

The City of Portland
City Council
August 19, 2024
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Mayor, Jeff Westlake at 5:30 PM on Monday, August 19, 2024. Roll was called and present were members Kent McClung, Matt Goldsworthy, Ron May, Michele Brewster, Ashley Hilfiker, and Dave Golden. Also, present was Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips, Wes Schemenaur, and Rob Weaver (WPGW).

Absent: Mike Aker

Pledge of Allegiance

Mallory Stevenson; The Advocacy Center

Mallory gave an overview of the service that The Advocacy Center provides for child abuse cases. She explained how they are funded. A funding request of \$10,000 will come to the September 3rd meeting.

Street Closure Request; Catholic Church

The Catholic Church requested the south block of Hayes and the south block of Munson along with the alley behind the church be closed from noon to 11pm on September 27th. They will be hosting an Octoberfest event. Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to approve the request. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ed Curtin and Cecil Penland; Presentation of the proposed 68-acre project west of town

An overview of the proposed project was presented to council. The plans call for 76 single family homes, 8 duplex housing units, 154 multi-family homes and 167,000 square feet of commercial space. The plans for the development are contingent that the county will receive the anticipated funding from the Readi 2.0 grant. The group will come back at a later date for any requests that they may have for this project. An easement will be needed to add a line to the existing lift station on Industrial Drive.

Approval of City Council minutes from August 5, 2024

Motion by McClung, seconded by Goldsworthy to approve the City Council minutes from the August 5, 2024 meeting as presented. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2024-15; Amend 2024 Payroll Ordinance – First reading

This ordinance reinstates a line item for part-time mayor's secretary. It was inadvertently removed from the 2024 payroll ordinance. Motion by Golden, seconded by Hilfiker to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2024-15. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2024-15; Amend 2024 Payroll Ordinance – Suspend the rules and pass on the same night

Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2024-15 on the same night. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2024-15; Amend 2024 Payroll Ordinance – Second reading

Motion by McClung, seconded by Goldsworthy to pass Ordinance 2024-15 on the second reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2024-14; 2025 Payroll Ordinance – First reading

Payroll ordinance for 2025 includes the following changes:

6% increase for all full-time hourly employees; 8% increase for superintendents, mayor and clerk treasurer; longevity of \$100 per year of service (caps at 20 years) for all full-time employees except mayor and clerk treasurer.

Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to pass on the first reading. Roll call vote. McClung, Golden, Goldsworthy and Brewster all voted aye. May and Hilfiker voted nay. Aker was absent. Motion passed on the first reading with 4 aye votes.

2025 Budget; Superintendents presented their 2025 budget requests

Matt Shauver's request for the MVH budget increased by \$35,000; increases mainly in repairs & maintenance, equipment and gas. No comments or questions from the council.

Brian Ison, President of the Park Board, requested increases of \$69,000 for the parks and \$18,000 for the pool. The increases were mainly for repairs and maintenance, other contractual, street material, equipment, pool supplies and utilities. No comments or questions from the council about the budget.

Hilfiker asked if the pool season would be longer with the addition of the pool heater. Brain responded with "no" due to staffing issues.

Mike Weitzel's request for the Fire Department budget increased by \$28,000; increases are for part-time firefighter pay, applicant exams, car allowance, transportation and communications, other contractual, and equipment. No comments or questions from council.

Dustin Mock's request for the Police Department budget increased by \$271,000; increase includes \$175,000 for vehicles, gas, other contractual (Spillman), police gear, and equipment.

May questioned the need for an additional \$175,000 for vehicles. He also stated that he doesn't want any Tahoe's added to the vehicle inventory.

Lori recommended that the police requests come from LOIT funds, not the general fund. The county is working to increase the LOIT levy from .20 to .40.

Council Comments

May -

1. Questioned if the police department vehicles all have City of Portland decals? Mock noted that all have the decals - except for the Chief, Assistant Chief and Investigator vehicles. May noted that he would like to see the decals go on these vehicles as well. Mock stated that it has never been done that way in the past.
2. Called Katrina Myers (Greazy Pickle) to the podium; asked her questions about the business. She noted that 80% of their sales is food vs 20% alcohol. There was much back and forth with the mayor and Trisha. The mayor stands by his decision to not allow police officers (while on duty and in uniform) to eat at their business. He noted reasons of public image of seeing a police car outside of a bar.

McClung -

Welcomed visitors to Portland for the Tractor & Engine Show. He appreciates that they will be visiting our local business and putting money back into our community.

Golden -

Echoed McClung's comments.

Hilfiker -

1. Noted that she meant to vote "aye" for Ordinance 2024-14; 2025 salary ordinance. She apologized for the confusion.

2. Asked that the council consider a discussion to pick up trash for outside sewer customers.
3. Asked that we follow the trash ordinance and charge for picking up large items or amend the ordinance to reflect the change.

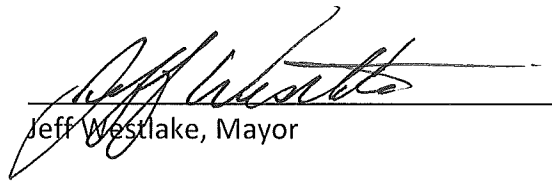
Mayor's Report

1. Welcomed the visitors for the Tri State Tractor and Engine show.
2. Noted that the position of Code Enforcement Officer will soon be advertised.
3. Welcomed Jay County High School students.

Adjournment Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Jeff Westlake, Mayor



Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer