

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

**Official Proceedings  
Pontiac City Council  
85<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, May 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

**Invocation** – Rev. Chris Johnson, All Saints Episcopal Church, Pontiac Michigan

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

**Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Members Present** – 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 Council President Pro-Tem William Carrington and Councilman Brett Nicholson for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion to add to the Resolution the name of Sue Sinclair as the Mayor’s appointment to the Planning Commission item #18, motion to change the amount of the Resolution for item #15 from \$100,000 to \$200,000 and add a Resolution to go into Closed Session as the new item #21 to the agenda.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Motion Carried**

The vote was taken to approve the agenda as amended.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Consent Agenda**

23-165 (A-D) **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for May 9, 2023.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for May 9, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves the consent agenda for May 9, 2023 including April 24, 2013 Law and the Courts Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, April 28, 2023 Facilities and Property Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, May 1, 2023 Economic Development, Housing and Planning Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, May 2, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes, Resolution recognizing May as Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Resolution recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month and Resolution recognizing May as Military Awareness Month.

23-165 (B) **Resolution recognizing May as Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

Whereas, the United States celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month during the month of May, with this month chosen in part because it commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, though Asians first migrated to what is now known as North America over 15,000 years ago; and,

Whereas, there are 23 million people of Asian or Pacific Islander descent in the United States, a diverse and growing group that makes up about seven percent of the total United States population and is the fastest growing racial group in the nation; and,

Whereas, the Asian American and Pacific Islander umbrella includes cultures from the entire Asian continent including East, Southeast, and South Asia, and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, spanning many countries of origin; and,

Whereas, the City of Pontiac and State of Michigan has been positively shaped by past and present Asian American and Pacific Islander residents and business owners, and that our many Hmong neighbors are a beloved and cherished part of the fabric of our community; and,

Whereas, many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have encountered xenophobia, racism, bias, and violence through the centuries, including as part of official federal governmental policies, and that tragically this targeted xenophobia, racism, bias, and violence continues to the present day; and,

Whereas, as a haunting local reminder of that targeted violence, over forty years ago the brutal racially-motivated murder of Chinese American Vincent Chin in nearby Highland Park, Michigan, as well as the shocking fact that his murderers received zero jail time sparked local and nationwide movements for Asian American and Pacific Islander civil rights organizations being formed, protests held, and laws changed; and,

Whereas, during an era of heightened racism, bigotry, and hate crimes, it is critically important to share accurate information, support diverse cultures, overcome stereotypes, and empower future generations; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby recognizes May 2023 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Pontiac; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council pays tribute to the generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have enriched our history, and we celebrate their many noteworthy contributions to our community and to our country; and further

Resolved, the City Council reaffirms the integral nature of our Asian American and Pacific Islander neighbors as an important part of our community, with great respect and affection for our substantial Hmong population in Pontiac, and recognizes their community as being instrumental to our community's future success; and further

Resolved, we condemn the xenophobia, racism, bias, and violence targeted at our Asian American and Pacific Islander neighbors locally and in all parts of the nation; and further

Resolved, the City of Pontiac and our City Council welcomes additional opportunities to commemorate and celebrate the people, places, events, traditions, and cultures that have contributed to making the Asian American and Pacific Islander community such an important part of Pontiac and of Michigan.

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

23-165 (C) **Resolution recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

Whereas, the United States recognized Mental Health Awareness Month during the month of May, in order to educate on the importance of mental health and its impact on the well-being of all Americans, including children, adults, and families; and,

Whereas, less than half of Americans struggling with mental illness receive the treatment they need, and even fewer within Black and Brown communities receiving that treatment they need; and,

Whereas, mental health challenges among our youth have also been particularly impacted in recent years during the pandemic due to disruptions in routines, increased social isolation, learning loss, and the increasing role that social media has in the mental health challenges among young people, especially young women; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby recognizes May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the City of Pontiac; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council pays tribute to the past and present service providers and community advocates in the field of mental healthcare and mental health awareness; and further

Resolved, the City Council stands in solidarity with those who are experiencing mental health conditions, renewing our commitment to providing them with access to the support they need and deserve; and further

Resolved, we call upon Pontiac citizens, government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other groups to join in activities and take action to strengthen the mental health of our community and its people.

23-165 (D) **Resolution recognizing May as Military Awareness Month.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

Whereas, for generations, Pontiac citizens have proudly served our nation during times of conflict and peace; and, Whereas, our brave service men and women, their families, and their loved ones have made great sacrifices to protect the freedoms we enjoy; and,

Whereas, our city's active-duty military and many veterans impart courage, honor, and valor to their fellow residents and are true leaders in our communities and are integral to the success, advancement, and prosperity of our city; and,

Whereas, Pontiac City Council President Pro- Tem William A. Carrington and City Councilman William Parker, Jr. both bravely served in our nation's military; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby recognizes May 2023 as Military Appreciation Month in the City of Pontiac; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council pays tribute to our service men and women, their families, their loved ones, and our local veterans; and further

Resolved, the City Council remembers with deep gratitude the men and women who have given their lives in defense of our freedom; and further

Resolved, we celebrate the past military service of Pontiac City Council President Pro Tem William A. Carrington and City Councilman William Parker, Jr.; and further

Resolved, we call upon Pontiac citizens, government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other groups to join in activities and take action to demonstrate our community's appreciation for our nation's military servicemembers and veterans

Ayes: McGuinness, Parker, Rutherford, Goodman and James

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

**Special Presentations**

General Motors Announcement of New \$200 Million Parts Plant to be Constructed at Former Palace of Auburn Hills Site, 1,000 Jobs at New Plant  
Pontiac Skate Park Project Groundbreaking at Oakland Park, May 12, 2023, from 3:30 to 5:00 pm  
Note of thanks from Ronnie McNeir to Pontiac City Council

**Subcommittee Reports**

Communications, Engagement & Operations  
Economic Development, Housing & Planning  
Facilities & Property  
Finance & Personnel  
Law & the Courts  
Parks, Recreation & Public Works  
Public Safety, Health & Wellness

**Recognition of Elected Officials** – None

**Agenda Address**

1. Dr. Deirdre Waterman addressed item #15
2. Gloria Miller addressed item #9

**Resolutions**

City Council

23-166      **Resolution recognizing and supporting Autism Awareness Walk.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, the 3rd Annual Autism Walk is being held at Wisner Stadium in Pontiac, Michigan on Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and, Whereas, Ms. Marsha Easley and Inspirational Spectrum Heroes have organized and held this walk in our community, and are now working to bring people together for the third annual Autism Walk in Pontiac; and, Whereas, autism spectrum disorders impact many people and their loved ones in the Pontiac community, and greater awareness is needed regarding autism spectrum disorders, what it means to be autistic, how to better support autistic people and their wellbeing, and the difficulties and discrimination autistic people face; now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby recognizes the 3rd Annual Autism Walk at Wisner Stadium in Pontiac on May 20, 2023 and affirms our support for the event; and further Resolved, on behalf of the entire Pontiac community, the City Council appreciates and celebrates the work of Ms. Marsha Easley and Inspirational Spectrum Heroes in spearheading the Autism Walk and for effectively advocating for greater autism awareness; and further Resolved, the City Council encourages Pontiac residents to participate in the Autism Walk and further encourages residents to learn more about the needs and impact of autistic residents in our community.

Ayes: Parker, Rutherford, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

23-167      **Resolution recognizing the Heroism of Randi.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac, Michigan is privileged to have many residents who go above and beyond to improve life for others, whose hard work and dedication directly helps their fellow citizens; and Whereas, Ms. Randi Maddix of Pontiac, Michigan was traveling through Ohio on April 28, 2023 and stopped to help teenage occupants in a car that had been involved in a rollover crash; and

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

Whereas, during her act of being a good Samaritan on that highway, she was struck by another vehicle; and Whereas Ms. Maddix passed away from those injuries on April 28, 2023 at the age of 33, which is a tremendous loss for both her family and our community; now, therefore be it

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby mourns the passing of Ms. Randi Maddix and recognizes her for her remarkable bravery and heroism; and further

Resolved, she will be remembered by this Council and the Pontiac community for her willingness to help others that were in need, and for the bravery and heroism she exhibited in those final moments of her life; and further

Resolved, the City of Pontiac extends our deepest sympathies to her family, friends, neighbors, and, in particular, her beautiful children.

