

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
269th Session of the Tenth Council**

Call to order

A Study Session of the City Council of Pontiac, Michigan was called to order at the City Hall Council Chambers, 47450 Woodward Ave Pontiac, MI 48342 on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. by Council President Kermit Williams.

Roll Call

Members Present – Carter, Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and Williams

Mayor Waterman was present.

A quorum was announced.

Excuse Councilmember

21-416 **Motion to excuse Councilperson Gloria Miller and Megan Shramski for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams and Carter

No: None

Motion Carried

Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda

21-417 **Motion to remove item #3 (Special Presentation for Medical Marihuana Application Review Process), item #4 (Special Presentation on Mayor's 2021 Year End report with Status of Departmental Strategic Agendas and recap of ARP Town Halls), item #5 (Special Presentation on the 2022 GFOA Budget Book), item #8 (Resolution to authorize an Actuarial Study for the Permanent Enhanced Benefits for GERS) indefinitely, item #10 (Resolution to approve the revise Medical Marihuana Commission Rules), item #11 (Memorandum to discuss the Waterford Regional Fire Agreement) and item #12 (Mayoral Board and Commission Appointees) from the agenda.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Ayes: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams and Carter

No: None

Motion Carried

21-418 **Motion to add-on a Resolution for the Pontiac Night Riders Club right after public comments.** Moved by Councilperson Taylor-Burks and second by Councilperson Carter.

Ayes: Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams, Carter and Pietila

No: None

Motion Carried

21-419 **Motion to approve the agenda as amended.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams, Carter and Pietila

No: None

Motion Carried

Point of Privilege – State Representative Brenda Carter

Approval of Minutes

21-420 **Motion to approve meeting minutes for December 21, 2021.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Waterman.

Ayes: Waterman, Williams, Carter, Pietila and Taylor-Burks

No: None

Motion Carried

21-421 **Motion to approve special meeting minutes for September 30, 2021.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Williams, Carter, Pietila, Taylor-Burks and Waterman

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Three (3) individuals addressed the body during public comment

Councilwoman Megan Shramski arrived at 12:10 p.m.

Agenda Items

City Council

21-422 **Resolution for the Pontiac Night Riders. (Agenda Add-on)** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this legislative body to pay proper tribute to individuals of remarkable character whose lives have been dedicated to uplifting and empowering the community; and;
WHEREAS, the Night Riders Motorcycle Club founded by a group of bikers led by TJ Johnson, Robert Holland, Henry Leach, John Grays, and others, was organized in 1971 constituting 50 years of service to Pontiac, Michigan; and
WHEREAS, sanctioned by the City of Pontiac and with the efforts of Charlie “June” Adams, received block grant dollars to create the legendary Ghost House, the home of the Club; and,
WHEREAS, they changed the culture and image of motorcycle clubs by setting high standards for membership such as, requiring all members to be employed, to be registered voters, own a motorcycle, and be committed to community service; and,
WHEREAS, partnerships and collaborations throughout these past 50 years have impacted Pontiac with countless Community service activities, such as: Park security, motorcycle rides for kids, donated food for holidays for seniors and the homeless, conducted a food pantry, donated coats for kids, and toys for tots, books for kids and fundraisers at Franklin School, donated their time and efforts for parades, clean-ups for parks, downtown, and neighborhoods, filled sandbags to assist with flooding at Newman Church, conducted Easter egg hunts at the ghost house, and much more; and,
WHEREAS, under the leadership of President Willie Ramsey, the Night Riders continues to be a positive force in our community by maintaining its standards and community commitment, and,
WHEREAS, the Pontiac Night Riders has been recognized by the Oakland Press and the Michigan Recreation and Park Association for outstanding community service.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council recognizes the Pontiac Night Riders for its 50 years of service and community involvement in the City of Pontiac.

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Ayes: Miller, Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and Williams
No: None
Resolution Passed

Point of Privilege – Councilwoman Patrice Waterman

Ordinance

2389 **Emergency Ordinance for Extension of Temporary Supplemental Pension payment for General Employees Retirement System. (GERS)** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Ayes: Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams and Carter
No: None
Ordinance Passed

Ordinance #2389 attached as Exhibit A

Suspend the Rules

21-423 **Suspend the Rules.** Moved by Councilperson Taylor-Burks and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Ayes: Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams, Carter and Pietila
No: None
Motion Carried

Community and Economic Development

21-424 **Motion to table indefinitely the Resolution to adopt policy on Disposition of City Owned Property and Supplemental Policy on Property acquired by Right of First Refusal.** Moved by Councilperson Carter and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Ayes: Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams, Carter, Pietila and Shramski
No: None
Motion Carried

Suspend the Rules

21-425 **Suspend the Rules.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Waterman, Williams, Carter, Pietila, Shramski and Taylor-Burks
No: None
Motion Carried

Finance

21-426 **Resolution to approve the 2022 Federal Poverty Guidelines.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Whereas, In accordance with State of Michigan Act No. 390 Public Acts of 1994, approved December 29, 1994, General Property Section 211.7u (4). “The governing assessing unit shall determine and make the policy and guidelines the uses for the granting of exemptions. The guidelines shall include but not specific income and asset levels of the household income assets;” and,

Whereas, The Pontiac City Council approved said Hardship Exemption Guidelines for 2021; and,

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Whereas, said Hardship Guidelines should be amended annually to reflect the new Federal Poverty Guidelines,

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Pontiac City Council hereby approves the attached revised Federal Poverty guidelines for the 2022 and the City of Pontiac Board of Review Instructions for Applicants requesting Hardship Exemption consideration.

Ayes: Williams, Carter, Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks and Waterman

No: None

Resolution Passed

Point of Privilege – President Kermit Williams -Last Closing Comments, Mayor Deidre Waterman, Deputy Clerk Sheila Grandison, Legislative Counsel Monique Sharpe, Councilwoman Megan Shramski, Councilwoman Doris Taylor-Burks, Councilwoman Mary Pietila, Councilwoman Patrice Waterman, President Pro-Tem Randy Carter and Council President Kermit Williams made closing comments.

Adjournment

Council President Kermit Williams adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

Sheila Grandison
Deputy City Clerk

Exhibit A

Ordinance No. 2389

An ordinance to provide for a limited increase in pension payments for certain members of the General Employee Retirement System. ("GERS")

Whereas, the temporary increase in pension payments to members of the GERS pension system is set to expire on December 31, 2021; and,

Whereas, the City Council desires that this temporary increase continues no longer than December 31, 2022; and,

Whereas, such ordinance, if approved, will take effect from January 1, 2022 and expire on December 31, 2022 or when the New VEBA begins providing the health care benefits to the eligible retirees, whichever comes first, and,

Whereas, the Pontiac City Council considers this an emergency.

The City of Pontiac ordains:

Section 1. Amendments.

The General Employee Retirement System ordinance shall be amended to read as follows:

a. Section 17.6 shall be amended to add the following language:

Temporary Pension Increase

"All persons who are receiving retirement benefits as of December 1, 2021 and who enter pay status through December 1, 2022, shall be entitled to receive an increase in their monthly allowance of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) per month beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, or when the New VEBA begins providing the health care benefits to the eligible retirees, whichever comes first."

Section 2. Severability.

If any section, or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared to be unconstitutional, void, illegal, or ineffective by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such section, clause or provision declared to be unconstitutional, void or illegal shall thereby cease to be a part of this Ordinance, but the remainder of the Ordinance shall stand and be in full force and effect.

Section 3. Repealer.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 4. Publication.

The Clerk shall publish this Ordinance in a newspaper of general circulation.

Section 5. Emergency Declaration and Effective Date.

This Ordinance is declared an emergency of health and safety to allow the pension recipients to collect the increase authorized in this Ordinance on the date identified in this Ordinance and shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council.