

The City of Portland
City Council
May 4, 2026
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Council President, Kent McClung at 5:30 PM on Monday, May 4, 2026. Roll was called and present were members Kent McClung, Matt Goldsworthy, Ashley Hilfiker, Dave Golden, Ron May and Michele Brewster. Also, present were Attorney, Wes Schemenaur, and Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips. Absent: Mike Aker

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of City Council minutes from April 20, 2026

Motion by Hilfiker, seconded by May to approve the City Council minutes from April 20, 2026 as presented. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Claims Docket

Motion by Goldsworthy, seconded by May to approve two payroll dockets; April 11 for \$148,238.20 and April 25 for \$145,985.52. General, Water and Sewage claim #118325-118613 in the amount of \$2,741,712.55. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Wheel & Spoke Antique Mall – Development Agreement Update

Business Manager, Brittany Adams provided updated information on the status of the EDIT loan. The business received \$188,250 in 2023. The funds were approved for a new roof on the entire building. So far, they have met all of the development agreement criteria. This will allow for a 50% grant on the loan. They continue to grow and have exceeded their target for number of vendors and number of employees. They have recently added a café to the business.

Tammy Tillman – Artesian and Jay County High School Art Teacher

A request was made to host an art event in the Brick Alley on June 11th from 4:00 – 7:00. The event will host any artists that would like to come paint or display their art work. Motion by May, seconded by Hilfiker to approve the event in Brick Alley on June 11th. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2026-2; Ordinance amending 2026 Payroll Ordinance – 2nd Reading

Motion by McClung, seconded by Hilfiker to pass Ordinance 2026-2 on the second reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Amendment: Include the Judge to the exclusions for longevity pay.

Ordinance 2026-3; Ordinance Establishing an Adopt a Planter Donation fund – 1st Reading

Motion by May, seconded by Hilfiker to pass Ordinance 2026-3 on the first reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

This request was made by Main Street Connect. The donations will be used to fill and maintain the downtown planters.

Ordinance 2026-3; Motion to suspend the rules and pass on the same night

Motion by May, seconded by Hilfiker to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-3 on the same night. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2026-3; Ordinance Establishing an Adopt a Planter Donation fund – 2nd Reading

Motion by Goldsworthy, seconded by Hilfiker to pass Ordinance 2026-3 on the second reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2026-4; Amend Chapter 52 of Code of Ordinances; Garbage Collection

Motion by May, seconded by Hilfiker to table this ordinance. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Changes in the ordinance: Increase sanitation fee, habitual offenders will be issued an additional toter and charged accordingly, large items not paid for will be tagged and if not paid or removed, the following week the items will be picked up and the designated fee will be added to the water bill, spring and fall clean up dates added, and free large item disposal at the Street Department in June and August.

Council tabled to consider limiting the number of private toters a resident may have for sanitation collection.

Council Comments

Ashley – Asked for an update on the former TJ Bicycle building. Lori noted the mayor has received two (2) quotes and they will be presented to the BOW on Thursday.

Dave –

1. Requested an update on the dispatch study. Chief Mock noted that he has given the 1st round of requested information back to Barry Ritter.
2. Encouraged all residents to go vote tomorrow.

Ron –

1. Questioned why the decals have been removed from the Chief and Assistant Chief's take home vehicle. Mock responded that this is an operational issued and anyone wanting to know the reason should come to his office to discuss it. Noted that a public meeting was not the appropriate forum to discuss operation issues.
2. Noted that the resident on Charles Street is still having issues being able to use shower, toilet or any drains when it rains. He continues to have toilet paper, etc. spill out of the manhole in his driveway. The council requested that the Wastewater Superintendent come to the next meeting to discuss a solution.

Kent – Encouraged everyone to vote tomorrow in the primary election.

Mayor's Report

Absent

Clerk Treasurer's Report

• Brooks Construction will start the milling on Wednesday or Thursday of this week. They will be completing the 2026 CCMG street paving list.

Adjournment Motion by May, seconded by Golden to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED:



Jeff Westlake, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer