

# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

## Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, August 17, 2020

In the City Council Chambers at City Hall

259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875

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

Guests: Jon Moxey, Max George, and Sam Lipscomb of Fleis & VandenBrink; Kathy Parsons; Bob 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 VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Proposed Revised Agenda as presented.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated that a public notice for the acceptance of bids for the City owned property at Cherry Hill Estates will be published soon.

The Grand River Avenue Bridge Project will begin next Monday, August 24, 2020. The project is expected to take approximately 8 weeks. Two-way traffic will be maintained throughout the project.

There are about 2-3 weeks left of the Grand River Avenue Small Urban Project. City Manager Gorman presented graphics of a new welcome sign that is proposed to be installed near the city limits at the I96 off ramp as part of the project.

City Manager Gorman stated that he has received confirmation that the closing on the Taco Bell property did take place. Demolition and construction are expected to take place soon.

Under Presentations, Jon Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink provided a brief history and overview of the SAW Grant Project.

City Manager Gorman noted that initially the program was for the Wastewater Department but Council voted to add the Water Department to it as well.

Max George and Sam Lipscomb of Fleis & VandenBrink presented the GIS Mapping of the Wastewater and Water systems that have been developed as part of the SAW Grant process.

Mr. Moxey further provided information on other projects in the City of Portland. The Safe Routes to School project will be let for bids at MDOT's October 2, 2020 bid letting. Construction will likely take place in 2021. The Grand River Avenue Bridge Project will begin Monday, August 24, 2020 with about 8 to 10 weeks of construction. The intersection at Water St. will be closed for approach work to the bridge. Survey work on the expected Divine Hwy. Bridge Replacement has been completed. A conceptual plan is in the process so the project will be ready if grant monies are received for the project.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 20-51 to approve the lease/purchase of new heart monitors and other equipment for the Ambulance Department.

Ambulance Director Waltersdorf stated that all three of the heart monitors are no longer FDA compliant. The proposed resolution is for replacement of two of the three heart monitors. The third ambulance will be downgraded to basic service from Advanced Life Support as it is not used often enough for that purpose to justify the expense. If needed, it can be upgraded in the future.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 20-51 approving the lease/purchase of new heart monitors and other equipment for the Ambulance Department.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 20-52 to approve Fleis & VandenBrink's proposal in the amount of \$59,800.00 to provide construction engineering services for the Grand River Avenue Bridge Improvement Project.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 20-52 approving Fleis & VandenBrink's proposal to provide construction engineering services for the Grand River Avenue Bridge Improvement Project.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 20-53 confirming the Mayor's appointment of Council Member Fitzsimmons to the Portland Area Municipal Authority.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 20-53 confirming the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Abstain: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on August 3, 2020, payment of invoices in the amount of \$140,125.49 and payroll in the amount of \$151,098.13 for a total of \$291,223.62. Purchase orders to Valley City Sign in the amount of \$15,338.00 for a new City sign and Off and Running Painting in the amount of \$20,000.00 for painting of the boardwalk railing were also included.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted that the former Ambulance Director, Phil Gensterblum also handled Code Enforcement. With his retirement the Police Department and he will take over those responsibilities.

The City is currently accepting applications for a mechanic to work at the Department of Public Works.

City Manager Gorman stated that the final Executable Project Plan for the fiber project will be presented to the City Council and Board of Light & Power in September. This plan will outline the costs of a fiber project in the City of Portland.

Improvements to the bathrooms at Toan Park are now complete. The facilities have been painted, and new flooring and partitions have been installed.

There were no Council Comments.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk