

**Official Proceedings  
Pontiac City Council  
7<sup>th</sup> 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 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

**Invocation** – Bishop Martin, Pastor of Victory 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 and Melanie Rutherford.

Deputy Mayor Stephens was present.  
A quorum was announced.

**Excuse Council Members**

**Motion to excuse Councilperson Parker for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

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

**Motion Carried**

**Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda**

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

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

**Motion Carried**

**Consent Agenda**

22-53 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for February 15, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for February 15, 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for February 15, 2022 including the February 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes, February 9, 2022 Public Safety, Health and Wellness Subcommittee Meeting Minutes and February 7, 2022 Economic Development, Housing and Planning Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed.**

Mayor Greimel arrived at 6:08 p.m.

**Special Presentation**

- A. Oakland Literacy Council Pontiac Adult Literacy Initiatives  
Presentation Presenter: Lisa Machesky, Executive Director, Oakland Literacy Council
- B. Spotlighting Pontiac's Black Musical Excellence  
Presentation Presenter: Quincy Stewart

**Recognition of Elected Officials – None**

**Agenda Address**

Three (3) individuals address the body during agenda address.

- 1. Patrice Waterman addressed items #7- #9 (Budget Amendments)
- 2. Gloria Miller addressed items #7- #9 (Budget Amendments)
- 3. Dr. Deidre Waterman addressed Discussion A – Forensic Audit

**Discussion**

- A. Forensic Audit Progress Update
- B. Mill Street Reconstruction Project

**Agenda Items**

Ordinance

2390 **An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 42 Community Development, Article VII, Rehabilitation Agreements.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Rutherford. Discussion.

**Motion to postpone An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 42 Community Development, Article VII, Rehabilitation Agreements for one week.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

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

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Resolutions**

City Clerk

22-54 **Resolution Authorizing Foxhole, a 501c (3) nonprofit organization in Pontiac as a Recognized Nonprofit Organization in the Community for the Purpose of Obtaining a Charitable Gaming License.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman. Discussion.

**Motion to postpone Resolution Authorizing Foxhole, a 501c (3) nonprofit organization in Pontiac as a Recognized Nonprofit Organization in the Community for the Purpose of Obtaining a Charitable Gaming License for one week.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Ayes: Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness and Nicholson

No: Rutherford

**Motion Carried**

City Council

22-55 **Council Resolution Recognizing Pontiac Historian Esmo Woods.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

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

Whereas Mr. Esmo Woods was born in Pontiac, attended and graduated from Pontiac's public schools, was the barrier-breaking first Black student elected Pontiac High School class president by his classmates, was elected to the Michigan All-State Basketball Team that same year, raised a dynamic family, and still resides in our city these many decades later;

Whereas Mr. Woods pursued a rigorous education in the field of history, graduated from Fisk University as a History major, undertook his graduate studies at Columbia University, and wrote his graduate thesis on the late historian and sociologist Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, whom Mr. Woods interviewed before Dr. DuBois had moved to Ghana and passed away there;

Whereas Mr. Woods had a long and successful career, including as a City of Pontiac employee on the administrative staff of Pontiac General Hospital including as Director of Community Relations and as the coordinator of the hospital's efforts to secure grant funding;

Whereas Mr. Woods has been a leading historian of our community for generations, authoring multiple books, chronicling the stories of Pontiac's Black residents, inspiring other local history enthusiasts, and writing the comprehensive "Pontiac: The Making of a U.S. Automobile Capital, 1818 to 1950" in 1991;

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 recognizes Pontiac historian Esmo Woods for his remarkable lifetime of achievements and his extensive work to save and share Pontiac's Black History and the history of the entire community; and further

Resolved, the City Council encourages Pontiac residents to learn about Mr. Woods, to read his publications chronicling our community's history, and reflect on the substantial effort he expended to save the stories from our city's past; and further

Resolved, the City Council considers Mr. Esmo Woods as a Pontiac Citizen of Great Distinction.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-56 **Council Resolution Advocating for Broader Recognition of Trailblazer Elizabeth Denison Forth.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas Elizabeth Denison Forth was born into slavery in present-day Macomb County, Michigan in 1786 and lived until 1866, accomplishing a great deal during her lifetime, which included an arduous journey of fleeing to Canada in order to obtain freedom for her and her family;

Whereas, among many other fascinating aspects of her life, Elizabeth Denison Forth was the first African American property owner in Pontiac and all of Oakland County, with the 1825 purchase of land in Pontiac along present-day Paddock Street and University Drive at the city's Oak Hill Cemetery;

Whereas research also indicates that Elizabeth Denison Forth is the first known African American woman to have purchased property in all of Michigan, located right here in our city;

Whereas the late Pontiac historian Cora Bradshaw, then-Oakland University Professor Gottfried

Brieger, author Esmo Woods, and other local activists collaborated to draw greater awareness to Elizabeth Denison Forth's trailblazing story in past decades, which culminated in the placement of a Michigan Historical Marker at her former property in Oak Hill Cemetery in 1992;

Whereas there have been renewed efforts to spotlight her amazing life and accomplishments, which include Oakland County-sponsored installations and the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society reprinting of an Elizabeth Denison Forth biography written by the late Isabella Swan, with a new foreword by Oakland University Professor De Witt S. Dykes, Jr.;

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 advocates for broader recognition of trailblazer Elizabeth Denison Forth; and further

Resolved, the City Council encourages Pontiac residents to learn about Elizabeth Denison Forth and reflect on the trailblazing achievements of her incredible life; and further

Resolved, the City Council salutes the efforts by Oakland County's government to spotlight her story, and the proactive efforts of Pontiac residents Ron Gay, Rosie Lance-Richardson, Portia Fields Anderson, Nancy Calendine, and others to advocate for commemorating her legacy; and further

Resolved, the City Council commits to researching other meaningful efforts that the City of Pontiac can undertake to ensure Elizabeth Denison Forth is more broadly recognized and celebrated.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Department of Public Works (DPW)

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. **(Postponed from last week)**

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac has received a Local Bridge funding agreement from the Michigan Department of Transportation, and;

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works, Engineering Division has reviewed the funding agreement, and;

WHEREAS, The project will be budgeted in the 2022/23 Major Street budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Pontiac City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the MDOT funding agreement (Contract No. 21-5506) for construction of the University and Kennett Bridges Capital Preventive Maintenance Project.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Finance

**Motion to vote on items #6 through items #9 as one resolution.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

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

No: None

**Motion Carried**

22-57a           **Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to allocate a total of \$100,000 for Sick Time Payouts.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

NOW THEREFORE be resolved that the City Council hereby authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 increasing account 101-266-959-003 - Settlement Payments in the amount of \$100,000.

22-57b           **Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to allocate a total of \$72,000 to the General Fund account 101-774-745-003 City Events.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

NOW THEREFORE be resolved that the City Council hereby authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 transferring \$72,000 out of the General Fund Balance GL account 101-000-390.000 and \$72,000 is transferred into General Fund GL Account 101-774-745.003 – City Events.

22-57c           **Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-22 to Transfer \$308,000 from General Fund Balance Account 101-000-390.000 to the Following Attorney Fees Accounts 101-266-804.000- Legal Services \$25,000; 101-266-804.018- Legal Services- Giarmarco Mullins \$110,000; 101-266- 804.021- Legal Services Prosecutions- Giarmarco Mullins \$120,000; 101-266-804.022- Legal Services Michigan Tax Tribunal- Giarmarco Mullins \$45,000; 101-266-804.023- Legal Services Code Enforcement- Giarmarco Mullins \$8,000.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

NOW THEREFORE be resolved that the City Council hereby authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 transferring \$308,000 out of the General Fund Balance GL account 101-000-390.000 and \$308,000 is transferred into General Fund GL Accounts

101-266-804.000 – Legal Services	\$25,000
101-266-804.018 – Legal Services GMH	\$110,000
101-266-804.022 – Legal Services Prosecutions	\$120,000
101-266-804.022 – Legal Services MI Tax Tribunal	\$45,000
101-266-804.023 – Legal Services Code Enforcem	\$8,000

22-57d           **Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to allocate a total of \$182,000 to the youth Recreation Fund GL account 208-756-941-000 – Services – Building & Land Rental.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

NOW THEREFORE be resolved that the City Council hereby authorizes the City Clerk to publish the notice of a proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 transferring \$182,000 out of Youth Recreation Fund Balance GL Account 208-000-390.000 and transferring into Youth Recreation Fund GL Account 208-756-941.000 – Services – Building & Land Rental.

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

No: None

**Resolutions Passed**

Mayor's Office

22-58            **Resolution to Authorize the City to Enter into a Temporary Contract with National Career Group to Support the Reorganization of City Departments.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac has approximately 106 active employees (including the court employees) and;  
WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac only has one professional HR staff to provide needed services and;  
WHEREAS, The City is severely out of date with standard material such as job descriptions, standard operating procedures, compensation studies etc. and;  
WHEREAS, The city would like to include comprehensive changes to the organization of city departments as part of the new budget and;  
WHEREAS, The budget recommendation must be submitted to City Council by May;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Pontiac City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign enter into a temporary contract with the National Career Group for a period not to exceed 1 month and a cost not to exceed \$16,000 to assist with reorganizing the City of Pontiac HR department and also reorganizing city departments in general and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City will issue an RFP for services to include not only those listed above, but also recruitment onboarding and other HR associated needs, the results of which are to be brought before Council for action by the time that the temporary contract with national Career Group ends.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

#### **Public Comment**

Seven (7) individuals addressed the body during public comment.

1. Chuck Johnson
2. Brian Tischart
3. Melisa
4. Gloria Miller
5. H. Bill Maxey
6. Billie Swazer
7. James Sabich

#### **Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments**

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

#### **Adjournment**

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

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

No: None

**Motion Carried**

February 15, 2022 Approved Minutes

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

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Garland S. Doyle  
City Clerk