

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, February 4, 2019

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 Thomas; DDA/Main Street Director ConnerWellman

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Denise Barnes; Mike Judd; Chris O'Neill of Homeworks Connect; 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 Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve the Proposed Agenda as presented.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no public comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman reported that the winter weather this past week was extremely snowy and cold resulting a State of Emergency being declared by the governor. He further thanked the City's emergency personnel, DPW employees, and City staff for their dedication and efforts in handling the snow and weather. Portland was one of the few municipalities that was open for business all week. The snow removal and road maintenance went as well as would be expected.

The kickoff meeting for the SAW Grant process was held on February 1, 2019. This grant will provide over \$700,000 in mapping and evaluation of the City's utility infrastructure and is scheduled to be complete in 2020.

The Portland Area Municipal Authority met today to evaluate potential improvements to the building at 773 E. Grand River Ave. A feasibility study is being conducted.

The feasibility study for a new Police Department is also still ongoing.

City Manager Gorman noted that he has been working with Inside Information on finalizing the questions for the survey which will determine the "take rate" or level of interest from the residents in the Broadband Internet Project.

Under Presentations, DDA/Main Street Director ConnerWellman presented her report on downtown activities. The DDA Board and Teams have set their goals and are developing the workplans. Director ConnerWellman provided updates on business and property in the DDA District along with other projects and recent activities.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 19-05 to approve the Michigan Main Street Program Community Requirements and Expectations Agreement. The City of Portland is designated as a Michigan Main Street Community and has successfully completed all of the requirements and has been accredited. The Michigan Main Street Program requires the proposed agreement be executed.

Mayor Barnes noted the importance of this program and the benefits it brings to the City of Portland.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 19-05 approving the Michigan Main Street Program Community Requirements and Expectations Agreement.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 19-06 to approve the Michigan Public Power Agency's (MPPA) recommendation for the City's Board of Light and Power to join the Coldwater Peaking Service Committee to study a potential ownership opportunity involving the Michigan South Central Power Agency (MSCPA). The Board of Light and Power passed a recommendation to join the committee at its January 29, 2019 regular meeting.

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 19-06 approving the Michigan Public Power Agency's (MPPA) recommendation for the City's Board of Light and Power to join the Coldwater Peaking Service Committee.

Yeas: Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 19-07 to amend the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The Finance Director has reviewed current fund balances and expenditures for the Fiscal Year and recommends the proposed amendments.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 19-07 to amend the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on January 21, 2019 and the Council Goal Session held on January 28, 2019, payment of invoices in the amount

of \$95,172.32 and payroll in the amount of \$111,133.65 for a total of \$206,305.97. A purchase order to Michael R. Kluck & Associates in the amount of \$5,545.96 for legal services was also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman stated that the City of Portland was recognized by the Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce in recognition of its Sesquicentennial, celebrating 150 years as a 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. He also reminded all residents and business owners that City Ordinances require the removal of snow from all sidewalks within 10 hours of a snow event.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted that the VFW will be hosting a fundraiser for the Portland Community Fund on March 1, 2019 with a Burger Night.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk