

The City of Portland
City Council
October 21, 2024
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Mayor, Jeff Westlake at 5:30 PM on Monday, September 16, 2024. Roll was called and present were members Kent McClung, Matt Goldsworthy, Ron May, Mike Aker, Ashley Hilfiker, and Michele Brewster. Also, present was Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips, and Wes Schemenaur.

Absent: Dave golden

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of City Council minutes from October 7, 2024

Motion by McClung, seconded by Hilfiker to approve the City Council minutes from the October 7th meeting as presented. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Reda-Theurer Miller, Main Street Committee – Street closure request

Motion by May, seconded by Goldsworthy to approve the street closure request for a Holiday Festival event. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Closure: November 16 from 2-8pm

East Main Street from Meridian Street to Harrison Street

The Holiday Festival will host a variety of vendors for the holiday season.

Reda-Theurer Miller, Main Street Connect – Update from the committee

Reda noted the upcoming projects for the Main Street Connect. She noted that the planters on the Arch Bridge will be decorated for the holidays. She noted that the banners and Christmas lights will be displayed. She noted that Main Street Connect will participate with Asbury Church in a fall clean up on November 10th. They will focus on the downtown area and the parks.

Reda also noted that in late August the committee sent Registration forms to all downtown business owners. The committee requested information about each business and their intentions for the property. This information will assist Main Street Connect with downtown assistance to business owners and beautification of the downtown.

Ordinance 2024-17; Amending Chapter 34 - Finance and Revenue – 2nd Reading

This ordinance allows budget transfers to be made (within like categories) by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion by McClung, seconded by Goldsworthy to approve Ordinance 2024-17 on the second reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2024-18; Amending Chapter 32.052 – Progressive Discipline – 2nd Reading

This ordinance corrects a typo in the original ordinance. The original ordinance stated that an employee being relieved from their work duty due to a discipline issue WILL be paid for their suspended days. This ordinance states that the employee will NOT be paid. Motion by McClung, seconded by Aker to approve Ordinance 2024-18 on the second reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Council Comments

Ron-

1. Questioned the decal on the new police vehicles. He asked that an ordinance be considered to require all city owned vehicles display the city logo or "City of Portland" visibly seen on each vehicle. After

much conversation, Kent and Wes noted that this is a mayor decision and should not be a negotiation tool with the department.

2. Asked if the mayor would contact INDOT to see if it is a possibility to paint the metal guard rails on the new concrete bridge on 67 (former steel truss bridge "Blue Bridge"). The request is to paint the guard rails blue in honor of the former "Blue Bridge".
3. Asked what could be done with single family homes being occupied by multiple (5 or 6) families. He asked if the Health Department would be a good place to start the investigation. Wes noted that it would take a lot of employees and a lot of hours to even be able to get a search warrant. Then it would be extremely difficult to prove that they all live there and are not just overnight guests. Noted that this is only punishable by a fine. Noted that it may not be a good use of time and funds, but could be done.

Ashley-

1. Asked if the city could look into the possibility of installing a few enclosed "bus stops" for students waiting on school bus pick-up.

Mayor's Report

Noted that INDOT's Meridian Street project has paving scheduled for October 28 thru November 2nd

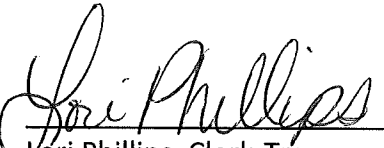
Adjournment Motion by McClung, seconded by Goldsworthy to adjourn at 6:26 p.m.

APPROVED:



Jeff Westlake, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer