

**Official Proceedings  
Pontiac City Council  
210<sup>th</sup> Session of the Tenth Council**

**Call to order**

A Formal Meeting of the City Council of Pontiac, Michigan was called to order electronically, on Tuesday January 19, 2021 at 12:03 p.m. by Council President Kermit Williams.

**Invocation – Councilperson Dr. Doris Taylor-Burks**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Location</b>
Miller	Remotely	Pontiac, MI
Pietila	Remotely	Pontiac, Oakland County, MI
Shramski	Remotely	Pontiac, MI
Taylor-Burks	Remotely	Pontiac, MI
Williams	Remotely	Pontiac, MI

Members Absent: Carter and Waterman

Mayor Waterman was present.

Clerk announced a quorum.

**Excuse Councilmembers**

20-599        **Motion to excuse Councilmembers Randy Carter and Patrice Waterman for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Miller, Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks and Williams

No: None

**Motion Carried**

20-600        **Motion to move item 8 (The City Attorney requests a closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h), to discuss an attorney-client privileged memorandum regarding a letter received from the Counsel for Rubicon Capital, which is exempt from disclosure pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(g)) before item 6 (Status of Medical Marihuana applications review procedures; Attorney opinions regarding existing for Special Exemption Permit which renders unnecessary another ordinance amendment, status of Medical Marihuana line item expenditures) and item 7 (City Clerk’s Response to Letter from Rubicon Capital’s Attorney and the Continuation of Mayor Waterman, Attorney Chubb and Attorney Matt Gibb Conflicting Opinions and Distributing Inaccurate Information about the Medical Marihuana Review Process).** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Pietila, Shramski and Taylor-Burks

No: Williams and Miller

**Motion Failed**

**Council President Pro Tem Carter arrived at 12:13 p.m. He is attending the meeting remotely from Oakland County, MI.**

**Approval of the Agenda**

20-601 **Motion to approve the agenda.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Williams, Carter, Miller and Pietila

No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of the Minutes**

20-602 **Motion to approve the meeting minutes for November 21, 2020.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Shramski.

Ayes: Taylor-Burks, Williams, Carter, Miller, Pietila & Shramski

No: None

**Motion Carried**

20-603 **Motion to approve the meeting minutes for January 5, 2021.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Shramski.

Ayes: Williams, Carter, Miller, Pietila, Shramski and Taylor-Burks

No: None

**Motion Carried**

20-604 **Motion to approve the meeting minutes for January 12, 2021.** Moved by Councilperson Miller and second by Councilperson Carter.

Ayes: Carter, Miller, Pietila, Shramski and Taylor-Burks

No: None

Abstain: Williams

**Motion Carried**

**Subcommittee Report Received**

Public Safety – December 2020

**Special Presentations**

Mayor's Refusal to Authorize Finance to pay City Clerk, Elections and Medical Marihuana Invoices

Presentation Presenter: Garland Doyle, Interim City Clerk

Status of Medical Marihuana applications review procedures; Attorney opinions regarding existing for Special Exemption Permit which renders unnecessary another ordinance amendment, status of Medical Marihuana line item expenditures (**This is a continuation of the presentation from January 5, 2021.**)

Presentation Presenter: Matt Gibb, Esq, Special Counsel for Economic Development

20-605 **Resolution to go into Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h), to discuss an attorney-client privileged memorandum regarding a letter received from the Counsel for Rubicon Capital, which is exempt from disclosure pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(g). (MCL 15.267 Sec 7. requires a 2/3 roll call vote of members elected or appointed and serving is required to call a closed session, except for the closed sessions permitted under section 8(a), (b), (c), (g), (i), and (j).)** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

WHEREAS, Michigan Open Meetings Act Section B(h), MCL 15.268(h), allows a public body to go into closed session to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute; and WHEREAS, Michigan Freedom of information Act Section 13(g) exempts from disclosure records subject to the attorney-client privilege;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pontiac City Council that it recess into closed session to discuss an attorney-client privileged memorandum regarding a letter received from the Counsel for Rubicon Capital, which is exempt from disclosure pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(g).

Ayes: Pietila and Taylor-Burks

No: Carter, Miller, Shramski and Williams

**Resolution Failed**

**Council President Williams left the meeting. Council President Pro Tem Carter assumed the chair.**

**Recognition Elected Officials – None**

**Agenda Address - None**

**Resolutions**

**Building and Safety**

20-606 **Resolution to approve extension of CARES Act Landlord Reimbursement for Tenant Non-Payment or Stay of Eviction.** Moved by Councilperson Miller and second by Councilperson Shramski.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac in the midst of the Pandemic is offering relief for Qualifying Pontiac Landlords, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac would waive one time the rental inspection fee for Qualifying Landlords, and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor is proposing along with City Council to pass along this relief gesture to qualifying landlords until March 31, 2021,

NOW THEREFORE be resolved that the City Council in solidarity with the Mayor hereby authorizes the waiver of fees for qualifying landlords until March 31, 2001.

Ayes: Miller, Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks and Carter

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Department of Public Works (DPW)**

20-607 **Resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funding agreement for construction of the Orchard Lake Road Signal Modernization Project.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac has received the funding agreement from the Michigan Department of Transportation, and;

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works, Engineering Division has reviewed the subject agreement, and;

WHEREAS, The project is budgeted in the 2021/22 Major Street budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Pontiac City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the MDOT funding agreement for construction of the Orchard Lake Rd Signal Modernization CMAQ Project.

Ayes: Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Carter and Miller

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Finance/Treasury**

20-608      **Resolution to approve Mayor recommendation of a Waiver in accrual of penalties for unpaid Winter 2020 property taxes, to provide economic relief to the City of Pontiac residents.**

Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Shramski.

WHEREAS, In accordance with the City Charter and City Ordinance the Pontiac City Council shall determine the penalty to be levied on the unpaid winter tax balance as of February 14 and the Council determined a 3% late fee penalty to be levied on the delinquent winter tax balance; and

WHEREAS, Many residents of the City of Pontiac City are facing numerous economic challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, based on the Admiration's recommendation, the Pontiac City Council determines that the late fee penalty for unpaid winter property taxes should be suspended for the 2020 winter tax season thru March 1, 2021 to help provide some relief to the City's residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pontiac City Council hereby approves suspension of the penalty for unpaid property taxes for the 2020 winter tax season.

Ayes: Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Carter, Miller and Pietila

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Public Comment**

Four (4) individuals submitted a public comment read by the City Clerk

**Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments**

Mayor Waterman, Legislative Council Sharpe, Interim Clerk Doyle, Councilwoman Miller, Councilwoman Shramski, Councilwoman Pietila, Councilwoman Taylor-Burks and Council Pro Tem Carter made closing comments.

**Adjournment**

President Pro Tem Randy Carter adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

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GARLAND S DOYLE  
INTERIM CITY CLERK