

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, March 19, 2018

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes; Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, Baldyga and Johnston; City Manager Gorman; City Finance Officer Kinde; Electric Superintendent Hyland; Electric Department Employees Honsowitz, Wernet, and Scheurer; Ambulance Director Gensterblum; Paramedic Waltersdorf; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: Mike Kapcia; Jon Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink; Amy DeLeeuw and Patrick Deven of the Michigan Public Power Agency; Kathy Parsons, City Representative to the Portland Area Fire Authority; Tim Krizov, Chief of the Portland Area Fire Authority; Dave Donbrock, Assistant Chief of the Portland Area Fire Authority; Mark Ackerson, Chair of the Portland Area Fire Authority; William Heath, Superintendent of Portland Public Schools; Kevin Robydek, Principal of Portland Middle School; Bill Almy, Commander of VFW Post 4090; Senior Vice Commander David Reed of VFW Post 4090; Jake Schafer, Marie Schafer, Glen Schafer, Brittany Waltersdorf; Carrie Platte; Greg Skeide; Jason Miller; Bill Stegenga; Roy & Cena Schneider; Kimberly Patrick-Chapman; Tommy Klepac; Doug Logel, Jr.; Chad Weiler; Nick Martin; Doug, Charlsie, Keller and Ivan Abel

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

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no General Public Comment.

Mayor Barnes opened the floor for public comment on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application for improvements to Will Toan Park.

Mr. Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink presented information on the project and the application which is due April 1, 2018.

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman explained that the Toan Park Improvement Project is expected to be a joint effort between the City and the DDA.

The City Council recently approved the revised Donation Agreement with ADM Alliance Nutrition for the property at the corner of Divine Hwy. and Grand River Ave. The updated Phase I Environmental Assessment is currently underway; nothing new is expected to be found. When this is completed the closing on the property can take place.

The City and Sparrow closed on the 5 acres along Cutler Rd. that Sparrow is purchasing. The City is now working with engineers to design the road that will be the access for the new Sparrow facility as well as other developments on the property as they occur. The project is expected to put out for bid in the next month with construction of the road to take place this summer.

As weather permits the top course of pavement, final restorations, and punch lists items will be completed on the James Street Improvement Project.

The City is engaged in the DNR Acquisition process for the area around the Rivers Edge Condos near the Bandshell at Two Rivers Park. An appraiser has been hired to appraise the property which will then be submitted to the DNR. The process will be coming to a close soon.

The City recently received a Wellhead Protection Grant to continue preserving the wellhead areas to ensure safe drinking water.

The City continues to work with Portland Public Schools and St. Patricks School on the Safe Routes to school program. The goal is to submit a plan and grant application this summer which would include a new traffic signal at Grand River Ave. and West St.

The Planning Commission met Wednesday, March 14, 2018 and reapproved a request for a Special Land User Permit for the property at 738 E. Grand River Ave. to construct a 1,198 square foot addition to the existing 1,804 square foot motor vehicle repair garage known as Muffler Man. They expect to break ground on the project relatively soon.

Under Presentations, Commander Bill Almy recognized Jacob Schafer as VFW Post 4090 EMT of the Year and Zach Waltersdorf as VFW Post 4090 Firefighter of the Year.

Mayor Barnes presented Mike Kapcia with a proclamation recognizing his retirement and honoring his over 26 years of service to the City of Portland Electric Department.

Portland Public Schools Superintendent Will Heath presented information on the upcoming Bond Proposal that will be voted on at the Election on May 8, 2018.

Mark Ackerson, Chair of the Portland Area Fire Authority, and Fire Chief Krizov presented information on their plan to replace a pumper truck in keeping with their vehicle replacement plan.

Patrick Devon of the Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA) presented information and the requirements of the Voluntary Green Pricing (VGP) Program which will allow customers to attribute a portion of their electrical usage to renewable energy.

There was discussion.

Under New Business, the First Reading of Ordinance 101K to Amend Chapter 40 of the Code of Ordinances to provide rates for Renewable Energy Purchases through the VGP Program and adjust the formula for the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) factor.

Electric Superintendent Hyland explained that one of the plants that supplies electricity to the City of Portland through the MPPA was recently paid off. This reduces the cost of energy by approximately

\$16,000 per month and ultimately would reduce the PCA factor. Superintendent Hyland explained that adjusting the formula for the PCA would allow those funds to still be captured to be used for improvements recommended by the study completed by GRP Engineering that total almost \$3 million.

There was discussion.

The Council considered Resolution 18-16 to approve the adoption of the Voluntary Green Pricing (VGP) Program for the City of Portland contingent on the approval by the Board of Light and Power at its meeting on March 20, 2018 as required by Public Act 342, Section 61. The VGP Program will allow customers to specify the amount of electricity they would like to attribute that will be renewable energy.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 18-16 approving the adoption of the Voluntary Green Pricing (VGP) Program for the City of Portland contingent upon the approval of the Board of Light and Power.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-17 to revise the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) Formula for the City of Portland contingent on the approval by the Board of Light and Power at its meeting on March 20, 2018. Due to the recent elimination of the debt service related to the Belle River Coal Plant, there is an opportunity to reallocate approximately \$16,784.00 per month to the electric fund for future projects and goals.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 18-17 approving a revision to the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) Formula for the City of Portland contingent upon the approval of the Board of Light and Power.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-18 to approve submission of a MDNR MNRTF Grant Application for improvements to William Toan Park as identified in the Portland Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan 2018-2022.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 18-18 for submission of a MDNR MNRTF Grant Application.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-19 to authorize the City Manager to sign a contract with AT&T for telephone service which will result in savings of almost \$13,000 over the previous year.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 18-19 approving, authorizing, and directing the City Manager to sign a contract with AT&T for telephone service.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-20 to approve Michigan Pavement Markings LLC's bid for 2018 street painting in the amount of \$12,217.00.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 18-20 approving Michigan Pavement Markings LLC's bid for 2018 Street Painting.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-21 to approve participating in the State Bid process for winter road salt for 2018-2019.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 18-21 approving participation in the State Bid Process for Winter Road Salt for 2018-2019.

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 held on March 5, 2018, payment of invoices in the amount of \$74,628.09 and payroll in the amount of \$112,332.67 for a total of \$186,960.76. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, tonight was an excellent opportunity to recognize so many members that serve the community of Portland.

This year's Community Clean Up day will take place on Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the DPW compound. Hazardous waste will also be collected the same day at the Fire Department.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Baldyga noted that there are many ways to get involved in all the things that are currently happening in the City of Portland.

Mayor Barnes commented on all of the exciting developments in the City of Portland that will have a significant impact on Portland's downtown over the next few years.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk