

November 12, 2019 Approved Minutes

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
123rd Session of the Tenth Council**

A Formal Meeting of the City Council of Pontiac, Michigan was called to order in City Hall, Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. by Councilwoman Patrice Waterman as Chair.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Members Present: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and G. Williams.

Members Absent: Carter, Miller and K. Williams.

Mayor Waterman was present.

Clerk announced a quorum.

19-552 **Excuse Councilperson Gloria Miller, Randy Carter and Kermit Williams for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and G. Williams

No: None

Motion Carried.

Councilwoman Gloria Miller arrived at 6:03 p.m.

19-553 **Motion to remove items #3 & #6 from the agenda, amend language for closed session and add a resolution for Veterans Day as the new item #5.** Moved by Councilperson G. Williams and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Ayes: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, G. Williams and Miller

No: None

Motion Carried.

19-554 **Approve the agenda as amended.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Taylor-Burks, Waterman, G. Williams, Miller and Pietila

No: None

Motion Carried.

Point of Privilege – Mayor reported a Snow Emergency for the City of Pontiac

19-555 **Approval of meeting minutes for November 7, 2019.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson G. Williams.

Ayes: Waterman, G. Williams, Miller, Pietila and Taylor-Burks

No: None

Motion Carried.

19-556 **Resolution to go into Close Session.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson G. Williams.

Be It Resolved, A closed session pursuant to MCL15.268 (e) to discuss pending litigation, specifically Ottawa Towers II, LLC, et al. v. City of Pontiac, et al., United States District Court Case No. 2:12-cv-13134-AC-MKM.

Ayes: G. Williams, Miller, Pietila, Taylor-Burks and Waterman

No: None

Resolution Passed.

19-557 **Motion to come out of Close Session.** Moved by Councilperson Taylor-Burks and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Ayes: Miller, Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and G. Williams

No: None

Motion Carried.

Special Presentations

Medical Marihuana Roles and responsibilities, Application Review and Moratorium Update
Presentation Presenter: Garland Doyle, Interim City Clerk

Medical Marihuana Process and Next Steps
Presentation Presenter: Vern Gustafsson

19-558 **Resolution Commemorating Veterans Day. (Agenda add-on)** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson G. Williams.

Whereas, it is with warm and sincere gratitude that we graciously recognize November 11, the anniversary of the ending of World War I, by paying tribute to the heroes of the tragic struggle and by rededicating ourselves to the cause of peace; and,

Whereas, in the intervening years, the united States has been involved in subsequent military conflicts, which have added millions of veterans living and dead to the honor rolls of this nation; and,

Whereas, Congress passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1928 (44 Stat. 1962), calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies, and later provided in an act approved May 13,

1938 (53 Stat. 351), the eleventh of November should be a legal holiday and should be known as Armistice Day; and,

Whereas, in order to expand the significance of that commemoration and in order that a grateful nation might pay appropriate homage to the veterans of all its wars who have contributed so much to the preservation of this Nation, the Congress, by an act approved June 1, 1954 (68 Stat. 168), changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we the members of the Pontiac City Council, hereby call upon the citizens of Pontiac, to observe Thursday, November 11 as Veterans Day and on that day, let us remember the sacrifices of those who fought so courageously on the seas, in the air, and on the foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us commit ourselves, to the task of promoting and enduring peace, so that their efforts shall not have been in vain.

Ayes: Miller, Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and G. Williams

No: None

Resolution Passed.

19-559 **Resolution honoring Gerald Lamarr Jennings.** Moved by Councilperson Taylor-Burks and second by Councilperson Pietila.

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this legislative body to pay proper tribute to individuals of remarkable character and whose lives have been dedicated to uplifting, inspiring and empowering the community; and;

WHEREAS, it is feelings of the deepest regret that the Pontiac City Council mourns the passing of Gerald Lamarr Jennings, a giving and loyal member of this community; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings was born on June 24, 1949 in McComb, Mississippi to the late Alphonse and Cleo Jennings; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings accepted Christ at a young age and joined Society Hill Missionary Baptist Church in McComb, Mississippi; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings displayed his ambitious nature and scholastic ability by earning a Bachelor's degree from Albany State College in Business Administration in 1971; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings upon graduation, migrated to Pontiac, Michigan where he later met the love of his life of 44 years, his wife Carolyn, and to this union, the couple had one daughter, Nikia; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings embraced the gift of laughter and was known to be the life of the party, for these reasons, he was affectionately given the nicknames "squirrel" and "biscuit;" and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings without question, lived life to the fullest, as there was never any doubt that the essential components were family and friends; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings selflessly devoted 32 years to the City of Pontiac where he attained the rank of Superintendent in the Department of Public Works & Utilities, where he subsequently retired in 2004 and where he was proven to be a master at balancing work and enjoying life's pleasures; and,

WHEREAS, Gerald Lamarr Jennings joined Liberty Missionary Baptist Church where he served on the Usher Board and later moved his membership to Welcome Baptist Church.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council and members of this great community will greatly miss Gerald Lamarr Jennings, as his life was a portrait of service, a legacy that will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all those whose lives he touched; we give our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Gerald Lamarr Jennings.

Ayes: Miller, Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and G. Williams

No: None

Resolution Passed.

19-560 **Table for one week the resolution to authorize Mayor to sign a one-year contract with Clean Net of Greater Michigan, Inc., for custodial services in an amount not to exceed \$228,126.74.** Moved by Councilperson Taylor-Burks and second by Councilperson G. Williams.

Ayes: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, G. Williams and Miller

No: None

Motion Carried.

Eight (8) individuals addressed the body during public comment.

Mayor Waterman, Interim City Clerk Doyle, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman G. Williams, Councilwoman Taylor-Burks, Councilwoman Pietila and Councilwoman Waterman made closing comments.

Councilwoman Patrice Waterman as Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

GARLAND S. DOYLE
INTERIM CITY CLERK