

**Official Proceedings  
Pontiac City Council  
12<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, March 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

**Invocation** – Pastor Antonio Gibson, New Experience Church in Christ

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

**Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

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

Mayor Greimel was present.  
A quorum was announced.

**Excuse Councilmembers**

**Motion to excuse Councilperson Brett Nicholson for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker, 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 Goodman. Discussion.

**Motion to add a discussion regarding Violent Crime Prevention Strategies before Resolutions and after Agenda Address.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson James.

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

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to add a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading for GERS Ordinance Amendment after Council Resolutions.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

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

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to approve the agenda as amended.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson James.

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

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Consent Agenda**

22-89 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for March 22, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for March 22, 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for March 22, 2022 including the March 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed.**

**Special Presentation**

Redevelopment Ready Communities Program

Presentation Presenter: Elizabeth King, Michigan Economic Development Corporation

**Suspend the Rules**

**Motion to suspend the rules to re-order some agenda items by moving up Recognition of Elected Officials, Agenda Address and Council two resolutions before the two Discussion Items.**

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

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Recognition of Elected Officials** – State Representative Brenda Carter

**Agenda Address**

1. Gloria Miller addressed item # 6
2. Billie Swazer addressed GERS Ordinance Amendment 1<sup>st</sup> reading (agenda add-on)

**Discussion**

City's Wide Redesign Update – Deputy Mayor Khalfani Stephens

Violent Crime Prevention Strategies – Mayor Tim Greimel

**Agenda Items**

**Resolutions**

City Council

22-90 **Resolution Honoring the Life of Alonzo Cash.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas the City of Pontiac, Michigan has been privileged to have many exemplary civic volunteers serve as election workers over the decades, whose hard work and dedication has contributed to the success of the election process in Pontiac;

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Whereas Mr. Alonzo E. Cash was a resident of Pontiac and served as an election worker for the City for many years, delivering machines to multiple voting locations as well as assisting with the counting of absentee ballots;

Whereas Mr. Cash was insistent about preserving the integrity of the election process and ensuring that citizens would be afforded their right to vote;

Whereas Mr. Cash was devoted to serving his community through other means, as well, as a member of Saint Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac and as a faithful volunteer with Oakland County Toys for Tots;

Whereas Mr. Cash passed away on February 7, 2022 at the age of 58, which is a tremendous loss to our community, his family, his friends, his neighbors, and to the Pontiac City Clerk's office staff and his fellow election workers; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel, and the entire City Clerk's Office hereby mourns the passing Mr. Alonzo E. Cash; and further

Resolved, the City Council expresses our deepest gratitude for Mr. Cash's dedicated service to our City and to the Citizens of Pontiac, whose lives were enriched because of his willingness to help and be involved; and further

Resolved, the City Council also honors the sacrifices his family made for Mr. Cash to be able to share his precious time to help facilitate elections in our municipality; and further

Resolved, the City Council and the entire community will remember his work, his personality, his spirit, and his willingness to help others; and further

Resolved, we extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and colleagues.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-91            **Resolution Celebrating the Impact of Ruth Peterson.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas the month of March is National Women's History Month, which recognizes and spreads awareness of the importance of women in the history of the United States;

Whereas many notable, strong women have helped shape our Pontiac community for the better through the decades, yet their names and their stories have not always been adequately shared or celebrated;

Whereas Ms. Ruth Peterson spent five decades giving back to the community and was a renowned humanitarian who devoted herself to helping others in need;

Whereas she was a co-founder of Friends In Service Here (FISH) and their extended chapters, which worked to provide those in need with food and other essential supplies, and established the FISH hotline to connect those in need with resource providers;

Whereas Ms. Peterson was an early force behind the establishment of the Pancake Shelter in Pontiac, and the community's pancake breakfasts that ran for many years, organized the Greater Pontiac Community Resource Manual, and helped establish the Furniture Resource Center in Pontiac;

Whereas she was a Human Relations Consultant with the School District of the City of Pontiac, and founded the "Adopt a Grandparent" Program at the School District's Frost School among other initiatives to support Pontiac students, particularly those that dealt with social services and community school programs;

Whereas Ms. Peterson was a Deacon at Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church, taught Bible School and Sunday School for forty years, served on the church's Woman's Association Board, and was a catalyst for many outreach efforts by the congregation to partner with Pontiac organizations and schools to make a positive difference;

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Whereas she was a Board Member of Pontiac YWCA, YMCA of Oakland County, Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, and People to People, and volunteered at Oakland County Children’s Village and Pontiac General Hospital, where she started the “Service With Love” Program at the hospital;  
Whereas the City of Pontiac named the Ruth Peterson Senior Community Center to honor her impactful life and celebrate the spirit of volunteerism that she embodied;  
Whereas Ms. Peterson passed away in 1996 at the age of 78 and, in the decades since then, there haven’t been as many residents who personally knew her and about her vast legacy of service, and the City did not readily have documentation about her legacy;  
Whereas City employees Gladys Smith and Linda Simpson, who work at the Ruth Peterson Senior Community Center, worked to research more about her fascinating life;  
Whereas the Pontiac City Council at our March 1, 2022 Council Meeting formally declared March 2022 as Women’s History Month in the City of Pontiac, Michigan; now,  
Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council hereby celebrates the achievements of humanitarian Ruth Peterson and marvels at her many accomplishments; and further  
Resolved, the City Council honors the contributions and sacrifices Ms. Peterson made to uplift other Pontiac residents, inspire other women, and help others in need throughout our community; and further  
Resolved, the City Council wants her family and friends to know how enduring her impact has been on our community, and that her life continues to be celebrated even as the year’s progress; and further  
Resolved, the City Council acknowledges the work done by Ms. Gladys Smith and Ms. Linda Simpson to research the legacy of Ms. Ruth Peterson, and to ensure that the Ruth Peterson Senior Community Center undertakes efforts to better share her story and the inspiration behind the center’s naming in her honor; and further  
Resolved, we encourage Pontiac residents to learn about Ms. Ruth Peterson, to reflect on her legacy, and keep the spirit of her memory alive; and further  
Resolved, we shall remember her favorite quote that she kept next to her phone and referenced when asked how she was able to make such a positive impact: “It’s amazing how much you can get done when you don’t have to worry about who gets the credit;” and further  
Resolved, the City Council welcomes additional opportunities for us as a community to better acknowledge and celebrate the women of Pontiac who have made such a dynamic difference in our city through the generations.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Mayor’s Office

**Motion to receive GERS Amendment Ordinance as a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson James. Discussion. No action needed from Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

22-93 **Resolution to approve the Agreement for Forensic Audit Services between the City and Marsh Minick, P.C. and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for forensic audit services in January 2022; and

Whereas, the City received several responses to the RFP and upon evaluation determined that the firm of Marsh Minick was the top response; and

Whereas, the Administration hereby recommends the firm of Marsh Minick as the firm to perform the proposed forensic audit; and

Whereas, the forensic audit would be done pursuant to the attached Contract and Scope of Work;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the City Council hereby approves the proposed Contract with the firm of Marsh Minick to perform the Forensic Audit as detailed in the RFP and the Scope of Work.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-86           **Resolution to approve a New Position for Fiscal Year 2021-22 within the Mayor's Office; Public Relations/Event Specialist at an annual salary of \$50,000.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson James. **(Postponed from last week)**

Whereas, The City of Pontiac Executive Office does not currently have sufficient staff to effectively coordinate the city's media and public relations to ensure uniform city branding, and

Whereas, The City is currently meeting needs by using workers from other departments which is inefficient and unsustainable, and

Whereas, The Mayor has requested that a new position be added to the City,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Pontiac City Council hereby approves the creation of the following position – Public Relations/Event Specialist.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-94           **Resolution to approve the Title Change for the New Position of Community Concerns Manager to Community Concerns Specialist.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

WHEREAS, the Administration in continuing its transition efforts, provided the City Council a resolution expressing its need to add two new positions to the Executive Office; and,

WHEREAS, the positions requested by the Administration included an Executive Office Coordinator at an annual salary of \$55,000 and a Constituent Services Manager at an annual salary of \$45,000; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council on March 1, 2022 passed an amended resolution approving the two new positions for Fiscal Year 2021-22 within the Mayor's Office; Executive Office Coordinator at an annual salary of \$55,000 and Community Concerns Manager at an annual salary of \$45,000; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration and the City Council reconsidered the title of the Community Concerns Manager and determined that in keeping in line with the City of Pontiac's organizational structure, more specifically, the Executive Office's organizational chart, the position should be classified as Community Concerns Specialist.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council hereby changes the title of newly created position in the Executive Office from Community Concerns Manager to Community Concerns Specialist.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-95           **Resolution to confirm the Mayoral Reappointments of Maria Bermudez, Dr. Carl Byerly, Irma Hayes and Judy Wilson for a four (4) year term to the Arts Commission.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Carrington.

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Whereas, Section 2-426 of the Pontiac Municipal Code states an Arts Commission shall consist of 11 members, no less than six of whom shall be residents of the City, shall be appointed by the Mayor and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor; and

Whereas, there are currently several appointments with expired terms on the Arts Commission; and

Whereas, according to the Pontiac City Charter, the Mayor shall reappoint the commissioners subject to approval by a majority of the City Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Pontiac City Council hereby confirms the Mayoral reappointments to the Arts Commission of; Maria Bermudez, Dr. Carl Byerly, Irma Hayes, and Judy Wilson each to a four (4) year term commencing on the date Council confirms the appointment.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Planning

22-87

**Resolution to approve Zoning Map Amendment [ZMA 22-01] at 788 E. Walton Blvd, PIN 64-14-16-226-015 from R-3 Multiple Family Dwelling to C-3 Corridor Commercial Zoning District.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson James. **(Postponed from las week)**

Whereas, the City has received an application for a Zoning Map Amendment at 788 E. Walton Blvd. identified as PIN 64-14-16-226-015 from ABC Enterprise, Inc. – Raveeps Chera for the rezoning of the aforementioned parcel; and

Whereas, The Planning Division has reviewed the applicant’s rezoning request in regards to the City’s Master Plan Update and the request conforms to the goals and vision contained within the plan; and

Whereas, The Planning Division has reviewed the applicant’s rezoning request and the requirements set forth by Section 6.804 of the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Division has determined the aforementioned request and proposed intended use of the property complies with the City of Pontiac Zoning Ordinance; and

Whereas, In accordance with the procedures outlined in the Zoning Ordinance, Sections 6.802 as it relates to Zoning Map Amendments, the request has undergone the required: Technical Review, Public Hearing, and Planning Commission recommendation; and

Whereas, On March 2, 2022, a Public Hearing was held, and the Planning Commission recommends City Council to approve the Zoning Map Amendment request for 788 E. Walton Blvd., approving the change from the current R-3 Multiple Family Dwelling zoning district to C-3 Corridor Commercial zoning district; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the City Council for the City of Pontiac approve the Planning Commission recommendation for the Zoning Map Amendment (ZMA 22-01) request for 788 E. Walton Blvd, also known as Parcel No. 64-14-16-226-015 to amend the zoning from R-3 Multiple Family Dwelling to C-3 Corridor Commercial zoning district.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-96

**Resolution to approve Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities Program and Implement Recommendations to Receive Redevelopment Ready Communities Certification.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

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Whereas, the City of Pontiac has engaged in the MEDC Redevelopment Ready Communities Program, including entering into a Memorandum of understanding with the MEDC and undergoing an evaluation of the City's redevelopment practices as reported in the Redevelopment Ready Communities Baseline Report dated February 2022; and

Whereas, the MEDC has developed a program for certifying, Redevelopment Ready Communities and the City of Pontiac desires to achieve the certification by implementing best practices and recommended strategies for redevelopment; and

Whereas, the City of Pontiac is currently preparing a W Huron Corridor [M59] Study with the assistance of Michigan State University to identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats in the corridor and make recommendations regarding public realm modifications and commercial market potential while utilizing the recommendations and technical assistance by the MEDC to ensure that development readiness is appropriately addressed in the document; and

Whereas, the program includes evaluating the strong partnerships with City's boards and commissions related to redevelopment including the Pontiac City Council, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Historic District Commission, Arts Commission and Main Street Pontiac; and

Whereas, after review of the Redevelopment Ready Communities Baseline Report, the City of Pontiac is willing to complete the tasks as outlined, which will involve interaction with the aforementioned City commissions and boards; and

Whereas, the Baseline Report requires certain recommendations to be completed for the City to attain Redevelopment Ready Communities certification; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Pontiac City Council of the City of Pontiac, Michigan does hereby authorize the City of Pontiac to implement the recommendations made by the MEDC that are necessary to receive Redevelopment Ready Communities Certification from the MEDC.

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

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

### **Public Comment**

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

1. Quincy Stewart
2. Chuck Johnson
3. Kathryn Dessureau
4. Mary Bowie
5. H. Bill Maxey
6. Gloria Miller
7. Larry Jasper
8. Gloria Harsten-Spann
9. Billie Swazer

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

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

### **Adjournment**

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

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

No: None

**Motion Carried**

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Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

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Sheila R. Grandison  
Deputy City Clerk