

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, April 18, 2022

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

Guests: None

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 agenda.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman noted the Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 was distributed to the Council tonight. The Budget Workshop and the Public Hearing for the proposed budget will be scheduled at the May 2, 2022 Council meeting.

City Manager Gorman noted there have been several questions from residents in regard to the loud humming noise coming from the ADM Animal Nutrition facility. ADM was contacted and reported a motor on the roof has failed and should be repaired tomorrow.

A proposal for repairs to the River Trail is expected to be presented to Council for approval at the May 2, 2022 meeting.

A preliminary meeting for the Kent Street Improvement Project has been held with both staff and MDOT to discuss design and potential funding. Construction is expected to take place in 2023 but consideration is being given to pushing it back to 2024 to be done in conjunction with replacement of the Divine Hwy. Bridge so the downtown does not experience two summers of construction.

New rules for Toan Park that will address use of the park and splash pad will be posted soon.

Under Presentations, Mayor Barnes presented the 2022 Arbor Day Proclamation.

Under New Business, the City Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 101M, to amend Chapter 40 of the Code of Ordinances to authorize the setting of various electric rates by resolution of the City Council as is done for the water and wastewater rates, rather than by revising the ordinance.

The Council considered Resolution 22-22 to approve a Request for Proposals for Broadband Telecommunications Services for the City of Portland, as recommended by the Board of Light and Power, City Manager, City Staff and legal counsel.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-22 approving a Request for Proposals for Broadband Telecommunications Services for the City of Portland.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-23 to approve an Agreement for Professional Assessing Services with Erik L. Litts.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-23 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign an Agreement for Professional Assessing Services with Erik L. Litts.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-24 to approve an Exclusive Marketing Agreement with Martin Commercial Properties, Inc. to sell City-owned property at Grand River Ave. and Cutler Rd.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 22-24 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign an Exclusive Marketing Agreement with Martin Commercial Properties, Inc. to sell City-owned property.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-25 to approve Ambulance Service Agreements with the participating jurisdictions and to approve the Ambulance Care Plan Membership Agreement Form.

City Manager Gorman noted the per capita charge was increased to \$20.00 as discussed at the Annual Ambulance Meeting with the jurisdictions.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-25 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor and Clerk to sign Ambulance Services Agreements with Danby Township, Portland Township, Westphalia Township, Orange Township, Lyons

Township, the Village of Westphalia, the Village of Pewamo, and Sebewa Township and approving the Care Plan Membership Agreement Form.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-26 to revise Council Policy 77-1 to update cemetery rates.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 22-26 to revise Council Policy 77-1 concerning cemetery rates.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-27 to approve a proposal from GRP Engineering, Inc. to provide engineering services for underground projects for the Electric Department, in the amount of \$14,400.00, as recommended by the Board of Light and Power.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-27 approving a proposal from GRP Engineering, Inc. to provide engineering services for underground projects for the Electric Department.

Yeas: Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-28 to approve a proposal from AECOM to provide Dam Safety Consulting Services for the Electric Department, in the amount of \$15,500.00, as recommended by the Board of Light and Power.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-28 approving a proposal from AECOM to provide Dam Safety Consulting Services for the Electric Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-29 to approve a proposal from AECOM to provide FERC Monitoring and Reporting services for the Municipal Dam, for the 2022 and 2023 calendar years, as recommended by the Board of Light and Power.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-29 approving a proposal from AECOM to provide FERC monitoring and reporting services for the Municipal Dam.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-30 to approve a proposal from Eagle Enterprise of Michigan to provide rehabilitation services for the Municipal Dam, in the amount of \$25,050.00, as recommended by the Board of Light and Power. Rehabilitation is to include repair to the trash rake, safety railings, and other items to ensure proper and safe operations.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 22-30 approving a proposal from Eagle Enterprise of Michigan to provide rehabilitation services for the Municipal Dam.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-31 to approve payment in the amount of \$66,500.00 to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. The City Manager and Finance Director have reviewed the pay request and recommend its approval.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 22-31 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-32 to approve increases to the fee schedule for the Ambulance Department.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-32 approving increases to the fee schedule for the Ambulance Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on April 4, 2022, payment of invoices in the amount of \$198,778.66 and payroll in the amount of \$109,949.93 for a total of \$308,728.59. Purchase orders to Newkirk Electric Associates in the amount of \$5,250.00 for preventative maintenance on the Municipal Dam, MacAllister Rentals in the amount of \$5,359.00 for rental of three CAT trash pumps and hoses, Verizon in the amount of \$5,769.99 for iPads for the Electric Department, Total Technical Assurance Group, Inc. in the amount of \$6,475.00 for Fiber Broadband Development, Lites Plus in the amount of \$6,995.00 for LED street lights, Dickinson Wright in the amount of \$7,182.00 for February Legal Services, and Tri County Electric in the amount of \$12,300.00 for clearing of joint rights-of-way were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager comments, City Manager Gorman noted union negotiations and the budget process are still underway. A union negotiation meeting was held earlier today; the next is scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2022.

The Wastewater Plant Improvement Project design phase also continues. A meeting was recently held with the WWTP employees to gather their input. City Manager Gorman further reminded residents that information regarding the project can be found on the City's website.

The Annual Cleanup Day will be held Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 7:00 A.M. to Noon at the DPW complex. The Hazardous Waste Collection will be held the same day from 8:00 A.M. to Noon at the parking lot of the Fire Department.

Loose leaf pickup will no longer take place in the Spring; all leaves must be placed in biodegradable bags and placed at the curb for pick up. Loose leaf pickup will take place in the Fall.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted the construction of the storage units being constructed next to I-96 and along Charlotte Hwy. seems to be going well.

Council Member Sheehan noted the Friends of the Red Mill and Portland High School Fine Arts Department will host a Murder Mystery Dinner on May 6th and 7th.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk