

**Official Proceedings  
Pontiac City Council  
39<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, June 28, 2022 at 6:02 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

**Invocation** – Pastor Kathalee James

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States**

**Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Members Present** – Mikal Goodman, Kathalee James, Mike McGuinness, Brett Nicholson and Melanie Rutherford

Mayor Greimel was present.  
A quorum was announced.

**Excuse Councilmembers**

**Motion to excuse Councilman William Carrington and Councilman William Parker, Jr. for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson and Rutherford

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. Discussion.

**Motion to add-on a discussion regarding Pontiac Youth Recreation July Update.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Rutherford and Goodman

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to move public comment after consent agenda and before Special Presentation.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

Ayes: McGuinness, Nicholson, Rutherford, Goodman and James

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**The vote was taken to approve the agenda as amended.**

## July 5, 2022 Approved Minutes

Ayes: Nicholson, Rutherford, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

### **Motion Carried**

### **Consent Agenda**

22-187 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for July 5, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for July 5, 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for July 5, 2022 including the June 24, 2022 Communications, Engagement & Operations Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, June 24, 2022 Facilities & Property Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, June 27, 2022 Law & the Courts Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, June 27, 2022 Parks, Recreation & Public Works Subcommittee Meeting Minutes and June 28, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Rutherford, Goodman, James, McGuinness and Nicholson

No: None

### **Resolution Passed**

### **Public Comment**

1. Veronica Taylor
2. H. Bill Maxey
3. Darlene Clark
4. Billie Swazer
5. Harry Greenston
6. James Sabich
7. Gloria Miller

### **Special Presentations**

Oakland HOPE Services Provided

Presentation Presenter: Norma Okonski – Founder & Executive Director

### **Discussions**

Stronger Strategies for Tackling Overgrown Grass in our City

Pontiac Youth Recreation July Update (**Agenda add-on**)

**Recognition of Elected Officials** – H. Bill Maxey, Pontiac Library Board Trustee

### **Agenda Address**

1. Darlene Clark addressed item #2
2. Gloria Miller addressed item #2
3. Larry Jasper addressed item #4

### **Ordinance**

**An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Animals. Motion to strike the word Collar under definitions and correct the spelling of Animals under “Pontiac Ordains”.** Moved by Councilperson McGuinness and second by Councilperson Goodman. Discussion. Councilperson McGuinness withdrew his motion and Councilperson Goodman withdrew his second.

**Motion to strike the words or otherwise, Collar means any band, chain under definitions to read, “At large means off the premises of the owner and not under control of a human being either by leash, cord, chain harness or suitable device worn around the neck of a dog to which a license may be affixed”.** Moved by Councilperson McGuinness and second by Councilperson Nicholson. Discussion. Councilperson McGuinness withdrew his motion and Councilperson Nicholson withdrew his second.

**Motion to postpone for one week the Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Animal Ordinance to Define a Dangerous Dog more clearly, and to elevate the second violation as a Misdemeanor. (Second reading)** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson and Rutherford

No: None

**Motion Carried**

### **Resolutions**

City Council

22-188

**Resolution Establishing 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget Review City Council Schedule Expectations.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac has concluded the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year budget process, with the successful adoption by the Pontiac City Council of the City’s upcoming Fiscal Year Budget ahead of required deadlines; and,

Whereas, scheduling of Special City Council Meetings on the Budget was difficult when balancing the existing needs of other City Council meetings, other City Board and Commission meetings, and work and family commitments of everyone involved, especially considering all City Council Members and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were not in office prior to the beginning of the 2022 calendar year; and,

Whereas, while the City Council and City staff was able to successfully make it happen, and ensured compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act, we have been assessing how to make the process even stronger for next year and for years to come to better serve the citizens of Pontiac; and,

Whereas, in order to provide ample time to prepare and incorporate the Fiscal Year Budget process into all plans for next year, as well as to assist City staff with ample planning opportunities, the Pontiac City Council has expressed their intention to strategize the scheduling of Special City Council Meetings on the Budget well in advance of next year’s budget preparation and consideration cycle; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council expresses our expectation of the following chronology of events for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year budget process to assist us with future scheduling:

Monday, May 1, 2023 – City Council Receives Mayor’s Budget Proposal

Thursday, May 4, 2023 – Special Council Meeting on the Budget (5:00 to 9:00 pm)

Thursday, May 11, 2023 – Special Council Meeting on the Budget (5:00 to 9:00 pm)

Thursday, May 18, 2023 – Special Council Meeting on the Budget (5:00 to 9:00 pm)

Thursday, May 25, 2023 – Special Council Meeting on the Budget (5:00 to 9:00 pm)

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 – Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Fee Schedule

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 – First Reading of 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget Ordinance

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 – Second Reading of 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget Ordinance

Resolved, the City Clerk shall incorporate those scheduling expectations for when the City Council considers adoption of the 2023 Council Meeting Schedule and shall reserve the City Council Chambers in anticipation of their utilization by the City Council for annual budget process open meetings.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Rutherford and Goodman

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-189      **Resolution Directing City Administration to Draft Ordinance for regulated Retail Sales of Recreational Marijuana in Pontiac.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac, Michigan strives to continually improve the quality of life for all its citizens, including by seeking strategic opportunities for economic growth that will enable the City to provide a greater level of services for our residents; and,

Whereas, the voters of Pontiac, Michigan voted to approve the growing, processing, transporting, and provisioning of medical marijuana in August 2018 and, in addition to other administrative approvals for various uses, the Pontiac City Clerk has completed the process for awarding conditional medical marijuana dispensary licenses; and,

Whereas, the City of Pontiac could have been currently realizing additional annual revenues of \$54,600 in excise tax per dispensary location, which could equate to substantial cumulative revenues for the City from such sources; and,

Whereas, State of Michigan data shows that each month the number of medical marijuana prescriptive card holders has continually dropped, indicating that medical prescriptive card holders are opting to purchase from recreational marijuana providers as they become more accessible in our surrounding communities; and,

Whereas, it is recognized that the production and consumption of marijuana beyond its medical purpose can create and fortify this emerging industry and lead to the establishment of businesses, generation of jobs, and additional revenues from taxes for the City of Pontiac to invest in improved City services for residents; and,

Whereas, Uniform Crime Reports data shows that the regulated retail sale of marijuana has proven to reduce the number of drug trafficking-related crimes and does not increase violent crimes in communities; and,

Whereas, neighboring communities are already reaping the economic benefits of this emerging industry and the window of opportunity to maximize the positive impact for the City of Pontiac may be closing; now,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Pontiac City Council believes that it is in the best interest of the City of Pontiac and our citizens that the Pontiac City Council and Mayor of Pontiac deliberate expeditiously regarding the implementation of recreational marijuana in our community, rather than avoid or abdicate that responsibility; and further

Resolved, the City Council will immediately work with the Executive Administration and, as needed and appropriate, City legal counsel to draft applicable ordinances for City Council consideration that would provide a clear and legally sound process for permitting regulated retail sales of recreational marijuana in the City of Pontiac and strengthen the City's positioning as a prospective site for related economic development investments from which surrounding municipalities are beginning to benefit; and further

Resolved, the City Council requests the sharing of any relevant research and data on the ordinances and policies of other Michigan municipalities that may have previously been compiled by the Office of the Pontiac City Clerk, Pontiac Economic Development staff, and Office of the Mayor as we proceed with our deliberations; and further

Resolved, the City Council commits to expeditiously and efficiently reviewing, debating, and deciding on this important decision, doing so with ample opportunities for public input as the process moves forward, and with a collaborative approach with the Mayor of Pontiac and his Administration.

Ayes: McGuinness, Nicholson, Rutherford, Goodman and James

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Communications**

City Council and Mayor's Office

**Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments**

Mayor Greimel, Councilwoman Rutherford, Councilman Nicholson, Councilman Goodman, Councilwoman James and Council President McGuinness made closing comments.

**Adjournment**

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

Ayes: Nicholson, Rutherford, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Motion Carried**

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

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Sheila Grandison  
Deputy City Clerk