

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, February 3, 2020

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Member Fitzsimmons, Johnston, and Sheehan; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas; DDA Director ConnerWellman

Absent: Mayor Barnes

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Troop Leader Jill Watson, Members and Families of Girl Scout Troop 4730; Nick Grifhorst of the Ionia Sentinel-Standard

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Girl Scout Troop Leader Jill Watson.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

Adopted

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to excuse the absence of Mayor Barnes.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes

There was no public comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated that by State Law a review of a City's Master Plan is required every 5 years. The City of Portland's current Master Plan was adopted in 2015. The Planning Commission will begin its review of the Master Plan at its meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

The Safe Routes to School project is in its final design phase; the City is working to secure the required easements and grading permits. The goal is for construction to take place Summer/Fall 2020. The project will include a new traffic light at Grand River Ave. and West St.

The project to realign W. Bridge St. to Quarterline St. at Grand River Ave. is currently out to bid. This project will improve the safety of the intersection and will include a dedicated right turn lane onto W. Bridge St. from Grand River Ave.

Developers of a proposed Taco Bell at Grand River Ave. and Bristie St., at the location of the former China Buffet, Red Tomato, and car wash, have submitted their site plan for review and application for a Special Land Use for the Planning Commissions review and consideration at their March 11, 2020 meeting. They will also review the requested traffic study. The Zoning Board of Appeals will consider their variance requests at their meeting on March 9, 2020.

A very productive goal session was held with the City Council on Tuesday, January 21, 2020.

The kick off meeting for the underground mapping as part of the SAW Grant was held recently. The \$800,000 SAW Grant, Stormwater & Asset Wastewater Management Grant, provides a basis to look at various components of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The underground mapping will focus on problem areas and areas slated for future road projects.

The Grand River Bridge Maintenance Project will take place this summer and will include new approach areas on each side of the bridge.

City Manager Gorman stated that he attended the Michigan Municipal Executives (MME) Conference through the Michigan Municipal League last week. While he was there the Governor release her road funding proposal. The Governor's proposal will not have any affect on funding for local streets. The City of Portland's income tax is used strictly for local road projects.

Under Presentations, DDA Director ConnerWellman provided her report on downtown activities. Director ConnerWellman provided updates on business and property in the DDA District and other projects, recent activities, and community events. The Organization & Finance Team has scheduled the Public Meeting for review of the work plans for Tuesday, February 18, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. The work plans and strategies developed by the teams will become the agendas for the team meetings to ensure they are working in the right direction and getting things accomplished.

Director ConnerWellman recognized the members of Girl Scout Troop 4730 for their over 150 hours of volunteer service throughout the 2019 Sesquicentennial Year.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked Girl Scout Troop 4730 for their service to the community.

Girl Scout Troop 4730 presented information on the Girl Scout Journey award they are working on called Breathe. They presented ideas to the City Council on how they could help them achieve their goal.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 20-06 to approve a bid from Michigan Wood Fibers, LLC in the amount of \$14,520.00 for wood waste processing and compost removal.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 20-06 approving a bid from Michigan Wood Fibers LLC for wood waste processing and compost removal.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Barnes
Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 20-07 to approve an energy purchase for March – December 2020 in the amount not to exceed \$244,936.00 for the Board of Light and Power through the Michigan Public Power Agency. At its meeting on January 28, 2020, the Board of Light and Power voted to recommend approval by the City Council.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 20-07 approving an energy purchase for the Board of Light and Power through the Michigan Public Power Agency.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck
Nays: None
Absent: Barnes
Adopted

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on January 20, 2020 and the Goal Setting Session on January 21, 2020, payment of invoices in the amount of \$79,293.40 and payroll in the amount of \$113,442.91 for a total of \$192,736.31. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck
Nays: None
Absent: Barnes
Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman reminded residents that the Daddy/Daughter Dance will be held February 26 and 27, 2020.

Under Council Member Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck stated that it was great to see the Girl Scouts tonight. He congratulated them on all of their hard work.

Council Members Johnston and Sheehan also congratulated the Girl Scouts on all of their hard work and job well done.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck
Nays: None
Absent: Barnes
Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel VanSlambrouck
Mayor Pro-Tem

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk