

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, August 10, 2020

7:00 PM

This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16,
ATT Channel 99, and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN

Electronic Meeting - Special Meeting

To speak at public comment call: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099

Enter Meeting ID: 929 3607 3877

City Council

Council meets in Caucus at 7:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to each Regular Session.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Jane Lumm called the special electronic meeting of the Ann Arbor City Council to order at 7:01 p.m. in accordance with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-154.

READING OF ORDER AND NOTICE OF CALL OF SPECIAL SESSION

Deputy City Clerk Steve Gerhart read the Order and Notice of Call of Special Session:

Notice is hereby given that a special session of the City of Ann Arbor City Council will be held electronically on Monday, August 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

- Resolution to Order Election, Approve Charter Amendment of the Ann Arbor City Charter Sections to Establish Non-Partisan Nomination and Election for the Offices of Mayor and Council and Determine Ballot Language for this Amendment (7 Votes Required).*

A copy of the order and notice is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Council stood for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Lumm led Council in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

Present: 11 - Councilmember Jane Lumm, Councilmember Jack Eaton, Mayor Christopher Taylor, Councilmember Julie Grand, Councilmember Zachary Ackerman, Councilmember Chip Smith, Councilmember Anne Bannister, Councilmember Jeff Hayner, Councilmember Kathy Griswold, Councilmember Elizabeth Nelson and Councilmember Ali Ramlawi

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Ramlawi, seconded by Councilmember Griswold, that the Agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

AC COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

AC-1 [20-1240](#) August 10, 2020 eComments

Received and Filed

D MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

DC New Business - Council:

DC-1 **20-1219** **Enactment No: R-20-305** **Approved**

Sponsors: Lumm, Ramlawi and Bannister

A motion was made by Councilmember Ramlawi, seconded by Councilmember Griswold, that the Resolution be approved. On a roll call, the vote was as follows with the Mayor Pro Tem declaring the motion carried:

Yeas: 7 - Councilmember Lumm, Councilmember Eaton, Councilmember Bannister, Councilmember Hayner, Councilmember Griswold, Councilmember Nelson and Councilmember Ramlawi

Nays: 4 - Mayor Taylor, Councilmember Grand, Councilmember Ackerman and Councilmember Smith

Resolution to Order Election, Approve Charter Amendment of the Ann Arbor City Charter Sections to Establish Non-Partisan Nomination and Election for the Offices of Mayor and Council and Determine Ballot Language for this Amendment (7 Votes Required)

PUBLIC COMMENT - GENERAL (3 MINUTES EACH)

John Moran, resident, discussed the decision of the University of Michigan to bring back students to campus and his concerns that it will lead to Ann Arbor becoming a Covid-19 hotspot.

Chuck Loucks, resident, discussed the option of moving City elections back to odd years.

Zachary Storey, resident, discussed Councilmember Hayner's comments at the previous meeting and Councilmember Griswold's recent comments regarding student behavior.

Luis Vasquez, resident, discussed his disappointment in the placement of public commentary at the end of the agenda for special meetings. He also discussed the notion that the Mayor's veto of the approval of tonight's resolution would trigger a citizen lead petition drive, as it had not done so in the past.

Jamie Magiera, resident, discussed his disappointment regarding tonight's vote. He encouraged Mayor Taylor to veto the resolution.

Joe Spaulding, California resident, discussed how the Councilmembers who voted against the resolution this evening would see this used against them in future re-election efforts.

Eric Sturgis, resident, thanked Councilmember Griswold for her work on Congresswoman Debbie Dingell's unity breakfast. He also discussed his belief that the voters should be allowed to decide the issue of non-partisan elections.

Rita Mitchell, resident, stated she appreciated the effort of Councilmember Lumm to bring the issue of non-partisan elections for Council and Mayor to a public vote. She thanked the council members who voted in favor of taking the issue of non-partisan elections to the public for a decision.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL**COUNCILMEMBER HAYNER**

Councilmember Hayner reiterated his belief that water and electricity should not be cut off as punishment on properties that are hosting parties in excess of the Governor's limit on gatherings.

COUNCILMEMBER BANNISTER

Councilmember Bannister discussed the concern raised during public commentary that the rates of COVID-19 would increase with the return of students to Ann Arbor. Councilmember Bannister also encouraged residents to sign up for the City's new emergency alert system, Everbridge.

COUNCILMEMBER GRISWOLD

Councilmember Griswold discussed the Big Ten's decision to cancel this season's football. Councilmember Griswold also discussed her support for harsher penalties, including utility shutoffs and eviction for the unauthorized Greek organizations on campus, should they disregard the Governor's ban on large gatherings. Councilmember Griswold, also discussed the upcoming announcement from the Governor regarding the creation of an autonomous vehicle corridor, between Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, but urged greater regulation on the vehicles to ensure pedestrian safety.

COUNCILMEMBER ACKERMAN

Councilmember Ackerman discussed the need for Council to be respectful of individuals who take the time to participate in public commentary.

COUNCILMEMBER RAMLAWI

Councilmember Ramlawi discussed his belief that the mayor needs to be a better consensus builder. Councilmember Ramlawi also discussed his

desire to see non-partisan elections be brought to the voters via a citizen-initiated petition.

COUNCILMEMBER GRAND

Councilmember Grand discussed some of the misconceptions regarding Ranked Choice voting. Councilmember Grand also discussed her objection to the name calling on Council and encouraged the rest of Council to remember that all members work with the City's best interests in mind.

COUNCILMEMBER EATON

Councilmember Eaton discussed Ranked Choice voting and how it is currently not permissible under State law. He noted that the current House bills that would allow for Ranked Choice Voting in Michigan would not allow it to occur on any ballot that has State and Federal offices on it.

COUNCILMEMBER LUMM

Councilmember Lumm apologized that she has not previously lead a petition drive to get non-partisan elections on the ballot, and vowed to work on the initiative this time.

INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOM CRAWFORD

Interim City Administrator Tom Crawford discussed the level of coordination between the City and the University of Michigan in their efforts to ensure that all residents would be safe during the upcoming school year.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Eaton, seconded by Councilmember Griswold, that the meeting adjourn. On a voice vote, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

COMMUNITY TELEVISION NETWORK (CTN) COMCAST CHANNEL 16, AT&T CHANNEL 99:

LIVE: AUGUST 10, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M.

REPLAY: TBD

REPLAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

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Cable: Comcast Cable channel 16 or AT&T UVerse Channel 99

Videos are also available for a nominal fee by contacting CTN at (734) 794-6150.

All persons are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Citizens requiring translation or sign language services or other reasonable accommodations may contact the City Clerk's office at 734.794.6140; via e-mail to: cityclerk@a2gov.org; or by written request addressed and mailed or delivered to:

**City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.

A hard copy of this Council packet can be viewed at the front counter of the City Clerk's Office.