

## ORDINANCE NO. 1295

An ordinance to establish the Ypsilanti ~~Police Advisory~~ **Citizen Protection** Commission:

1. The city of Ypsilanti hereby ordains that Chapter 2, Article IV of the Ypsilanti City Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add a new Division 6, as follows: DIVISION 6. POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION Section 2.200. Created. Pursuant to Ypsilanti City Charter section 9.03, there is hereby created a commission known as the “Ypsilanti **Citizen Protection** Commission.”

### *Section 2.201. Purpose.*

The purpose of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** is:

- a. To strengthen the relationship between the community of the City of Ypsilanti and the Ypsilanti Police Department. **There’s no relationship between police and civilians, save perhaps a few of those in municipal power, or with outsized economic holdings; the police exist here primarily to surveil and/or harrass poor, underemployed, marginalized, and Black and Brown people. As such, we should not seek to “strengthen relationships,” but rather to minimize police influence on civic and social life in the city.**
- b. To ~~serve as a liaison to enhance community and police relations and serves as an advocate for programs, ideas, and methods to improve the relations between the police and~~ **reduce the need for policing in our** community.
- c. To Review police complaint investigatory findings, and report to council on the Commission’s analysis of these findings. **And to receive these complaints at the very same time the police department does, if not before.**

- d. To collect, review, and audit summary data and compile aggregate statistics relating to individual or community police complaints and other issues of importance.
- e. To educate the public about the complaint process, and ensure and recommend ways to make the process accessible to all. **To include the ability of citizens to file such complaints remotely, anonymously, or via a representative.**
- f. To ~~make recommendations~~ **provide direction** to the City Manager with regard to organizational matters and procedures.
- g. To participate in annual review of the Ypsilanti Police Department's ~~Citizen Police Academy~~. **We have yet to hear of any clear benefit of marginalized residents taking part in law enforcement self-propagandizing efforts known as "citizens police academies."**
- h. To ~~consult and advise~~ **co-author with** the City Manager the Ypsilanti Police Department's strategic plan.

### *Section 2.202. Appointment and Terms.*

The **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall consist of ~~7~~ **11** members, ~~including and a non-voting youth member~~ **and at least one EMU student**. All members of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be ~~appointed by the Mayor~~ **self-proposed and elected by vote of Human Relations Commissioners and City Council**, ~~with the approval and confirmation of a majority of City Council~~. There shall be ~~at least~~ one member **each from Ward 2 and Ward 3, and at least three members from Ward 1**. The term of members of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be three years, except that of the members first ~~appointed~~ **elected**. Terms shall be staggered as far as practicable. Members shall be appointed for a maximum of two full terms.

*Section 2.203. Duties.*

The duties of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be to:

- a. Establish and update rules by-laws for the transaction of its business, subject to the approval of the City Council. Such rules and by-laws shall be in a manner not inconsistent with this Article, other City ordinances, the City Charter, or laws of the state and federal government.
- b. Elect officers, including a chair.
- c. Establish and maintain a meeting schedule and meet at least quarterly.
- d. Take all necessary action to fulfill the purpose for the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** as stated in this Division.
- e. To file a written report of its activities, findings, and recommendations, if any, to City Council at least annually.

*Section 2.204. Procedure.*

Procedure for the operation of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be as follows:

- a. A majority of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** members appointed shall constitute a quorum.
- b. No meeting of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall commence or continue in the absence of a quorum.
- c. A majority vote of those forming a quorum shall be required for any action by the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission**, except where otherwise specified in this Article, other City ordinances, or the City Charter.

- d. Regular meetings of **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be held no less than quarterly. Any scheduled meeting may be rescheduled at the preceding regular meeting.
- e. The records of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be subject to the Freedom of Information Act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976 (MCL 15.231 et seq.), as amended.
- f. All meetings of the **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1967 (MCL 15.261 et seq.), as amended.
- g. The **Ypsilanti Citizen Protection Commission** shall provide an opportunity for public comment as to the business being conducted by the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission, pursuant to its established rules and by-laws.