

January 18, 2022 Approved Minutes

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
3rd 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, January 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

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 Carrington. There was discussion on the motion.

Motion to add a Special Presentation after approval of the consent agenda from the Waterford Regional Fire Department. Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

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

Motion Carried

Then the vote was taken to approve the agenda with amendments.

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

Motion Carried

Consent Agenda

22-24 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for January 18, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for January 18, 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for January 18, 2022 including the January 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

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

Resolution Passed.

Suspend the Rules

Motion to suspend the rules for Invocation. Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Carrington.

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

Motion Carried

Invocation- Rabbi Levy Dubor, Bloomfield Hills Chabad

Special Presentation – Waterford Regional Fire Department

Recognition of Elected Officials – None

Agenda Address – None during the normal agenda address period.

Agenda Items

City Council

22-25

Resolution Supporting Webster School National Historic Designation. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac, Michigan has through the centuries been home to many noteworthy structures with various residential, commercial, industrial, and civic purposes;
Whereas, many Pontiac civic structures, including school buildings, have been architecturally and culturally significant landmarks for past and present City residents that enhance our quality of life;
Whereas Elmer R. Webster School located at 640 West Huron Street in Pontiac was constructed in 1920 and 1921 by the School District of the City of Pontiac as an aesthetically stunning structure that incorporated many educational design innovations and has been prominent in our City for a century;
Whereas among other noteworthy historical contributions, Webster School is one of the few remaining sites that were a focus of the successful federal lawsuit filed against the School District to rectify decades of administrative racial segregation of both schoolchildren and staff members, and the ensuing nationally significant policies employed to integrate students of this school and surrounding schools;
Whereas many beloved significant buildings in our City have been demolished through the decades and since its closure in 2006 Webster School has been vacant, damaged, vulnerable, sold by the School District, had ownership change multiple times, and is now held by the Micah 6 Community nonprofit organization that is working to redevelop the site into the Webster Community Center;
Whereas Hopkins Burns Design Studio has conducted thorough, research on Webster School and has nominated the site to the National Register of Historic Places, which is the official list of places worthy of historic preservation in the United States through the National Park Service;
Whereas the Michigan State Historic Preservation Review Board will be considering nine sites throughout the state that have been nominated for addition to the National Register of Historic Places, including the Webster School nomination, at their January 2022 Board Meeting;
Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council strongly affirms that the Elmer R. Webster School is a site of local, state, and national historical significance worthy of preservation; and further Resolved, the City Council advocates for the Michigan State Historic Preservation Review Board to favorably consider Webster School's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places; and further Resolved, the City Council encourages our City to consider the substantial value to our quality of life and economic development potential when we proactively preserve our noteworthy sites; and further Resolved, the City Council requests that the organizations pursuing renovation of the Webster School structure and its repurposing as the Webster Community Center shares updates with the City on their progress of this challenging, worthwhile endeavor.

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

No: None

Abstain: Nicholson

Resolution Passed

22-26 **Resolution Calling for Consideration of Expanded Recycling Opportunities for Citizens.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas the City of Pontiac, Michigan strives to provide multiple services available to Pontiac residents to improve their quality of life and to facilitate cleaner Pontiac neighborhoods;

Whereas the City contracts with service providers and governmental agencies for various sanitation, recycling, hazardous waste removal, and other environmental needs;

Whereas, through those contracted services, Pontiac residents are afforded the ongoing opportunity to drop off their recyclable materials every weekend at the Pontiac City Hall parking lot;

Whereas in past years the one large recycling receptacle placed at the City Hall parking lot would very quickly be filled with residents' recyclable material, severely limiting the number of residents who were able to utilize that drop off recycling service;

Whereas within the past two years it has been expanded to two large recycling receptacles placed at the City Hall parking lot each weekend, which was a very helpful accommodation for residents, though those two receptacles are also often fully utilized even with that ongoing service rarely being communicated to the City's residents;

Whereas Pontiac's contracted services in recent years have also included other subscription or complimentary recycling options for Pontiac residents in recent years, the offering of which was determined in large part by the financial resources of our municipal government; now, therefore be it Resolved, the Pontiac City Council calls for the consideration by the City of Pontiac's new Mayor and Administration for future expanded recycling opportunities for Pontiac residents as the municipal government's financial resources allow; and further

Resolved, the City Council encourages the new Mayor and Administration to consider the short-term possibility of increasing the number of recycling receptacles at the City Hall parking lot or other strategic locations in our City, depending on the cost implications with the contracted service provider and the logistical considerations of site locations; and further

Resolved, the City Council requests from the new Mayor and Administration that the status of current recycling opportunities be verified, that they be updated on the City's website to reflect the current status, and that they be communicated more broadly throughout the year with Pontiac residents.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

22-27 **Resolution Encouraging Coordinated Community Cleanups.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac, Michigan recognizes that the quality of life of our residents is dramatically improved when we have cleaner Pontiac neighborhoods and cleaner Pontiac parks;

Whereas, the City contacts with service providers and governmental agencies for various sanitation, recycling, hazardous waste removal, and other environmental needs, and is still overcoming systemic municipal finance limitations to deliver the maintenance and enhancement of our public parks and other public spaces that we desire to provide for our residents;

Whereas, through the initiative of dedicated residents, business owners, nonprofit organizations, congregations, fraternities, sororities, students, and many others, many of our City's public space have been cared for and cleaned throughout the year;

Whereas, in recent years multiple community cleanups often are concentrated in the months of April and May each year, and have been able to garner continued volunteer support;

Whereas, there is an emerging effort by community organizations to strategically coordinate cleanup activities, including by the Friends of Pontiac Parks and the Pontiac Collective Impact Partnership;

Whereas, we can make a more pronounced, positive impact when we coordinate our volunteer efforts as a community; now, therefore be it

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council encourages interested Pontiac residents, business owners, nonprofit organizations, congregations, fraternities, sororities, students, elected officials, and the City of Pontiac municipal government to begin planning for coordinated cleanup efforts this April and May, as well as throughout the entire year; and further

Resolved, the Council commits to partner with community organizations interested in coordinating cleanup efforts in our parks, in our neighborhoods, and along our corridors; and further

Resolved, the Council requests that interested residents and organizations express their interest in participating in coordinated cleanups to our City Council offices; and further

Resolved, the Council requests the new Mayor and Administration assess the municipal resources or services that can be made available to bolster these coordinated community cleanup efforts; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council celebrates the commitment, dedication, creativity, and generosity of the Pontiac residents who have voluntarily labored to clean our City's parks and neighborhoods.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

22-28 Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Councilman Williams Parker, Jr. as City Council Representation to the Pontiac General Employee's Retirement System Board. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

WHEREAS, the Pontiac City Council selects a Member of its Council to serve as a Trustee on the City of Pontiac General Employees' Retirement System and the City of Pontiac Reestablished General Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees; and,

WHEREAS, then-Councilwoman Patrice Waterman served as a GERS Board Trustee on behalf of the Pontiac City Council during her tenure in previous sessions of the City Council, but her term on the Pontiac City Council has now ended; and,

WHEREAS, the current Pontiac City Council is committed to continuing the active participation and hard work demonstrated by former Councilwoman Waterman on the GERS Board.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council designates Pontiac City Councilman William Parker, Jr. to serve as a Trustee on the City of Pontiac General Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees and the City of Pontiac Reestablished General Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees; and further,

RESOLVED, we acknowledge the effective service of the Honorable Patrice Waterman on behalf of previous Pontiac City Council sessions on the City of Pontiac GERS Board.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

22-29 Resolution to Approve the Appointments of Linda Watson, Elizabeth Peete, Mattie Lasseigne, and Alternate Elick Shorter to the Board of Review. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

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WHEREAS, section 5.402 of the Pontiac City Charter requires the City Council to appoint three electors of the City, annually, to the Board of Review before that Board's first meeting; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to the charter requirement of being an elector, all members of the Board of Review must attend and receive training prior to attending the first meeting; and,

WHEREAS, Linda D. Watson, Elizabeth Peete, Mattie Lasseigne and alternate Elick Shorter have effectively served on the Board of Review and are generously willing to continue their service to the City of Pontiac.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council appoints Linda D. Watson, Elizabeth Peete, Mattie Lasseigne and alternate, Elick Shorter, to serve as members to the Board of Review.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Department of Public Works (DPW)

22-18b

Resolution to approve the 2022 NoHaz Interlocal Agreement. Moved by Nicholson and second by Councilperson Carrington. (This resolution was deferred for one week at the January 11, 2022 Council Meeting.)

WHEREAS, the northern cities, villages, and townships in Oakland County are committed to protection of the natural environment and preventing toxic materials from entering our waterways and landfill resources; and

WHEREAS, the improper handling and disposal of toxic and poisonous household chemicals also poses a health risk to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, recognizing there is a need to provide regular and easily accessible household hazardous waste collection services to North Oakland County residents; and

WHEREAS, collection events for household hazardous waste have become widely accepted as the best way to provide citizens with a safe method of disposal of these toxic and poisonous household chemicals, and for the communities to realize the economies of scale, and

WHEREAS, Oakland County, through its Planning and Local Business Development Division, has joined these northern Oakland County communities in creating the North Oakland Household Hazardous Waste Consortium (NoHaz), and

WHEREAS, the NoHaz Consortium has developed a household hazardous waste collection program, and

WHEREAS, a NoHaz Interlocal Agreement has been drafted to address necessary legal, liability, and responsibility issues for both the County and the participating communities, and identifies Oakland County's role in administering and managing the NoHaz program, and,

WHEREAS, the NoHaz Interlocal agreement establishes a NoHaz advisory board to assist and advise Oakland County in the development of the NoHaz program.

Now Therefore be it Resolved: That our community, City of Pontiac, hereby approves the attached NoHaz Interlocal Agreement and authorizes its signature, and

Be it Further Resolved: That we will not charge residents to participate in NoHaz events in 2022, and

Be it Further Resolved: That we hereby appoint Al Cooley III as our official representative to the NoHaz Advisory Board, to work with the Oakland County Planning and Local Business Development Division as needed to plan the NoHaz program for 2022.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the City of Pontiac Council, at a regular meeting held on January 11 2022.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Finance

22-19b **Resolution to approve a One Year Contract Extension with the Waterford Regional Fire Department.** Moved by Councilperson Carrington and second by Councilperson Rutherford. (This resolution was deferred for one week at the January 11, 2022 Council Meeting.)

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac and the Charter Township of Waterford are currently in a ten-year Agreement for the provision of fire and medical response services by the Township to the City; and WHEREAS, that agreement expires February 1, 2022; and WHEREAS, the City and Township would like to extend that Agreement for one year to permit the parties to conduct feasibility studies for a long-term partnership or to explore alternatives; and WHEREAS, the proposed one-year extension maintains the terms and conditions of the current Agreement but otherwise includes a three-percent price escalator; NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council approves the one-year extension of the Agreement with the Charter Township of Waterford for the provision of fire and medical response services and further approves the companion Addendum Agreement as attached hereto, and further authorizes the Mayor to execute said Addendum Agreement on behalf of the City.

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

Resolution Passed

Motion to suspend the rules to allow for agenda address on item #8. (Resolution to approve Amendment No. 2 of the City of Pontiac Declaratory Trust Agreement.) Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Goodman.

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

Motion Carried

Agenda Address on Item 8- Linda Watson

22-30 **Resolution to approve Amendment No. 2 of the City of Pontiac Declaratory Trust Agreement.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Pontiac is in receipt of a Memorandum from the City of Pontiac VEBA Trust requesting concurrence in proposed Amendment No. 2 to the City of Pontiac VEBA Declaratory Trust Agreement (“VEBA Trust”); WHEREAS, The Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.265 requires a public notice stating the date, time, and place of rescheduled regular or special meetings to be posted at least 18 hours before the meeting; WHEREAS, At present, the City of Pontiac VEBA Declaratory Trust Agreement (VEBA Trust) allows special meetings of the Trustees to be called by the Chairperson, the Secretary, or any two Trustees upon five days written notice to each Trustee. Specifically, Section 4.10 of the VEBA Trust states:

4.10. Meetings. The Trustees shall meet at least once quarterly. The Trustees shall determine the time for the regular meetings of the Trustees and the place or places where such meetings shall be held. The Secretary of the Trustees or his designee, shall be responsible for giving notice of the time and place of such meetings to the other Trustees. Notice of such regular meeting shall be provided to the Trustees at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled meeting. Special meetings of the Trustees may be held at the call of the Chairperson, the Secretary, or any two Trustees upon five days written notice to each Trustee. Special meetings of the Trustees may also be held at any time, without notice, if all Trustees consent in writing thereto. Notice of all meetings of the

Trustees, both regular and special, shall be given to the City and City of Pontiac Retired Employees Association. All meetings of the Trust shall be held subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, if and to the extent so required.

WHEREAS, Amendments to the VEBA Trust require approval by CPREA and the City and an unanimous vote of the seven VEBA Trustees, concurred to by Pontiac City Council;

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac VEBA Trustees unanimously resolved at their December 15, 2021 meeting to amend the VEBA Trust to shorten the minimum notice period for special meetings. The City and CPREA subsequently approved same. The rationale for the Amendment is based on the anticipation that there may be issues related to eligibility, transfer of assets, or implementation of retiree health care benefits that will require timely deliberation and decision making. Thus, there is good cause for shortening the minimum notice requirement for calling a special meeting of the City of Pontiac VEBA Trust; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves proposed Amendment No. 2 to the City of Pontiac Declaratory Trust Agreement, effective December 28, 2021, attached hereto, to shorten the minimum notice period for City of Pontiac VEBA Trust special meetings and to maintain compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act (MCL 15.265).

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Information Technology (I.T.)

20-31 **Resolution to approve Purchase of Microsoft 365 Solution and Associated Costs.**

Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker. There was discussion on the motion.

Motion to postpone Resolution to approve Purchase of Microsoft 365 Solution and Associated Costs for one week. Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

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

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Fifteen individuals addressed the body during public comment

1. Robert Bass
2. Lloyd Gary
3. Chuck Johnson
4. Blair McGowan
5. Quincy Stewart
6. Kenny Anderson
7. Melissa Spearing and Aaron Gatson
8. Darlene Clark
9. Linda Watson
10. Marcus Bowen
11. Antrice Caldwell
12. Pastor Matlock
13. Sonya May
14. James Sabich
15. Brenda Causey-Mitchell

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Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments

Mayor Greimel, Clerk Doyle, 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 Parker and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

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

No: None

Motion Carried

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Garland S. Doyle
City Clerk