

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, January 17, 2022

In the City Council Chambers at City Hall

259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, and Johnston; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; DDA Director ConnerWellman; Police Officer Kauffman

Absent: Mayor Barnes and Council Member Sheehan

Guests: Kathy Parsons

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan, Barnes

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to excuse the absence of Mayor Barnes and Council Member Sheehan.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan, Barnes

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman reported the Wow Franchise Agreement will be presented to Council for consideration at the February 7th meeting. The document submitted by Wow was missing the service area maps, once the document is complete it can be acted upon. City Manager Gorman further noted this is a non-exclusive agreement the city has had with Wow for over 10 years; any other cable company can come into the city.

The donation agreement between Bill Fabiano and the DDA for the property at 103 W. Grand River Ave. has been signed. The closing is set for Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. Future plans for the property have not been determined.

City Manager Gorman and staff will meet with the participating jurisdictions of the Ambulance Service at 6:00 P.M. on January 20, 2022 at City Hall. The city will make a recommendation to increase the per capita charge to better support the Ambulance Department.

Members of the Portland Area Municipal Authority (PAMA) will meet on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Bill Fahey, attorney with Fahey Schultz Burzyck Rhodes out of Grand Rapids, has been chosen to assist in updating the PAMA Agreement.

City Manager Gorman stated he is evaluating real estate developers to list the Cutler Rd. property for sale.

Under presentations, DDA Director ConnerWellman presented her downtown report. She is currently working on the annual report and wrapping up the Portland Prime Our Town matching program by Consumers Energy. Consumers Energy donated \$15,000.00 to the program, over \$17,000.00 in Portland Prime certificate were purchased.

Under New Business, the City Council considered Resolution 22-02 to approve the purchase and full integration of Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) Technology for the water system at a cost of \$403,775.00. The Council previously approved the purchase of migrating the water meters to Automated Meter Reading (AMR), radio read Orion ME meter systems by Badger. The cost of AMI technology has come down and the products have become more robust offering potential leak detection, reverse flow indication, non-usage alarm, GPS mapping, and is now capable of being migrated from a walk-by/drive-by system (AMR) to a fixed base system (AMI) based on cellular technology. The AMI system will eliminate manual entry of water readings and will provide better accuracy. City Manager Gorman and the Director of Public Works recommend City Council's approval of the purchase.

City Manager Gorman and City Clerk Miller presented further information on the AMR vs. AMI technology.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 22-02 approving the purchase and full integration of Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) technology.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan, Barnes

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on January 3, 2022, payment of invoices in the amount of \$64,331.10 and payroll in the amount of \$185,438.57 for a total of \$249,769.67. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan, Barnes

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman reminded residents to remove the snow from the sidewalks adjacent to their property.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan, Barnes

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel VanSlambrouck, Mayor Pro-Tem

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk