

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, August 6, 2018

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes; Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, and Johnston; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas

Absent: Council Member Baldyga

Guests: Andy Pulling of Portland Public Schools; Eric Proctor; Kathy Parsons

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to excuse the absence of Council Member Baldyga.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated that construction on the access road off from Cutler Rd. for the potential Sparrow project began today, August 6, 2018. He further stated that he was informed that Portland has moved up in priority on Sparrow's capital project list.

In regard to the Sunset Ridge Community sewer discharge into the Grand River, City Manager Gorman referenced the letter he sent and the response that was included in the communications. He further noted that he has been in contact with Portland Township and the contractor for Sunset Ridge Community regarding future communications. He plans to have discussions with the relevant parties to consider the relocation of the discharge point as the Sunset Ridge Community is located in Portland Township but the discharge point is located in the City limits.

The Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 where they will hold a Public Hearing and consider proposed zoning changes to allow adult foster care congregate facilities in

R-2 and R-3 districts. They will also discuss deviations from the PUD proposed by Mayberry Homes for the Phase II development at Rindlehaven and the upcoming Zoning Ordinance update.

Wastewater Superintendent Sherman has announced his retirement to be effective January 2019. In anticipation of his retirement an assessment of the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be conducted to consider whether privatization of operation of the plant should be implemented.

City Manager Gorman stated that he will meet with Pulse to evaluate the existing underground conduit to further analyze bringing fiber optics to the residents of Portland.

Under Presentations, Andy Pulling presented a proposal for a Bike and Hike Trail at Portland Public Schools.

There was discussion.

Mayor Barnes noted for the record that Mr. Pulling is his son-in-law.

Eric Proctor presented information on the Beerfest on the Bridge event that will be held Saturday, August 11, 2018.

Under Presentations, DDA/Main Street Director Conner Wellman presented her report on downtown activities. Beerfest planning is underway and streetscape appearance and maintenance is being addressed. The Outdoor Flea Market on the 1st Saturday of each month is proceeding well. Director Conner Wellman has been working with CEDAM and AmeriCorps to confirm the candidate for the VISTA position. Dana Hengesbach will officially start on August 20, 2018. The Portland Prime local community gift certificate program has begun it's planning and implementation stages and should be ready by early October. Sesquicentennial planning is moving along.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 18-62 to authorize a License Agreement with Portland Public Schools to use City property for a bike trail at 1150 Ionia Rd.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 18-62 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor and Clerk to sign a License Agreement with Portland Public Schools to use City property for a bike trail.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-63 to approve a contract with Clear Heights Construction, LLC in the amount of \$151,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a vehicle storage structure for the Department of Public Works as there is currently insufficient storage space to adequately protect and preserve these assets.

Motion by Johnston, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 18-63 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign a contract with Clear Heights Construction, LLC for the purchase and installation of a vehicle storage structure for the Department of Public Works.

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-64 to approve a Transient Trader Permit for a BBQ Food Trailer for Chris Teachout to sell BBQ at the vacant lot at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Divine Hwy. owned by the City of Portland.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 18-64 approving issuance of a Transient Trader Permit for a BBQ food trailer.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 18-65 to appoint Human Resources Administrator, Mindy Tolan, as the City's officer delegate for the 2018 Municipal Employee Retirement System (MERS) conference, October 4th-5th, 2018, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 18-65 appointing an officer delegate to represent the City at the 2018 MERS conference.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

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 July 16, 2018, payment of invoices in the amount of \$176,318.78 and payroll in the amount of \$97,010.94 for a total of \$273,329.72. Purchase orders to Cook Brothers Excavating in the amount of \$7,790.00 for a sewer repair on Riverside Dr., Medler Electric in the amount of \$8,025.30 for conduit, and Resco in the amount of \$45,112.00 for transformers were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman reminded residents that the Primary Election will be held tomorrow, August 7, 2018. Polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

The Red Mill Community Day will be held on Saturday, August 25, 2018 from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. with a wide variety of activities.

City Manager Gorman noted that the Portland School Apartment project was not chosen for the MML Community Excellence Award.

The City of Portland will visit Middleville on Friday, August 10, 2018 for Mayor Exchange. Middleville will visit the City of Portland on Wednesday, August 15, 2018.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Johnston noted that the outdoor playground at Oakwood Elementary School will be dedicated on August 20, 2018 at 4:30 P.M.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk