



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday, February 20, 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, Johnston, and Sheehan; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: None

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, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under the City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated the preconstruction meeting for the Kent Street Improvement Project was held February 14, 2024. The anticipated start date for the project is April 29, 2024. Large signage with information about the project will be posted downtown. Public workshops will be held in March to answer questions and concerns about the project.

The new river crossing, related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project, and the demolition of the building at 103 E. Grand River Ave. will also take place during the Kent Street Improvement Project. The Grand River bridge will need to be closed for a period of time to accommodate work related to the river crossing.

FEMA was in Portland last week in relation to the severe storms that caused significant damage in August 2023. The Federal government has approved assistance to individual property owners.

The City has established a new call center for residents to report damage to city infrastructure including but not limited to damage to electrical infrastructure, water infrastructure, sewer system infrastructure, roads, or streetlights. Residents should call 888-495-5199.

The Annual Ambulance Meeting with participating jurisdictions will take place on February 28, 2024, to discuss funding for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024/2025. The City will be requesting a \$10.00 increase in the per capita funding.

The Council met for its Goal Session Meeting on February 12, 2024. The City Council set a very aggressive agenda for the year with many upcoming projects.

There were no Presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 24-14 to approve Fleis & VandenBrink's proposal in the amount of \$220,000.00 to provide construction engineering services for the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-14 approving Fleis & VandenBrink's proposal to provide construction engineering services for the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-15 to approve Fleis & VandenBrink's proposal in the amount of \$10,000.00 to provide design and construction engineering services for the River Trail Renovation Project.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 24-15 approving Fleis & VandenBrink's proposal to provide design and construction engineering services for the River Trail Renovation 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 February 5, 2024, and the Goal Session held on February 12, 2024, payment of invoices in the amount of \$125,634.87, and payroll in the amount of \$138,224.92 for a total of \$263,859.79. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman noted the Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance will be held February 21st and 22nd, 2024.

City Clerk Miller provided information related to the upcoming Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, February 27, 2024.

Under Council Member Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted the VFW will host a Walleye Dinner to benefit the David A Huhn Memorial Scholarship on March 1, 2024, from 5:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Council Member Johnston noted the Portland High School Theatre Department will perform The Little Mermaid March 7th – 10th, 2024.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk