



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, July 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; Finance Director Tolan; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: 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 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 reported the City expects to receive the \$3 million from the State of Michigan through appropriations for the Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project sometime in October. This will allow for an evaluation of exactly how these funds will be used.

Construction of the fiber infrastructure continues to proceed quickly. The project seems to be on schedule at this time. Customer hookups are expected to begin this fall.

Plans for construction of the Kent Street Improvement Project are being finalized. Plans will be submitted to MDOT for approval in the next few weeks with the bid letting expected to take place Fall 2023. Construction is expected to take place April – November 2024.

The environmental clearance is nearly complete for the Divine Hwy. Bridge Project and design work has begun. Construction is possible in 2024 but is likely to take place in 2025.

The Ionia County Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently under review. Once the plan is complete a resolution will be submitted to Council for its approval.

There were no presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 23-48 to approve an agreement with Jogan Health LLC to provide temporary staffing services to the Ambulance Department where shifts need to be filled in order to maintain operations.

There was discussion regarding the need for these temporary services.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-48 approving an agreement with Jogan Health LLC to provide temporary staffing services to the Ambulance Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-49 to confirm the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-49 confirming the Mayor's appointments to City Boards and Commissions.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, 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 July 5, 2023, payment of invoices in the amount of \$466,365.84 and payroll in the amount of \$150,545.29 for a total of \$616,911.13. Purchase orders to S.A. Morman in the amount of \$5,705.00 for new doors and installation at Alton Park, Brush Street Park, and Community Lake Park, Bio-Tech Agronomics, Inc. in the amount of \$12,155.00 for biosolids land application, VC3, Inc. in the amount of \$19,809.00 for 2023/2024 I.T. services, and Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$31,682.91 for 1st Quarter fire services were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, Beer on the Bridge will be held Saturday, August 12, 2023. Looking forward to a fun, safe event.

Volley on the Grand, volleyball tournament, was held at the Flats over the weekend. It was a fun, well-attended event.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck reminded residents to consider entering contracts with Wow, AT&T, etc. The quality of the fiber infrastructure from Homeworks Connect will be much faster.

Council Member Johnston noted the new car wash at Shell is now open. She further noted the Portland Civic Players Summer Theatre Productions will begin this week.

Mayor Barnes thanked Finance Director Tolan for stepping in tonight while City Clerk Miller is out of town.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk