

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, August 1, 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: 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 stated the bid process for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project is underway and are due next week. Several bids have already been received.

The Kent Street Improvement Project is somewhat stalled as the City waits to hear what funding it has been awarded for the project. The easements have been drafted and should be ready to be mailed within a week or two. Construction is anticipated to take place in 2023.

Hail resulting from a storm in May has caused damage to several roofs in town. The City has filed a claim with its insurance carrier for potential damage to the roof at the Portland Area Municipal Authority (PAMA) building.

City Manager Gorman noted that the administrative fees charged to various departments by the General Fund need to be reevaluated and updated. Information is being gathered from various 3rd party candidates to perform this service.

The Planning Commission will meet Wednesday, August 10, 2022 to continue discussions and review of the Draft Zoning Ordinance.

Under Presentations, State Representative Julie Calley addressed Council regarding funding availability for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project. She noted there is void in

availability of funding between large and small jurisdictions. She further noted there is still Federal funding that has not been allocated.

There was discussion.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck expressed his concern with the lack of funding for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project after the City has sought many alternate sources. He asked Representative Calley what else the City should be doing.

Representative Calley stated she will start with arranging a phone call with the City of Portland and EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy) to ensure no funding options are being overlooked.

Mayor Barnes stated that Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck speaks on behalf of the Council and further noted the same issue exists with the Fiber Broadband issue. He also noted he would like to see the trailer parks cleaned up and not dumping waste into the Grand River; up river from the City.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked Representative Calley for serving Portland and that she has done a good job for the area.

City Manager Gorman thanked Representative Calley for her time; the City is looking for equity in funding policies.

DDA Director ConnerWellman presented her downtown report and noted that volunteers are still needed for Beerfest.

Under New Business, the City Council considered Resolution 22-62 to approve a proposal in the amount of \$20,000.00 from PSE Engineering, Inc. to evaluate AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) technologies to upgrade the meter reading technology for the City's electric customers.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 22-62 approving a proposal from PSE Engineering, Inc. to evaluate AMI Technology.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 22-63 to appoint Angie Baum as the Officer Delegate to represent the City at the 2022 MERS Conference, September 26-27, 2022 at the Grand Traverse Resort.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 22-63 appointing an Officer Delegate to represent the City at the 2022 MERS Conference.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on July 18, 2022, payment of invoices in the amount of \$113,252.28 and payroll in the amount of \$120,657.54 for a total of \$233,909.82. Purchase orders to Resco in the amount of \$10,080.00 for two single-phase transformers, Power Line Supply in the amount of \$10,211.00 for a three-phase transformer, Portland Area Municipal Authority in the amount of \$22,126.00 for repair of an overhead door, and the Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$31,504.52 for 1st Quarter Fire Services were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman reminded residents the State Primary Election will be held tomorrow, August 2, 2022.

City Clerk Miller provided information related to the election.

City Manager Gorman extended his thoughts to family and friends in the area of his hometown in Kentucky that are dealing with recent heavy flooding.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted the VFW will host a Spaghetti Dinner for the Fireman's Association and the American Legion on Friday, August 26, 2022 from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Council Member Sheehan congratulated the Girl Scouts on completing their Silver Award which included the placement of lost and found boxes along the River Trail.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk