

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
161st Session of the Eleventh Council**

Call to Order

A Regular 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, August 13, 2024, at 6:05 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

Invocation – Pastor Kathy Dessureau

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 Tim Greimel was present.
A quorum was announced.

Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Carrington.

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

No: None

Motion Carried

24-233 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for August 13, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves the consent agenda for August 13, 2024, including City Council Meeting Minutes for August 8, 2024, Resolution Acknowledging City Clerk Staff on Administering the 2024 Primary Election in Pontiac, Resolution Acknowledging Service of Pontiac Charter Revision Commissioners to the City of Pontiac, Resolution Authorizing Clerk to Post Notice of Budget Amendment for Departmental Changes, and Resolution to Authorize an Increase to the HRAA contract to Cover On-Site Human Resources Consultant Fees for an amount Not-to-Exceed \$60,000.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

24-233 (B) **Resolution Acknowledging City Clerk Staff on Administering the 2024 Primary Election in Pontiac.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac has been privileged to have many exemplary city staff and elections workers serve in the City of Pontiac over the decades; and,
WHEREAS, in recent years there have been many statewide changes regarding election administration, as well as expanded voter participation options including expanded early voting and voter registration procedures, that are often left to the local city clerks and staff to implement; and,
WHEREAS, the primary election of August 6, 2024, was successfully facilitated by the Pontiac City Clerk, City Clerk staff, and election workers without major incident;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Pontiac City Council hereby acknowledges the service and hard work of the Pontiac City Clerk, City Clerk staff, and all of the City elections workers to the City of Pontiac and our citizens in the successful administration of the 2024 Primary Election on August 6, 2024; and
FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council hopes for a smooth, successful, and high participation 2024 General Election on November 5, 2024.

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

Resolution Passed

24-233(C) **Resolution Acknowledging Service of Pontiac Charter Revision Commissioners to the City of Pontiac.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac has been privileged to have many exemplary community leaders serve in the City of Pontiac over the decades; and,
WHEREAS, the voters of Pontiac prompted the establishment of a Charter Revision Commission for the purposes of reviewing the existing City Charter and proposing potential revisions for the citizens to consider; and, Whereas, as part of that process, in 2022 the voters of Pontiac elected nine citizens to serve as Charter Revision Commissioners to carry out that duty; and,
WHEREAS, Norbert Burrows, Gill Garrett, Brian Killian, Lucy Payne, Tameka Ramsey, Scott Stewart, Bruce Turpin, Kermit Williams, and Jose Ybarra III were elected to the Pontiac Charter Revision Commission and honorably served as Commissioners; and,
WHEREAS, the Charter Revision Commissioners volunteered hundreds of hours attending meetings, researching city structures and best practices, engaging with community members, writing a Charter revision proposal, and educating citizens on past, present, and future governance options, with voters ultimately adopting their Charter revision proposal at the August 6, 2024, elections by over 70 percent;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Pontiac City Council hereby acknowledges the service of Pontiac Charter Revision Commissioners Norbert Burrows, Gill Garrett, Brian Killian, Lucy Payne, Tameka Ramsey, Scott Stewart, Bruce Turpin, Kermit Williams, and Jose Ybarra III to the City of Pontiac and to our citizens; and
FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Pontiac thanks them for their volunteerism to serve the public, to advance our City, to modernize our City's government, and to make substantial sacrifices of their time and talents in service of their community.

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

Resolution Passed

24-233 (D) **Resolution Authorizing Clerk to Post Notice of Budget Amendment for Departmental Changes.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac, Michigan, is committed to maintaining sound fiscal management practices for the betterment of its residents and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, it has become evident that adjustments to the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget are necessary to accurately reflect changes in estimated revenue and appropriations across various funds and departments; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive analysis of the proposed budget amendments has been conducted, as detailed in the memorandum provided by the Finance Department which outlines the specific adjustments to be made; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to inform the public of these proposed budget amendments to facilitate transparency, accountability, and public engagement in the budgetary process; and

WHEREAS, the budget amendment request is in compliance with Sections 5.104 and 5.106 of the Pontiac Home Rule Charter.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council authorizes the City Clerk to Publish Notice of Budget Amendments as attached and as follows:

- Fund 101 - General Fund: Fund Balance Decrease of (\$1,642,330)
- Fund 202 – Major Streets: Fund Balance Decrease of (\$1,769,635)
- Fund 203 – Local Streets: Fund Balance Decrease of (\$145,124)
- Fund 208 – Youth Recreation Millage: Fund Balance Change \$0
- Fund 212 - Senior Activities Millage: Fund Balance Change \$0
- Fund 249 - Building Inspection Fund: Fund Balance Decrease of (\$403,707)
- Fund 277 – MIDC Grant Fund: Fund Balance Decrease of (\$100,794)
- Fund 284 - Opioid Settlement Fund: Fund Balance Increase of \$90,740
- Fund 285 – ARPA: Fund Balance Increase of \$5,258,355
- Fund 445 – Capital Improvement Fund: Fund Balance Decrease of (\$770,645)
- Fund 629 – Employees Sick & Vacation Pay Fund: Fund Balance Increase of \$120,000

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

24-233 (E) **Resolution to Authorize an Increase to the HRAA contract to Cover On-Site Human Resources Consultant Fees for an amount Not-to-Exceed \$60,000.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, an on-site Human Resources Consultant was contracted through HR Advantage to assist the City with its HR responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of the Human Resources Consultant, the Human Resources Department will be able to correctly identify the Fair Labor Standards Act status for all positions; and

WHEREAS, The HR Consultant will assist HR and the finance department with GL and chart of accounts; and

WHEREAS, Human Resources is requesting authorization to increase the contract by \$60,000.00 to pay for the referenced services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council authorizes the increase in the HRAA contract in an amount Not-to-Exceed \$60,000.00 to pay for the referenced services from General Ledger Account 101-270-819.000 to allow the continuation of HR Consulting services by HRAA.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Special Presentation

Woodward Deam Cruise Weekend Activities in Pontiac

Agenda Items

Resolution

24-234 **Resolution Approving the Appointment of Dee Ann Irby as the New City of Pontiac Finance Director.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Carrington.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac has been in search of a Finance Director since February 2024; and

WHEREAS, the role of the Director of Finance is critical because the leader will manage all aspects of the municipality's financial health, long-term growth, ensures financial stability and provides guidance to meet all financial commitments; and

WHEREAS, Dee Ann Irby has more than 20 years of experience which includes serving as the Finance Controller for the City of Troy, Finance Director at Birmingham Public Schools and the Director of Business Operations for Grosse Pointe Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Dee Ann Irby holds a Master of Administration from Central Michigan University and a Bachelor of Public Administration with an emphasis in Accounting and Management from Grand Valley State University making her education and experience in accordance with the Pontiac Municipal Code Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2, Section 2-88; and

WHEREAS, the City has a great need for a dedicated professional to manage and coordinate all finance, treasury, purchasing, accounting and payroll activities and initiatives effectively; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Pontiac Home Rule Charter, Section 4.106, such appointment is subject to the approval of City Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council hereby appoints Dee Ann Irby to the position of Director of Finance for the City of Pontiac in accordance with the Pontiac Home Rule Charter and the Municipal Code, effective immediately for a budgeted salary of \$153,000.00.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Recognition of Elected Officials - None

Agenda Address

1. Dr. Deirdre Waterman addressed items #C, #D, and #2
2. Pastor Kathy Dessureau addressed item #4
3. Randy Carter addressed items #C, and #4
4. Gloria Miller addressed item #3
5. Darlene Clark addressed item #5

City Council District 2 Vacancy

Council President McGuinness informed the community that the city council had received applications from fourteen (14) residents to fill the district 2 vacancy. City Council reviewed the applications. The Communications, Engagement, and Operations Subcommittee of the City Council met and determined the two finalists were Brenda Causey-Mitchell and Milanna Jones. The two finalists were present at the city council meeting. Council President McGuinness introduced each finalist. Each finalist was allowed to

speak. City Council took a straw poll on who they would support. The results of the straw poll are listed below.

Councilman Parker – Jones
President Pro-Tem Carrington – Causey-Mitchell
Councilwoman James - Causey-Mitchell

Councilwoman Rutherford – Jones
Councilman Goodman – Jones
Council President McGuinness – Jones

Brenda Causey-Mitchell received two (2) votes.

Milanna Jones received four (4) votes.

Resolutions Continued

City Council

24-235 **Resolution Appointing Milanna Jones to fill the City Councilmember for District Two Vacancy.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Goodman.

BE IT RESOLVED, The Pontiac City Council selects Milanna Jones to fill the remainder of the term to the Pontiac City Council for District Two.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

After the vote, City Clerk Garland S. Doyle swore in Milanna Jones as the new Councilperson for District Two (2).

Economic Development Division

24-236 **Resolution Finding that the Proposed Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) is Consistent with the City’s Master Plan, Goals, Objectives, and Policies of the City of Pontiac.** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, The Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act (MCL 207.771 et al) allows the City to designate a neighborhood enterprise zone to encourage development and redevelopment by allowing the owners of parcels within the zone to apply for a property tax exemption.

WHEREAS, MCL 207.773(3) requires the Council to adopt a Resolution finding that the proposed neighborhood enterprise zone is consistent with the master plan of the City and the neighborhood preservation and economic development goals of the City, after providing notice of the proposed neighborhood enterprise zone to allow taxing units in the City, and before the adoption of a Resolution designating the neighborhood enterprise zone.

WHEREAS, on or about June 26, 2024, the Clerk’s Office of the City provided written notice of the intent to adopt a neighborhood enterprise zone along with a proposed map and list of all parcels within the zone to the Oakland County Assessor’s Office and all taxing units that levy ad valorem property taxes in the proposed neighborhood enterprise zone.

WHEREAS, MCL 207.773(3) requires the City to adopt a statement of the City’s goals, objectives, and policies relative to the maintenance, preservation, improvement and development of housing for all persons, regardless of income level, living within the proposed neighborhood enterprise zone, prior to the adoption of a Resolution designating the neighborhood enterprise zone.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council finds that the proposed neighborhood enterprise zone is consistent with the master plan of the City, and the neighborhood preservation and economic development goals of the City, in accordance with MCL 207.773(3).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council states that the City’s goals, objectives, and policies

relative to the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing for all persons, regardless of income level, living within the proposed neighborhood enterprise zone are as follows:

The mission of the City of Pontiac in designating the neighborhood enterprise zone is to economic growth through the City by promoting business opportunities and advantages that are unique to Pontiac; identifying the needs to the business community; facilitating strategic partnerships to address those needs; encouraging job creation and growth; and/or marketing the City's unique assets to future businesses and residents. The City has previously created a home repair program which utilizes ARPA funds provided to the City to repair and rehabilitate housing for residents of the City. When used in conjunction with the neighborhood enterprise zone's tax incentives, homeowners can repair and rehabilitate their homes without the fear of increasing their cost of living. Similarly, the City Council has found that the City is in great need of increased housing. By designating this neighborhood enterprise zone, the City is incentivizing development of new housing and rehabilitation of existing housing to accomplish this goal.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Parks & Recreation Division

24-237 **Resolution to Approve the Purchase and Installation of Mounted Equipment on Six (6) newly purchased Parks & Recreation Division Pickup Trucks for City Parks Maintenance in the Amount of \$34,666 from American Rescue Plan Act Funding.** Moved by Councilperson Carrington and seconded by Councilperson Goodman.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac's Parks & Recreation Division's newly purchased pickup trucks require the purchase and installation of mounted equipment, which includes fitting the vehicles with specific aftermarket equipment that is both safety-related and necessary for the fullest utilization of the vehicles; and

WHEREAS, funds are appropriated in the ARPA account 285-818-977.002-ARPPRK Vehicles, and will be expensed as invoiced; and

WHEREAS, the purchasing manager has ensured that the purchase follows the City's municipal code, Division II. Purchasing, Section 2-517, 2-518, and 2-519 about major purchases; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the purchase and installation of mounted equipment on six newly pick-up trucks for an amount Not-to-Exceed \$34,666 for the American Rescue Plan Act General Ledger account 285-818-977.002-ARPPRK.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Public Comment

1. Dr. Deirdre Waterman
2. Robert Bass
3. Carlton Jones
4. Wendell Woods
5. Andrea Manns
6. Roselyn Northcross
7. Christopher Northcross
8. Billie Swazer

9. Chris Jackson
10. Marcus Bowman
11. Faddy Abdul
12. Pastor Kathy Dessureau
13. Darlene Clark
14. Gloria Miller

Subcommittee Reports

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

Discussions

Historic Talk on the Clinton River Burial Under Downtown Pontiac, given by Mike McGuinness Friday, August 23, 2024, at the Crofoot, 1 S Saginaw Street in Downtown Pontiac. Free Admission.

Councilwoman Melanie Rutherford and Colleagues Hosting a Community Peace Rally on Saturday, August 31, 2024, in Rotary Park.

Closed Session

24-238 **Resolution to Proceed in Closed Session at 8:53 p.m. for a Legal Update on Material Exempt from Discussion or Disclosure by State or Federal Statute in Accordance with MCL 15.268(1)(h).** Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and second by Councilperson Parker.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Open Meetings Act provides that a public body may meet in Closed Session to matters exempt from public discussion; and

WHEREAS, the referenced discussion is the subject of attorney-client privilege and is exempt from disclosure and may be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council will proceed in Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Motion to come out of Closed Session at 10:11 p.m. Moved by Councilperson Carrington and seconded by Councilperson Parker.

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

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Communications

City Council and Mayors Office

Closing Comments

Councilwoman Kathalee James, Councilman Mikal Goodman, Councilwoman Milanna Jones, Councilwoman Melanie Rutherford, Council President Pro-Tem William Carrington, and Council President Mike McGuinness

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Moved by Councilperson Rutherford and seconded by Councilperson Carrington.

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

No: None

Motion Carried

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Garland S. Doyle
City Clerk