Ayes: Parker, Rutherford, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

23-168      **Resolution Honoring the Life of Pontiac Retiree Terry Jones.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

Whereas, the City of Pontiac, Michigan has been privileged to have many exemplary employees work for the City of Pontiac over the decades, whose hard work and dedication directly improved the quality of life for our citizens; and

Whereas, Mr. Terry M. Jones worked for the City of Pontiac for 30 years, serving with dedication and commitment for those three decades and directly improving the quality of life and wellbeing of Pontiac residents; and

Whereas, Mr. Jones worked for the City of Pontiac Water Department for the entire duration of his employment with our City before his well-deserved retirement at the end of his long and productive career; and

Whereas Mr. Jones passed away on April 22, 2023 at the age of 69, which is a tremendous loss for both his family and our community; now, therefore be it

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council expresses our deepest gratitude for Mr. Jones' dedicated service to our City and to the citizens whose lives he protected and enriched; and further

Resolved, he will be remembered by this Council and the Pontiac community as a dedicated and hardworking person who made a positive difference in our City for many years; and further

Resolved, the City of Pontiac extends our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues.

Ayes: Rutherford, Goodman, James, McGuinness and Parker

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Economic Development

23-169      **Resolution to execute a contract with Passport, Inc. for a Mobile Parking Application and Parking Violation Enforcement.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, The Purchasing Manager has ensured that the purchase is classified as a Sole Source and is following the City's municipal code, Division II. Purchasing, Section 2-517, 2-518, and 2-519 pertaining to major purchases;

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Manager is requesting approval to execute a City contract with Passport, Inc.;

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

NOW, THEREFORE, The Pontiac City Council approves the Mayor or Mayor Designee to execute a City contract with Passport, Inc.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Finance

23-170 **Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to publish the proposed budget amendment for Budget Year 2022-2023 to increase the appropriation in the following GL account 101-201-818-000 Other Professional Services - \$200,000.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson James.

WHEREAS, the Finance Department is in dire need of continued assistance from a CPA firm to perform the critical accounting functions such as bank reconciliation, month end close, write adjusting journal entries etc. since the positions of the Finance Director, Senior Accountant and Grant Accountant positions were vacant for many months.; and,

WHEREAS, Consultants CVHT CPAs and Rehmann CPAs assisted Finance staff to complete the FY 2022 audit; and,

WHEREAS, we need CVHT CPAs' continued assistance to complete the FY 2023 audit on time; and,

WHEREAS, additional funding is needed to pay for this service; and,

WHEREAS, this budget amendment will decrease the fund balance in the Fund 101– General Fund by \$200,000;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED**, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City Clerk to publish in a newspaper the proposed budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as requested by the Administration as given below:

Increase the budget appropriation in the following GL accounts:

101-201-818.000	Other Professional Services	\$200,000
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Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Grants

23-171 **Resolution to express formal support for the City of Pontiac Adopt-A-Park Program.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac's Adopt – A – Park program allows everyone to play a role in improving Pontiac's parks, whether it is participating in planned volunteer park clean-up, making a financial contribution towards major renovations, or making a commitment to provide all necessary funding to renovate and maintain a single park, and;

WHEREAS, volunteering can make a big difference in the effort to keep Pontiac parks clean, and;

WHEREAS, financial and in-kind contributions are necessary for the renovation projects that many of the parks in Pontiac require, and;

WHEREAS, another way to contribute to park revitalization in the City of Pontiac is through interlocal agreements with other governmental entities, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac Adopt-A-Park Program will help create safe, clean spaces where friends can gather, children can play, and neighborhoods can grow.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Pontiac City Council hereby issues its formal support for the Pontiac Adopt-A-Park Program.

May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Parker, Rutherford and Goodman

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Mayor's Office

23-172 **Motion to table the Resolution to approve permit for united Wholesale Mortgage request for Flock Camera System Right of Way Utilization.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Rutherford.

Ayes: McGuinness, Parker, Rutherford, Goodman and James

No: None

**Motion Carried**

23-173 **Resolution approving Mayor's appointment of Sue Sinclair to Planning Commission Vacancy. (Postponed from May 2, 2023 Council Meeting)** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2236 requires that the Planning Commission be comprised of six non-elected officials and the Mayor or his designee; and

WHEREAS, there is presently one vacancy on the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, according to State law and the ordinance, the Mayor shall appoint planning commissioners subject to approval by a majority vote of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Tim Greimel recommends appointing Sue Sinclair to the Pontiac Planning Commission to a term expiring three years after the date City Council approves her appointment,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council hereby approves the appointment of Sue Sinclair to the Pontiac Planning Commission to a term expiring three years after the date City Council approves her appointment.

Ayes: Parker, Rutherford, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Planning

23-174 **Resolution to extend the Carlisle Wortman contract for three (3) months.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, The City's Planning Consultant, Carlisle Wortman, has performed consultant work since December 1, 2022, for plan review services on a temporary basis as internal City Planning Staff have continued to be hired and trained; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Sec. 7.0 of the Contract between the City and Carlisle Wortman, the City Council may approve extensions of the Agreement in 3-month increments for up to 1 year; and

WHEREAS, City Staff have requested a three-month extension through August 31, 2023, to allow Carlisle Wortman to complete and finalize existing projects assigned by the City.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Pontiac City Council hereby authorizes a 3-month extension of the Contract between the City and Carlisle Wortman and Associates, Inc., for consulting services, which shall terminate on August 31, 2023, unless otherwise extended, pursuant to the terms of the Parties' Agreement.

Ayes: Parker, Rutherford, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

Treasury

**23-175 Resolution to schedule a Public Hearing on May 16, 2023 for the Annual Millage Rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Goodman. Discussion.

**Motion to change the date and add the time to Resolution to schedule a Public hearing on May 16, 2023 for the Annual Millage Rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**23-175 Amended Resolution to schedule a Public Hearing on May 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. for the Annual Millage Rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, the proposed city millages for operating purposes for the 2023-2024 fiscal year are in excess of the millage rate permitted by subsection 2 of the General Property Tax Act 211.24e.

WHEREAS, in accordance with The General Property Tax Act 211.24e subsection 3, a governing body of a taxing unit may approve a levy of an additional millage rate only after providing the notice required by subsection (6) and (9) and holding a public hearing of the governing body as prescribed by subsection (6).

WHEREAS, the public hearing of the governing body of a taxing unit required pursuant to subsections (3) and (5) shall be held for the purpose of receiving testimony and discussing a levy of an additional millage rate for its ensuing fiscal year. In addition to satisfying the requirements under the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275, the local unit of government or taxing unit shall publish notice of this public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the local unit of government or taxing unit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED ,the City Council of the City of Pontiac authorizes the scheduling of a public hearing on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Ayes: Rutherford, Goodman, James, McGuinness and Parker

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Public Comment**

1. Robert Bass
2. Carlton Jones
3. Deirdre Waterman
4. Pastor Kathy Dessureau
5. Gloria Miller

**Closed Session**

**23-176 Resolution to proceed in Closed Session at 7:51 p.m. to consider and discuss the Confidential Legal Opinion in connection with Trial or Settlement Strategies and the purchase of Real Property. (Agenda Add-on)** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, written confidential communications that are the subject of attorney-client privilege are exempt from disclosure and may be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268(h); and



May 9, 2023 Approved Minutes

WHEREAS, Section 13 of the Freedom of information Act provides that a public body may exempt from disclosure as a public record information or records that are subject to the attorney-client privilege (MCL 15.243(1)(g)); and

WHEREAS, the City has written confidential legal opinion related to zoning ordinance amendments; and NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council will proceed in Closed Session pursuant MCL 15.243(g) and to Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act (MCL 15.268(h)), to discuss and consider written confidential legal opinions of counsel.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Parker and Rutherford

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Motion to come out of Closed Session at 8:45 p.m.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Parker, Rutherford and Goodman

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Communications**

City Council and Mayor's Office

**Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments**

Mayor Tim Greimel, Deputy Mayor Khalfani Stephens, Councilman William Parker Jr., Councilwoman Kathalee James, Councilwoman Melanie Rutherford and Council President Mike McGuinness made closing comments.

**Adjournment**

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

Ayes: McGuinness, Parker, Rutherford, Goodman and James

No: None

**Motion Carried**

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

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Garland S. Doyle  
City Clerk