

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

7:00 PM

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

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second floor, City Council

To sign up for public comment, call the City Clerk's Office
between 8am - 5pm at 734-794-6140 on the day of the meeting.

City Council

Public commentary can be made in person or by calling Zoom at:
877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099

Enter Meeting ID 942 1273 2148

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Christopher Taylor called the meeting of the Ann Arbor City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron Street.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Council stood for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Taylor led Council in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

Present: 10 - Mayor Christopher Taylor, Councilmember Erica Briggs, Councilmember Lisa Disch, Councilmember Jen Eyer, Councilmember Travis Radina, Councilmember Cynthia Harrison, Councilmember Chris Watson, Councilmember Dharma Akmon, Councilmember Jennifer Cornell and Councilmember Jon Mallek

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Ayesha Ghazi Edwin

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Disch, seconded by Councilmember Watson, that the Agenda be approved. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

AC COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

City Administrator Milton Dohoney Jr. presented the following written reports for information of Council:

AC-1 [25-0122](#) Agenda Response Memo and eComments - January 21, 2025

Received and Filed

AC-2 [25-0067](#) City Administrator's Report - January 21, 2025

Received and Filed

INT INTRODUCTIONS

INT-1 [25-0019](#) Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Update

Maura Thomson, DDA Executive Director, presented her monthly report to the City Council. Ms. Thomson provided updates on programming and future plans. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Received and Filed

PUBLIC COMMENTARY (3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER, 45 MINUTES TOTAL)

*** (SPEAKERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO GRANT THEIR RESERVED TIME TO AN ALTERNATE SPEAKER)**

*** ACCOMMODATIONS CAN BE MADE FOR PERSONS NEEDING ASSISTANCE WHILE ADDRESSING COUNCIL**

**TO PARTICIPATE ONLINE, CALL ZOOM AT: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099
ENTER MEETING ID 942 1273 2148**

PHONE CALLERS CAN PRESS *9 TO RAISE HANDS AND *6 TO UNMUTE THEIR PHONES WHEN CALLED UPON TO SPEAK.

**1. Lena Kauffman - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2)
(phone)**

Lena Kauffman, resident, spoke in favor of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane.

2. Douglas Aikenhead - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (in person)

Douglas Aikenhead, 583 Glendale, spoke about DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane. He urged Council to engage the Library Green Conservancy in these conversations.

3. Rita Mitchell - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (in person)

Rita Mitchell, 621 Fifth Street, spoke in opposition to DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane, noting that the voters have already spoken on this issue.

4. Jim Pyke - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (in person)

Jim Pyke, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane, stating the AADL has serious plans and will work toward creating an actual Center of the City project.

5. Adam Goodman - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (phone)

Adam Goodman, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane.

6. Jean Leverich - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (in person)

Jean Leverich, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane, stating it is a win-win for the City and the AADL.

7. Mark Scerbo - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (phone/Zoom)

Mark Scerbo, resident, spoke in opposition to DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane.

8. Christine Crockett - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (phone)

Christine Crockett, downtown resident, spoke in opposition to DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane. She stated the Center of the City site was already approved by voters for use as a park and public gathering space.

9. Luis Vazquez - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (phone/Zoom)

Luis Vazquez, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane.

10. Anne Bannister - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (in person)

Anne Bannister, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane. She urged Council to amend this resolution to include a seat at the table for the Library Green Conservancy. Ms. Bannister also spoke about traffic calming and the need to save trees during sidewalk replacement.

11. Henry Herskovitz - Remarks on Council Minutes from January 6 Meeting (A-1) (in person)

Henry Herskovitz, resident, responded to comments from a Council Member who stated the Anti-Defamation League had called him anti-Semitic.

12. Adam Jaskiewicz - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (Zoom)

Adam Jaskiewicz, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a partnership with the AADL on a potential development with housing on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane.

13. Eric Ivancich - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (phone/Zoom)

Eric Ivancich, resident, spoke in support of DC-2, the Resolution regarding a potential development and partnership with the AADL on a portion of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane.

14. Tom Stulberg - Library Lane Parking Lot/Center of the City Discussion (DC-2) (phone)

Tom Stulberg, of Lower Town, spoke about the work of the Ann Arbor District Library, noting all of their work during the Bicentennial celebration. He also spoke about the potential partnership with the Library and the Library Green Conservancy regarding a potential development of the Center of the City parcel known as Library Lane. He urged Council to include the Conservancy in the discussion and future plans.

15. Jeff Holtzman - Sidewalk Gap Initiative (in person)

Jeff Holtzman, resident, spoke about the City's sidewalk gap replacement program and the impact to street trees.

16. Sean Smith - Brockman Blvd Sidewalk Project (phone/Zoom)

Sean Smith, resident, spoke about sidewalk gap replacement and preservation of the trees on Brockman as part of that sidewalk project. He also urged Council to consider traffic calming as part of this project.

CC COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL**COUNCILMEMBER DISCH**

Councilmember Disch highlighted item E-1, the Washtenaw County Gaps Analysis Homeless Response System Through the Continuum of Care.

COUNCILMEMBER CORNELL

Councilmember Cornell called out the anti-Semitic public comments.

Councilmember Cornell also highlighted Restaurant Week in the downtown, as well as Galentine's Day on Saturday, February 8.

Councilmember Cornell talked about the dog park at Vet's Park, stating it has become very popular.

COUNCILMEMBER EYER

Councilmember Eyer spoke about anti-Semitic comments and stated she will be contributing to the local Jewish Family Services in response and to combat hate.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRISON

Councilmember Harrison called attention to the film, "A Letter to the Westside." The film highlights Ann Arbor's historically black westside neighborhood and the story of the loss of this neighborhood. A screening will take place on February 8 at the Michigan Theatre.

COUNCILMEMBER MALLEK

Councilmember Mallek reported on the success of the Listening Session he and Councilmember Watson held. He also provided an update on their next event in Ward 2.

COUNCILMEMBER RADINA

Councilmember Radina spoke about the inauguration of President Trump and some of his divisive words in his speech. He said Ann Arbor needs to continue to speak out against hate.

Councilmember Radina thanked Ward 3 residents for their comments regarding the Brockman sidewalk gap replacement project.

Councilmember Radina provided an update on his upcoming coffee hour.

COUNCILMEMBER BRIGGS

Councilmember Briggs provided an update on the GetDowntown commuter challenge. She urged residents to participate.

MC COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**MC-1 [24-2155](#) Appointments - Confirmations**

Mayor Taylor requested confirmation of the following appointments that were presented at the January 6, 2025 Regular Session of Council:

*Transportation Commission
Rachel Jacobson-Partial Term
Term Ending: May 31, 2026*

*April Conway
Term Ending: May 31, 2027*

A motion was made by Councilmember Cornell, seconded by Councilmember Eyer, that the Appointments be approved. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

MC-2 [25-0127](#) Appointments - Confirmations

Mayor Taylor presented the following appointments for approval at a later date:

Downtown Development Area Resident Consultancy Council

John Splitt

Term Ending: May 31, 2028

Joseph Arcure

Term Ending: May 31, 2028

Referred to the City Council due back on 2/3/2025

CA **CONSENT AGENDA****Passed on consent agenda**

A motion was made by Councilmember Disch, seconded by Councilmember Watson, that the following Consent Agenda Items be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously, thus satisfying the eight-vote requirement of CA-3.

CA-1 [25-0043](#) Enactment No: **R-25-015 **Approved****

Resolution to Approve Street Closings for the Shamrocks and Shenanigans 5K Run/Walk - Sunday, March 9, 2025

CA-2 [25-0059](#) Enactment No: **R-25-016 **Approved****

Resolution Authorizing Summary Publication of Ordinance 24-31 - An Ordinance to Amend Sections 5.22, 5.26, 5.28, 5.29, 5.30 and 5.37 of Chapter 55 (Unified Development Code) of Title V of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Fences, Reimbursements, Public and Private Utilities)

CA-3 [25-0001](#) Enactment No: **R-25-017 **Approved****

Resolution to Accept a Grant from the Water Research Foundation (\$150,000.00), Approve a Project Funding Agreement with the Water Research Foundation (\$480,429.00), Approve a Research Agreement with the University of Michigan (\$250,000.00) and Appropriate \$450,000.00 from

the Water System Fund Balance for Research at the Water Treatment Plant
(8 Votes Required)

CA-4 [25-0010](#) Enactment No: R-25-018 **Approved**

Resolution to Approve Amendment Number 2 to the Legal Services Agreement with Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler, PC Relative to City Projects Requiring the Acquisition of Easements or Other Property Interests (Amendment 2 \$150,000.00; Total \$450,000.00)

CA-5 [25-0034](#) Enactment No: R-25-019 **Approved**

Resolution to Appoint Jordan Roberts as the City of Ann Arbor Public Services Area Administrator

PH PUBLIC HEARINGS (3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)

FOR ZOOM MEETINGS, PHONE CALLERS CAN PRESS *9 TO RAISE HANDS AND *6 TO UNMUTE THEIR PHONES WHEN CALLED UPON TO SPEAK.

A APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

A-1 [25-0056](#) Regular Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2025

A motion was made by Councilmember Watson, seconded by Councilmember Disch, that the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2025 be approved. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

B ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

C ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

C New Business - Staff:

- C-1 [25-0022](#) An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:324.5 of Chapter 14 (Purchasing, Contracting and Selling Procedure) of Title I of the City Code of Ordinances

Sponsors: Eyer and Radina

A motion was made by Councilmember Eyer, seconded by Councilmember Radina, that the Ordinance be approved on First Reading to the City Council and should be returned by 2/3/2025. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Enactment No: ORD-25-01

D MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

DC New Business - Council:

- DC-1 [25-0095](#) Enactment No: R-25-020 Approved

Sponsors: Taylor

A motion was made by Councilmember Disch, seconded by Councilmember Radina, that the Resolution be approved. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution to Authorize Settlement of City of Ann Arbor v 201 N Fourth et al.,
Washtenaw County Circuit Court Case No. 24-000444-CH

- DC-2 [25-0126](#) Enactment No: R-25-021 Approved

Sponsors: Taylor, Cornell, Eyer, Akmon and Harrison

A motion was made by Councilmember Cornell, seconded by Councilmember Eyer, that the Resolution be approved. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution to Authorize the City Administrator to Engage the Ann Arbor District Library (AADL) in Discussions Regarding the Potential Development Including Housing on a Portion of the Center of the City Parcel Known as Library Lane Parking Lot

DB New Business - Boards and Commissions:

DS New Business - Staff:

DS-1 [25-0068](#) Enactment No: R-25-022 Approved

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

Yeas: 10 - Mayor Taylor, Councilmember Briggs, Councilmember Disch, Councilmember Eyer, Councilmember Radina, Councilmember Harrison, Councilmember Watson, Councilmember Akmon, Councilmember Cornell and Councilmember Mallek

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Ghazi Edwin

Resolution Authorizing Publication of Notice of Intent to Issue Capital Improvement Bonds to Fund the Replacement of Fire Station No. 4 (Not to Exceed \$12,000,000.00) (6 Votes Roll Call)

CLOSED SESSION UNDER THE MICHIGAN OPEN MEETINGS ACT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LABOR NEGOTIATIONS STRATEGY, PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY, PENDING LITIGATION AND ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS SET FORTH OR INCORPORATED IN MCL 15.268 (1) (C), (D) (E), AND (H).

None.

E & F CLERK'S REPORT OF COMMUNICATIONS

E The following communications were referred as indicated:

Passed on consent agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Briggs, seconded by Councilmember Cornell, that the Clerk's Report of Communications be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

E-1 [25-0011](#) Washtenaw County Gaps Analysis Homeless Response System Through the Continuum of Care

E-2 [25-0102](#) Communication from Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Regarding the Issuance of Permit No. WRP041582 v1 - Ann Arbor Public Services - Sustainability

E-3 [25-0130](#) 2024 Annual Report of the Economic Development Corporation of the City of Ann Arbor

F **The following minutes were received for filing:**

F-1 [24-2016](#) DDA Minutes November 2024

F-2 [24-2160](#) Human Rights Commission Minutes - December 11, 2024

F-3 [24-2161](#) Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - December 18, 2024

G **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY**

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT - CONTINUED (3 MINUTES EACH - IF NECESSARY)

***THIS SECTION IS FOR SPEAKERS WHO SIGNED UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENTARY BUT WERE UNABLE TO SPEAK AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING DUE TO THE 45-MINUTE TIME LIMIT.**

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(Not necessary.)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Disch, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, that the meeting adjourn. On a voice vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

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

**LIVE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 @ 7:00 P.M.
REPLAY: FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2025 @ 8:00 P.M.**

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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.

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**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.

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