

# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

## Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, December 19, 2016

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, and Johnston; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Kirk; DDA/Main Street Transitional Coordination Director Briggs

Guests: Mike Judd

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

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman provided a recap of 2016 including new development, administrative changes, equipment and vehicle purchases, and miscellaneous activities. The City is in very good financial standing.

City Manager Gorman reported the City's representative with the Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA), Brent Henry, will attend an upcoming City Council meeting in order to explain the City's relationship with them and provide insight on energy purchases.

The City Council Goal Session will be held Monday evening, January 30, 2017.

The Zoning Board of Appeals heard and granted a request for the proposed redevelopment of the Muffler Man at 738 E. Grand River Ave. for a 10-foot variance from the side yard setback at its meeting on Monday, December 12, 2016. The Planning Commission considered and granted a Special Land Use Permit for the same development at its meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2016. The developer is planning to get started on the redevelopment very soon.

City Manager Gorman also reported that the City will be exploring the idea of privatization of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He would like to fully vet the idea before any changes are made. The plant was previously run this way and he would like to consider whether it would be worth doing so in the future.

Council Member Baldyga stated that the recap of 2016 included a very impressive list of accomplishments. He further stated that this speaks well of the Council, the City Staff and the community as a whole.

Under Presentations, DDA/Main Street Transitional Coordination Director Briggs provided the DDA/Main Street Report. Holidayfest was held on Saturday, December 10, 2017 and was a very fun-

filled, successful event. She thanked all involved for their help. The National Main Street Program is hosting a Refresh update program and Michigan will be a pilot site. The Portland Main Street Program will meet with them in late January to be part of the strategic planning. The subcommittee charged with hiring a new DDA/Main Street Director has been holding ongoing discussions. A job description and job posting have been determined and the job has been posted on various websites.

Mayor Barnes thanked Ms. Briggs for stepping into this position. The rest of the Council echoed his sentiments.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 16-93 to approve Bill No. 6 in the amount of \$13,016.07 to MDOT for work done on the Kent Street Improvement Project. The City Engineer on the project has reviewed the bill and is recommending its approval.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 16-93 approving Bill No. 6 to the Michigan Department of Transportation for work performed on the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Yeas: Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on December 5, 2016, payment of invoices in the amount of \$72,766.10 and payroll in the amount of \$103,462.44 for a total of \$176,228.54. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman thanked the employees of the Electric Department and the Department of Public Works for their assistance in hanging holiday lights and banners for Holidayfest.

City Manager Gorman stated that a meeting will be held in Portland on Thursday, January 26, 2017 for discussions and planning of the Grand River Water Trail System.

City Manager Gorman reported that he recently received the revised Purchase Agreement from Sparrow for the proposed purchase of property on Cutler Rd. for a new development. He is currently reviewing the document.

City Manager Gorman reminded residents that parking is prohibited on City streets between 2:00 and 6:00 A.M. through April 1<sup>st</sup> to aid DPW crews in the safe removal of snow. He further reminded residents to remove snow from sidewalks and around fire hydrants.

City Manager Gorman provided City Hall's hours during the holidays and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Barnes commented that he appreciates everything that City Staff does and wished City residents a Merry Christmas. He looks forward to a prosperous and successful new year.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk