

The City of Portland
City Council
January 20, 2026
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Mayor Jeff Westlake at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Roll was called and present were members Matt Goldsworthy, Mike Aker, Ashley Hilfiker, Ron May, Kent McClung and Michele Brewster. Also, present were Attorney, Wes Schemenaur, Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips, and Ray Cooney (CR).

Dave Golden: Attended via ZOOM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of City Council minutes from January 5th, 2026

Motion by May, seconded by Brewster to approve the City Council minutes from January 5th, 2026 as presented. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Ordinance 2026-1; An Ordinance Prohibiting Harboring Livestock in the Corporate Limits – 2nd reading

Public comment: Amanda Conn – Shared her concerns with the ordinance, such as: What do we do with the animals that are prohibited per the ordinance, asked that council considers limiting the number of goats to two per kid that is showing animals for 4-H, asked that council increase the number of chickens from five to eight. She questioned who would be responsible for enforcing the ordinance. After much discussion, motion by May, seconded by Goldsworthy to table the ordinance. Roll call vote. All voted aye.

Discussion on Electric Bikes

Mayor Westlake distributed an example ordinance on electric bikes. He asked that the council members review the ordinance and send any suggestions to Wes and Jeff.

Council Comments

Matt – Asked where residents can find the trash schedule when it differs from the normal schedule. Lori noted that it is on the city website and it is also announced on WPGW radio.

Mike – Questioned if Jon Pace is still doing code enforcement. Also asked who is working code to clean up all of the junk cars sitting around town. Jeff noted that Jon is working 4 hours on Fridays, due to the cold weather.

Michele – Congratulated IU football on their win.

Ron –

1. Noted that the city could generate more revenue for sanitation if businesses were included in trash collection.

2. Noted that the City Council has already voted to move forward with the study regarding centralized dispatch. He questioned Mayor Westlake if he will support the study. Ron noted that the study is for community safety and cost savings. After pressing the question from all council members, Westlake finally stated that he is not in favor of the study and he will not support it.

Kent –

1. In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Message of peace and non-violent protest and that he is proud to be an American!

Ashley –

1. Asked if solicitors are still getting permits at the Police Department. Chief Mock confirmed that they are. Ashley noted that she has recently had solicitors (outside of the defined hours) stop at her house. Mock noted that they aren't aware of this unless someone calls the Police Department to report this issue.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report

Clerk Treasurer's Report

- Reminded residents to take precautions to prevent frozen pipes during this period of below freezing temperatures. When possible, let your faucet drip.

Adjournment Motion by McClung, seconded by Golden to adjourn at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVED:



Jeff Westlake, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Phillips

Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer