



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, November 4, 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 Dymczyk; City Clerk Miller; Finance Director Tolan; DDA Director ConnerWellman; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: Kathy Parsons; Bill Fabiano

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 agenda as presented.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under Public Comment, Bill Fabiano provided a timeline and information related to the property donation agreement for 103 E. Grand River Ave.

There was discussion.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Dymczyk reported on recent activities including the Ionia County Economic Alliance October Stakeholder Meeting, the successful Harvest Fest held downtown Portland, the street trees on Kent Street have been planted, efforts related to the property donation agreement for 103 E. Grand River Ave., Public Power Week activities, Election Day, the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Draft Audit, and leaf pickup.

City Manager Dymczyk further noted the sirens did not sound off on Halloween for the beginning and end of trick-or-treating as expected. He is working with Ionia County Central Dispatch to correct the issue for next year.

Under Presentations, DDA Director ConnerWellman provided her Downtown Report.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to adjourn to Closed Session to discuss a legal memorandum regarding the 103 E. Grand River Ave. building demolition as permitted under Section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meeting Act and Section 13(1)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act which exempts from public disclosure information or records subject to attorney-client privilege.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Adjourn to Closed Session at 7:26 P.M.

Return from Closed Session at 8:11 P.M.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to direct City Manager Dymczyk to execute a settlement agreement and release with Bird Dog Real Estate, LLC and William Fabiano, individually, to clarify expectations and obligations surrounding the real property donation agreement of 103 E. Grand River Ave. with a completed agreement brought back to City Council for ratification at the November 18, 2024, City Council meeting.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 24-92 to approve a Traffic Control Order restricting public parking in the City Hall parking lot, Maple Street parking lot, and Scout Park parking lot.

Chief Thomas stated the proposed Traffic Control Order makes permanent the changes made for the Kent Street Improvement Project because they worked so well.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 24-92 approving a Traffic Control Order restricting public parking in the City Hall parking lot, Maple Street parking lot, and Scout Park parking lot.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-93 to approve financing, in the amount of approximately \$108,390.00, of a 2023 MTech trailer mounted leaf vac for the Department of Public Works. Financing will be through Huntington Public Capital Corporation for a three-year term at 4.5%, with annual payments of approximately \$36,130.00.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-93 approving the financing of a 2023 MTech trailer mounted leaf vac for the Department of Public Works.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-94 to approve the Power Purchase Commitment between the City of Portland and the Michigan Public Power Agency authorizing the power purchase from Hart Solar, in the amount of \$98,112.00.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 24-94 approving the Power Purchase Commitment between the City of Portland and the Michigan Public Power Agency authorizing the power purchase from Hart Solar.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-95 approving the proposal, in the amount of \$36,500.00, from AECOM for environmental compliance obligations required by Hydro Dam FERC License.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-95 approving the proposal from AECOM for environmental compliance obligations required by the Dam FERC License.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-96 approving the proposal, in the amount of \$20,750.00, from Alpha Omega Utility Services proposal for groundman safety training for the Electric Department.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 24-96 approving the proposal from Alpha Omega Utility Services for groundman safety training.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-97 to approve Pay Request No. 5, in the amount of \$26,300.48, to the State of Michigan for work done on the Kent Street Improvement Project.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-97 approving Pay Request No. 5 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 24-98 to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Mike Fox to the Board of Light & Power.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 24-98 to confirm the Mayor's appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, 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 October 21, 2024, payment of invoices in the amount of \$233,321.93, and payroll in the amount of \$148,493.92, for a total of \$381,815.85. Purchase orders to Civic Plus in the amount of \$8,907.14 for the annual fee, and Haviland in the amount of \$11,782.52 for ferric chloride were included.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

City Manager Dymczyk had no additional comments.

Under Council Member Comments, Council Member Johnston noted the Portland Band will hold a mattress fundraiser on Sunday, November 10, 2024. The Portland Civic Players will hold the opening of the Descendents this weekend.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted the VFW resumed its Friday meals and he further noted Veterans Day activities to be held on Monday, November 11, 2024.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck encouraged everyone to vote tomorrow.

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Mayor Barnes further reminded everyone that tomorrow is Election Day and thanked City Clerk Miller for her efforts in running a successful election.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk