

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, January 16, 2023

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; Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Director Brown; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: Kathy Parsons; David Lange; Mike Judd; Alex Kucinich; Matthew Simon of Boy Scout Troop 129 and his mother Michelle Simon; Jon Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman noted City staff has begun the process of a website “refresh” with Civic Plus. The process will take approximately two to three months and will include a redesign, content review, and improved functionality.

The Invitation to Bid for refuse service has been published. This is a requirement under the Refuse Ordinance. Bids are due at noon on January 24, 2023. A recommendation for a new contract will be presented to Council at its February 6, 2023, meeting.

The 3rd and final employee training with Heidi Frye was held January 11, 2023, with the City Manager and Department Heads. This was another great team building effort that will improve communication at all levels of the city.

The Public Hearing to receive comment on the proposed 2023-2027 Five-Year Park & Recreation Plan will take place tonight.

The budget process will kick off with the Council Goal Session on Monday, January 30, 2023.

Under Presentations, Jon Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink presented an update on various projects they are working with the city on.

There was discussion.

Under Public Hearing, Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing at 7:19 P.M. for the 2023-2027 Five-Year Park and Recreation Plan.

City Manager Gorman thanked Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Director Brown for all his work on the updated plan.

Mr. Moxey of Fleis & VandenBrink presented the updated Park and Recreation Plan.

Mayor Barnes clarified the plan is flexible and is more of a priority list. Just because a project is not in the plan doesn't mean it can't be added.

There was discussion.

City Manager Gorman noted the Public Hearing was published in the Review & Observer and the plan has been available for review and comment for the required 30-day period. No verbal or written comments have been received.

There was no comment from the public present at the meeting.

Mayor Barnes closed the Public Hearing at 7:39 P.M.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 23-03 to approve the City of Portland Five-Year Park and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 for the City of Portland, Ionia County.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-03 approving the City of Portland Five-Year Park and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 for the City of Portland, Ionia County.

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 January 3, 2023, payment of invoices in the amount of \$87,309.57 and payroll in the amount of \$200,273.82 for a total of \$287,583.39. Purchase orders to Cook Brothers Excavating in the amount of \$5,501.75 to clean and haul waste from the Biosolid Drying Beds at the Wastewater Plant, ADT in the amount of \$5,889.17 to change out the drop box previously installed at City Hall, and NutriGro Environmental Solutions in the amount of \$18,144.00 for hauling and land application of biosolids were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman had no comments.

Under Council Comments the Council had no comments.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk