



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, May 15, 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; Finance Director Tolan; Police Chief Thomas; Ambulance Director Sowles

Guests: Corey Turner of Fleis & VandenBrink; Portland Area Fire Authority Fire Chief Tim Krizov; VFW Commander David Reed; Bill Almy of the Portland VFW; Jim Cassel; Brendan Cassel; Madison Gensterblum; Kristine Sowles; Kathy Parsons

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

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the proposed Agenda.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman noted he continues to work with State Representative Gina Johnson and Senator Rick Outman to seek \$8 million in funding through appropriations at the State level for the portions of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project that had to be postponed due to the cost of the project.

The City Council met on May 4, 2023, to hold its Annual Budget Workshop to review the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024.

City Manager Gorman noted he is reviewing a proposed addendum to the Portland Area Municipal Authority Agreement to address funding.

The 3rd Grade classes from Westwood Elementary have been touring City Hall this week to learn about local government.

Under Presentations, VFW Commander Reed presented checks to the City of Portland Police and Ambulance Departments and the Portland Area Fire Authority from funds raised at a Breakfast Fundraiser on April 28, 2023, to support emergency services in Portland. It was a great event for the community.

Corey Turner of Fleis & VandenBrink presented an update on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project.

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing at 7:36 P.M. for the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

City Manager Gorman provided highlights/projects included in the proposed budget.

- Rivertrail Work/Maintenance
- Substation and AMI Infrastructure for the Electric Department
- Divine Hwy. Bridge Replacement Planning
- No change to the per capita charge to the jurisdictions for Ambulance service
- Police budget includes six full-time officers in addition to the Chief
- A new police vehicle
- Various improvements to the parks
- New truck and backhoe for the DPW
- 29% Increase to the Wastewater Utility Rate to support the WWTP Project
- 5% Increase to the Water Utility Rate to support increased costs

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted his thanks to staff for all the work on the budget and further noted how amazing it is to see all that is happening in Portland and that he is proud to be a part of it.

Mayor Barnes closed the Public Hearing at 7:46 P.M.

Under New Business, the Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 194E to address revisions to the Sign Ordinance related to election signs.

The Council held the First Reading of Ordinance 175UU to revise the City Zoning Map to rezone the Rindlehaven property from TND PUD to R-2 Traditional Residential District.

The Council considered Resolution 23-34 to adopt the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and the Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-34 to adopt the City of Portland's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and Capital Improvement Plan.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-35 to approve a proposal in the amount of \$8,600.00 from Fleis & VandenBrink to conduct design and bidding services for repairs to the Boardwalk.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 23-35 approving a proposal from Fleis & VandenBrink to conduct design and bidding services for repairs to the Boardwalk.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-36 to approve a payment to F&V Construction in the amount of \$1,139,434.79 for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-36 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, 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 May 1, 2023 and the Budget Workshop hold on May 4, 2023, payment of invoices in the amount of \$131,616.04 and payroll in the amount of \$129,248.23 for a total of \$260,864.27. Purchase orders to DigiCam Global in the amount of \$6,351.60 for 800 mhz radios, and Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$10,940.00 for M500 in-car video systems were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes
Nays: None
Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman provided information on participation in the Annual Cleanup Day held on May 6, 2023.

City Manager Gorman reminded residents to mow their grass and not to blow grass into the curb/street for safety reasons and to prevent issues with the storm water system.

Under Council Comments, Council Member Johnston commended the Portland High School Theatre Department and the Friends of the Red Mill for the great event held over the weekend.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck thanked the Portland VFW for all they do in the community.

He further reminded residents that live out Divine Hwy. to start considering the possible detour and delays that will be required as part of the Divine Hwy. Bridge Replacement.

Council Member Sheehan provided information on Memorial Day events in the City.

Mayor Barnes recognized that today is Peace Officers Memorial Day.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes
Nays: None
Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk