

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, March 4, 2019

In Council Chambers at City Hall

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

Absent: Council Member Baldyga

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Doug and Charlsie Abel; Mitchell Boatman of the Ionia Sentinel-Standard; Robert Lathers of The Portland Beacon

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

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

There was no public comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman provided a report on the ice jam and flooding. The City is continuing to look at proactive steps that can be taken. City Manager Gorman stated that he continues to meet and be in contact with the Army Corp of Engineers, MSP Emergency Management, the National Weather Service and local contractors. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently operating at normal capacity.

Last year the in collaboration with the DDA, the Parks Department submitted a grant application for the redevelopment of Toan Park. A revised application will be submitted again this year, the deadline for submission is April 1st.

The Planning Commission will meet on March 13, 2019 to discuss the potential marketing of the property at Grand River Ave. and Cutler Rd. among other issues.

City Manager Gorman reported the draft of the statistically valid survey for the Broadband Initiative Project is currently being reviewed. The actual survey will take place within the next couple of weeks.

Under New Business, the Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 199 to regulate the use of land for small wireless communications facilities in conformance with the small wireless communication facilities deployment act, Act No. 365 of the Public Acts of 2018. The proposed ordinance will ensure the reasonable and fair control and management of the public rights-of-way, support new technology, avoid interference with right-of-way use, and protect the public, health, safety, and welfare.

There was discussion.

The Council considered Resolution 19-09 to appoint Noreen Logel as the Resource Coordinator for the City of Portland for the recent flooding and state of emergency. There are various organizations that offer resources and assistance to private property owners who have been affected by this event. City Manager Gorman stated that it will be beneficial to have a person dedicated to the process of identifying those needs and allocating available resources.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 19-09 approving the City Manager's recommendation to appoint Noreen Logel as the Resource Coordinator for the City of Portland as it relates to the flooding and state of emergency.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 19-10 to approve the submittal of an application for Local Bridge Program funds through the Michigan Department of Transportation for replacement of the Divine Highway Bridge over the Looking Glass River.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 19-10 approving the submittal of an application for Local Bridge Program funds for replacement of the Divine Highway Bridge over the Looking Glass River.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 19-11 to approve the submittal of an application for Local Bridge Program funds through the Michigan Department of Transportation for preventative maintenance of the Bridge Street Bridge over the Grand River.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 19-11 approving the submittal of an application for Local Bridge Program funds preventative maintenance of the Bridge Street Bridge over the Grand River.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on February 19, 2019, payment of invoices in the amount of \$59,792.38 and payroll in the amount of \$125,032.21 for a total of \$184,824.59. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted that the Wine about the Ice Jam event, held on February 28, 2019, to assist businesses affected by flood/ice jam was very well attended. It was a great support to the businesses.

City Manager Gorman thanked the Portland Community Fund for all of their efforts to help and support members of the community affected by the flood/ice jam.

City Manager Gorman further thanked City staff for all of their efforts and great work throughout the ice jam/flooding.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted that the Burger Night fundraiser at the VFW on March 1, 2019 for the Portland Community Event was a remarkable event. Over 550 burgers were made. Almost \$10,000 was raised in support of the Portland Community Fund.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck extended thoughts and prayers to the Alabama communities devastated by the F4 tornado that struck yesterday.

Mayor Barnes noted that the Ionia Expo this weekend was well attended and Portland was well represented. The Team 150/Sesquicentennial video was shown to attendees.

Mayor Barnes commended City Manager Gorman and City staff for handling of the flood/ice jam. The event has been influencing everything they do. The communication surrounding the event has been outstanding.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Baldyga

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk