

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, May 16, 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; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: Jon Moxey and Julie Kroll of Fleis & VandenBrink; Kathy Parsons; Larry Tygesen; Kathy Burns

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

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the proposed agenda.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman reported the splash pad was opened this week, earlier than the typical scheduled opening on Memorial Day each year. The splash pad is open 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. each day. The splash pad was very busy. Adjustments to the spray will be made to approximately 4' to 5'.

Work will begin on Friday, May 20, 2022 on the Bogue Flats Loop of the River Trail. Repaving will take place on Monday and Tuesday of the following week. This portion of the trail will be closed during this process.

Public workshops will be held Thursday, May 19, 2022 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon and Tuesday, May 31, 2022 from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. to receive public feedback and input on the upcoming Kent Street Improvement Project.

Request for Proposals for the Broadband Infrastructure Project have been issued and are due July 8, 2022. At this time, the City will be able to determine if there are any companies interested in building the broadband infrastructure. If not, the City will be evaluate funding options for the infrastructure. Options for funding include a special assessment, or going to the electors of the City to vote on a potential broadband infrastructure project.

City Manager Gorman stated the property owned by the City at Grand River Ave. and Cutler Rd. is now being marketed by CBRE and presented the marketing materials they have developed.

Under Presentations, Jon Moxey and Julie Kroll of Fleis & VandenBrink presented the Downtown Parking Study and Kent Street Concepts.

There was extensive discussion.

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing on the City's proposed annual budget at 8:04 P.M.

City Manager Gorman presented information on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked City staff for all of their efforts on upcoming projects as well as the preparation of the budget.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Barnes closed the Public Hearing at 8:09 P.M.

Under New Business, the City Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 175SS to rezone the properties located at 126 and 132 Riverside Dr. from C-1 (Central Business District) to R-2 (Traditional Residential District). Notices were mailed to property owners within 300' of these properties and the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing. No public comment was received.

The Council considered Resolution 22-42 to adopt the City of Portland's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and its Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-42 to adopt the City of Portland's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and Capital Improvement Plan.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-43 to approve increases to the customer charges for the Electric Department. A rate study was performed by Utility Consulting Group, LLC in 2020/2021 and recommended the customer charges be increased to support the operations of the City's electric utility.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-43 approving increases to the customer charges for the Electric Department.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-44 to approve the agreement between the City of Portland and the City Employees represented by the Police Officers Labor Council (POLC). City representatives met with representatives of the POLC to negotiate terms for a new contract. After

several meetings the City and POLC came to a tentative agreement that was later ratified by the City employees represented by the POLC.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-44 approving the agreement between the City of Portland and the City employees represented by the Police Officers Labor Council (POLC).

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

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 May 2, 2022, payment of invoices in the amount of \$177,919.31 and payroll in the amount of \$114,340.73 for a total of \$292,260.04. Purchase orders to Hutson, Inc. in the amount of \$6,700.00 for a John Deere Z-Track Mower, the Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$30,139.66 for 4th Quarter fire services, and F&V Construction in the amount of \$59,850.00 for engineering services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project were also included.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

City Manager Gorman yielded his time under City Manager Comments to Police Chief Thomas.

Chief Thomas presented information on the Trap Shooting event held over the weekend with the Portland High School and Portland St. Patrick Trap Teams. The fundraising event was organized by Officer Listerman and was a great event. All members of the Police Department along with some members of the Michigan State Police participated. The Ionia County Sheriff Department was unable to attend due to tryouts for the Ionia County Critical Incident Team. For the first time ever, the Portland Police Department will be represented on the team as Officer Jason Smith qualified for the team.

Mayor Barnes thanked Chief Thomas for her dedication to the both the Police Department and the Ambulance Department.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Barnes noted that G&B Pool Supply did a great job opening his pool today.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk