



# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

**Held on Monday, February 5, 2024**

In the City Council Chambers at City Hall

259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875

Present: Mayor Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, and Sheehan; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Electric Superintendent Davlin; DDA Director ConnerWellman; Police Officer Kauffman

Absent: Council Member Johnston

Guests: Jesse Danielewicz of Vision Metering; Mike Judd; Kathy Parsons

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

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve the proposed Revised Agenda to excuse Council Member Johnston.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Fitzsimmons, to excuse the absence of Council Member Johnston.

Yeas: Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under the City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman provided information and photos of the flooding that occurred on the Grand River last weekend.

City Staff continues to work with the engineers from Fleis & VandenBrink on the upcoming Kent Street Improvement Project, expected to begin early April, and the bid and permitting process for additional work related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project. One half of the funds for the additional work related to the Wastewater Project have been received from the State of Michigan.

City Manager Gorman stated that Electric Superintendent Davlin has been working to find another source to handle the after-hours utility calls after the abrupt request from Ionia County Central Dispatch to do so. The City will contract with Range Telecom who has the best rate for the services required.

City Manager Gorman further stated he continues to negotiate the sale of the City owned property located at the corner of Cutler Rd. and Grand River Ave.

Under Presentations, Jesse Danielewicz of Vision Metering presented information and an update on the upcoming Automatic Metering Infrastructure project for the Electric Department. Testing is expected to take place in late February or early March. The project is expected to be completed by June.

DDA Director ConnerWellman presented her report on Downtown activities.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 24-10 to approve a proposal from Wild Rose Machine LLC to provide maintenance for the hydro turbine generator at the municipal dam for a cost of \$61,895.00.

Electric Superintendent Davlin provided information on the maintenance required on the municipal dam generator.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-10 approving a proposal from Wild Rose Machine LLC to provide maintenance services for the municipal dam generator.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-11 to approve a payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Mayberry Homes, LLC. for a portion of the cost to repair sewer lines that were improperly connected during construction and to approve a related Release Agreement.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-11 approving payment and a Release Agreement for Mayberry Homes, LLC.

Yeas: Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-12 to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a permit for a fireworks display at Bogue Flats Recreation Area on Friday, June 28, 2024 for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-12 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor to sign a permit for a fireworks display at Bogue Flats Recreation Area.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-13 to approve a payment to F&V Construction in the amount of \$162,218.00 for work completed on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-13 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston  
Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on January 22, 2024, payment of invoices in the amount of \$87,514.71 and payroll in the amount of \$159,872.31 for a total of \$247,387.02. Purchase orders to Resco in the amount of \$6,580.00 for underground wire, Detroit Salt Company in the amount of \$6,947.56 for road salt, Theka Engineering in the amount of \$7,362.00 to test and calibrate relays at the Power Plant and Hydro Dam, Haviland in the amount of \$11,687.52 for ferric chloride, and Resco in the amount of \$19,800.00 for key-rite cable were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman presented updated renderings of the upcoming Kent Street Improvement Project.

The Bogue Flats is closed due to large sheets of ice that are still on the River Trail.

The Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance will be held February 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

Under Council Member Comments, Mayor Barnes stated his appreciation for the transparency and forthrightness in the way City Manager Gorman handles City business. He further encourage the residents and business owners to ask questions about the upcoming construction on Kent Street.

Council Member Sheehan congratulated the new Eagle Scout, Isaac Dakin.

She further noted the Portland High School will present a theatre production of The Little Mermaid, March 7 – 9, 2024.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Johnston

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk