

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, May 3, 2021

In the City Council Chambers at City Hall
259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875

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

Guests: Librarian for the Portland District Library, Cory Grimminck

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 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 the electric rate study has recently been completed. The 1st Reading of Ordinance 101L to revise the electric rates based on this study will be conducted tonight. The proposed rate change includes an increase to the service charge rates.

The Miss Dig system for the marking of City of Portland utilities was recently switched from being routed through Tri County Homeworks directly to the City.

City Manager Gorman shared stats from the Community Clean Up Day held on Saturday, May 1, 2021. There was a slight increase in the number of loads over 2019. The event was canceled in 2020 due to COVID.

The Planning Commission will be meet on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 to discuss the potential rezoning of the Cutler Rd. property and Mayberry Homes request to build more homes in Rindlehaven.

The search for an Electric Superintendent continues; interviews will likely be held in the next few weeks.

Construction on the Safe Routes to School project continues to move along well.

The Toan Park Improvement Project has been let for bid; with bids due on May 12, 2021.

City Manager Gorman stated that City personnel has spent a considerable amount of time searching for some type of agreement that would allow the Builders Lumber sign located at Toan Park on Grand River Ave. The sign is not allowed under the current Sign Ordinance. He further noted that he has reached out to Mr. Wohlscheid to see if he has record of any type of agreement.

City Manager Gorman further noted that he has had recent discussions with EGLE in regard to the odor that has been emanating from the Sunset Ridge Mobile Home Park located outside of the City on Grand River Ave. They have identified some changes that can be made to their procedures.

Under Presentations, Cory Grimminck, Librarian for the Portland District Library provided the 2020 Annual Report.

Under New Business, the Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 101L to Amend Sections 40-214, 40-215, 40-216, 40-220, and 40-222 of Code of Ordinances of the City of Portland to revise electric rates based on the recent electric rate study.

The Council considered Resolution 21-24 to approve the recommendation of the Board of Light and Power to purchase a dump trailer in the amount of \$9,415.00 through the MiDeal Program for the Electric Department.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 21-24 approving the recommendation of the Board of Light and Power to purchase a dump trailer for the Electric Department.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 21-25 approving mill & fill road work on Ionia Road, Rowe Avenue, and sections of Cross St. by McKearney Asphalt & Sealing, Inc. in the amount of \$91,740.52.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 21-25 approving mill & fill road work to be performed by McKearney Asphalt & Sealing, Inc.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 21-26 to set a Public Hearing on May 17, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. for the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 21-26 setting a Public Hearing on the Budget proposed for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Yeas: Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on April 19, 2021, payment of invoices in the amount of \$98,006.92 and payroll in the amount of \$111,287.91 for a total of \$209,294.83. A purchase order to Durrant Brothers Construction in the amount of \$27,888.00 for new steel for the DPW building was also included.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted that this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the start of the Ambulance Department which was located at Neller Funeral Home. The Ambulance Department has been extremely busy; breaking records on the number of runs they are being called out for.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked everyone that came out to the VFW Burger Night Fundraiser for the Toan Park Improvement Project. Over \$1,000 was raised.

City Manager Gorman stated that he has been in contact with VFW Commander Reed and confirmed that they will hold a Memorial Day Parade. They are still working out the details.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk