

The City of Portland
City Council
January 6, 2025
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Mayor, Jeff Westlake at 5:30 PM on Monday, January 6, 2025. Roll was called and present were members Matt Goldsworthy, Mike Aker, Michele Brewster, Ron May, Ashley Hilfiker, Dave Golden, and Kent McClung. Also, present was City Attorney, Wes Schemenaur, and Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips

Pledge of Allegiance

Election of City Council President

Motion by May, seconded by Golden to nominate Kent McClung to remain as Council President for 2025. Roll call vote. McClung abstained from voting. All others voted aye.

Approval of City Council minutes from December 16, 2024

Motion by May, seconded by Brewster to approve the City Council minutes from the December 16, 2024 meeting as presented. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Claims Docket

Motion by McClung, seconded by Hilfiker to approve two payroll dockets; December 7 for \$154,603.36 and December 21 for \$138,336.05. General, Water and Sewage claims 113402-113701 totaled \$2,031,942.02. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

A list of 2024 encumbered funds to be distributed in 2025 was presented

JCDC Distribution of 2025 funds

Motion by Goldsworthy, seconded by May to release \$25,000 now and the remaining \$25,000 in July. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Council Comments

Matt-

Noted that with the new year, his wish is that all council members and departments will work together for the betterment of the community.

Michele-

Requested an update on the traffic lights. Mayor Westlake noted that the schedule calls for the lights to be completed in early February.

Ron-

1. Requested an update on the Blaine Pike project. Mayor Westlake noted that he has been working with the Street Department to extend the sidewalk (after the INDOT project has been closed).

2. Noted that 12 parking spots have been lost due to INDOT's repaving / bump out project. Mayor Westlake noted that he has been working with INDOT to reinstate a few of those parking spots. He will keep the council updated on the progress.
3. Noted that he is not in favor of putting a park at the location of the former Bailey building sites (beside Greazy Pickle). He would rather sell the property and get it back on the tax roll. He requested that council members talk to the public and get their input.

Dave-

Thanked Angela Paxon and Jodi Hayes for their commitment and accomplishments for JCDC.

Kent-

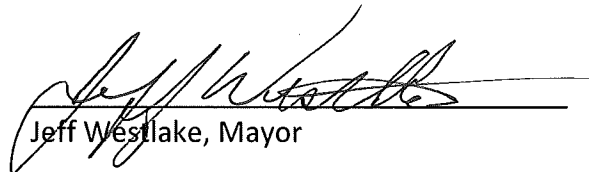
Noted that he is not in favor of the proposed legislative talk to remove property tax and increase taxes on services such as hair cuts or oil changes. He noted that there would be no good way to distribute the taxes collected to the appropriate taxing units. Noted that this could eventually eliminate local government with funds being filtered through Indianapolis.

Mayor's Report

- None

Adjournment Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

APPROVED:



Jeff Westlake, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer