

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, January 16, 2017

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: 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

Absent: Mayor Barnes

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Mike Judd

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

Adopted

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to excuse the absence of Mayor Barnes.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

Adopted

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated that he met with the Supervisors of both Danby Twp. and Portland Twp. to discuss several topics but to specifically discuss the Portland Area Municipal Authority (PAMA) related to ensuring that there is not a duplication of services with the Portland Area Fire Authority (PAFA). The jurisdictions are going to move forward with gathering more information on this issue.

The City Council Annual Goal Session will be held Monday, January 30, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. at City Hall.

City Manager Gorman reported that City Staff is exploring the option of privatization of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. A meeting was held this week to look at the “big picture” of taking this action. Further discussion will be postponed for a year or two at which time the current Wastewater Superintendent will retire. This time period will also coincide with the union contract negotiation period. Council will address this issue at its upcoming goal session.

Officer Tom Teitsma will be retiring after 27 years of service to the Portland Police Department. There will be a formal recognition of his service in the near future.

City Manager Gorman noted the very high river levels and noted that the City does monitor the river levels. They peaked last week and have now begun to recede.

In regard to the potential development by Sparrow on the property at Grand River Ave. and Cutler Rd., the purchase document language is in the process of being reviewed and edited.

Under Presentations, DDA/Main Street Transitional Coordination Director Briggs stated that the hiring process for a new DDA/Main Street Director is ongoing, the committee is currently in the process of reviewing the submitted resumes for the position. Representatives of the National Main Street Program will be Portland next week for the Refresh program. They have been invited to attend the Grand River Water Trail Meeting that will be held from 9:00 A.M. – Noon on Thursday, January 26, 2017 as they may be able to incorporate this process into the Main Street program's strategy plan. The DDA will be focusing on implementation of the DDA Development Plan adopted in May of 2014 and planning for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 17-02 to approve Farabee Mechanical's proposal to perform maintenance and inspection on the diesel generators in the amount of \$16,969.00 contingent on the approval of the Board of Light & Power.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-02 approving Farabee Mechanical's proposal to perform maintenance on the diesel generators contingent upon the approval of the Board of Light & Power.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-03 to approve Farabee Mechanical's proposal to perform improvements on the two diesel generators in the amount of \$22,496.00 contingent on the approval of the Board of Light & Power.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 17-03 approving Farabee Mechanical's proposal to perform improvements on the diesel generators contingent upon the approval of the Board of Light & Power.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-04 to approve a Resolution of Local Approval for a Specially Designated Merchant (SDM) License Application for Tom's Fuel Center who currently operates a gas station at 1700 E. Grand River Ave. They now seek to have a SDM License to sell beer and wine at that facility. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission requires a Resolution of Local Approval to be included in all completed license applications prior to review and approval.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-04 approving, authorizing, and directing the City Clerk to sign a Resolution of Local Approval for a Specially Designated Merchant (SDM) License Application for Tom's Fuel Center.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga
Nays: None
Absent: Barnes
Adopted

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on January 3, 2017, payment of invoices in the amount of \$112,122.25 and payroll in the amount of \$104,015.17 for a total of \$216,137.42. Purchase orders to Michigan Municipal Electric Association in the amount of \$5,946.00 for 2017 membership dues, Keusch Brothers in the amount of \$6,681.50 for the C&I Energy Optimization Program, MPPA in the amount of \$14,754.85 for 2017 membership dues, and the Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$27,494.48 for 3rd Quarter Fire Services were also included.

Yeas: Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston
Nays: None
Absent: Barnes
Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman stated that the Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting the Annual Daddy Daughter Dance in February. Due to capacity issues the event may be split into 2 nights.

There are currently 2 openings on the Board of Review and 1 on the Economic Development Corporation.

The Grand River Water Trail meeting will be held Thursday, January 26, 2017 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon and is open to the public.

City Manager Gorman reminded residents that parking is prohibited on City streets between 2:00 and 6:00 A.M. through April 1st 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 asked residents to break down boxes that are put into the cardboard recycling container at the DPW. He also asked that when the container is full to wait until it is emptied to dispose of cardboard.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Baldyga asked for an update on the progress of construction on the Old School Manor.

City Manager Gorman stated that he will ask the project manager to give an update at the next meeting.

City Manager Gorman also stated that discussions between the affected parties are ongoing for the McDonald's property. He is cautiously optimistic that the redevelopment of McDonald's will move forward.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck stated that the VFW will host a Hamburger Night to raise funds for the Portland Community Fund. They are still working to replenish funds expended after the tornado.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel VanSlambrouck, Mayor Pro-Tem

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk