

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, August 2, 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: Kathy Parsons

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated the City submitted paperwork to the Department of Treasury for funding through the American Rescue Plan Act. The City is expecting to receive \$413,000 which is anticipated to be used to integrate and upgrade water meters. There is no clarity on when funds might be received.

Construction on the splash pad as part of the Toan Park Improvements began on July 19, 2021. A ground breaking ceremony was held that week and was very well attended. There is a lot interest and excitement for the project. Work on the river bank will be complete this week. Construction of concrete walls will take place next week with the flat work to follow.

Bill Fabiano, of Fabiano's restaurant located at 104 W. Grand River Ave. has offered the property he owns at 103 E. Grand River Ave. for donation to the DDA. A meeting was held with the environmental team of Fleis & VandenBrink. The DDA approved a Phase I Environmental Study of the property at its meeting on July 26, 2021.

The Planning Commission will meet Wednesday, August 11, 2021 and hold a Public Hearing to Consider a proposed revision of Division 8, O-R Office/Research Form-Based District, Section 42-280 of the Code of Ordinances for the property located at Cutler Rd. and Grand River Ave.

The City Clerk received an Initiative Petition filing for an amendment to the City's Charter to end the City's prohibition of medical marijuana facilities funded by the Ionia County Cares Coalition. The filing is currently being reviewed with legal counsel.

There were no Presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 21-41 to approve the Board of Light & Power's recommendation, made at its regular meeting on July 27, 2021, to appoint City Manager Gorman to the Michigan Public Power Agency's (MPPA) Board as the City's representative with the Electric Superintendent Todd Davlin as the alternate.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 21-41 approving the Board of Light & Power's recommendation to appoint the City Manager to the Michigan Public Power Agency's (MPPA) Board as the City's representative with the Electric Superintendent as the alternate.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 21-42 approving an EMT wage increase for the Ambulance Department. The City Manager and Interim Ambulance Director recommend the City Council approve the increase.

City Manager Gorman noted that Police Chief Thomas is serving as the interim Ambulance Director.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 21-42 approving an EMT wage increase for the Ambulance Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to go into Closed Session to discuss a legal memorandum regarding the filing of Initiative Petitions for an Amendment to the City's Charter as permitted under Section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and Section 13(1)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act which exempts from public disclosure information or records subject to attorney-client privilege.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council adjourned to Closed Session at 7:16 P.M.

The Council returned from Closed Session at 7:49 P.M.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on July 19, 2021, payment of invoices in the amount of \$77,706.58 and payroll in the amount of

\$116,516.81 for a total of \$194,223.39. A purchase order to Municipal Supply in the amount of \$7,458.60 for conduit was also included.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted that the Red Mill Community Days will be held Saturday, August 28, 2021.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Barnes noted that he attended an Open House at The Brook last week; it is an amazing facility.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk