



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, April 17, 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 Officer Smith

Guests: Paul LeBlanc of PLB Planning Group, LLC.; Dan Sowles, Incoming Ambulance Director; Kathy Parsons; Mike Judd; Becky Ward

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman introduced incoming Ambulance Director Dan Sowles who will begin service on May 2, 2023. He will relieve Police Chief Thomas who has been Acting Ambulance Director. He further thanked Chief Thomas for her efforts and hard work in managing both the Police Department and Ambulance Department.

Mr. Sowles provided the Council with his background and leadership experience. He also discussed the type of Ambulance service the City provides and the different levels of first responders.

City Manager Gorman noted the Annual Ambulance meeting with the participating jurisdictions will be held Thursday, April 20, 2023. This will provide a great opportunity to introduce Mr. Sowles.

The Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Draft Budget was provided to Council tonight as required by the Charter. The City Council Budget Workshop will be held in May.

City Manager Gorman reported the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project is fully underway. He noted that as construction progresses there may be some issues with odor coming from the plant. Contractors will be doing everything possible to mitigate this possibility.

Under Presentations, Mr. LeBlanc provided a presentation on changes made in the Draft Revised Zoning Ordinance and the Zoning Map.

There was discussion.

Mayor Barnes thanked Mr. LeBlanc for his help and expertise in drafting this revision and noted tonight was the First Reading of the proposed Revised Ordinance and Map. The Council will consider adoption of the revised ordinance at its meeting on May 1, 2023.

Mayor Barnes presented the 2023 Arbor Day Proclamation.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 23-24 to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Ambulance Service Agreements with the participating jurisdictions and the Care Plan Membership Agreement Form.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-24 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor and Clerk to sign Ambulance Service Agreements with Danby Township, Portland Township, Westphalia Township, Orange Township, Lyons Township, the Village of Westphalia, the Village of Pewamo, and Sebewa Township and approving the Care Plan Membership Agreement Form.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-25 to authorize the Mayor to sign an extension to the Exclusive Marketing Agreement with Martin Commercial Properties, Inc. to sell City-owned property located at Grand River Ave. and Cutler Rd.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 23-25 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign an extension to the Exclusive Marketing Agreement with Martin Commercial Properties, Inc. to sell City-owned property.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-26 to authorize the Mayor to sign a permit for a fireworks display at Bogue Flats Recreation Area on June 30, 2023 in celebration of Independence Day.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-26 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign a permit for a fireworks display at Bogue Flats Recreation Area.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-27 to approve the Portland Area Fire Authority budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-27 approving the budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for the Portland Area Fire Authority.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-28 to authorize the Portland Area Fire Authority to seek and award bids for the purchase of a new pumper/rescue vehicle not to exceed \$300,00.00 and to obtain partial financing for its purchase.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 23-28 approving and authorizing the Portland Area Fire Authority to seek and award bids for the purchase of a new pumper/rescue vehicle and to obtain partial financing for same.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-29 to approve Michigan Pavement Markings LLC's bid for 2023 street painting in the amount of \$20,595.00.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-29 approving Michigan Pavement Markings LLC's bid for 2023 street painting.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-30 to approve payment to F&V Construction in the amount of \$669,593.48 for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-30 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-31 to approve an energy purchase not to exceed \$127,688.80 through the Michigan Public Power Agency to meet a portion of its load requirements for 2023.

City Manager Gorman noted this purchase request came in late Friday afternoon and will be presented to the Board of Light and Power for approval at its meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 23-31 approving an energy purchase through the Michigan Public Power Agency.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on April 3, 2023, payment of invoices in the amount of \$67,755.08 and payroll in the amount of \$122,459.72 for a total of \$190,214.80. Purchase orders to Keusch Auto in the amount of \$5,380.86 for repair of the transmission on truck 404, F&V Operations in the amount of \$13,578.35 for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance, and Wheeler World, Inc. in the amount of \$26,806.10 for repair and replacement of the Nordberg Engine No. 6 were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

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

City Manager Gorman expressed his best wishes and thanks to Tom Antaya on his resignation from the DDA after 35 years of service to the community.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked Chief Thomas for her role in leading the Ambulance Department over the past years.

Council Member Johnston noted the Portland Community Orchestra will perform with orchestras from the surrounding area at 3:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 23, 2023 at the Portland High School Auditorium.

Mayor Barnes acknowledged Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Tony Smith for his expertise in conducting maintenance to the wastewater system and operating the plant correctly all while under major construction.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk