

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, October 5, 2015

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes, Council Members Fitzsimmons, Clement and Baldyga; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Knobelsdorf; Ambulance Director Gensterblum; DDA/Main Street Director Perry; Audio/Visual Operator Proctor

Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Mike Judd; Tom Thelen of the Review & Observer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Phil Gensterblum.

Motion by Clement, supported by Baldyga, to approve the Proposed Revised Agenda as presented.

Yeas: Clement, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to excuse the absence of Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Clement, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

Under the City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman reported the EDC met on Monday, September 28, 2015 and heard from Michael Garrett of Pinnacle Construction Group who proposed exploring development opportunities with his company for the property owned by the City at Cutler Rd. and Grand River Ave. The property has previously been listed with realtors. The EDC concurred with exploring these development opportunities; there will be no contract.

Council Member Clement, who is also the Chair of the EDC, stated that she is encouraged by the possibility of this type of development on this property. Mr. Garrett enters into agreements with interested parties for a 10-year commitment to lease the buildings he constructs.

City Manager Gorman stated that the DPW building and grounds are in need of redesign and refurbishing. The staff does a great job with the resources they have but the assets are aging. The first step will be to determine the needs of the department.

In terms of development in the City of Portland, the RCP and Burns properties have been demolished and Star Nails is under reconstruction. Both the Olivera's and Goodwill site plans will be presented to

the Planning Commission on October 14, 2015. They are both prepared to begin construction when the plans are approved.

Under New Business, the Council took up the Second Reading and Consideration of Ordinance 175II to amend Section 42-186 (c) of the Portland Code of Ordinances for Parking Requirements without a drive through facility. The proposed change would decrease the required number of parking spaces and would be based on the number of employees working during the anticipated peak business hours and would be based on the maximum occupancy load. City Manager Gorman stated the Planning Commission has reviewed and recommended this change to the Council for approval.

There was discussion of the need to continue monitoring current ordinances.

Mayor Barnes commented that the ordinance as written would have created a sea of asphalt.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Clement, to approve Ordinance 175II to amend Section 42-186 (c) of the Portland City Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Clement, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 15-75 to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Second Amendment to the First Amended Fire and Emergency-Services Agreement for the purpose of financing the purchase of a 2015 Spencer Manufacturing apparatus fire truck. This purchase is consistent with the published 5-year improvement plan. State law requires the City and the Townships provide authorization to the Authority to finance the purchase of the fire truck.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 15-75 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Second Amendment to the First Amended Joint Fire and Emergency-Services Agreement.

Yeas: Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Clement, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 15-76 to approve a bid from Cook Brothers Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$5,935.00 for demolition of the house at 628 Canal St. that is owned by the City. City staff has previously determined that the structure should be demolished due to its dilapidated and blighted condition.

Motion by Clement, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 15-76 approving a bid from Cook Brothers Excavating, Inc. for demolition of City property located at 628 Canal St.

Yeas: Clement, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 15-77 to approve purchase of a new ambulance at a cost of \$109,915.00. The Portland Ambulance Department maintains a fleet of three ambulances and in order to keep them in good working condition, a new vehicle is typically purchased every seven years but due to budgetary constraints this schedule has not been maintained. The City has the opportunity to remount its 2001 Road Rescue onto a G-4500 Diesel Chassis utilizing its current “box” rather than purchasing a new truck at a savings of \$65,000.00 - \$70,000.00.

Ambulance Director Gensterblum gave an update on the current condition of the trucks and the rationale for the change out of the box onto a different chassis.

There was discussion.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 15-77 approving the purchase of a new ambulance.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Clement, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 15-78 to approve Fleis & VandenBrink’s proposal for engineering services associated with the remediation of the fuel spill at the Diesel Generation Plant that occurred in January 2009 with the failure of the underground fuel return line.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Clement, to approve Resolution 15-78 approving Fleis & VandenBrink’s proposal for engineering services associated with the remediation of the fuel spill at the Diesel Generation Plant.

Yeas: Baldyga, Clement, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 15-79 to approve Pay Request No. 7 in the amount of \$13,489.79 to the Michigan Department of Transportation for work performed on the Cutler Road Project. The City Engineer on the project has reviewed the pay request and recommends its approval.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Clement, to approve Resolution 15-79 approving Pay Request No. 7 to the Michigan Department of Transportation for work performed on the Cutler Road Project.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Clement, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

Motion by Clement, supported by Baldyga to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on September 21, 2015, payment of invoices in the amount of \$130,334.49 and payroll in the amount of \$87,681.40 for a total of \$218,015.89. Purchase orders to Tom’s Food Center in the amount of \$9,000.00 for the Energy Optimization Program, Keusch Super Service in the amount of \$9,460.00 for tires and wheel repair of the front loader,

TerHorst & Rinzema Construction Co. in the amount of \$12,505.00 for repairs to City Hall due to tornado damage, and to Resco in the amount of \$46,316.10 for Kerite wire and materials were included.

Yeas: Clement, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman reminded residents that the Rockin' River Color Run and the Fall Fest 5K and half marathon will both be held this weekend.

The Business After Hours, hosted by the DDA and Chamber of Commerce, was held on October 1, 2015 and was well attended.

Trick-or-Treating will take place on Halloween, Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Clement commented that representatives of the Portland Library have received a mini grant to hold an art competition. Watch for more information.

Mayor Barnes commented that he received a thank you from Patricia Fuller of the Daughters of the American Revolution for the proclamation recognizing Constitution Week.

Mayor Barnes also informed residents about the Michigan Child Protection Registry, a free, state program, under the Secretary of State, for families to register their emails, mobile phones and messenger IDs to restrict adult product advertisements like alcohol, tobacco, pornography, online gambling and illegal drugs from reaching their inboxes. He added that the information would be disseminated in the City's newsletter.

Motion by Clement, supported by Fitzsimmons, to adjourn the regular meeting.

Yeas: Clement, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: VanSlambrouck

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk