

The City of Portland
City Council
June 15, 2026
5:30 PM

City Council was called to order by Mayor Jeff Westlake at 5:30 PM on Monday, June 15, 2026. Roll was called and present were members Mike Aker, Ashley Hilfiker, Dave Golden, Ron May and Michele Brewster. Also, present was Clerk-Treasurer, Lori Phillips.

Absent: Matt Goldsworthy

Kent McClung: via ZOOM – technical difficulties and unable to obtain a stable connection.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of City Council minutes from regular session and work session on June 1, 2026

Motion by May, seconded by Hilfiker to approve the City Council minutes from June 1, 2026 as presented. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Jenny Wagner – Street closure request on July 6th

The Jay County Library is hosting a “foam party” for area youth on July 6th. They have requested that Ship Street from High to Arch be closed from 8am to 1pm for the event. Motion by Hilfiker, seconded by May to approve the request. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2026-6; Petition to vacate the alley between 810 East Arch and 824 East Arch St.- 1st reading

Motion by May, seconded by Brewster to approve Ordinance 2026-6 on the 1st reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Edward Jones, Scott and Abigail Benter – Request for a city match for the 457 Plan

Motion by May, seconded by Golden to not provide a city match at this time. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Hilfiker noted that she would like to revisit a city match for the 2027 budget.

2027 Wayne Township Park Contract

Motion by May, seconded by Brewster to approve the annual contract in the amount of \$12,000. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Ordinance 2026-4 Amend Chapter 52 Code of Ordinances; Garbage Collection 1st reading

Motion by Hilfiker, seconded by May to approve Ordinance 2026-4 on the 1st reading. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Changes: \$10 / month city toters; \$5 / month privately owned toters; permit must be purchased for privately owned toters; toter lid must reasonably close.

Request to place a stop sign at Arch and Pleasant Street

Mayor Westlake, Chief Mock and Matt Shauver all looked at this location and agreed that this is a dangerous intersection. They discussed a setback for parking in this area versus adding a stop sign.

Hilfiker noted that the intersection at Ship and North also needs to be looked at for a setback on parking.

Motion by Hilfiker, seconded by May to add these two locations to the July 6th agenda to consider a setback in parking. Roll call vote. All present voted aye.

Discussion on overtime pay versus straight time pay

After a short discussion, council agreed to discuss this topic again with the 2027 budget.

Council Comments

Dave –

Requested an update on the demolition of the former TJ's Bike Shop. Mayor Westlake noted that a demo date has not yet been set. It was noted that the 2-story block portion of the building will not be taken down. He noted that others have suggested that it be used for storage or a k-9 training center.

Mike –

Evening Optimist Fishing Derby will be this Saturday, June 20th.

Ron –

Scratch 27 Restaurant at the Portland Country Club is now open. Reservations are not necessary, but appreciated for large groups. They serve pasta dishes, streaks and various other dishes.

Ashley –

1. Requested that the mayor communicate better to the council and community.
2. Asked if the mayor has a Facebook page for citizen complaints. The mayor responded that yes, there is a page for citizens to place a complaint with the city. He noted that he does not look at these complaints. He stated that he has his assistant review and handle these situations.
3. Requested that city council meet with the county council to discuss the MUST process.

Mayor's Report

- Asked downtown business owners to decorate their buildings for the July 4th holiday.

Clerk Treasurer's Report

- John Jay Center for Learning Center will be replacing windows beginning June 29th. Be aware that the alley between John Jay Center and the post office may be closed during the installation of new windows.

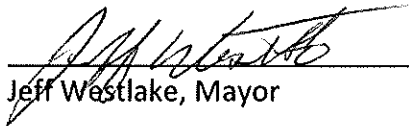
Adjournment Motion by May, seconded by Hilfiker to adjourn at 6:14 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Lori Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer


Jeff Westlake, Mayor