

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday, July 5, 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; DDA Director ConnerWellman

Guests: Kathy Parsons

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

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman noted that he has issued a correspondence outlining and explaining the challenges with the design for the upcoming Kent St. Improvement Project. DDA Director ConnerWellman has distributed the communication to downtown business owners and it was mailed with the July utility bills. The easements for the street project have been drafted and are under legal review at this time.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Project is at the 99% Design Phase; permitting has begun. The project will potentially go to bid next month. With the current inflation in the economy bids are expected to come back higher than previously estimated and the project total could be up to \$12.7 million before the principal forgiveness. Additional funding sources are still being sought.

The RFP process for the Fiber Project will conclude on July 8, 2022. There have been a couple of interested parties that are anticipated to submit bids. If there are no qualified bidders or the submitted bids do not meet the required specifications the City will have to decide whether to proceed with the project with funding through a Special Assessment or through a bond proposal vote.

City Manager Gorman noted the significant amount of road repairs and maintenance that has been done over the past few weeks. He extended his thanks to DPW Supervisor Ken Gensterblum for all of his efforts. Later this summer road repairs will be made to Virginia Ave.

City Manager Gorman noted he has been working with Denny Cunningham of Riversedge Grill on placement of tables/chairs on boardwalk. This has been somewhat of a challenge in addressing terms of his liquor license and the effects this will have for pedestrians on the boardwalk. The City will be addressing the effects of this type of use across the entire boardwalk as other businesses consider this use.

The Planning Commission will continue its review of the Draft Zoning Ordinance at its meeting next week July 13, 2022.

The fireworks on July 1, 2022 were a great event and were well attended. The parade on the 4th of July was also a fantastic event. He thanked everyone involved in these celebrations.

Under Presentations, Director ConnerWellman presented her downtown report.

Under New Business, the City Council considered Resolution 22-54 to approve the replacement of the drop box at City Hall in the amount of \$7,787.61. The current drop box is original to City Hall and is in need of replacement.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-54 approving the replacement of the drop box at Portland City Hall.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-55 to approve a payment to Farabee Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$111,967.75 for repairs to the Norberg, Cooper Bessemer, and Fairbanks Morse Engines at the Electric Department.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 22-55 approving payment to Farabee Mechanical, Inc. for repairs to the Norberg, Cooper Bessemer, and Fairbanks Morse engines at the Electric Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-56 to approve payment to F&V Construction in the amount of \$126,350.00 for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 22-56 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-57 to confirm the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-57 confirming the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, 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 June 20, 2022, payment of invoices in the amount of \$232,322.74 and payroll in the amount of \$124,470.03 for a total of \$356,792.77. Purchase orders to Anatum GeoMobile Solutions in the Amount of \$8,686.00 for GIS Locator Equipment, and the Portland Area Municipal Authority in the Amount of \$11,454.06 for renovations to the PAMA Building were also included.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman thanked the Chief Thomas and the Police Department for their assistance with the many recent community events.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Sheehan thanked everyone involved with the parade. It was a great event.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk