



# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

**Held on Monday, July 21, 2025**

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; Police Chief Thomas; Police Officer McCrory

Guests: Dawson McCallum, Cooper Gehrcke, Morgan Rose, Ryan Simon, Jessica Roll, and Bryan Gehrcke of Boy Scout Troop 129; Roy and Cena Schneider; Larry Tygesen; Kathy Burns; Kathy Parsons

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dawson McCallum, Cooper Gehrcke, Morgan Rose, Ryan Simon of Boy Scout Troop 129.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Sheehan, to approve the proposed agenda as presented.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no Public Comment

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Dymczyk reported on recent and upcoming activities. The tie ins of the new wastewater infrastructure at the manhole located at Kent St. and Grand River Ave as part of the wastewater portion of the Looking Glass Plaza Project have been completed. The road should be opened sometime this week. Work on the plaza should be completed by the end of August.

The City received funds through the Wellhead Protection Grant to evaluate potential sites for a new well. A meeting was held to discuss.

In 2018, the portion of the Grand River between the Charlotte Hwy. Bridge and Thompson Field was named one of the top three water trails in the state in the Grand River Water Trail System. A draft plan for the entire Water Trail system is being reviewed. Wayfinding signs, information about the City of Portland, and resources for emergency services will be included in the plan.

Meetings with the new City safety vender, Alpha Omega, have begun.

Under Presentations, Mayor Barnes presented a proclamation to Boy Scout Troop 129 recognizing being named Troop of the Year by the Chief Okemos District of Scouting America.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 25-46 to approve a proposal from Buist, in the amount of \$54,146.00, to upgrade the aged audio video equipment at City Hall.

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Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 25-46 approving the proposal from Buist to upgrade the audio video equipment at City Hall.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 25-47 to approve payment to F&V Construction, in the amount of \$208,179.00, for work performed in relation to the River Crossing as part of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 25-47 approving payment to F&V Construction for work performed in relation to the River Crossing as part of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on July 7, 2025, payment of invoices in the amount of \$320,899.66 and payroll in the amount of \$161,632.56 for a total of \$482,532.22. A purchase order to the Portland Area Fire Authority in the amount of \$36,998.06 for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Fire Services was also included.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Dymczyk noted his appreciation for the Council's support in replacing the aged audio video equipment.

Under Council Member Comments, Council Member Sheehan asked for more information on the Grand River Water Trail System.

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

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk