



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, August 7, 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; DDA Director ConnerWellman

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Larry Tygesen; Kathy Burns

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

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman reported the contractors for Homeworks Tri-County Connect continue to work on installation of the fiber infrastructure in the City right-of-way. The project is going well and is expected to take 18-24 months.

Meetings continue to take place to prioritize the additional \$3 million the City will receive from the State of Michigan for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project this Fall.

The update of the City's website continues, the refreshed design will be launched on August 17, 2023.

Rivers Edge Grill has been working toward the ability to serve alcohol to the tables placed on the Boardwalk. They are requesting a letter from the City stating it is allowed. City Manager Gorman noted it is allowed if all requirements of the Zoning Ordinance are met and is at the discretion of the Liquor Control Commission.

City Manager Gorman noted work will begin a review and update of the Sign Ordinance.

The City has been participating in the Ionia County Brownfield Development Authority since 2009 and noted funding for brownfields may be available.

The Electric Department is working on planning for the new substation and implementation of Automatic Metering Infrastructure (AMI).

Planning and design for both the Kent Street Improvement Project and Divine Hwy. Bridge Replacement continue.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project is going well. Superintendent Smith is doing a great job.

Under Presentations, DDA Director ConnerWellman presented her report on downtown activities.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 23-50 to approve a proposal from Moyer Construction Company in the amount of \$6,182.50 to perform concrete repairs at the Electric Department.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 23-50 approving a proposal from Moyer Construction Company to perform concrete repairs for the Electric Department.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-51 to approve a proposal from Integrity Mobile Services in the amount of \$14,750.00 to paint transformers and electric cabinets for the Electric Department.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 23-51 approving a proposal from Integrity Mobile Services to paint transformers and electric cabinets for the Electric Department.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 23-52 to approve a proposal from Hydro Partners in the amount of \$12,500.00 to provide operation and maintenance services for the Hydro Dam.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 23-52 approving a proposal from Hydro Partners to provide operation and maintenance services for the City's Hydro Dam.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on July 17, 2023, payment of invoices in the amount of \$215,336.60 and payroll in the amount of \$147,920.44 for a total of \$363,257.04. Purchase orders to BS&A Software in the amount of \$5,746.00 for annual software services and support, Joint Michigan Apprentice Program in the amount of \$6,000.00 for training, IT Right in the amount of \$7,684.50 for replacement of a network server, and Badger Meter in the amount of \$9,120.72 for Orion Cellular Service Unit Fees were also included.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

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

City Clerk Miller provided information for the Special Election to be held Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Barnes noted his pleasant experience with the contractors working on the fiber project for Homeworks Tri-County Connect.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk