



APPROVED

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY – MCKENNY HALL BALLROOM
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 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. AGENDA APPROVAL –

Council Member Anne Brown moved, second by Council Member Nicole Brown, to approve the agenda as submitted.

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

VI. INTRODUCTIONS –

Mayor Edmonds thanked Eastern Michigan University for hosting the Council Meeting and Council Member Anne Brown for organizing this meeting.

Mayor Edmonds introduced the following individuals: Interim EMU President and Provost Kim Schatzel, Executive Director of Community and Government Relations Ken Dobson, Executive Assistant Government Relations Marge Preston, Giavonti Bishop, EMU Police Chief Bob Hayes, Human Resource Manager Kevin Welch, Ypsilanti Police Chief Tony DeGiusti, DPS Director Stan Kirton, Economic Development Director Beth Ernat, Assistant to the City Manager Ericka Savage, City Manager Ralph Lange, Fiscal Services Director Marilou Uy, Ypsilanti Fire Department Captain Dan Cain, Assistant City Attorney Dan DuChene, and City Clerk Frances McMullan.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson introduced former City Council Member Brian Filipiak.

VII. PRESENTATIONS –

- EMU Presentation – City Manager Ralph Lange

City Manager Lange thanked Assistant to the City Manager Ericka Savage, Heidi Guenther, and Lorenzo Sylvertooth for their work on this presentation. Mr. Lange stated both Ms. Guenther and Mr. Sylvertooth are both students at EMU and work in the City Manager's office.

Mr. Lange presented a list of collaborations between EMU and Ypsilanti.

Council Member Vogt explained the importance of the Oakwood Washtenaw intersection as the rebuild of eliminated massive traffic back-ups for students trying to get into the parking lots. Mr. Vogt said the rebuild eliminated 90% of the delays caused by traffic congestion.

Mayor Edmonds stated Council Members Nicole Brown, Anne Brown, Pete Murdock and Dan Vogt are EMU alumni. Ms. Edmonds added City Clerk Frances McMullan, Police Chief Tony DeGiusti, DPS Director Stan Kirton, Assistant City Attorney Dan Duchene are also EMU alumni.

- Proclamation appreciating the EMU Government and Community Relations Office – Mayor Edmonds

Mayor Edmonds awarded a proclamation to the EMU Office of Government and Community Relations.

- Proclamation declaring October 24th Official Rosie the Riveter Day in Ypsilanti – Mayor Edmonds

Mayor Edmonds stated there is an event scheduled for Saturday, October 24th to break the world record for number of Rosie the Riveter at the Willow Run Plant.

Mayor Edmonds read a proclamation dedicated to Rosie the Riveter and the women who worked on the home front during WWII.

Council Member Anne Brown presented a certificate of recognition to Tanisa Morton. Ms. Anne Brown stated Ms. Morton is a member of the Student Senate, an officer for the NAACP, and has created her own organization on campus titled the Self Project. Ms. Anne Brown thanked Ms. Morton for her leadership and look forward to working with her in the future.

Mayor Edmonds introduced City Manager's Office intern Lorenzo Sylvertooth, Dr. Russ Orwell, HRC Commissioner Martha Valadez, and YDDA Board Member Adam Gainsley.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Darlene Holiday, 596 S. Hamilton, stated the intersection of Hamilton and Harriet is dangerous for pedestrians. She requested a pedestrian crossing sign be placed at that location.
2. Jenna Hamed, 900 Oakwood St., stated she is an EMU alumnus and she is a fourth generation Palestinian Muslim and she is not a threat. She said last year she was attacked by the Department of Public Safety for standing up against a film that targeted Muslim Arab Americans. She said she attempted to consort with EMU administration who did not listen. She said she and the other protestors were detained which has caused her anxiety. She stated she is constantly being assaulted on the street and attacked as a result of her identity. She stated those with the power to create policy make her nervous because they do hold discriminations.

3. Darius Simpson, 900 Oakwood St., stated the Willow Run Branch of the NAACP is having a founder's ball on Saturday, October 24th. He said tickets are \$60 and invited all to attend if they are able. He said he is here tonight to discuss the fact the EMU Administration and the City of Ypsilanti both make it a point to discriminate and the only difference between these entities and Ferguson is that a killing has not happened here. He said he appreciates the work the Human Relations Commission is doing in the City but the EMU Campus Police Officer also needs to be investigated because they hold a lot of biases and are ill-trained. He thanked City Council for holding a meeting on campus but the fact that students are not represented shows how they feel about City government. He said the issue of racism is here in Ypsilanti and it needs to be acknowledged. He said until there is action the people will not feel heard, the people being assaulted will not feel safe, and Council will feel that there is not community support.
4. Sydney Kayy, 900 Oakwood St., stated she is a sophomore at EMU and stated college is supposed to be the best years of a person's life. She stated she has been to gatherings that have largely been attended by African Americans and gatherings that were largely attended by Caucasians. She said the gatherings that the majority of the attendees were white were broken up by the police one time while the parties attended by mostly African Americans are almost always ended by the police. She said she believes there are racial reasons behind this disparity. She said there are not many options in Ypsilanti for college students to do for fun other than house parties which are almost always shut down.
5. Brian Filipiak, Plymouth, Michigan, stated he is also an EMU graduate and thanked Council for holding a meeting on Eastern's campus. He invited Council and the Community to the Riverside Arts Center to see what the Center has programed.
6. Michelle Reese and Chris Sutton, 900 Oakwood St., stated they have been informed the City of Ypsilanti is in the process of passing a resolution to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People Day. They stated they greatly support this act but ask that City Council take the time to gather input from the indigenous people living in this community. They encouraged Ypsilanti to take real action in support of indigenous issues including but not limited to the destruction of sacred sites especially the Potawatomi Braves Site located on the Water Street Redevelopment site. They said Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act is a federal law prohibiting digging up the ancestors of Native Peoples. They asked before Water Street development continues the proper protocol to ensure the protection of sacred sites.
7. Martha Valadez, Human Relations Commissioner, stated during her first meeting as an HRC member there were two testimonies regarding Black Lives Matter and Native American issues in the community. She said after the meeting she wanted to set up meetings with those individuals to see if it was a pattern. She said since that meeting the HRC has been making steps to address the concerns raised by those individuals. She said the resolution regarding the Indigenous Peoples Day on the agenda is significant, however, she does not want the resolution to be a template or a copy and paste model. She said this item should be handled by the HRC with the assistance of community input. She stated it is important to provide people with a safe place to celebrate their culture. She stated when she first met the EMU NASO group she was really disappointed that in the stadium there are still offensive things toward Native Americans.
8. 1440ZUU, stated this past weekend he was detained after being falsely arrested. He stated upon his arrest he was searched three times and nothing was found

on his person. He stated he was tazed during the arrest and brought to the hospital in order to get a mouth swap rather than to check his vitals. He stated he was tazed in the middle of his back close to his spine and he could have died. He said the conditions in the jail are extremely cold and the clothes provided are very thin. He said inmates are only provided with one towel which must be used for weeks without it being cleaned. He said the arresting officer became aggressive when he informed him that he did not have an address because he was homeless. He said homeless people are being discriminated in Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, and Michigan as a whole and it needs to stop. More shelters need to be opened rather than locking homeless people in jail. He stated section eight housing has been eradicated and it makes no sense. He said the jail phones are only able to connect to landlines and cannot call cell phones and this system needs to be updated.

9. Jennifer Olmstead, SPARK East 215 W. Michigan Ave., invited everyone to a program in coordination with First Friday's on November 6th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. called the Innovate Move in Ready Tour.
10. Be Ackamedis (51:00), 1109 Sherman, shared a few semesters ago he noticed a waste on campus. He explained students have something called flex dollars which must be used during that semester. He said he had an idea to use unspent flex dollars to purchase things and distribute them throughout the community. He stated the first semester only \$238 was raised but the next semester with a leadership team in place the group raised over \$1,500. He stated this brings the community and the student body together and creates an engaging environment. He said once the students feel safe in the community and the community sees that the students are trying to engage the community, it will help to hash out certain issues. He asked Council to partner with the university to help the organization called Secret Savior.
11. Dr. Russ Orwell stated Darlene Holiday was being humble during audience participation and is the prime social work liaison for the historic housing project which is working to renovate over a hundred units. He said Mr. Ackamedis has been working with Upward Bound tutoring kids in the community. Mr. Ackamedis also began a Saturday ACT prep workshop.
12. Martin Riggs, Ypsilanti, resident, stated younger people need a place to congregate and when he was young the university would have functions on campus. He said those functions would have security and chaperones. He said young people have a lot of energy and they need a place to release that energy. He said when officers see young people on the street they see that energy as a threat. He said he cares about Ypsilanti and he wants to see relations between African Americans and the police improved. He said racism is based off of ignorance and people need to spend time with one another in order to move past the stereotypes.
13. Shrena Ward, 900 Oakwood St., stated she is the Founder and the President of Detroit Does Well which is an organization that recognizes entrepreneurs from her generation. She said the organization focuses on Detroit in a positive light through mentoring. She said she planned for an event around this time last year but it was shut down by the university a day before the event. She said a week before the event she was asked to provide names of all individuals who would be allowed backstage. She stated this caused her grades to drop because of the time she spent on planning this event. She stated she hopes Council understands Black Lives Matter just like All Lives Matter.

14. Christopher Osaka, stated he is a member of an organization called TRIBE (Teaching, Remembering, Inspiring, Being Explosive) and his organization relays its message through music and every time his group performs they are harassed by university police. He said his group was referred to as a gang on multiple occasions and in circumstances he has been involved in groups that were predominately Caucasian and were referred to in a more positive light.
15. April Hickey, 900 Oakwood St., stated she is a resident advisor on campus and said last year she was called to respond to an incident of sexual assault. She said the accused was not allowed in the building for a few days and when he was allowed to return it was not explained why. She said she asked her supervisors and campus police why the individual was being allowed to return and faced a great deal of resistance. She stated both residents involved in that incident are still living on campus. She said she also has energy concerns on campus stating lights are left on in the resident's halls throughout the summer when no one is living there.
16. Tanisa Morton, 900 Oakwood St., requested one police car on North Huron River Drive. She stated she lives across from campus and it is inconvenient for her to pay for a parking pass and once it is dark she does not feel safe walking across the street over the train tracks.

IX. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR –

- Mayor Edmonds thanked everyone for coming and all those who spoke and encouraged all in attendance to continue coming to Council meetings in the future.

Council Member Nicole Brown commended the students who came and spoke to Council and said there would have never been a Council meeting that so many students attended while she was a student at EMU.

Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson commended the students who came and addressed Council. Ms. Richardson stated too often sexual assault is pushed under the rug and encouraged her to continue following up on the matter. Ms. Richardson asked Ms. Hickey for her information to speak about the incident later.

- Mayor Edmonds encouraged anyone who has had an incident with the police to file a formal complaint because that is how formal action can be taken.
- Mayor Edmonds stated Council is working with the Human Relations Commission to create policy to improve relations between the Police Department and the community. Ms. Edmonds added the EMU Department of Public Safety is not involved in that process and that might be something to discuss how to bring that body into the discussion.
- Mayor Edmonds said she is glad the resolution regarding Indigenous People Day has sparked so much discussion. Ms. Edmonds said she hopes the item will be tabled in order to allow time for more discussion. Ms. Edmonds stated if the resolution is tabled it will be an item for discussion during the October 26th Human Relations Commission meeting.
- Mayor Edmonds stated it was just brought to her attention that the Water Street Site might potentially have more grave sites of Native Tribes. Ms. Edmonds stated staff has been directed to gather information on the matter in order to brief Council. Ms. Edmonds said once Council has more information next steps

will be decided. Ms. Edmonds encouraged anyone with more information to please come forward in order to better help Council to better understand the situation.

Council Member Anne Brown stated she appreciates everyone who spoke and the information given was very real and it is something the Human Relations Commission and City Council is diligently working to rectify.

X. MINUTES –

Resolution No. 2015-233, approving minutes of Sept. 29, Oct. 6 and Oct. 8, 2015

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the Minutes of September 29, October 6, and October 8, 2015 be approved.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Vogt

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

XI. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS –

1. Resolution No. 2015-234, changing Columbus Day in Ypsilanti to Indigenous People Day in Ypsilanti.

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that Indigenous peoples, including from the Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Wyandot tribes, lived upon the land and along the Huron River in our community for many hundreds of years before our city's founding; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that dislocation, disease, war, disenfranchisement, and other atrocities devastated these communities at different times, causing most Indigenous peoples to be expelled from their homes in this area by the 1830s; and

WHEREAS the City of Ypsilanti understands that in order to help close the equity gap, government entities, organizations and other public institutions should change their policies and practices to better reflect experiences of Native American people and uplift our country's Indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

WHEREAS the idea of Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United Nations - sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS in 1990 representatives from 120 Indigenous Nations at the First Continental Conference on 500 Years of Indian Resistance unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus Day into an opportunity to educate the rest of the country about pre-existing Indigenous cultures that have survived an often violent colonization process and continue to exist and thrive in present day America; and

WHEREAS the Seattle City Council on October 6, 2014, followed the lead of municipalities including the City of Berkeley, California and the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and now including many more cities around the country; and

WHEREAS in Michigan, Traverse City and Alpena have both voted to rename Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples Day to honor the culture, heritage and contributions of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS the Tribal Council of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians has passed a Resolution (1) officially recognizing the Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday in October, and (2) that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of indigenous peoples on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that of Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and other indigenous peoples add to communities throughout our Great Lakes

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City of Ypsilanti shall, instead of recognizing Columbus Day, instead recognize Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday of October; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous people on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that that Odaawa, Ojibwe, and other Indigenous nations add to our region; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous people on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that that Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and other indigenous peoples add to communities throughout Michigan and our Great Lakes states.

FURTHER, the City of Ypsilanti encourages other businesses, organizations and public entities to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Murdock

Council Member Murdock moved, seconded by Council Member Robb, to refer this resolution to the Human Relations Commission.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and Resolution No. 2015-234 was referred to the Human Relations Commission.

Council Member Anne Brown asked Human Relations Commissioner Martha Valadez if there were other individuals or organizations she was attempting to get input for this resolution. Ms. Valadez responded in the affirmative.

2. Resolution No. 2015-235, approving appointments to Boards and Commissions.

NAME

BOARD

EXPIRATION

**RayVon Williams – new appointment
(replacing Kevin Hill)
215 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

YDDA

10/20/2015 - 10/6/2018

**Briana Mason - new appointment
(replacing Scott Straley)
1000 Huron River Dr.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

Planning Commission

10/20/2015-05/1/2016

**Renee Smith – reappointment Ypsilanti Housing Commission 10/20/2015-10/20/2020
1112 Congress
Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

OFFERED BY: Council Member Vogt

SECONDED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and Resolution No. 2015-235 was approved.

3. Resolution No. 2015-236, approving a one-year contract with EHIM to administer the city's self-funded portion WRAP and prescription program, and coordinate all benefits and costs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti deems it to be in the best interest of the City to continue to reduce health care costs where applicable and/ to minimize increases; and

Whereas, the current Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans will continue to reduce health care costs while still offering additional benefits to the active employees and retirees that are eligible to participate; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approve a one-year contract from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, of the current Blue Cross Blue Shield benefit plans, for all eligible participating employees and Retirees.

FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves a one-year contract with EHIM to administer the self-funded portion WRAP and prescription portions of this program, and coordinate all benefits and costs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and authorize the City Manager to offer this to the unionized and non-unionized employees. This is subject to the approval and agreement with the labor unions.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb

SECONDED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

Human Resources Manager Kevin Welch introduced Blue Cross and Blue Shield Representative Michelle Bolzer and provided a presentation on employee health care. **(See Website)**

Mayor Edmonds asked how it would be determined the amount the City would deposit into an employee's health savings account. Mr. Welch responded he is proposing for a single the City would deposit \$1,250 and for a double and a family \$3,250. Ms. Edmonds added it would be the equivalent of a \$750 deductible. Ms. Edmonds responded in the affirmative.

Mayor Edmonds asked if the Health Savings Account (HAS) will roll over. Mr. Welch responded in the affirmative and said the employee also has the ability to add money to the account. Blue Cross and Blue Shield Representative stated the maximum for a single employee is \$3,350 and a family can contribute \$6,450 annual which includes the City contribution.

Mayor Edmonds asked who will regulate what is considered an eligible wellness program. Ms. Bolzer responded Blue Cross Blue Shield is partnering with Web MD starting January 1st, 2016 and the first thing that will be offered to the City will be the health risk assessment and who participates will be provided to the City. Ms. Bolzer said for a nominal charge a physical examination reminder and a form that the doctor's office will need to sign off on will be sent to employees. Ms. Bolzer said the employee will then be required to send that form to Blue Cross and Blue Shield who will inform the City the employee has completed their obligation. Ms. Edmonds asked how it is decided how the \$125 will be spent. Mr. Welch responded once those triggers are met the \$125 will be deposited into their health savings account. Mr. Welch added if there is not room in their HAS, \$125 will be provided in the form of a payroll check. Ms. Edmonds asked if there was any regulation on how those funds can be spent. Mr. Welch responded no but the next step is decided if the employee is to take action to improve their health.

City Manager Lange stated this was a team effort Assistant to the City Manager Ericka Savage, Human Resources Manager Kevin Welch, BCBS Representative Michelle Bolzer, Fiscal Services Director Marilou Uy, and General Accountant II Rheagan Basabica worked on this tirelessly. Mr. Lange stated for the first time the City had another agent provide plans in order to create competition. Mr. Lange stated the other agent provided incorrect data on how he could save the City money. Mr. Lange said this is the least possible increase the City could have regarding health care and these options have the potential to help the employee and the City. Mr. Lange stated if an employee has good health and is younger this health savings account program will create a scenario that the employee will not have to pay a deductible.

Mr. Welch stated two different agents can't provide Blue Cross rates that are different if they are providing plans that are comparable. Mr. Welch added when it comes to agents the difference is the service level that is provided and Ms. Bolzer has been exceptional. Mr. Welch said when he worked with a previous municipality a similar plan was developed and the first year it was slow but once employees understood the plan it was very successful.

Council Member Robb stated health care was talked about during goal setting and a work session was held in September specific to this topic. Mr. Robb stated it does not seem much has changed from the previous plan and asked what the other options were presented to the City. Mr. Robb said this plan seems like it might produce changes but it also might not and this is an area the City can save money and help with its debt problems. Mr. Robb asked how did staff get to these options and how do you expect any employees to select this optional plan. Mr. Welch responded there will be an open enrollment and employee and retiree meetings will be held with Ms. Bolzer who will explain the plan. Mr. Welch stated he doubts there will be full enrollment but is difficult to say how many will enroll. Mr. Welch said what makes a difference to the employee is what their medical needs are and if the employee is covered under the family plan this plan might not work for them. Mr. Welch added union contracts do not expire until next year so the City must continue to offer the current contract.

Council Member Robb stated his concern is that the City is going to see an \$114,000 increase in health care and he is frustrated that Council is being presented with one option. Mr. Robb said he does not see the point in providing an incentive to opt out of healthcare for your spouse because if they have better health care than you both would opt out of the City's insurance. Mr. Welch agreed employees might not be attracted by the incentive for the waiver, but there is no cost to the City to offer the incentive and it is possible that an employee does take the waiver. Mr. Robb asked what the risk assessment is if through contract negotiations the union demands to be provided with the proposed waiver incentive. Mr. Welch responded what is being agreed to is a one year scenario for this plan which is tied to Public Act 152 and every year the City can either require the employees to pay the hard cap difference or opt into something completely different. Mr. Welch said the City needs to be strategized what should be built into union contracts and the bottom line is the City does not have to agree to anything. Mr. Welch said staff looked at five different options but they did not produce adequate savings. Mr. Welch said insurance carriers do

not want to take on a high number of retirees and would not allow the City to use one carrier for retirees and one for active employees. Mr. Welch stated to really reduce health care cost the City would need to reduce benefits.

Council Member Anne Brown asked if the wellness plan would require the City offset the retirees. Mr. Welch responded no.

Council Member Murdock asked if employees can either continue their current plan or opt into the wellness plan. Mr. Welch responded in the affirmative. Mr. Murdock asked what would be the benefit for employees to opt into the proposed system. Mr. Welch responded there are two benefits employees will be given money to use for their claims and if it is not used it rolls over into the next year to his HSA. Mr. Welch stated the other benefit is if the employee does not use their deductible their 20% would be less than in the current plan.

Council Member Murdock asked if the unions would need to okay this option in order for the City to offer it. Mr. Welch responded the unions will be sent a communication but there is nothing in this plan that the unions would have an issue because this is only an option not a requirement.

Mr. Lange stated two recent retirees will be replaced by tier two employees and this option is just a way to save money and the City cannot lose on this proposal. Mr. Welch added the big savings is in the less than 65 retiree category.

Council Member Murdock asked if everyone stayed in the same plan it would create a 9-12% increase in costs. Mr. Welch responded in the affirmative and it would be an increase of \$114,000.

Council Member Murdock asked if insurance only covered the retiree or does it cover the retiree and their spouse. Mr. Welch responded for the most part the insurance only covers the retiree but there are some plans that cover both the spouse and the retiree.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-236 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

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

4. Resolution No. 2015-237, approving a one-year contract from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 with Blue Cross Blue Shield High Deductible \$2,000/\$4,000 Plans for all eligible participating employees and Retirees, along with the Health Savings Account contributions.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti deems it to be in the best interest of the City to continue to reduce health care costs where applicable and/ to minimize increases; and

Whereas, the Blue Cross Blue Shield High Deductible \$2,000/\$4,000 Plans will continue to reduce health care costs while still offering additional benefits to the active employees and some retirees (64 or younger in 2014) that are eligible to participate; and

Whereas, City Staff is recommending that the City contribute to the employees/retirees Health Savings Account to encourage employees and retirees to enroll in this benefit plan, which will reduce costs to the City.

	Employees	Retirees
Single	\$1,250	\$2,000
Two Person	\$3,250	\$4,000
Family	\$3,250	\$4,000

Whereas, employees/retirees must enroll in this program during open enrollment only and are not eligible for the insurance waiver once in this program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves a one year contract from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, of the Blue Cross Blue Shield High Deductible \$2,000/\$4,000 Plans for all eligible participating employees and Retirees, along with the Health Savings Account contributions as suggested by City Staff and authorize the City Manager to offer this to the unionized and non-unionized employees. This is subject to the approval and agreement with the labor unions.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock
SECONDED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

Council Member Robb stated the City is paying 63% of the single person's deductible and a much higher percentage for family and two persons plans and asked why that is. Mr. Welch responded the City could have used a standard percentage but it would have provided zero savings for the employees on single person plans. Mr. Robb asked why the two person and family plans so much higher. Mr. Welch responded the logic is we want them to accept the plan and still provide savings to the City.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-237 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

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

- Resolution No. 2015-238, approving an addition to the current Waiver policy offering a \$2,000 waiver per year for employees who drop their two person coverage to a single coverage, and \$3,000 for employees who drop their family coverage to single coverage.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti deems it to be in the best interest of the City to continue to reduce health care costs where applicable and/ to minimize increases; and

Whereas, the City's Insurance Waiver program has been very successful, significantly reducing the cost that the City pays to cover employees who are able to be insured elsewhere; and

Whereas, the City can potentially further enhance the Waiver Program and save additional funds by extending the plan to employees who may be able to reduce his or her Family or Two-Person plan to a single plan; and

Whereas, employees who drop the High Deductible plan during the calendar year will be eligible for the amount of waiver funds that exceed the HSA amount paid by the city in that same year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the City of Ypsilanti approves an addition to the current Waiver policy offering a \$2,000 waiver per year for employees who drop their two person coverage to a single coverage, and \$3,000 for employees who drop their family coverage to a single coverage and authorize the City Manager to offer this to the unionized and non-unionized employees. This is subject to the approval and agreement with the labor unions.

OFFERED BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson

SECONDED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

Council Member Robb asked for clarification of savings this option would create. Mr. Welch responded if an employee currently has a family plan the cost of that would be \$22,574 with the real cost of \$18,059 and if that employee dropped to a single plan the cost would be \$7,478. Mr. Robb stated he thinks the savings will be higher. Mr. Welch responded he will check the math and provide an answer to Council at a later date.

Council Member Robb asked how eligibility is determined. Mr. Welch replied the employee must prove that they have alternative coverage. Mr. Robb asked if there is a current employee that splits their coverage. Mr. Welch responded not that he is aware of and he does not think there is an incentive to do that. Mr. Robb stated if an employee informs the City they split their coverage and know have double coverage. Mr. Welch responded that would be a benefit to the City if they are able to decrease the cost of that employees insurance.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-238 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

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

6. Resolution No. 2015-239, approving a one-year wellness program.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

Whereas, City Council of the City of Ypsilanti deems it to be in the best interest of the City to continue to reduce health care costs where applicable and/ to minimize increases; and

Whereas, a wellness program is intended to improve and promote health and fitness. The program will encourage employees to stop smoking or participate in diabetes management programs, weight loss programs, and preventative health screenings.

Whereas, wellness program can not only improve employee health habits and better manage long term diseases, but also potentially reduce the cost of health insurance to the City.

Therefore, be it resolved, By the Council of the City of Ypsilanti to approve a one year program offering a \$125 per year per eligible employee and authorize the City Manager to offer this to the unionized and non-unionized employees. This is subject to the approval and agreement with the labor unions.

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

Mayor Edmonds stated she is excited to see this as a start to a wellness program and sees it as a good beginning to a successful program.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-239 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Absent	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

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

7. Resolution No. 2015-240, approving Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with E.M.U. for HDC Intern.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, The City of Ypsilanti and the Historic District Commission seek to employ an intern to provide include research, HDC support, narrative preparation, site investigation, project analysis, photography, and related duties; and

WHEREAS, Eastern Michigan University has a reputable and respected Graduate degree program in Historic Preservation and seeks to provide hands-on learning experiences for their students; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding outlining the time, pay, and responsibilities of a Historic District Commission Intern has been drafted for the continuation of this program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ypsilanti City Council approves the Director of Community and Economic Development to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for intern services of an Eastern Michigan University Historic Preservation graduate student.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Anne Brown

SECONDED BY: Council Member Murdock

Economic Development Director Beth Ernat introduce Dr. Ted Ligibel of EMU's Historic Preservation Department and said she wanted to impress on Council how incredibly valuable the HDC intern program has been for both the City and EMU. Dr. Ligibel thanked Council and stated this is about the fifteenth year this program has been in place and it has been a remarkable experience and has really benefited the students.

Mayor Edmonds stated the Historic District Program is one of the many well respected programs from EMU that the City is proud to have in the community. Ms. Edmonds stated this is a long time example of a mutually beneficial partnership between the City and EMU.

Council Member Murdock asked if the Heritage Foundation still contributes to the City. Mr. Ernat responded no and said the City pays $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year and Eastern pays for a full semester. Mr. Murdock stated for many years the Heritage Foundation contributed to this program. Ms. Ernat responded the City can ask if the Foundation would like to contribute.

On a roll call, the vote to approve Resolution No. 2015-240 was as follows:

Council Member N. Brown	Yes	Council Member Robb	Yes
Council Member Murdock	Yes	Mayor Edmonds	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson	Yes	Council Member Vogt	Yes
Council Member A. Brown	Yes		

VOTE:

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

XII. LIASON REPORTS –

- A. SEMCOG Update – Mayor Pro-Tem Richardson stated the General Assembly is scheduled for Thursday, October 22nd at 3:00 p.m. located at Schoolcraft College.
- B. Washtenaw Area Transportation Study – Nothing to report
- C. Washtenaw Metro Alliance – No Meeting
- D. Urban County - None
- E. Freight House – Nothing to report. Ms. Ernat stated the contractor is still getting the drawings approved.
- F. Parks and Recreation – Council Member Anne Brown stated the report was included in the packet and added the Riverside Play Area, a group that was formed recently, had a public forum on Monday, October 19th.
- G. Millennial Mayors Conference – No meeting
- H. Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority – No report
- I. Eastern Washtenaw Safety Alliance – No report
- J. DTE – Council Member Vogt stated the Coalition opposing rate increases met this past week and the present status is the Administrative Law Judge came down heavily and critically on DTE. Mr. Vogt stated the Judge stated DTE did not provide any real evidence of why the rate increases were necessary. He said the coalition is asking for the City's input on possible options either negotiate a settlement and try to reach an agreement for everyone or the City could independently try to solve its own issues. He said if the City goes with the first option the coalition needs some additional funding so the coalition would need to solicit additional members. He said DTE is going to probably file a new package of rate increases to make up for this. He stated there is a series of issues for which decisions need to be made.

XIII. COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS –

Robb

- Asked for updates from questions asked at the October 6th meeting.

Mr. Lange responded not at this time. Mr. Robb asked what he is supposed to tell constituents that are asking about these issues.

Nicole Brown

- Stated she sent the City Manager an email regarding a constituents concern and will follow-up with him.

Anne Brown

- Stated the Council communication will be held on Tuesday, October 27th which will be hosted by EMU and Clerk McMullan will provide information on that event.
- Stated she sent an email to the City Manager last week from a constituent that gave praise to the Building Department Manager Frank Daniels who helped with landlord and tenant issues.

Murdock

- Stated he has a meeting with Ypsilanti Township and the Ypsilanti Community Utility Authority (YCUA) regarding locating a dog park off Grove Rd.
- Stated he and Council Member Vogt sent a request to Downtown Development Director Tim Colbeck to discuss the contract with the DDA relative to the Depot Town TIF. He said this in hopes to come to an agreement before the next DDA Board meeting.

Richardson

- Asked that the Evaluation Committee schedule a meeting in order to complete the evaluations for Clerk and City Manager before goal setting. She said Council has been very unfair to both of these employees and Council should be ashamed.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR –

Clerk McMullan stated in line with the City and EMU collaborations, the Clerk's Office was nominated by the EMU Student Government for a Golden Medallion Award two years ago. She said S.O.S took first place but the Clerk department was a close second. She added the nomination was a result of the voter registration drive the City conducted on EMU's campus.

- Mayor Edmonds offered two nominations for Board and Commission seats: Martha Valadez for a reappointment to the Human Relations Commission and Andrew O'Neil to replace Rois Savadies to represent the West Cross District of the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority. Council Member Anne Brown asked for information on what districts the YDDA members represent. Ms. Ann Brown asked how many vacancies the YDDA Board has. Mayor Edmonds replied there is one vacancy on the Board and that seat would represent the West Cross District. Ms. Edmonds added nominations often do have financial interest in a specific district but nominations are not always

made based off of those criteria. Ms. Anne Brown asked if Council could have a list of all YDDA committees and members of those committees.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER –

- Stated goal setting is scheduled for November 10th and during that session the entire budget must be redone to align with the bond proposal for Water Street.

Council Member Murdock asked that Council be kept informed during that process. Mr. Lange agreed to keep Council informed during that process.

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS –

- Park Liaison October Report
- Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority Update
- October 27th Council Intragroup Relations Dialogue/Training (6:00-10:00 p.m.) – EMU Campus – McKenny Main Lounge, Room 247
- November 3rd – Working Session on Snow (6:00-7:00 p.m.)
- November 10 and 19, 2015 – Goal Setting @ SPARK East, 215 W. Michigan Ave.

XVII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION –

1. Richard Smith, 870 Ecorse Rd., stated he is a member of the YDDA Board and thanked the Mayor for holding a meeting with him and YDDA Director Tim Colbeck. He said the meeting went well but he still has concerns but he is pleased with the result of the meeting. He stated it is upsetting that something like that can happen in a board meeting and he hopes he will receive the letter of apology promised by Director Colbeck.

XVIII. REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR –

None

XIX. ADJOURNMENT –

Resolution No. 2015-241, adjourning the 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 Vogt

SECONDED BY: Council Member Nicole Brown

On a voice vote, the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.