

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, May 15, 2017

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 Director Conner Wellman; Portland Area Fire Authority Chief Tim Krizov; Zach Waltersdorf

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Kirk Moyer; Bill Nurenberg of Danby Township; Sue VanLente, Charlene Keilen and Mike Simon representing Portland Township; Starla Robertson, Joe Russman, and Brandon Martin with the Portland Rodeo Days; Sean McHugh with Granger; Dr. Jason Williamson; Vicki Woolf

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

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve the Revised Agenda as presented.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated the City of Portland was awarded the Brownfield Redevelopment Grant through the DEQ. The City will be moving forward with the potential acceptance of the donation of property by ADM Alliance Nutrition at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Divine Hwy.

City Manager Gorman stated that he will attend training tomorrow through the MEDC for Redevelopment Ready Communities. The training helps communities look at local zoning processes to ensure they are prepared for redevelopment opportunities.

The Annual Community Cleanup was held on Saturday, May 6, 2017. This year those participating were limited to one load to help ease traffic congestion. Last year there were 307 loads compared to 289 this year resulting in a positive impact on the traffic situation. The total cost of the cleanup this year was \$12,324.58.

Engineers with Fleis & VandenBrink continue to develop the preliminary design for the James St. Improvement Project.

Under Presentations, DDA/Main Street Director Conner Wellman presented the monthly report. She is making good progress on getting settled in and learning the processes. She spend a week at the National Main Street Conference in Pittsburgh, PA which was very beneficial. She is working on establishing clear communication goals and will be requesting each committee submit an article each month for the On the Street newsletter. She will also be working to upgrade the website. Block Party will be held Saturday, May 20, 2017; volunteers are still needed.

Joe Russman presented information on the 11th Annual Portland Rodeo Days, scheduled for June 9-10, 2017 at Bogue Flats.

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing at 7:18 P.M.

City Manager Gorman stated the Public Hearing is to offer an opportunity for individuals to voice their opinion on the possible implementation of curbside recycling in the City of Portland.

City Manager Gorman stated that this issue has been under consideration since February and he has been in communication with both Portland and Danby Township. An informal online study was conducted that showed 75% of City residents responding are in favor of implementation of curbside recycling. There has been some response from township residents expressing concern that they would not have access too the recycling center.

City Manager Gorman further stated that the City receives no fee for recycling or refuse collection. All services are handled through Granger.

Mayor Barnes provided a history of recycling in the City of Portland as he remembered.

Sean McHugh of Granger thanked the City Council and City Manager Gorman for their partnership with the City. He further stated that Granger believes that recycling is the right thing to do and is trying to expand its recycling service territory. He stated that offering recycling is a challenge as there are many expenses in providing a sustainable program as it depends on density and participation. Implementation of curbside recycling will provide customers with a 96-gallon cart with a yellow lid that would be collected every other week; this is the industry standard. Granger prefers that glass is not disposed of in the container, Granger does all of the sorting in Michigan. They currently have a very successful program in the City of Ionia.

City Manager Gorman stated that some residents have expressed concern about the extra trucks that would be travelling on City streets. He has presented this concern to City engineers and they report there would be a de minimis impact to the streets and would not decrease the life of the road.

City Manager Gorman noted the pros/cons to consider in the implementation of curbside recycling. The City, Portland Township, and Danby Township split the cost from Granger to dump the recycling bins and the recycling center. This cost has continued to escalate due to the number of loads required to be dumped increasing. The labor and equipment to maintain the recycling center is approximately \$7,000-\$8,000 per year and is paid entirely by the City. The time spent on maintenance of the recycling center takes DPW crews away from other important jobs. The recycling center has become an area of blight at the DPW. If the recycling center remains, consideration needs to be given to installing concrete pads for ease of maintenance at a cost of approximately \$25,000 - \$30,000. The City of Portland is trying to clean up the DPW and Bogue Flats area as it is a park.

Mayor Barnes stated that the City's goal is not to leave the township residents "high and dry" in terms of recycling but would like to work with them to find an alternative location for a recycling center.

City Manager Gorman stated that the City is looking at this issue as a "service" oriented situation to its residents not an "ideological" situation in terms of recycling. City residents would pay an additional fee of approximately \$3.50/month for the curbside recycling service.

Mark Simon, Portland Township Trustee, inquired if Granger would use the same truck for recycling and refuse service or if there would be two separate trucks.

Mr. McHugh stated that there would likely be two separate trucks.

Mr. Simon stated that if the City decides to go with curbside recycling it will leave the township residents with a dilemma as they appreciate the convenience of the location in the City. They would like to work together as a community.

Kirk Moyer, Portland City Resident, commented that he has no problem taking recyclables to the recycling center. He doesn't agree with making curbside recycling mandatory for City residents. He suggested that if curbside recycling is not implemented the townships could help with the administrative and infrastructure costs of the recycling center.

City Manager Gorman noted that there is a corresponding problem with the abuse of the City's compost pile that needs to be addressed.

Mayor Barnes closed the Public Hearing at 7:50 P.M.

Council Member Baldyga thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 17-42 to approve the sale of approximately five acres of City Property to the Edward W. Sparrow Hospital Association pursuant to the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement, Declaration of Restrictions and Commission Agreement. City Manager Gorman stated that the closing won't take place for several months.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 17-42 approving the sale of approximately five acres of City property to the Edward W. Sparrow Hospital Association.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-43 to approve supplemental employment for City employees Tim Krizov, a full-time Wastewater Treatment Plant employee and Zach Waltersdorf, a full-time paramedic with the Portland Ambulance Department to work for the Portland Area Fire Authority. The respective supervisors of the employees and the city manager are in support of the request per the conditions of approval in the Dual Employment Agreement.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 17-43 approving supplemental employment for City employees to work for the Portland Area Fire Authority.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council approved Resolution 17-44 to approve an Assignment Agreement with Synagro Central, LLC. The City entered into a biosolids management services agreement for a term of 3 years with Synagro Central, LLC on July 18, 2016. Synagro Central, LLC has proposed to assign their obligations

under the agreement to Michigan AgriBusiness Solutions (MAS) until the end of the service contract. The City Manager and Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent have reviewed the proposed Agreement and recommend its approval.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-44 approving, authorizing, and directing the City Manager to sign an Assignment Agreement with Synagro Central, LLC.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-45 to approve a proposal from the Utilities Instrumentation Service (UIS) to install a Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The WWTP currently operates an analog alarm system that monitors the three lift stations and pays approximately \$1,200 per month to AT&T for this service and the fee is expected to substantially increase in August 2017. The WWTP Superintendent and the City Manager recommend approval of the proposal for UIS to provide SCADA upgrades for the three lift stations in the amount of \$27,725.00.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 17-45 approving a proposal form Utilities Instrumentation Service to install a SCADA system for the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Yeas: Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-46 to approve the purchase of a Woods Batwing Mower for the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Department in the amount of \$12,189.00 to replace the mower that was purchased in 2002 and is in need of replacement.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 17-46 approving the purchase of a Woods Batwing Mower for the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-47 to approve the purchase of a John Deere Z950 Zero Turn Mower in the amount of \$9,607.67 for the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Department.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-47 approving the purchase of a John Deere Z950 Zero Turn Mower for the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Department.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Baldyga, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on May 1, 2017, payment of invoices in the amount of \$124,761.81 and payroll in the amount of \$141,261.57 for a total of \$266,023.38. Purchase orders to Fleis & VandenBrink in the amount of \$8,322.75 for Wastewater

operations, I.T. Right in the amount of \$9,200.00 for the Annual Service Contract, and Robert W. Baird & Co. in the amount of \$13,150.00 for Placement Agent Services for the 2017 Bond Issuance.

Yeas: Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman stated that Thursdays on the Grand presented by the Portland Community Arts Council will begin June 1, 2017. He also reminded everyone that the Block Party will be held Saturday, May 20, 2017.

City Manager Gorman also stated that a Special Meeting of the City Council was held earlier this evening at 6:00 P.M. with Mr. Watza of Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook who presented information on the Right of Way Utility Regulation and current issues regarding DAS and Small Cell Citing in relation to the application from ACD.net to place six small cell towers in the City of Portland.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked City Staff for their hard work at the Cleanup Day on May 6, 2016.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck invited the community to celebrate the 99th birthday of Mr. Robert Torp-Smith with him at the VFW on May 21, 2017 from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M.

Mayor Barnes commented that Mr. Torp-Smith is well-loved and admired in the community. He has always been very involved in the Portland community.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk