



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, March 20, 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; Police Chief Thomas; Police Officer Smith

Guests: Mike Judd; Kathy Parsons

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman and Police Chief Thomas provided information on the 150 car pileup that occurred on Interstate 96 as a result of white out conditions. There was incredible community support for emergency personnel and those involved in the incident.

The Electric Department held three full days of vendor meetings last week to evaluate AMI Technology for conversion of the electric metering system.

Tony Smith has been promoted to Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent. F&V Operations will still be involved in a support rather than management role.

The Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 and will hold a Public Hearing to received comment on the proposed Draft Zoning Ordinance and changes to the Zoning Map.

City Manager Gorman further noted the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget process is underway and the review and update of the City's website continues.

There were no presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 23-17 to approve a Bi-Lateral Right-of-Way Telecommunications Permit for Homeworks Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

City Manager Gorman stated this is the final approval needed by the City Council to allow Homeworks Tri-County to provide fiber optic service to the residents of the City of Portland. There will be a coordinated media release in the next few days.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-17 approving a Bi-Lateral Right-of-Way Telecommunications Permit for Homeworks Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-18 to approve a Recreation Passport Grant Program Application for funding to repave a portion of the River Trail from Bridge Street to Kent Street.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-18 approving a Recreation Passport Grant Program Application.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-19 to approve participation in the state bid process through the MiDeal Road Salt Contracts for winter road salt for the 2023-2024 season. City Manager Gorman and DPW Foreman Gensterblum recommend using the MiDeal program to submit an order for 200 tons of road salt for early deliver and 300 tons for seasonal backup.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-19 approving participation in the state bid process for winter road salt 2023-2024.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-20 to approve budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-20 to amend the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-21 to recognize Portland Youth Baseball as nonprofit organization in the City of Portland for the purpose of obtaining a Charitable Gaming License.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-21 recognizing Portland Youth Baseball as a nonprofit organization for the purpose of obtaining a Charitable Gaming License.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on March 6, 2023, payment of invoices in the amount of \$127,988.08 and payroll in the amount of \$120,187.59 for a total of \$248,175.67. Purchase orders to Resco in the amount of \$9,182.82 for light contactors for LED lights, Fleis & VandenBrink in the amount of \$9,552.45 for the Kent Street Improvement Project, and the Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$31,504.51 for 4th Quarter fire services were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted the Annual Cleanup Day, along with the Hazardous Waste Cleanup, will be held Saturday, May 6, 2023 at the DPW Compound from 7:00 A.M. to Noon.

City Manager Gorman further thanked the DPW staff for their work to remove the snow after the recent snowfall.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Johnston noted the Portland Arts Fest, formerly the Day of Music, will be held at Portland High School on Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck congratulated Tony Smith on his promotion to Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent.

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

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk