



# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

**Held on Monday, July 15, 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 Johnston; Interim City Manager Terry; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas; Finance Director Tolan; Parks & Recreation Director Brown; DDA Director ConnerWellman

Absent: Council Member Sheehan

Guests: Jerry Tolan; 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 Fitzsimmons, to approve the proposed Agenda amended to add a motion to excuse Council Member Sheehan

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

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

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under Interim City Manager Report, Interim City Manager Terry noted he would provide comments under the Interim City Manager Comments at the end of the meeting.

There were no presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 24-48(A) approving two Easement Agreements with Tri-County Electric Cooperative to install fiber lines and a fiber system.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-48(A) approving and authorizing execution of two Easement Agreements with Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-57 to approve renovations to the River Trail between Kent Street, along I-96, Market Street, and Canal Street to Bridge Street and awarding the project to CL Trucking & Excavating, LLC.

Interim City Manager Terry noted prices on the contract came in higher than expected due to the current price of asphalt.

Parks & Recreation Director Brown noted the turf restoration work was removed from the contract to lower the cost. City crews will provide labor for this portion of the project. He further noted a different asphalt mix is being considered to lower the costs.

Motion by Johnston, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-57 approving River Trail Renovation and Awarding the Project to CL Trucking & Excavating, LLC.

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-58 to approve a payment to F&V Construction in the amount of \$754,321.16, for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-58 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-59 to approve the lease/purchase of a new power cot, power loads, and a Lucas for the Ambulance Department. The lease/purchase is for a period of six years at 7.25% interest. The lease/purchase payment will include two payments of \$20,000.00 and four payments of \$25,692.70.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-59 approving the lease/purchase of a new power cot, power loads, and a Lucas for the Ambulance Department.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

Under the Consent Agenda, Interim City Manager Terry provided information related to the creation of a new Groundsman position for the Electric Department required to meet new safety standards. The transfer of the 2017 Ford Explorer from the Police Department to the Electric Department is to provide a vehicle for this new position.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on July 1, 2024, payment of invoices in the amount of \$146,504.85, and payroll in the amount of \$178,106.05, for a total of \$324,610.90. Purchase orders to the Portland Police Department in the amount of \$6,500.00 for the purchase of a 2017 Ford

Explorer for the Electric Department, and the Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$36,013.31 for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Fire Services were also included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Sheehan

Adopted

Under Interim City Manager Comments, Interim City Manager Terry commended Finance Director Tolan and Electric Superintendent Davlin for their efforts in establishing the new Groundsman position. He further extended his compliments to all City staff on their professionalism and noted they've been a pleasure to work with.

The Kent Street Improvement Project has been moving along very well. A meeting was held with the contractors to evaluate the planters that were installed at Kent Street and Bridge Street intersection. They did not meet City standards so they will be redesigned and reinstalled.

Under Council Member Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted the VFW Golf Outing will be held Saturday, July 27, 2024, with a meal following. The cost is \$60.00.

He warned residents of the potentially severe weather that has been forecast for the region and reminded everyone to be aware. He also commented on the benefit of having the splash pad as a cooling locations during the recent period of hot weather.

Council Member Johnston noted the Civic Players Summer Program will hold their performances this week.

Mayor Barnes thanked Chief Thomas and the Police Department for their efforts with holding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. He also thanked Council Member Sheehan for her efforts in planning the parade.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk