



City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, November 17, 2025

In the City Council Chambers at City Hall

259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875

Present: Council Members Barnes, VanSlambrouck, Schneider and Boyer; City Manager Dymczyk; Acting City Clerk/Finance Director Tolan; Police Officer Groenhof

Absent: Council Member Fitzsimmons

Guests: Eve Moyer; Denise Barnes; Tim Fuller; Eric Gibbs; Kathy Parsons

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Acting Clerk Tolan with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acting Clerk Tolan explained the procedure for nominating the Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem and opened the floor for nominations for Mayor.

Council Member Schneider nominated Council Member Boyer for Mayor.

There was no support.

Council Member VanSlambrouck nominated Council Member Barnes for Mayor.

There was no support.

City Manager Dymczyk explained the process for the election of Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem as outlined in the Charter and stated in the event of a deadlock the item can be tabled to the next meeting. The Acting Chair of the meeting would facilitate the business.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Boyer, to table the Election of Mayor until all Council Members are present.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Boyer, Schneider, Barnes

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Barnes, to approve the proposed agenda.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Barnes, Schneider, Boyer

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Motion by Barnes, supported by VanSlambrouck, to excuse the absence of Council Member Fitzsimmons.

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Yeas: Barnes, VanSlambrouck, Schneider, Boyer
Nays: None
Absent: Fitzsimmons
Adopted

There was no Public Comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Dymczyk congratulated the Council Members and noted that he looks forward to working with each of them.

The Grand Opening of the new Looking Grand Plaza will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2025, from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

MDOT awarded the City Category B funding of \$250,000.00 for Hill Street from Kent Street to Lincoln Street, budgeted for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027. Survey work will likely take place before winter.

City staff will meet with the Rindlehaven development group on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Updates to the audio/video upgrades continue. He and City Clerk Miller are making efforts to get the streaming of meetings set up.

There were no presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 25-79 to approve a proposal from Premium Utility Contractor, in the amount of \$24,947.00, to connect the Grant Street Substation to the Consumers Energy Switching Pole.

Council Member VanSlambrouck noted the resolution was removed from the November 3, 2025, agenda to get another quote on this expenditure.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Schneider, to approve Resolution 25-79 approving a proposal from Premium Utility Contractor to connect the Grant Street Substation to the Consumers Energy Switching Pole.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Schneider, Boyer, Barnes
Nays: None
Absent: Fitzsimmons
Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 25-81 to accept funding in the amount of \$200,000.00 from the Michigan Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program for the rehabilitation of the Bridge Street Bridge over the Grand River.

City Manager Dymczyk explained the funding, anticipated costs, and timeline for the project.

There was discussion.

Motion by Barnes, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve Resolution 25-81 to accept funding from the Michigan Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program for the Rehabilitation of the Bridge Street Bridge over the Grand River (Structure No. 4103).

Yeas: Barnes, VanSlambrouck, Schneider, Boyer
Nays: None
Absent: Fitzsimmons

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Adopted

Motion by Barnes, supported by VanSlambrouck, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City held on November 3, 2025, payment of invoices in the amount of \$440,292.90 and payroll in the amount of \$174,822.52 for a total of \$615,115.42. A purchase order for Advanced Plumbing & Mechanical in the amount of \$6,550.00 to replace a boiler at the Red Mill Pavilion was also included.

Yeas: Barnes, VanSlambrouck, Schneider, Boyer

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Dymczyk extended his congratulations to St. Patrick's football team and wished them luck in the State Finals Football game this weekend.

Under Council Member Comments, Council Member Barnes extended his congratulations to Portland High School football team on an outstanding season.

Council Member VanSlambrouck extended his congratulations to new Council Members Schneider and Boyer and looks forward to working with them and to continue to move Portland forward.

Council Member Boyer noted his appreciation for the political process in the nomination process for Mayor and the motion to wait until the entire Council is present. He stated his goal is to be helpful to the City and will do that to the best of his ability.

Council Member Schneider stated she is happy to serve on the City Council and on behalf of the Friends of the Red Mill she noted her thanks for the new boiler.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Barnes, to adjourn the regular meeting.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Barnes, Schneider, Boyer

Nays: None

Absent: Fitzsimmons

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor

Monique I. Miller, City Clerk