

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, September 18, 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 Sergeant Thomas

Guests: Jon Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink; Kathy Parsons

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 stated that the Parks and Recreation Board met earlier this evening and took action to begin the process of updating the Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan. A public workshop will be held soon.

McDonald's will hold their grand opening on Thursday, September 28, 2017. City Manager Gorman presented photos of progress at the restaurant and noted that the monument sign was erected today along Grand River Ave.

The James Street Improvement Project has been underway for one week and is moving along well.

Consumers Energy has executed the release of easement for the property along Cutler Rd. and Grand River Ave. The documents will now be recorded. Discussions will begin soon regarding construction of the road on the property.

Several applications have been received for the Chief of Police position. The position posting expired today at 5:00 P.M.

The Redevelopment Ready Community process is nearly complete. When complete the City of Portland will be "formally engaged" and will then be able to meet the requirements to qualify for the benefits of the program.

City staff and engineers will meet with the administrators of both St. Patricks and Portland Public Schools to discuss improving the crosswalks near the local schools through a program offered by the Department of Transportation.

City Manager Gorman further noted that he is working with the Police Department to address code enforcement issues in an effort to protect property values.

Under New Business, the First Reading of Ordinance 150A to amend Chapter 3 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Portland, Michigan, to provide for the Uniform City Income Tax Ordinance.

Mayor Barnes noted that this is “housekeeping” matter to codify this ordinance.

City Manager Gorman stated that Ordinance 150A has been in place since 1984 and follows the State Act. Codifying this as part of the City Ordinances will make it more easily available to residents for viewing.

The Council considered Resolution 17-79 to approve Hydro Designs proposal to provide a Cross Connection Control Program for the City of Portland at a 3-year cost of \$17,964.00. Hyrdo Designs has administered the City’s Cross Connection Control Program for several years. The City Manager has reviewed the proposed work plan and budget and recommends its approval.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-79 approving Hydro Designs proposal to provide a Cross Connection Control Program for the City of Portland.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-80 to approve Fleis & VandenBrink’s proposal to provide construction engineering services for the James Street Improvement Project in the amount of \$137,900.00. The Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 includes sufficient funds to cover the proposal.

Jon Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink addressed the Council and noted that he is pleased with the progress on the James Street Improvement Project. The construction schedule is aggressive but is moving along well. Installation of the watermain is nearly complete.

Mr. Moxey stated that the design engineering service costs are lower than anticipated. Fleis & VandenBrink will provide the same design work as has been provided on previous street projects.

Mr. Moxey also stated that the Safe Routes program administered by MDOT is actually Federal funds. MDOT adds some additional funding. The program is geared towards schools.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 17-80 approving Fleis & VandenBrink’s proposal to provide construction engineering services for the James Street Improvement Project.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-81 to approve the issuance of a Transient Trader Permit for a BBQ food trailer in the vacant lot at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Divine Hwy. owned by the ADM Company. The hours of operation will be 4:00 P.M. through 9:00 P.M. through November 16, 2017.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 17-81 approving issuance of a Transient Trader Permit for a BBQ food trailer.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None
Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 17-82 to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Jim Sandborn to the Portland Area Municipal Authority.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 17-82 to confirm the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

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

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on September 5, 2017, payment of invoices in the amount of \$55,829.58 and payroll in the amount of \$121,960.97 for a total of \$177,790.55. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

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

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted that the street light poles in the area around McDonald's will be coming down as soon as possible.

The Portland Area Municipal Authority will meet on October 4, 2017. City Manager Gorman stated that he plans to attend the meeting to offer his assistance.

City Manager Gorman reminded residents that hydrant flushing began September 18, 2017 and will continue through September 29, 2017.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Baldyga stated that he attended the MML Conference in Holland. He found it to be a very interesting conference and Holland to be a great community. He was especially impressed by their energy park.

Mayor Barnes thanked Council Members Baldyga and Johnston and Mayor Pro Tem VanSlambrouck for attending the MML Conference.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk