

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
6th Session of the Eleventh Council**

Call to order

A Meeting 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, February 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

Invocation – Rev. Laura Kelsey, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church in Pontiac

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States

Roll Call

Members Present – William A. Carrington, Mikal Goodman, Kathalee James, Mike McGuinness, Brett Nicholson, William Parker, Jr. and Melanie Rutherford

Mayor Greimel was present.
A quorum was announced.

Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Rutherford and Carrington
No: None

Motion Carried

Consent Agenda

22-46 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for February 8, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for February 8, 2022.
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for February 8, 2022 including the February 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2022 Law & The Courts Subcommittee Meeting Minutes and January 24, 2022 Parks, recreation & Public Works Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Rutherford, Carrington and Goodman
No: None

Resolution Passed.

Subcommittee Reports

- A. Communications, Engagement & Operations – Chair Goodman
- B. Economic Development, Housing & Planning – Chair McGuinness
- C. Facilities & Property – Chair Carrington
- D. Finance & Personnel – Chair Nicholson
- E. Law & The Courts – Chair Parker

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- F. Parks, Recreation & Public Works – Chair James
- G. Public safety, Health & Wellness – Chair Rutherford

Special Presentation

- A. CARE House of Oakland County Nurturing Parenting Program
Presentation Presenter: Sheronda McDonald, LMSW
- B. Pontiac Youth Recreation Strategy
Presentation Presenter: Mayor Greimel and Deputy Mayor Stephens

Recognition of Elected Officials – Johnathan Wertheimer, Policy Director for State Representative Brenda Carter

Agenda Address

Two (2) individuals address the body during agenda address.

1. Gloria Miller addressed Special Presentation B
2. Larry Keen addressed item #7.

Agenda Items

City Council

22-47

Council Resolution Celebrating the Global Cultural Impact of Pontiac’s Jones Brothers. Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Whereas Pontiac, Michigan has a rich and enduring legacy of Black community members who have made an enduring impact on the cultural, sociological, economic, political, legal, athletic, and innovation trends in our community, region, state, nation, and world;

Whereas it is extremely rare that a family would have three brothers that would go on to make such a significant impact on jazz music, but that is precisely what pianist Hank Jones, trumpeter and composer Thad Jones and drummer Elvin Jones did through decades of making music;

Whereas all three brothers grew up in Pontiac, Michigan and through their careers transformed the musical scene and eldest brother Hank Jones became known globally as the ‘Grandfather of All Jazz Pianists’ and was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Grammy in 2009;

Whereas, among many other noteworthy aspects of their lives, Thad Jones was dubbed “one of the all-time greatest jazz trumpet soloists” and his Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Orchestra won a 1978 Grammy Award, and Elvin Jones was a member of the John Coltrane Quartet and was inducted into the Modern Drummer Hall of Fame in 1995;

Whereas Hank, Thad, and Elvin Jones passed away in 2010, 1986, and 2004, respectively;

Whereas their legacy and memory have been marked through various exhibits, acknowledgements, and tributes over the years, though not to the extent worthy of their global impact, the importance to their craft and their embodiment of the Black experience in Pontiac;

Whereas Pontiac City Council has declared February 2022 as Black History Month, and is committed to advancing the celebration of Black history this month and the entire year; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council hereby celebrates the global cultural impact of Hank Jones, Thad Jones, and Elvin Jones, whose creativity, talents, and brilliance shaped modern music and reverberate throughout the world to this day; and further

Resolved, the City Council calls for thoughtful, creative, and ongoing efforts to better acknowledge and celebrate the Jones Brothers’ legacy throughout our Pontiac community, including: Expanding historical wayside markers, exploring community mural installations, identifying the location where their family’s home once stood at 129 Bagley, considering places that could be named in their honor, incorporation into educational curricula, and development of comprehensive strategies to celebrate The Corner at Bagley and Wessen streets and Black history in Southwest Pontiac more broadly.

Ayes: McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Carrington, Goodman and James

No: None

Resolution Passed

Councilwoman Rutherford was absent during the vote.

22-48 **Council Resolution Nothing Pontiac Creative Arts Center's Spotlight of Black Artists.** Moved by Councilperson Carrington and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Whereas the Pontiac Creative Arts Center is a non-profit organization established in 1964 with the mission of cultivating arts and culture in the community through exhibitions, education, and outreach and is located at 47 Williams Street in Pontiac;

Whereas the Creative Arts Center presents ongoing exhibits, offers workshops and classes, hosts community events throughout the year, and has labored to creatively advance their mission despite the substantial challenges presented during the global pandemic;

Whereas Pontiac City Council has declared February 2022 as Black History Month, and is committed to advancing the celebration of Black history locally this month and the entire year; Whereas for decades the Creative Arts Center has made a particular focus of featuring Black artists and performers through programming and exhibits each February;

Whereas the works of accomplished Black artist Carole Morisseau of Michigan will be exhibited at the Pontiac Creative Arts Center in a show entitled "Drawings from Earth" that runs from February 6, 2022 to March 19, 2022 and to which the entire community is invited; Whereas Carole Morisseau will also present an Artist's Talk on February 25, 2022 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. amidst her exhibited work at the Center, to which the entire community is invited;

Whereas the Creative Arts Center is also offering a painting workshop on February 27, 2022 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. with a subject matter focus of celebrating Black women; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council acknowledges the Pontiac Creative Arts Center's efforts to spotlight Black artists and to continue their tradition of celebrating Black history through the arts; and further

Resolved, the City Council encourages Pontiac residents to enjoy the cultural opportunities offered by the Creative Arts Center, including the "Drawings from Earth" exhibit, Carole Morriseau Artist's Talk, and painting workshop all happening in February; and further

Resolved, the City Council expresses our gratitude to the dedicated volunteers and artists who have assisted in the Pontiac Creative Arts Center's perseverance, especially during the global pandemic that has upended their activities, fundraising, resources, and volunteer support.

Ayes: Nicholson, Parker, Carrington, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

Resolution Passed

Councilwoman Rutherford was absent during the vote.

City Council

Motion to amend Council Resolution Designating February 2022 A United Way for Southeastern Michigan 2-1-1 Month. Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Parker. Discussion to change resolution from Month to Day, February 11, 2022.

22-49 **Amended Council Resolution Designating February 11, 2022 A United Way for Southeastern Michigan 2-1-1 Day.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Parker.

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Whereas United Way for Southeastern Michigan is dedicated to ensuring all households in our region are stable and all children are set up to thrive;
Whereas United Way for Southeastern Michigan is the operator of Michigan 2-1-1 for Oakland County, which launched in 2002 and expanded to Southeastern Michigan in 2005;
Whereas Michigan 2-1-1 is a service provided at no cost to Michigan residents, and connects them with thousands of health and human service agencies and resources right in their communities quickly, easily, and confidentially;
Whereas the Michigan 2-1-1 helpline is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year via phone, email, live chat, and online databases;
Whereas more than 3,000 Pontiac residents have contact Michigan 2-1-1 for assistance with housing, job training, utility assistance, food, COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, and more;
Whereas February 11 is 2-1-1, a date, which represents Michigan 2-1-1, and the service provided by 2-1-1 Community Care Advocates, and their work is celebrated the month of February; now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council designates that February 11, 2022 be recognized as United Way for Southeastern Michigan 2-1-1 Day in Pontiac, Michigan and acknowledges the organization's service to our community; and further Resolved, the City Council recognizes United Way for Southeastern Michigan's 2-1-1 service as a valued asset and are grateful to the dedicated Community Care Advocates at 2-1-1 for their efficient, effective, and compassionate response to the needs of our residents; and further Resolved, the City Council encourages Pontiac residents take advantage of this organization's 2-1-1 services to connect with thousands of health and human service agencies and resources that may be able to assist them with their family's challenges.

Ayes: Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson and Parker

No: None

Resolution Passed

Councilwoman Rutherford was absent during the vote.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

22-45 **Resolution to approve a Two-Year Contract Extension with Great Lakes Power & Light for Street Light Maintenance.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson James. (This item was postponed from last week.)

Whereas, The City of Pontiac has mutually agreed with Great Lakes P & L to extend the contract for 2 years at attached rates;
Whereas, Great Lakes P & L has done exemplary work and has gained vast knowledge of our infrastructure over the 4.5 years of their contract;
Whereas, The Department of Public Works is still in need of assistance for "Street Light Maintenance";
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, The Pontiac City Council authorizes the Mayor to extend the contract with Great Lakes P & L until January 1, 2024.

Ayes: Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson and Parker

No: None

Resolution Passed

Councilwoman Rutherford was absent during the vote.

22-50 **Resolution to approve Mayor to sign the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Funding Agreement (Contract No. 21-5506) for Construction of the University and Kennett Bridges Capital Preventive Maintenance Project.** Moved by Councilperson Carrington and second by Councilperson Nicholson. Discussion on the matter.

Motion to postpone Resolution to approve Mayor to sign the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Funding Agreement (Contract No. 21-5506) for Construction of the University and Kennett Bridges Capital Preventive Maintenance Project for one week. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Rutherford, Carrington and Goodman

No: None

Motion Carried

22-51 **Resolution to approve a One (1) Year Contract Extension with Action Traffic Maintenance.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac has mutually agreed with Action Traffic Maintenance, Inc., to extend the contract for one (1) year at a 10% increase;

WHEREAS, Action Traffic Maintenance Inc., has done exemplary work over the four (4) years of their contract;

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works is still in need of assistance for “Right of Way Sign Maintenance”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Pontiac City Council authorizes the Mayor to extend the contract with Action Traffic Maintenance. Inc., for one (1) year, expiring January 1, 2023 at a 10% increase.

Ayes: McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Rutherford, Goodman and James

No: Carrington

Resolution Passed

22-52 **Resolution to appoint Allen Cooley to serve as the Interim Director, Department of Public Works.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article IV, Chapter 1, Section 4.106 the Mayor may appoint for each department of the executive branch a director who serves at the pleasure of the Mayor as head of the department; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article IV, Chapter 1, Section 4.106 such appointment is subject to the approval of Council; and,

WHEREAS, Allen Cooley has the experience and professionalism necessary to serve as the Interim Department of Public Works, Director; and,

WHEREAS, Allen Cooley has served as the Deputy Director of Public Works since 2020; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with appointment procedures provided by law and the City Charter, Allen Cooley is formally appointed, effective immediately, as Interim Director of Public Works for the City of Pontiac and will receive the budgeted salary for this position while he is serving in this role as the Interim Director of the Department of Public Works.

Ayes: Nicholson, Parker, Rutherford, Carrington, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

Resolution Passed

Public Comment

Nine (9) individuals addressed the body during public comment.

1. Tim Travis
2. Quincy Stewart
3. Carol Wilkins

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4. H. Bill Maxey
5. Gladys Smith
6. Pastor Kathy Dessureau
7. Lloyd & Garry
8. Gloria Miller
9. Dr. Deirdre Waterman

Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments

Mayor Greimel, Councilwoman Rutherford, Councilman Nicholson, Councilman Goodman, Councilwoman James, Councilman Parker, President Pro-Tem Carrington and Council President McGuinness made closing comments.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Ayes: Parker, Rutherford, Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness and Nicholson
No: None

Motion Carried

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Garland S. Doyle
City Clerk