



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, December 16, 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; Police Chief Thomas

Guests: Kathy Parsons; April Vogl; Mike Judd; Brian & Merry Hass; Bill Fabiano; Tim Cunningham; Dawn Becker; Ray & Bobbie Hoskins; Mike Palm; Carol Abood

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 proposed agenda as presented.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under Public Comment, Merry Hass from The Port expressed her frustration that only Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck and Council Member Sheehan had responded to her email outlining concerns about the message sent by DDA Director Conner Wellman regarding solicitors in the Downtown area last week. She also voiced her disappointment over the lack of response regarding issues with vehicle key fobs and household appliances malfunctioning, allegedly caused by the transmitter used for the Holiday Light Show.

Mayor Barnes and City Manager Dymczyk both apologized and explained the efforts that have been taken to determine what the issue is so it can be addressed appropriately.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Dymczyk reported on recent and upcoming activities.

There were no presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 24-107 to approve an additional payment of \$100,000.00 to the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) for the Electric Department due to the increase in wages.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 24-107 approving an additional payment for the Electric Department to the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) to reduce the City's Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

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The Council considered Resolution 24-108 designating City Manager Dymczyk as the Street Administrator for the City of Portland.

Motion by Johnston, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 24-108 designating City Manager Andrew Dymczyk as the Street Administration for the City of Portland.

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-109 to amend the Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-109 to amend the Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-110 to approve the 2025 City Council meeting dates.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 24-110 approving 2025 City Council meeting dates.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 24-111 to designate the City Manager Andrew Dymczyk as the City's Zoning Administrator.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 24-111 designating the City Manager Andrew Dymczyk as the City's Zoning Administrator.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Sheehan, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on December 2, 2024, payment of invoices in the amount of \$61,684.72 and payroll in the amount of \$177,012.87, for a total of \$238,697.59. A purchase order to Goodrich Masonry LLC in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 for masonry work at 103 E. Grand River Ave. was also included.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Dymczyk had no additional comments.

Under Council Member Comments, Mayor Barnes wished everyone a happy and safe holiday and stated he looks forward to next year.

Council Member Fitzsimmons apologized for not responding to the email sent by Merry Hass and noted that he had misread it.

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Mike Palm of Hot Shots mentioned that he has experienced issues with the jukebox at his establishment, and vehicle fobs in his parking lot have also been impacted by the ongoing frequency problem.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Barnes, Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk