

# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

## Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, June 5, 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

Guests: Jason Mellema, Ionia County ISD Superintendent; Esther Durnwald of the Michigan Wildflower Farm; Noreen Logel and Mariette Leatherman of the Friends of the Red Mill; Karen Bota of the Sentinel Standard

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman welcomed Jason Mellema, Ionia County ISD Superintendent and noted that he has served on the ISD Board since 2013.

City Manager Gorman stated that he will attend training on June 20, 2017 through the MEDC for Redevelopment Ready Communities to review the City's development processes to evaluate anything that can be improved.

The City will be working with Fleis & VandenBrink to review the Wellhead Protection Program that was updated in 2014. The current program is approved through 2020 but will be reviewed to ensure the quality of the program and that all priorities are addressed.

The City was awarded the DNR Acquisition Grant to acquire a portion of property adjacent to Two Rivers Park. As part of the grant new environmental testing was required. Fleis & VandenBrink has completed both the Phase I and II Environmental Assessment Studies and submitted them to the required parties. The goal is to close on the grant by the end of the Fiscal Year.

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. We are currently waiting for the application then the administrative process can move forward. Discussions with ADM Alliance Nutrition regarding the City taking the property can resume.

Fleis & VandenBrink has completed the preliminary design work on the James St. Improvement Project. City staff will meet with the engineers on June 7, 2017 to go over the plans and walk the project. A workshop with City Council will be held later this month as well.

McDonald's is moving forward with reconstruction of their building and property this month. The development will encompass the entire corner of Bridge St. and Grand River Ave.

In other developments, construction on ConfluxCity Brewery LLC is underway. The Sparrow Medical Group is working on their environmental studies and surveys of the property agreed upon for purchase on Cutler Rd. Muffler Man is expected to begin redevelopment soon; the approved site plan has a 12-month "shelf life". The project manager on the Old School Manor redevelopment project will provide an update at the next Council meeting.

Under Presentations, Jason Mellema, Ionia County ISD Superintendent presented information on the Special Education Headlee Restoration Millage Election that will be held on August 8, 2017.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck encouraged residents to consider the value this program provides to the special needs students.

Esther Durnwald of the Michigan Wildflower Farm provided a presentation and information about wildflower plantings and the project to plant wildflowers on the ½ acre along the River Trail near the Red Mill.

Noreen Logel addressed the Council and noted that the Friends of the Red Mill are planning to place signage to explain what is happening at the site.

DDA/Main Street Director Tina Conner Wellman presented her monthly report. The Block Party, held on May 20, 2017, went very well until the rain moved in. There was a lot of positive feedback on the event. She thanked the organizing team and many volunteers. The Design Committee will meet this week to review one Sign Grant and one Façade Grant Application that were submitted. An application has been submitted to add the NW and NE corners of Water St. and Grand River Ave. to the Main Street Program. They will also begin working on funding for a new lamp post to match the others on the corner where ConfluxCity Brewery will be opening. Work will also begin to rebuild the website. Planning for Beerfest on the Bridge is also taking form. More updates to come.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 17-48 for the Mayor and Clerk to sign an amendment to the License Agreement with the Friends of the Red Mill to include additional land to plant wildflowers.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 17-48 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor and Clerk to sign an amendment to the License Agreement with the Friends of the Red Mill.

Yeas: Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-49 for the Mayor and Clerk to sign Amendment No. 4 to the Refuse Collection Agreement with Granger to include curbside recycling.

City Manager Gorman stated that a lot of due diligence has been done prior to this proposed amendment to implement curbside recycling. The biggest concern seems to be from township residents who are concerned about the losing the recycling center located at the DPW. The City plans to keep the recycling center in place until the townships are able to find an alternative solution. Granger has advised that the implementation of curbside recycling will take place in September.

Council Member Baldyga noted that it is the Council's intent to work with the townships to address the issue of the recycling center.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-49 authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign Amendment No. 4 to the Refuse Collection Agreement to include Curbside Recycling.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-50 to approve Bill No. 9 in the amount of \$1,600.00 to MDOT for work performed on the Kent Street Improvement Project. The City Engineer on the project has reviewed the invoice and recommends its payment.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 17-50 approving Bill No. 9 to the Michigan Department of Transportation for work performed on the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-51 to approve an energy purchase not to exceed \$98,167.00 for future load requirements for the period of January 2017 through June 2018 through the Michigan Public Power Agency. At its meeting May 23, 2017, the Board of Light and Power voted to recommend the approval of this energy purchase.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 17-51 approving an energy purchase for the Board of Light and Power through the Michigan Public Power Agency.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-52 to approve the recommendation of the Board of Light and Power to purchase supplies and materials for the East Grand River Avenue Project to remove the overhead power lines. At its meeting on May 23, 2017 the Board of Light and Power voted to recommend City Council approve the purchase of high voltage connectors/supplies from Power Line Supply in the amount of \$13,473.66.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 17-52 approving the recommendation of the Board of Light and Power to purchase supplies and material for the East Grand River Avenue Project.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None  
Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting and the Special Meeting held on May 15, 2017, payment of invoices in the amount of \$119,684.20 and payroll in the amount of \$276,111.03 for a total of \$395,795.23. Purchase orders to Resco in the amount of \$6,090.00 for poles, Synagro Central, LLC in the amount of \$6,750.00 for pump and transport of liquid materials, Fleis & VandenBrink in the amount of \$10,108.55 for James Street design services, and Dickinson Wright PLLC in the amount of \$15,000.00 for bond counsel fees were also included.

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

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted that the Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing will be held Friday, June 9, 2017 and the CreeMee Grand Opening will be held Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 2:00 P.M.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Barnes noted that the flowers planted in the downtown look nice and he expressed appreciation to the DPW crew for their efforts in patching the City streets.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk