

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, August 5, 2019

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes; Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, Baldyga and Johnston; City Clerk Miller; DDA Director ConnerWellman

Absent: City Manager Gorman

Guests: Tim Fuller; Jennifer Vroman; Kathy Parsons, Tom St-Amour; Robert Lathers of The Beacon

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Baldyga, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under Public Comment, Tim Fuller of 128 Kent St. announced the upcoming opening of the Opera Block Performing Arts Center.

Jennifer Vroman presented further information on the class offerings at the Portland Opera Block Academy of Dance. Classes are open for sign up and will begin in September.

Mayor Barnes thanked Mr. Fuller and Ms. Vroman for all they have been doing for Downtown Portland.

There was no City Manager Report.

Under Presentations, DDA Director ConnerWellman provided her report on downtown activities. Director ConnerWellman provided updates on business and property in the DDA District along with other projects, recent activities, and community events. At their last meeting, the DDA approved moving forward with repairs to a portion of Kent St. sidewalk that was discovered to have been damaged by the flood/ice jam. The DDA welcomed new members Charlsie Abel and Dr. Jason Williamson and thanked outgoing members Michelle VanSlambrouck and Lisa Pung for their service. The DDA also has decided to graduate from the Michigan Main Street Program, as well as the National Main Street Center. The DDA also voted in favor of pursuing development of a splash pad independent of grants.

Under New Business, the Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 105I to amend Chapter 8, Article VI "Property Maintenance Code", of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Portland.

This amendment would adopt by reference the International Property Maintenance Code, 2018 edition, as published by the International Code Council, as the property maintenance code of the city, for the control of buildings and structures, and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties and conditions and terms of the code.

The Council considered Resolution 19-47 to authorize the Mayor to sign a permit for a fireworks display at Bogue Flats Recreation Area as part of Portland's Sesquicentennial Celebration on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 19-47 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign a permit for a fireworks display at Bogue Flats Recreation Area.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 19-48 appointing Angie Baum as the City's Officer Delegate for the MERS Conference, October 3rd – 4th, 2019, at the Grand Traverse Resort.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Baldyga, to approve Resolution 19-48 appointing an Officer Delegate to represent the City at the 2019 MERS Conference.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Baldyga, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on July 15, 2019, payment of invoices in the amount of \$106,438.45 and payroll in the amount of \$97,013.31 for a total of \$203,451.76. Also included were purchase orders to Moyer Construction in the amount of \$5,380.00 for Kent Street Sidewalk Repairs through the DDA, Maner Costerisan in the amount of \$7,000.00 for audit fieldwork, Resco in the amount of \$13,878.00 for transformers, UTB in the amount of \$7,250.00 for a three-phase transformer, Resco in the amount of \$12,075.00 for 3 rolls of Hendrix Cable, CL Trucking & Excavating in the amount of \$16,560.09 for work completed on Hyland Drive, and Cook Brothers Excavating in the amount of \$103,884.60 for chip sealing completed on Divine Highway and Maynard Road.

Yeas: Baldyga, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There were no City Manager Comments.

Under Council Member Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck asked that a link to the Property Maintenance Code be posted on the City's website for residents to review.

Council Member Baldyga noted that members of Council and City staff visited the City of South Haven on Friday, August 2, 2019 as part of Mayor Exchange. It was a wonderful visit.

Mayor Barnes stated that South Haven was chosen as the City to participate with for Mayor Exchange this year because they are also celebrating their sesquicentennial this year. Attendees learned a lot and had a great day.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Baldyga, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk