

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, January 7, 2019

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes; Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Baldyga, and Johnston; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas; DDA/Main Street Director ConnerWellman

Absent: Council Member Fitzsimmons

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Bob Lathers of The Portland Beacon; Mitchell Boatman of the Sentinel Standard

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 Revised Agenda as presented.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

There was no public comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated that initial testing of the City's wells for PFAS came back with a finding of trace amounts in well #5, a standby/emergency well. After receiving the results this well was taken completely offline and retested. The results of the resting of the well came back at 3.2 ppt. According to the DEQ both of these results fall under trace amounts and no action is required.

City Manager Gorman stated that the City will take the following actions:

1. Well #5 will remain offline.
2. The City will develop and implement PFAS testing of the wastewater and points of discharge into the system.
3. Annual testing of PFAS will take place.

4. The City will conduct a study of suitable locations for an additional well.

City Manager Gorman provided a brief history of the Rindlehaven development by Mayberry Homes and provided information on the potential for Phase II. The Planning Commission is looking at whether the initial Rindlehaven PUD should be modified or if new zoning should be adopted for the property. City Manager Gorman and the City's zoning consultant will meet with representatives of Mayberry Homes next week.

The Two Rivers Park Acquisition transaction did close recently. The City of Portland now owns the property. City Manager Gorman explained how the acquisition of this property along Grand River Ave. and the Looking Glass River could potentially affect the eventual replacement of the Divine Hwy. Bridge.

City Manager Gorman noted that funding was not received on the collaborative DNR Grant Application between the DDA and Parks and Recreation Department for the Toan Park Improvement Project. The boards will evaluate whether to resubmit an application for funding.

City Manager Gorman introduced the Blue Campaign initiative in partnership with the Portland Public Schools to end Human Trafficking.

Council Member Baldyga further explained the initiative.

Under Presentations, DDA/Main Street Director ConnerWellman presented her report on downtown activities. She has been working with various property owners and businesses on possible new funding opportunities from Michigan Main Street. Sales from the Portland Prime Community Gift Certificate Program have been robust. There was a 35% increase in participation and sponsorship of HolidayFest, held Saturday, December 8, 2018.

Under New Business, the Council held the second reading and considered the approval of Ordinance 175MM which addresses the zoning component of prohibiting marijuana establishments in the City of Portland.

City Manager Gorman explained the ordinance and stated that the Planning Commission reviewed and took public comment on Ordinance 175MM. They unanimously recommended its approval to the City Council.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Johnston, to approve Ordinance 175MM to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Portland by adding a new section which new section shall be designated as Section 42-318 of Chapter 42 of said code.

Yeas: Baldyga, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 19-01 to approve a proposal from Inside Information in the amount of \$8,300.00 to conduct a Broadband Statistical Survey to verify residents' attitudes

regarding broadband and their likelihood to purchase new service offered by the City of Portland.

Motion by Johnston, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 19-01 approving a proposal from Inside Information to conduct a Broadband Statistical Survey and approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign same for the City of Portland.

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

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 December 17, 2018, payment of invoices in the amount of \$73,277.62 and payroll in the amount of \$95,179.24 for a total of \$168,456.86. A purchase order to Michigan Wood Fibers in the amount of \$13,450.00 to grind brush and haul chips was also included.

Yeas: Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman recognized the passing of Captain Robert Torp-Smith at age of 100 and extended thoughts and prayers to the family.

All of the other Council Members and Mayor Barnes also expressed their sentiments and condolences and further noted his contributions to the community.

City Manager Gorman noted that the Daddy Daughter Dance will be held this year on February 20th and 21st from 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. each night.

City Manager Gorman noted that the winter parking ban went into effect on November 1, 2018 and will be in place through April 1, 2019. No parking is allowed on City streets between 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck stated that in regard to the PFAS testing residents can be assured that the water in Portland is safe. He further noted that he is happy to know that annual testing will be conducted.

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk