

**Official Proceedings  
Pontiac City Council  
19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Eleventh Council**

**Call to order**

A Meeting of the City Council of Pontiac, Michigan was called to order at the City Hall Council Chambers, 47450 Woodward Ave Pontiac, MI 48342 on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

**Invocation – Rev. Jemer Pittman, Liberty Baptist Church Pontiac, Michigan**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States**

**Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Members Present** – William Carrington, Mikal Goodman, Kathalee James, Mike McGuinness, Brett Nicholson and William Parker Jr.

Mayor Greimel was present.  
A quorum was announced.

**Excuse Councilmembers**

**Motion to excuse Councilwoman Melanie Rutherford for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Parker.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker and Carrington  
No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda**

**Consent Agenda**

22-132 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for April 26, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for April 26, 2022.  
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for April 26, 2022 including the April 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes and April 14, 2022 Finance and Personnel Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Carrington and Goodman  
No: None

**Resolution Passed**

**Motion to approval the agenda.** Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Ayes: McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Carrington, Goodman and James  
No: None

**Motion Carried**

**Special Presentation**

Centralized Grant Management Strengthening City Capacity  
Presentation Presenters: Dr. Phillip Clay and Ghebre Mehreteab

**Recognition of Elected Officials – None**

**Agenda Address**

1. Quincy Stewart addressed item 2
2. Gloria Miller addressed item 1

**Discussion**

Successful Earth Day Cleanups Throughout City Last Week  
Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund Open to Pontiac Residents  
Oakland County Housing Trust Fund Establishment and Housing Security Initiatives

**Agenda Items**

**Resolutions**

City Council

22-133

**Resolution Proclaiming May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage**

**Month.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, the United States celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month during the month of May, with this month chosen in part because it commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, though Asians first migrated to what is now known as North America over 15,000 years ago; and

Whereas, there are 23 million people of Asian or Pacific Islander descent in the United States, a diverse and growing group that makes up about seven percent of the total United States population and is the fastest growing racial group in the nation; and

Whereas, the Asian American and Pacific Islander umbrella includes cultures from the entire Asian continent including East, Southeast, and South Asia, and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, spanning many countries of origin; and

Whereas, the City of Pontiac and State of Michigan has been positively shaped by past and present Asian American and Pacific Islander residents and business owners, and that our many Hmong neighbors are a beloved and cherished part of the fabric of our community; and

Whereas, many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have encountered xenophobia, racism, bias, and violence through the centuries, including as part of official federal governmental policies, and that tragically this targeted xenophobia, racism, bias, and violence continues to the present day; and

Whereas, as a haunting local reminder of that targeted violence, this year marks the fortieth anniversary of the brutal murder of Chinese American Vincent Chin in 1982, when two Caucasian men beat and killed him in Highland Park, Michigan because they believed Asians were taking auto industry jobs from Caucasians and, in a gross miscarriage of justice, neither of Mr. Chin’s murderers received jail time in their initial sentencing in the Wayne County, Michigan Circuit Court; and

Whereas, during an era of heightened racism, bigotry, and hate crimes, it is critically important to share accurate information, support diverse cultures, overcome stereotypes, and empower future generations; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby proclaims May 2022 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Pontiac, Michigan; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council pays tribute to the generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have enriched our history, and we celebrate their many noteworthy contributions to our community and to our country; and further

Resolved, the City Council reaffirms the integral nature of our Asian American and Pacific Islander neighbors as a beloved part of our community, with great respect and affection for our substantial Hmong population in Pontiac, and recognizes that they are instrumental in our future success; and further  
Resolved, we condemn the xenophobia, racism, bias, and violence targeted at our Asian American and Pacific Islander neighbors locally and in all parts of the nation; and further  
Resolved, we acknowledge the fortieth anniversary of the death of Vincent Chin, lift up his name in memory, mourn his death, and reflect upon how that tragedy was a catalyst for national awareness, organizing, action, and legal protections for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community; and further  
Resolved, the Pontiac City Council welcomes additional opportunities to commemorate and celebrate the people, places, events, traditions, and cultures that have contributed to making the Asian American and Pacific Islander community such an important part of Pontiac and of Michigan.

Ayes: Nicholson, Parker, Carrington, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-134      **Resolution Recognizing Professional Municipal Clerks Week.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government, exists throughout the world; and  
Whereas, the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk provides the important professional link between citizens, local governing bodies, and agencies of government at other levels; and  
Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all; and  
Whereas the Professional Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community; and  
Whereas Professional Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops, and the annual meetings of their state, regional, county, and international professional organizations; and  
Whereas Professional Municipal Clerks Week is broadly recognized this year to take place on May 1-7, 2022; now, therefore be it  
Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby proclaims May 1-7, 2022 as Professional Municipal Clerks Week in the City of Pontiac, Michigan; and further  
Resolved, the City Council extends our appreciation to our Professional Municipal Clerk, Garland Doyle, and to all Professional Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and the exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

Ayes: Parker, Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness and Nicholson

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-135      **Resolution Supporting Walk for Autism and Autism Awareness.** Moved by Councilperson Carrington and second by Councilperson Parker.

Whereas, a Walk for Autism is being held at Wisner Stadium in Pontiac, Michigan on Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and  
Whereas, Ms. Marsha Easley and her organization have held this walk in our community previously, and are now working to bring together people for the second Walk for Autism in our community; and

Whereas, autism spectrum disorders impact many people and their loved ones in the Pontiac community, and greater awareness is needed regarding autism spectrum disorders, what it means to be autistic, how to support autistic people, and the difficulties and discrimination autistic people face; now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby affirms our support of the Walk for Autism taking place at Wisner Stadium in Pontiac on May 14, 2022; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council encourages Pontiac residents to participate in the walk as their schedules allow, and further encourages residents to learn more about the impact of autism in our community; and further

Resolved, the Pontiac City Council acknowledges the activism of Ms. Marsha Easley and her organization in spearheading the Walk for Autism and for advocating for greater autism awareness.

Ayes: Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson and Parker

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-136        **Resolution Celebrating Centro Multicultural La Familia Anniversary.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, Centro Multicultural La Familia is an impactful and important nonprofit organization located in Pontiac, Michigan that provides culturally-competent support services to families in a holistic approach in order to improve their quality of life; and

Whereas, this year marks the thirtieth year since Centro Multicultural La Familia started as an outreach center inside Oakland County's community mental health services, and fifteen years since the agency became an independent nonprofit organization; and

Whereas, Centro offers culturally and linguistically competent services in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, victims of crime advocacy, parenting education, health education and promotions, wellness workshops, Exito Educativo, and support and interpretation for pregnant women at St. Joseph's Women Center; and

Whereas, their beautiful facilities in the historic Riker Building located in downtown Pontiac are an enduring gathering place for resources, community, and resilience, and they held a phenomenal Open House in celebration of their milestone anniversaries this month; now

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council hereby congratulates Centro Multicultural La Familia and the organization's dynamic leadership team on their milestone anniversaries and we celebrate their longstanding positive impact in the Pontiac community; and further

Resolved, the City Council commends Centro on their wide-ranging and vitally important services they provide to the Spanish-speaking community and to the entire community at large, which are incredible services and resources for Pontiac residents; and further

Resolved, we look forward to further partnering, supporting, and celebrating with Centro Multicultural La Familia as they approach many more milestones in the years to come.

Ayes: Carrington, Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson and Parker

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-137        **Resolution Welcoming the Oakland University Purchase of the Former Baker College Campus.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, Oakland University is an important institution of higher learning located in the former Pontiac Township, now known as the City of Auburn Hills, near the City of Pontiac, which has made various engagement efforts in our City through the years; and

Whereas, the Oakland University Board of Trustees voted on April 14, 2022 to purchase and renovate facilities on an 18-acre campus on University Drive that previously housed Baker College, and that property is located in the cities of Pontiac and Auburn Hills; and

Whereas, Oakland University leadership and Board of Trustees members directly addressed the important consideration of expanding their reach and impact toward Pontiac students and the City of Pontiac as a whole when making this decision; now

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel and on behalf of the people of Pontiac, Michigan, hereby welcomes the decision by the Oakland University Board of Trustees to acquire and renovate the former Baker College property that is partially located in the City of Pontiac; and further

Resolved, the City Council recognizes and reaffirms the substantial value and the promising opportunity of a more far-reaching partnership between Oakland University and the City of Pontiac, and we welcome further substantive dialogue; and further

Resolved, the City Council advocates for even greater collaboration, growth, and investment by Oakland University in the City of Pontiac at this newly-purchased site and at other future sites located in Pontiac; and further

Resolved, the City Council commends the University's Board and leadership team, including President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D., for this important step forward in the strengthening of our relationship between the City of Pontiac and Oakland University.

Ayes: Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, and Carrington

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

22-138      **Resolution Advocating for Oakland County-Wide Transit Funding, Services Approach.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Parker.

Whereas, SMART is Southeast Michigan's only regional public transportation provider, operating in Oakland, Macomb, and Wayne counties since 1967, and supported by federal and state funding, as well as bus fares and local contributions through a transit property tax millage from opt-in communities of which the City of Pontiac is one; and

Whereas, the recent decision by the City of Auburn Hills to pursue exiting the system, on top of the dozens of other Oakland County communities who opted out years ago, underscores the challenges to an effective and sustainable public transportation system for residents and commuters of Pontiac and of all Oakland County communities; and

Whereas, the partial patchwork of opt-in communities, the hamstrung resources, and the resulting limitations in transportation service and options are not adequately serving the many thousands of Pontiac residents who have limited access to other forms of transportation and greatly rely upon the SMART system to access essential services, to reach employment opportunities, to pursue education options, and to enhance their quality of life; and

Whereas, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and the Oakland County Public Transit Authority are actively deliberating whether and how to facilitate resolving the partial patchwork approach and afford Oakland County citizens the ability to determine if the entire county can opt-in to the SMART system, as other counties have done; now

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council hereby advocates for an Oakland County-wide public transit funding and service delivery approach that resolves the strained municipality-by-municipality opt-in or opt-out model; and further

Resolved, the City Council supports an effective, sustainable, and truly regional public transportation system to better serve Pontiac residents and visitors alike, and enhancing our City's positioning as a major public transportation hub for our region; and further

Resolved, the City Council encourages Oakland County David Coulter, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, and the Oakland County Public Transit Authority to pursue proactive efforts strengthening our county's public transit options.

Ayes: James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Carrington and Goodman

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

I.T.

22-139 **Resolution to approve the Purchase of WatchGuard Firewall Appliances and Software at the cost of \$50,086.20 from Insight Public Sector SLED and authorize the Mayor to enter into any agreements necessary to complete this transaction.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson James.

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac currently uses an older firewall that does not meet the State requirement for access to the 50th District Court network; and

WHEREAS, It has been determined that WatchGuard provides exceptional firewall protection and is compliant with federal standards for access to the 50th District Court; and

WHEREAS, WatchGuard also provides exceptional endpoint threat protection, detection and response; and

WHEREAS, \$69,100 has been budgeted for this project in the FY2021-2022 budget; and

WHEREAS, Insight Public Sector SLED has provided the lowest bid

NOW, THEREFORE, HEREBY BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council approves the purchase of the WatchGuard Firewall and Endpoint solution at the cost of \$50,086.20 from Insight Public Sector SLED and authorizes the Mayor to enter into any agreements necessary to complete this transaction.

Ayes: McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker, Carrington, Goodman and James

No: None

**Resolution Passed**

## **Communications**

### City Clerk

-Clerk's Office Extended Hours for Voting Saturday, April 30, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

-Next Municipal Election is Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

-Next Pontiac City Council Meeting is Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

### City Council

-Free Landfill Days for Pontiac Residents April 23, April 30 and May 7 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at 575 Collier Road, Pontiac MI 48340

-Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Free for Pontiac Residents, April 30 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at Oakland County Service Center Complex, 1200 N. Telegraph Road Pontiac, MI 48341

-Second Changes Expungement Fair for Oakland County Convictions, April 30 from 10:00am to 2:00 pm at UWM Sports Complex, 867 South Boulevard, Pontiac, MI 48341

## **Public Comment**

Ten (10) individuals address the body during public comment

1. Jalen Nealy Deboes
2. Quincy Stewart
3. Andrea Manns
4. Melissa Mousse Spearing
5. Gloria Miller
6. Darlene Clark

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7. Tameka Ramsey
8. Billie Swazer
9. H. Bill Maxey
10. James Sabich

**Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments**

Mayor Greimel, Clerk Doyle, Councilman Nicholson, Councilman Goodman, Councilwoman James, Councilman Parker, Pro Tem Carrington and Council President McGuinness made closing comments.

**Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Ayes: Nicholson, Parker, Carrington, Goodman, James and McGuinness

No: None

**Motion Carried**

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

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Garland S. Doyle  
Interim City Clerk