated this project would meet the goals of the non-motorized plan. She stated she understands the impact to the budget, but she recommends moving forward with the plan.

Council Member Murdock pointed out that three weeks ago this was not the opinion of Ms. Ernat. He stated at that time her opinion was that the only project that needed to be completed was the Trail.

Mayor Edmonds recalled last week Ms. Ernat told Council she was in support of all three projects.

Ms. Ernat replied she has been working with the multiple agencies involved in order to leverage more funding. She stated three weeks ago she was for only completing the trail itself, but now she is 98% behind the other projects.

Council Member Anne Brown asked what were the issues with MDOT.

Ms. Ernat responded SEMCOG informed the City that the TAP grant could be used in overlapping projects from Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and MDOT stated that was not the case. She stated the project plan could still be implemented to a point if an appropriate narrative was provided.

Mr. Lange stated he wants to award the bid now, before the prices change.

Mayor Edmonds responded Council is making decisions on what are the right investments. She stated she is still willing to go forward with the projects.

Mr. Lange stated if the railroad stop was coming to Ypsilanti in the next two years he would not support this amount of money. He stated this is the only amenity that the City can afford that will help drive development.

Council Member Vogt stated the final cost will be $231,000 and there is a possibility of decreasing the cost, and Adams Street is going to be less expensive than originally planned. He stated the decision is difficult but he is leaning toward approval of the projects. He stated this is a decision that will be in place for 50 years, it helps spur economic development and recreation in the City. He also stated the City has made many verbal commitments to the County and other entities and to not follow through would harm those relationships.

Council Member Murdock stated he is torn on this issue. He stated there needs to be a balance between spending and austerity, and he is much more willing to support the three projects if the City follows the City Manager's Plan to maintain a fund balance.

Ms. Ernat replied two things that swayed her opinion over the past three weeks is the barrier free accessibility, and the County's cooperation has been prevalent and that has not always been the case.

Council Member Anne Brown stated St. Joseph's Hospital is offering a pledge of $25,000, and an additional $25,000 if the City is able to produce a match, and other organizations are now considering donating funds to the projects.

Ms. Ernat stated there is a good deal of interest in the community for this project, and the City should leverage that in order to raise funds. She stated any community buy-in that the City can produce is something that should be examined.

Mayor Edmonds stated that in the future the City will need the help of these organizations. She stated the City moving forward, and honoring its commitments is crucial to the City's reputation.

Ms. Ernat stated the granting parties for these projects have extended grants for the better part of four years, and it is clear that they are in support of these projects.

Mr. Lange stated he would have liked to have all commitments locked up before approving the projects, but the City cannot postpone the contract any longer.

> Council Member Murdock moved to proceed with the three projects as proposed, and reallocate the $2 million not earmarked, to pay down the debt to the restricted fund balance.
>
> Council Member Vogt supported the motion.

Council Member Anne Brown stated she is not in favor of the amendment to reallocate $2 million to the restricted fund balance, and asked if the two items could be separated.

City Attorney Barr responded the motion can be bifurcated.

> Council Member Anne Brown moved to separate proceeding with the three projects, and the reallocation of $2 million to the restricted fund balance.
>
> Council Member Nicole Brown supported the motion.

Mayor Edmonds stated she is in support of the bifurcation of the original amendment.

Council Member Robb stated in order to gain the support of Mr. Murdock, Council would need to vote these items together, and budget items should not be separated.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the separation of the amendment to Resolution No. 2015-133 was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	No	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	No
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 4 NO: 3 (Vogt, Murdock, Robb) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Council Member Robb stated next year's budget is going to be brutal, and Council may need to lay-off employees. He stated part of the reason is because Council is spending too much money this year. He stated the projects being discussed are described as a 50 year investment, and if it is a 50 year investment it should be completed with a better design. He stated there needs to be some austerity in this budget, and he will not be supporting the approval of these projects. He said if this is so important to be completed this year, the City should postpone hiring the thirty-second Police Officer, and the third employee for the Planning Department. He stated the City does not have the money to do every project, and Council should begin making responsible decisions before it begins to lay people off.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the construction of the three Border to Border Trail projects was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 1 (Robb) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Council Member Murdock stated if Council does not support the restriction of $2 million it does not support the City Manager's plan, and will leave $2 million unrestricted which leaves the possibility that the funds could be spent on other City projects. He stated he does not understand why anyone on Council would be against this, and it still leaves the required 10% in the fund balance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson said in the past Council has allocate funds to pay the Water Street debt, and asked if there is $1.3 million set aside for Water Street.

Ms. Uy stated as of now the City has budgeted $500,000 for the Water Street debt payment.

Mayor Pro-tem Richardson stated she would certainly support increasing that amount to $1 million, but not $2 million.

Council Member Robb stated the point of restricting $2 million is that is what it will take to refinance the bonds. He stated if a council member is against restricting $2 million then that council member is against refinancing the bonds in this fiscal year, and at the point the City will be running out of time. He added by not setting that amount aside the City will not be able to receive favorable loan terms.

Ms. Uy responded if Mr. Lange's plan is followed it will require a down payment of $2 million, and if that money is not set aside, the down payment amount will not be met.

Mr. Lange stated Council can either designate that fund balance now, or when the down payment is to be made, but those funds will need to be designated in order to make the 2017 payment.

Mayor Edmonds asked if Mr. Lange supports restricting $2 million for the debt payment.

Mr. Lange responded whether the $2 million is formally designated or not, it will eventually be used to pay the down payment.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated if the funds are undesignated they could be used for other projects. She asked if it is an imperative that the bonds be renewed, and would it require $2 million to do so.

Ms. Uy replied the City can pay what it is able to refinance, but in order to cut the annual payment so the City is able to save money, it will need to pay $2 million.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson asked what Ms. Uy's recommendation is for the down payment.

Ms. Uy responded $2 million is doable.

Council Member Anne Brown stated the $2 million is a good faith effort to refinance.

Council Member Robb stated the City would pay the $2 million to lower the principal and in turn lower the interest.

Council Member Murdock stated there is a small window to make this down payment in order to create an effect on payments into the future.

Mr. Lange stated the $500,000 that is reserved is in the 477 account, the $2 million would be restricted in the General Find.

Council Member Murdock responded yes.

Mr. Lange stated the City is acquiring capital in the 477 account with hopes to have $4 million.

Council Member Murdock stated the budget that is being adopted this year has a $1.3 million deficit that will come out of the fund balance, and it is also not designated.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated when the City sells property it is allocated to the 477 account.

Mr. Lange replied correct.

Council Member Murdock stated with the changes made tonight it will leave $4.1 million in undesignated funds.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the allocation of $2 million for the restricted fund balance was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Council Member Vogt proposed adding a two year, $200,000 street light assessment to the budget. He stated the specifics would be detailed later, but he suggested a base number that the majority of residents would pay, possibly around $42, and properties over 200 ft. from a street light would be assessed a lower fee. He stated if several street lights shine on a property it could be assessed a higher fee. He said those details would be examined at a later date. He stated what he is asking is to designate a $200,000 goal for this fiscal year.

> Council Member Vogt moved to adopt the City Manager's proposal to reinstate the street light assessment for a total amount of $200,000 a year for two years.
>
> Council Member Anne Brown supported the motion.

Council Member Robb stated since this could not be incorporated until December it would only be included on the Winter Tax Bill, and essentially this would raise $100,000 to this budget.

Mr. Lange stated the previous street light assessment was included in the winter tax bill only, and the City collected the full $200,000.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated the original street light assessment created a strong resistance from the public. She stated an assessment is just another word for a new tax, and asked if Council wants to add another tax to the residents. She said the last assessment was especially difficult for senior citizens living in Ypsilanti.

Council Member Vogt stated property tax revenue is $3 million lower than it was seven to eight years ago, and to replace some of that revenue with this assessment will only increase taxes slightly. He stated there is never going to be an easy solution, but the City needs to fund essential services such as firefighters.

Mayor Edmonds asked for specifics of the reality of what it will take to administer the assessment.

Ms. Ernat responded there has been discussion to create an assessment that the amount is responsive to the size of the property, or a distance a property is from the light itself. She stated that is a logistical nightmare for staff, and the Geographical Information System (GIS) used be the City is very advanced, however the layers produced to create the assessment can be off by 50 feet. She stated the lot lines produced by GIS are accurate, however issues can arise through lot splits, or inaccurate assessment information. She stated staff would not be able to provide the accuracy needed for the assessment until December. She proposed allowing properties the opportunity to file for a hardship based on financial status, or accessibility to street lights.

Council Member Vogt stated he would rather stay away from that alternative and implement the original system with minor modifications with concretely design exceptions. He stated the concerns about an assessment are manageable issues if explained appropriately. He emphasized that any hardships should have clear definitions and strategies of administration. He added the issue is to get the assessment on the budget, and recognize that only cuts will save the City and additional revenue must be created.

Ms. Ernat stated even if a property does not include a street light on their actual street they will utilize the lights in the community. She stated there will be a program offered by DTE that allows a property owner to request a street light, and DTE will apply an additional assessment to the property for an additional five years.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated considering when the original assessment was implemented, the public was assured that it would only be for two years. She stated she would feel better if this item were not added to the budget now, and allow the public the opportunity to voice concerns to Council.

Mayor Edmonds asked if tax exempt properties would receive the assessment.

Mr. Lange replied no, he stated one of the issues with the last assessment was EMU was not required to pay the assessment. He stated each parcel would be assessed $41.66 to raise the $200,000.

Council Member Murdock stated special assessments are better suited for capital projects, and operational items are difficult to assess fairly. He stated his concern is next year many difficult budgetary decisions are going to be made, and if special assessments are to be created, the intention should be to fix the problem, and the proposed assessment will not fix the problem.

Council Member Robb stated in order to pass this assessment it could be designated to fund the Heritage Bridge, and then tax payers could see that they are getting something for their money.

Mr. Lange stated there is already funding available for that project, but the item that is going to be most difficult to fund will be the new fire engine.

Mayor Edmonds stated the grant to fund the fire engine is still pending, and a special assessment cannot be created as a back-up plan. Mayor Edmonds agreed with Mr. Robb that an assessment is more palatable if it is earmarked for a specific project. She asked Mr. Vogt how he feels about designating the assessment for a specific project.

Council Member Vogt responded he is not opposed to it. He stated these funds are all fungible, or at least the General Fund is.

Council Member Anne Brown asked what the timeline would be for the assessment.

Council Member Robb stated the process for an assessment is fairly long, and it probably would not begin until the third week of September. He stated this will also require a great deal of staff time to implement this assessment rather than concentrating on other City tasks.

Council Member Vogt stated he feels staff time would be minimal, and if staff time is a concern the original assessment could be modeled for this assessment.

Mayor Edmonds asked how many taxable parcels are located in the City.

Mr. Lange replied 4,812.

Mayor Edmonds stated during the last assessment the $57 was difficult to swallow by the public. She stated if the amount was three quarters of that number, $31, it would be more easily accepted, and would generate $150,000.

City Attorney Barr stated it seems that Council is discussing a principal rather than levying an assessment. He stated Council can create an assessment for street lights, but he is not certain that legally Council could create an assessment for the bridge. He stated Council must decide if it wants to adopt the concept of creating a special assessment. He stated if Council approves an assessment he will work on it, and staff will return with a plan for implementation.

Council Member Vogt stated if the City Attorney informs Council that it is illegal, then the assessment would fall from the budget.

Council Member Murdock stated a special assessment for the bridge would only be for a year.

Council Member Robb clarified he was not specifically recommending the bridge, he was only using it as an example.

Council Member Nicole Brown moved to extend the meeting until 11:00 p.m.

Council Member Vogt supported the motion.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was extended.

Mr. Lange stated Council simply needs to decide if it wishes to approve a special assessment, and the amount of the assessment.

Mayor Edmonds asked how Council feels about approving an assessment.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated she would want to hear from the public before approving an assessment.

Council Member Vogt stated the City can either pay for this now, or pay a much higher cost in the future.

On a roll call, the vote to amend the budget adding a special assessment in the amount of $200,000 for two years was as follows:

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	No	Mayor Edmonds	No
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	No	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 3 NO: 4 (Robb, Murdock, Richardson, Edmonds) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Failed

Council Member Vogt thanked Council for listening to this proposal for the second time. He stated he is not upset with the result and appreciates Council consideration, and as Mr. Robb stated there will be more difficult decisions in the future. He asked Council to keep it in their minds for further consideration.

Council Member Robb stated at the moment it is being claimed that the City will be receiving $75,000 for the completion of the Heritage Bridge project, and in reality the City has only been promised the $25,000 from St. Joseph's Hospital. He stated the other $50,000 is uncommitted, and should be accounted for in the budget.

Council Member Anne Brown moved to dedicate $50,000 of the $100,000 budgeted in the Major Streets fund for non-motorized projects be used for the Heritage Bridge.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson supported the motion.

On a roll call, the vote to amend the budget to designate $50,000 in the Major Street fund to the completion of the Heritage Bridge was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	No	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 2 (Robb, Murdock) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

Mayor Edmonds moved to add a contribution of $10,000 to the Senior Center for this fiscal year.

Council Member Nicole Brown supported the motion.

Council Member Vogt stated he assumes this will be a one year contribution, and next year they should be able to cover their budget.

Council Member Anne Brown stated more than likely they will not. She stated they have raised their room rental fee and had additional events to raise money, but they still have fallen short.

Mayor Edmonds stated an ongoing subsidy to an organization providing a City service is a good investment.

Council Member Anne Brown stated she asked Mr. Barr to complete their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for their July 9th meeting.

Council Member Murdock asked if the Senior Center has a 501 status.

Council Member Anne Brown replied they do not.

Mayor Edmonds stated the Senior Center would not be a legal entity to enter into an MOU.

Council Member Murdock stated the Senior Center needs one, and Council had the Rutherford Pool obtain a 501 status.

Council Member Anne Brown stated the Senior Center needed clarification on their need to request a 501 status.

Mr. Barr stated the City's policy is if there is an agreement with a "Friends" group they need to be a legal entity. He stated it is not legally necessary, but it is desirable.

Council Member Anne Brown stated they are discussing that, but they do not have the funds at the moment to acquire that classification. She added she would like to discourage that the City limit "Friends" groups because they are soliciting the same individuals for funding.

Council Member Robb stated the City currently pays 50% of the Senior Center's utilities and cleaning costs, and this would provide an additional $10,000.

Council Member Anne Brown stated the money needs to come from somewhere.

Council Member Murdock stated Council has already started subsidizing the pool, and increased the subsidy to Parkridge. He stated at one time the City was not providing these organizations funding.

Council Member Vogt stated his concern is in a year or two all subsidies to "Friends" will have to stop. He said this organization, and the other organizations need to understand that this will probably be the last, at least for the foreseeable future.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated the buildings that the "Friends" organizations operate out of are owned by the City, and the City can work with the "Friend's" groups to maintain the buildings, or allow them to deteriorate.

Council Member Robb stated he is against funding this, and at the moment Council is in a disagreement over asking for $25,000 from the DDA, and the Council has just transferred over $300,000 out of this budget. He stated it is ironic, and he hopes that Council appreciates the fact that Council is in a dispute with the DDA over $25,000 and it doesn't bat an eye over spending $300,000 out of this budget.

Council Member Anne Brown asked from what account the $10,000 would be allocated.

Council Member Robb stated it would be up to Mayor Edmonds.

Mayor Edmonds responded she would ask the recommendation of staff.

Mr. Barr asked if the motion was for $10,000.

Mayor Edmonds responded yes for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year from the fund balance.

On a roll call, the vote to amend the budget to designate $10,000 for operating expenses for the Senior Center was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	No	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 2 (Robb, Murdock) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-133 as amended was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 1 (Robb) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

2. Resolution No. 2015-134, approving Ordinance No. 1250, an ordinance entitled, “2015-2016 Tax Levy Ordinance” on Second and Final Reading.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the Ordinance No. 1250 entitled “2015-2016 Tax Levy Ordinance”, be approved on Second and Final Reading.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-134, approving Ordinance No. 1250 was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

3. ~~Resolution No. 2015-135, approving Ordinance No. 1244: Adoption, Amendment and Restatement of the Depot Town Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan.~~ ***~~(First Reading held April 7, 2015)~~*** **(Removed)**

XI. <u>MINUTES</u> –

None

XII. <u>RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS</u> –

~~1. Resolution No. 2015-136, approving the City of Ypsilanti pay for the final installment of the Depot Town DDA Debt.~~**(Removed)**

2. ~~Resolution No. 2015-128, approving fee schedule.~~ ***~~(Tabled June 9, 2015)~~*** **(removed)**

3. Resolution No. 2015-137, approving MDOT contract for 2015 Adams Street Project and the allocation of funding for the construction costs and construction engineering services.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Federal Surface Transportation Program - Urban funding has been programmed in the Washtenaw County Transportation Improvement Program for improvements to Adams Street between Pearl Street and Cross Street in the year 2015 construction season; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the implementation of this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council approves the Michigan Department of Transportation Contract No. 15-5243; and

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign this contract and any change orders, subject to approval by the City Attorney, to facilitate the completion of this work.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

DPS Director Stan Kirton was present to answer questions from Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson apologized to Mr. Kirton for not moving this item before budget discussion, and said she would keep that in mind for future meetings.

Mr. Lange stated the City had very difficult negotiations with Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA), but a compromise was made that saved the City $24,000. Mr. Lange thanked Marcus McNamara from OHM for his work on this project.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-137 as amended was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

4. Resolution No. 2015-138, approving contract with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. (OHM) for the Adams Street Paving and Water Main Improvement Project Construction Engineering Services.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Federal Surface Transportation Program - Urban funding has been programmed for full depth reconstruction, curb/gutter replacement, driveway replacement, ADA Ramp installation, drainage improvements and water main replacement for Adams Street between Pearl Street and Cross Street in the 2015 construction season; and

WHEREAS, Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment has provided an exemplary level of service to the City of Ypsilanti on similar street improvement projects, and posses a depth of experience with the infrastructure in the project area; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to secure construction engineering services to keep this project on schedule for the 2015 construction year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council approves the construction engineering and geotechnical testing services contract with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI at a not to exceed cost of $80,000.00; and

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign this contract, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney; and

THAT the City Manager is authorized to sign any change orders that may be needed to maintain the project's schedule, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

DPS Director Kirton was present to answer questions from Council.

Council Member Murdock asked if the storm sewer will be fixed as a part of the construction.

Mr. Kirton replied yes.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-138 was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

5. Resolution No. 2015-139, awarding contract for construction engineering for the Heritage Bridge and Border to Border Trail.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, Mannik and Smith Group have been responsible for the design and engineering of the Heritage Bridge and Trail and the Mid-block HAWK crossing; and

WHEREAS, Mannik and Smith Group have been critical in creating a funding plan and value engineering for the Heritage Bridge and Trail and Mid-block HAWK crossing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti seeks to enter into a contract for the construction engineering and inspections services for the Heritage Bridge and Trail and Mid-block HAWK crossing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council enter into a contract with Mannik Smith Group in the amount of $79,790.00 for construction engineering and

inspection services for the Heritage Bridge and Trail and the Mid-block crossing.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Murdock

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-139 was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Absent
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 5 NO: 1 (Robb) ABSENT: 1 (Vogt) VOTE: Carried

6. Resolution No. 2015-140, accepting bid for Heritage Bridge and Border to Border Trail.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti desires to extend the Border-to-Border Trail through the Water Street Development area and to connect the Water Street Development area to Riverside Park; and

WHEREAS, the desired connection requires construction of the trail, a mid-block crossing on Michigan Avenue, and a barrier-free pedestrian bridge over the Huron River; and

WHEREAS, the City with its partners, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Michigan Department of Transportation, Southeast Michigan Council of Government, and Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation, have funded the construction of the Water Street Trail, Pedestrian Bridge, and Mid-Block Crossing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council accepts the Fisher Contracting Bid in the amount of $1,394,963.28.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-140 was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	No
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 6 NO: 1 (Robb) ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

7. ~~Resolution No. 2015-141, approving the implementation of Simple Recycling in the City of Ypsilanti.~~ **(Moved and heard before Section X, "Ordinances")**

8. Resolution No. 2015-142, approving an extension to the auditing contract with Rehmann-Robson.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the Finance Department is requesting to outsource assistance for a one year extension of Fiscal Year-End Accounting Service and Year-end Report Preparation of the City AND

WHEREAS, this service will help the Finance Department focus on the day-to-day Financial Operations of the City; 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; AND

NOW BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti City Council approve a one-year extension agreement with Rehmann Robson to perform Year-end accounting services and Year-end Report preparation under the direction of the Fiscal Services Director.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Anne Brown
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

Fiscal Services Director Marilou Uy stated she is requesting to extend the contract with Rehmann Robson accounting services in order to prepare a draft for the CAFER. She stated the price of the extension is already included in the budget.

Council Member Robb asked the price of the services.

Ms. Uy replied $33,830.

Council Member Robb asked what fund the $33,330 will come from.

Ms. Uy responded it will come out of several accounts.

Mr. Lange stated it will come from any departmental account that needs audit assistance.

Mayor Edmonds asked how often a full audit is completed, and is the contract bid out.

Ms. Uy replied an audit is required to be completed every three years with the possibility of a two year extension. She added next year the City must decide if it wishes to extend, or go through the process.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-142 was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

9. Resolution 2015-143, against the elimination of local governments' authority to raise local labor market standards above State minimums.

Resolution against the Elimination of Local Governments' Authority to Raise Local Labor Market Standards above State Minimums

Whereas, House Bill 4052 and Senate Bill 337 would deprive local governments - including all cities, municipalities and counties - in the state of Michigan of the power to set prevailing, living and minimum wage levels, as well as other forms of local labor market regulation (e.g., earned sick leave requirements) for the businesses operating in their communities, not only preventing new regulations of these kinds but invalidating existing policies;

Whereas, The City of Ypsilanti has long had Prevailing Wage and Living Wage Ordinances that have been valuable economic development tools which would be undermined should one of these Bills become law;

Whereas, Economic and social challenges (e.g., cost of living) and the opportunities (e.g., average education and income

levels) vary considerably among Michigan's cities and counties, so that (provided that the state establishes a basic minimum or floor) a "one size fits all" state-level strategy of economic development is likely to be sub-optimal with respect to the kinds of policies covered by HB4052 and SB 337;

Whereas, Allowing local governments in Michigan to experiment with different permutations of such policies advances our understanding of such policies' benefits, costs and limits in the particular context of our state, to the benefit of all citizens of our state; and

Whereas, Political values and priorities vary among communities in Michigan as in every other state, a reality best reconciled with the ideal of democratic decision-making by devolving policy-making power to the most local level that does not give rise to negative (e.g., race to the bottom) dynamics;

RESOLVED, That the City of Ypsilanti opposes HB4052 and SB337 and encourages the members of the Senate's Michigan Competitiveness Committee and, should it come to the floor of the Senate, all Michigan Senators, to vote against these Bills and any others with similar restrictions on local government authority that may be advanced in the future; and

RESOLVED, That should the Michigan Senate pass either of these bills or any others that have the same basic goals, the City of Ypsilanti urges Governor Snyder to stand up for the principles of democratic decision-making by refusing to sign any such proposed legislation into law; and

RESOLVED, That the City Clerk shall send a certified copy of this resolution to the Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and the Minority Leader Jim Ananich of the Michigan Senate, and to Michigan Senator Rebekah Warren, Michigan Representative Dave Rutledge and Governor Rick Snyder.

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

Council Member Murdock stated this is a resolution that the City has done a version of several times, but this time it appears that it actually may happen.

Council Member Anne Brown stated she thinks that it was voted on today, June 16th.

Council Member Murdock stated the State Senate voted on it last week, and the State House voted on it today, so this resolution needs to get to the Governor as soon as possible.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-143 was as follows;

Council Member Nicole Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member Anne Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

YES: 7 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0 VOTE: Carried

XIV. <u>LIASON REPORTS</u> –

A. SEMCOG Update – Stated the Generally Assembly is next week Thursday, June 25th, and all are invited.
B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Stated the meeting is tomorrow, June 17th.
C. Washtenaw Metro Alliance – No meeting.
D. Urban County – Stated last meeting was canceled.
E. Freight House – Nothing to report, unless staff wants to report that it went out for bid. He asked Economic Development Director Beth Ernat if she thinks the project should be canceled.

   Economic Development Director Beth Ernat responded if Council wishes to cancel the project it can be canceled.

F. Parks and Recreation – Stated the Regional Trail Town Meeting was today, and the DIA Inside Out is on schedule and is planned to coincide with the August First Friday event. She stated Ypsi Fall River Day is scheduled for October 11, 2015, and will include a canoe livery and tents.
G. Millennial Mayors Conference – No meeting
H. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority – Meeting is Thursday, June 18th.
I. Eastern Washtenaw Safety Alliance – No report

XIV. <u>COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS</u> –

<u>Vogt</u>

- Asked City Attorney Barr if the warrant for the property on Whittier has been executed.

  City Attorney Barr responded yes, and explained there is a house on Whittier with a swimming pool that was taken to court a year ago, and a successful conclusion was reached. He stated the City was contacted recently that the basement was flooded and water was coming out of the windows. Building Manager Frank Daniels inspected the property about a day ago, and it was discovered that the basement was flooded, possibly the result of a broken pipe.

  Council Member Murdock asked if the water was turned off.

Mr. Barr repliedthe water has not been turned off, and there is still people living in the property.

Council Member Vogt asked if the property Mr. Barr is referring to is 1404 Whittier.

Assistant City Attorney Jesse O'Jack responded the property is 1404 Whittier. He stated Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority did say that it shut-off the water, but whether it is still off, he is not certain. He stated it is possible that there are individuals living there.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if there was a truck parked in front of the house.

Mr. O'Jack responded he believes so.

<u>Murdock</u>

- Stated Bay Logistics removed their plastic screen around a month ago, and asked if they will be applying for a variance. He reported the fence on River Street is pushed damaged.

  Ms. Ernat responded the City has been working with Bay Logistics to replace the screen, and at this point nothing has been done. She said she will follow-up with the company.

  Council Member Robb stated this is a violation of their site plan, and asked what the City's recourse is.

  Ms. Ernat responded the City can write an Administrative Hearings Bureau ticket.

  Council Member Robb stated maybe the City should do that.

  Me. Ernat responded the City might need to do that, but she would like to give them one more opportunity to rectify the problem.

  Council Member Murdock asked if Bay Logistics had been notified.

  Ms. Ernat responded yes, and stated when she first became employed by the City there was a chain of emails, which eventually tapered off. She took full responsibility for not following-up and said she will make it a priority.

- There is a need for stop signs at two intersections on the eastside, as well as speed bumps.

  City Manager Lange asked to have a meeting to discuss that issue.

Council Member Murdock responded there is nothing to meet about.

Ms. Ernat added as a response Council did not approve the traffic control ordinance at the last meeting. She stated it will be brought back to Council during the first meeting in August

Anne Brown

- Asked if Council would consider beginning in August scheduling a working session once a month before a regular meeting.

- Stated on July 17th the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will be hosting a service project at Carrie Mattingly Park. Stated the sorority also has an ice cream social scheduled after the service project and asked that City Council attend. She asked when the new equipment will be installed at the park.

- Stated at some point she would like to form a working group to examine the park system, and the possibility of forming a public/private partnership. She asked the City Attorney if the formation of a working group needs to be a formal working session.

  Mr. Barr responded only if there are objections from Council.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

- Stated she followed up with Building Manager Daniels regarding 16 N. Washington. She stated a reminder letter was sent to inform the property owner that the property had been given a six month deadline to open its doors, and that deadline is September 14th.

- Stated she has been sitting on some work groups where they are looking at equity in anchor institutions.

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

- Stated he has been working with the cemetery regarding the solar project.

XVII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Bob Krzewinski, Non-Motorized Chairperson, thanked Council for supporting non-motorized projects.

2. Tim Ott, stated Stewart Beal informed him that he does not have any more work for him since he is telling the truth about the accident at Thompson Block. He stated Mr. Beal still owes him and many of his friends a good deal of money from a prevailing wage job they performed a couple of years ago. He stated Mr. Beal has a low moral fabric that lies, and many of his properties have become drug dens.

Council Member Robb directed Mr. Ott to the Police Chief, and asked him to inform the Chief of where the drug dens are located.

XVIII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XIX. ADJOURNMENT -

Resolution No. 2015-144, 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: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson
SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 p.m.