



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, July 1, 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; Interim City Manager Terry; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas; Electric Superintendent Davlin; DDA Director ConnerWellman

Guests: Mike Judd; Kathy Parsons

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

Mayor Barnes wished everyone a Happy New Year as the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 begins today.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under Interim City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman introduced Interim City Manager Terry.

Interim City Manager Terry thanked City Manager Gorman for his many years of service.

Interim City Manager Terry reported the base course of asphalt was put on Kent Street on Friday. The final course will likely be put down in August. The street light bases will be put in place by the Electric Department so work can continue on the sidewalks.

Work has begun on the punch list items for completion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project.

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

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 24-53 for an Electric Meter Opt-Out Policy for customers with concerns that the Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) system being installed poses health risks.

Electric Superintendent Davlin further explained the concerns raised by residents and the reasoning for the proposed policy.

City Manager Gorman provided information related to the public discussion on this issue at the Board of Light & Power meeting held on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 24-53 approving a City Electric Meter Opt-Out Policy.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-54 to approve Pay Request No. 1 to the State of Michigan in the amount of \$506,015.23, for work completed through May 31, 2024, on the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-54 approving Pay Request No. 1 to the State of Michigan for work done on the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-55 to approve a proposal from VC3, in the amount of \$26,628.00 for replacement and installation of a network server at City Hall.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 24-55 approving a proposal from VC3 to install a new server at City Hall.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-56 to confirm the Mayor's appointment to the Downtown Development Authority.

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

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

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 June 17, 2024, payment of invoices in the amount of \$917,864.38, and payroll in the amount of \$149,490.90, for a total of \$1,067,355.28. Purchase orders to Kodiak Emergency Services in the amount of \$17,359.99 to outfit Patrol Car No. 2, and Fleis & VandenBrink in the amount of \$38,999.51 for engineering services related to the Kent Street Improvement Project were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under Interim City Manager Comments, Interim City Manager Terry noted the transfer of knowledge from City Manager Gorman has gone very well. He further thanked everyone for the welcome to Portland and stated the community is blessed with a great staff.

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Under Council Member Comments, Council Member Sheehan provided information related to the 4th of July Parade to be held on July 4, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. The parade will follow the Homecoming parade route.

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

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk