

City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday, September 2, 2014

In Council Chambers at City Hall

Present: Mayor Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Smith, Fitzsimmons and Sunstrum; City Manager Gorman; Interim Assistant City Manager and DDA Director Reagan; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Knobelsdorf; Electric Superintendent Hyland

Guests: Tom Thelen of the Review & Observer

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

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Proposed Agenda.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Smith, Sunstrum, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under the City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman reported that discussions are proceeding with ADM Alliance Nutrition in regard to the demolition of the building and silos at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Divine Hwy. and donation of property to the City. The City is waiting for legal documents and then will move forward with the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment; the costs of which will be split with ADM Alliance Nutrition. Once this has been completed options will be further explored.

The RFP's for a new website have been reviewed by the appointed Committee. Four proposals have been chosen for further review. Interviews with the prospective companies have been scheduled for Thursday, September 11th. A decision will likely be reached soon after.

The scheduled power outage for Consumers Energy to make repairs to its substation will take place Sunday, September 7th from Midnight to 4:00 A.M. If it is necessary to delay the repairs due to weather the power outage will be held the following week, on Sunday, September 14th from Midnight to 4:00 A.M. The Board of Light & Power will also take this opportunity to do maintenance on its system.

Burger King is in the process of renovations; they are reducing the footprint of the building by removing the playground area. The drive thru remains open for business.

City Manager Gorman presented photos of a retaining wall constructed as part of the Barley, Knox, and Storz Improvement Project. The project has turned out very well and is near completion with punch list items being completed. The large millings that were placed on the cemetery roads will be addressed during this process.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 14-82 to approve the purchase of a Boss 8' poly straight blade snow plow for the ¾ ton GMC pickup truck recently approved for purchase for the DPW to be used as a work truck. This truck will be used for plowing snow in City owned parking lots.

Motion by Smith, supported by Sunstrum, to approve Resolution 14-82 approving the purchase of a Boss 8' poly straight blade snow plow apparatus for the ¾ ton GMC pickup truck.

Yeas: Smith, Sunstrum, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 14-83 to approve the Board of Light & Power's recommendation to approve, authorize, and direct the City's Electric Superintendent to sign an Energy Services Project Transaction Authorization to purchase energy in 2016, 2017, and 2018. The Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA) provides a means for Michigan municipalities that are members to secure electric power for their present and future needs. As a member of MPPA's Energy Services Project Committee the City of Portland has an opportunity to enter into a transaction to meet a portion of its future load requirements.

City Manager Gorman stated that these purchases are a hedging situation and is standard procedure for the Board of Light and Power. These purchases will be a cost savings to residents over time. The MPPA negotiates the best price for all 13 of its participating agencies.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 14-83 approving the Board of Light and Power's recommendation to approve, authorize, and direct the City's Electric Superintendent to sign an Energy Services Project Transaction Authorization to purchase energy in 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Smith, Sunstrum, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 14-84 to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Michael Culp to a term on the Planning Commission with a term expiring June 30, 2017.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to confirm the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Smith, Sunstrum, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Smith, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council held on August 18, 2014, payment of invoices in the amount of \$92,089.19 and payroll in the amount of \$149,233.95 for a total of \$241,323.14. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Smith, Fitzsimmons, Sunstrum, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman stated the Chamber of Commerce will host a Free Movie Night at Powers Park on Saturday, September 6th. They will show the Lego Movie. They will also hold their legislative luncheon on Monday, September 8th at the China Buffet.

City Manager Gorman reminded residents, with school back in session to watch their speed and to look out for children walking to and from school.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck stated that the VFW held a benefit for the Wounded Warrior Project and was able to present a check for \$1,000 at their annual golf outing. The Wounded Warrior Project benefits soldiers and their families in rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck also extended his congratulations to the Main Street programs, Promotions and Marketing Committee for another successful Portland Pay Day program. This program keeps money in the Portland community.

Mayor Barnes commented that Council Member Sunstrum submitted her letter of resignation tonight from the City Council, the DDA, the Main Street Board, and as the Promotions and Marketing Committee Chairperson in order to pursue a career at the University of Michigan in Social Media. She and her family will be moving to the Ann Arbor area. Mayor Barnes further extended his appreciation for the time Council Member Sunstrum has given in serving on the City Council, the DDA, and the Main Street program; she has made irreplaceable contributions.

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

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sunstrum, Smith, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk