

The City of Portland
City Council
February 3, 2025
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Mayor, Jeff Westlake at 5:30 PM on Monday, February 3, 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, Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips, Rob Weaver (WPGW) and Ray Cooney (CR).

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of City Council minutes from January 21, 2025

Motion by May, seconded by Aker to approve the City Council minutes from the January 21, 2025 meeting as presented. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Claims Docket

Motion by McClung, seconded by Goldsworthy to approve two payroll dockets; January 4 for \$140,119.85 and January 18 for \$148,734.67. General, Water and Sewage claims 113702-113961 totaled \$2,703,184.27. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Jodi Haynes, JCDC - Joyce Dayton PP Tax Abatement

Motion by Goldsworthy, seconded by McClung to approve the personal property tax abatement. The abatement is to purchase manufacturing equipment. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Investment: \$56,915

Savings: \$5,291

Years of Abatement: 1

Jodi Hayes, JCDC – Joyce Dayton PP Tax Abatement – Equipment list updated

On 11/6/2023 the City Council approved a 3-year abatement for manufacturing equipment. Tonight, an updated list of equipment was presented. Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to approve the amended equipment list. All of the values on the abatement are correct. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

60th Tri-State Tractor and Engine Show – Chris Englehardt; Street closure request

Motion by McClung, seconded by May to approve closing Morton Street from Votaw to the Tri-State entrance from noon on August 9th through noon on August 24th. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

60th Tri-State Tractor and Engine Show – Chris Englehardt; Golf cart waiver request

Motion by McClung, seconded by May to approve waiving golf cart registration fees for Tri-State Tractor and Engine Show participants. The waiver is granted from August 9th through August 24th. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Council Comments

Matt-

Presented a letter regarding a noise complaint. City Ordinance 91.03 (J) Noise Ordinance Exemptions – Sounds produced in connection with a religious practice, function, or celebration.

Portland resident noted that he lives 2 blocks from the Community Center and a religious group meets there every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. He noted that their music is so loud that it rattles his windows. Other

area residents have also complained. The Community Center has been contacted and so far, the noise level has not decreased.

Also 91.03 (F) references a noise exemption for athletic events.

Matt suggested that the council research this ordinance and see if better language can be applied.

Ron-

1. Questioned the "No Turn on Red" signs on Meridian Street. Mayor Westlake noted that this is per INDOT standards due to the bump-outs.
2. Noted all of the drone sitings in Jay County and asked if residents could shoot them down. Wes advised against this. At this point there is nothing that can me done with this situation.
3. Asked why businesses could not have access to use city toters and the city trash service. Lori noted that this is per ordinance and the trash collection fees are set for residential only.
4. Asked if the Portland City Police are ready to assist the Federal Government with local immigration issues. Mayor Westlake noted that the officers are prepared.

Dave-

Asked for an update on Blaine Pike. Lori noted that there is a no cost change order that will be presented to the Board of Works on Thursday. Once the has been approved and submitted to INDOT, the close-out process will begin.

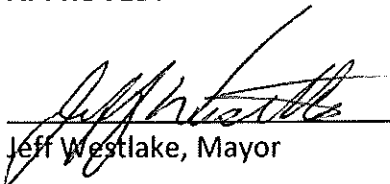
Mayor's Report

- February 8th - Peggy's Plunge
- February 16th – Fire Department Annual chili lunch
- Mayor's State of the City address – possibly February 21st

Jay County High School Students were introduced

Adjournment Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to adjourn at 5:57 p.m.

APPROVED:



Jeff Westlake, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer