

**City of Ypsilanti
Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 6, 2003
7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cheryl Farmer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, One South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Present: Mayor Cheryl Farmer, Mayor-Pro Tem Swanson, Council Member Richardson, Council Member Gawlas, Council Member LaRue, Council Member Nickels and Council Member Schulze.

Absent: No Council Members Absent

Invocation

Mayor Cheryl Farmer asked for a moment of silence.

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."

INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson introduced Mr. Darryl Beasley a new member of the Gateway Economic Development Council whose job is to carry out the strategic plan improving community and housing development.

Council Member Lois Richardson introduced Lisa Hamway, Director of Contribution and External Affairs for SBC in Washtenaw County.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson offered and Council Member Gawlas supported a motion to approve the amended Agenda.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

PRESENTATION

- A. Presentation of "Poppy Week" Proclamation by Mayor Farmer on behalf of the City of Ypsilanti to Kathy Williams, President of American Legion Auxiliary 282.

She briefly discussed the history of Poppy Week which was started in 1921. The donations received from the annual Poppy Week are used for veterans and their families.

- B. Presentation of "Arson Awareness Week" Proclamation by Mayor Farmer on behalf of the City of Ypsilanti to Fire Chief, James Roberts and Jon Ichesco, Fire Marshall. Fire Chief James Roberts thanked the City of Ypsilanti for their continued support.
- C. Presentation concerning the Domestic Violence Enforcement Grant Program, by Chief George Baser. The Domestic Violence Enforcement Grant is a Federal Grant that is only given out to three communities nationwide. The program involves a system wide coordinated approach of addressing the issue of Domestic Violence in Washtenaw County. Chief Baser introduced Cathy Skowronski, Domestic Violence Coordinator for Ypsilanti and Anthony Kendricks, Lead Prosecutor for Domestic Violence Programs in Washtenaw County.
- D. Presentation of the City's plan for West Nile Virus, by Harry Hutchison, Department of Public Works Director and Stan Kirton, Facility Manager. The City of Ypsilanti's Plan to reduce the mosquito population is by reducing the risk of transmission of the West Nile Virus by applying a larvacide. Larvacides stop mosquitoes from growing past the larva stage and will be applied to 1,800 catch basins and two ponds.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tyrone Wilson, representing RAID alleged former Deputy City Clerk Grace Ramsey was not qualified for the position of Acting City Clerk. He also mentioned the negative impact of closing the Senior Center and Parkridge Community Center would have on the community.

David Harding of Ypsilanti, spoke about the article in the Ann Arbor News regarding the budget and the proposed cuts to Recreation Department. He urged Council to look at the budget again to see if there is any way to save Parkridge Community Center, Rutherford Municipal Pool and the Senior Citizen Center.

Lee Tooson of Ypsilanti, expressed concern over the proposed closing of Parkridge Community Center and the Senior Citizen Center. He urged Council to look at the budget again to see if the Centers could remain open.

Pamela Hamblin of Ypsilanti complimented the City Fire Department on their good work on handling arson fires in the City of Ypsilanti. She recently was a victim of an arson fire.

MINUTES

Resolution #2003-80, approving the Minutes of April 22, 2003, with corrections was offered by Council Member Richardson and supported by Council Member Nickles.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC HEARING/ ORDINANCE-FIRST READING

A. That the Public Hearing to consider proposed ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance to amend the Weed Control Ordinance by adding a new Section 110-80, Noxious Weeds, Grass and Brush Determined to be a Nuisance, amending Section 110-81, Duty to Remove; Penalty, and, by adding a new Section 110-86, Appeal," be officially closed.

Mayor Farmer opened the Public Hearing.
No comments from the Audience.

Resolution #2003-81, attached and made a part hereof, offered by Council Member Nickles and supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson to close the Public Hearing.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

Resolution #2003-82, attached and made a part hereof, offered by Council Member Nickles and supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance to amend the Weed Control Ordinance by adding a new section 110-80, Noxious Weeds, Grass and Brush Determined to be a Nuisance, amending Section 110-86, Appeal," be approved on first Reading.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

ORDINANCE- SECOND READING

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

That the ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT AND APPROVE THE DEPOT TOWN DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE WEST CROSS STREET DEVELOPMENT AREA PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 197, PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN OF 1975, AS AMENDED, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO" be approved on Second and Final Reading.

Resolution #2003-83, attached and made a part hereof, offered by Council Member LaRue and supported by Council Member Gawlas.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

Resolution #2003-84, attached and made a part hereof, offered by Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson and supported by Council Member Nickels- That the following Consent Agenda be approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Resolution #2003-85, approving the purchase of security cameras for the Police Department.
- B. Resolution #2003-86, approving a Planning Commission request to distribute preliminary draft Master Plan updates to surrounding communities.
- C. Resolution #2003-87, approving a Special Downtown Development Authority Class C Liquor License, for Michelle Roman (La Fiesta Mexicana, Inc.), to be located at 525-529 W. Cross Street.
- D. Resolution #2003-88, pulled by Council Member Richardson.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

Resolution #2003-88, attached and made a part hereof, offered by Council Member Schulze and supported by Council Member LaRue.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

THAT the City Council hereby authorizes and directs the Planning and Development Department to amend the professional services contract with the Traverse Group for environmental services associated with the Water Street project previously approved by Resolution 2002-129; and

THAT the contract is to be amended pursuant to the table below:

Contract Task	Original Budget	Proposed Amendment
#1: Pre-demolition Environmental Assessment	\$60,000	\$39,000
#2: Demolition Bid Specifications	35,000	45,000
#3: Environmental Investigation	300,000	235,000
#4: Disposal Coordination	n/a	10,000*
#5: Subsurface Specifications	n/a	18,000
#6: Demolition Oversight	n/a	67,000
#7: Subsurface Oversight	n/a	92,000
TOTAL	\$395,000	\$506,000

THAT the Planning and Development Department is directed to amend those portions of the contract that identify timeframes for task completion, reflective of the amendments approved here; and

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the contract subject to review and approval of the City Attorney; and

THAT the City Manager is authorized to make payments to the Traverse Group pursuant to the contract upon completion of services.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. **Resolution #2003-89**, approving the sale of the Renaissance Building, located at 208 W. Michigan Ave.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

B. Presentation of the July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003 Fiscal Year Operating Budget.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

COUNCIL PROPOSED BUSINESS

Council Member Nickels had no Council Proposed Business.

Council Member Schulze mentioned the Crappie Fishing Tournament that took place Saturday, May 3, 2003 held at Ford Lake was successful. Over 150 kids attended the event.

Council Member LaRue had no Council Proposed Business.

Council Member Gawlas stated the City has to look into other areas of funding for the Recreation Department but he was pleased to see the budget did include investing in our current physical assets. He asked that the City Council Minutes avoid using quotes from members of the audience, instead summarize.

Council Member Richardson spoke about the Senior Citizen Center and Parkridge Community Center and the need for the city to search for funding to get the centers re-opened in the future.

Mayor Pro-Tem Swanson stated that there is a large pot hole on Harriet and Hamilton Street. She also mentioned looking into possible solutions and getting volunteers to help in the community centers, grants or possibly renting buildings out if they are still operational.

LIAISON REPORTS

Council Member Richardson stated the Ypsilanti Area Community Foundation is preparing to give its second round of grants. She also mentioned the Ypsilanti Community Fund is also looking for donations, each contribution is eligible for a 50% tax deduction.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MANAGER

City Manager, Edward Koryzno said the Water Street Demolition project will start May 12, 2003. He proposed that Council meet on Tuesday May 27, 2003 for a Special City Council Meeting.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Farmer mentioned possibly restarting the Recreation Commission to find funds for the Recreation Department and programming ideas. She urged citizens to please write their state representatives as well as the minority and majority leaders on the devastation of cutting state shared revenues. She also mentioned the Street Rods Show and Shine Charity Event was held last weekend and the African American Museum Group in Washtenaw County just recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No #2003-90, offered by Council Member LaRue and supported by Council Member Gawlas to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Unanimous

Adjourned at 10:00 p.m.