

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
32nd 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, June 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Mike McGuinness.

Invocation – Pastor Laura Kelsey, First Presbyterian Church in 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 Carrington.

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

Motion Carried

Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda

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

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

Motion Carried

Consent Agenda

22-171 **Resolution to approve the consent agenda for June 7, 2022.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, the City Council has reviewed the consent agenda for June 7, 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City Council approves the consent agenda for June 7, 2022 including the May 19, 2022 Special Meeting on the Budget Meeting Minutes, May 20, 2022 Special Meeting on the Budget Meeting Minutes, May 23, 2022 Special Meeting on the Budget Meeting Minutes, May 24, 2022 Special Meeting on the Budget Meeting Minutes, May 27, 2022 Communications, Engagement and Operations Subcommittee Meeting Minutes and May 31, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Special Presentation

Medical Marihuana Update

Presentation Presenters: Garland Doyle, City Clerk and Jonathan Starks, Regulatory Analyst

Discussion

City Retirees' Pensions Possible Permanent Increases and Asset Transfer Status Development

Recognition of Elected Officials – None

Agenda Address

1. Deborah Munson addressed item #2
2. Quincy Stewart addressed item #3
3. Gloria Miller addressed items 1 & 2

Agenda Items

Resolutions

City Council

22-172

Council Resolution Recognizing Juneteenth in Pontiac. Moved by Councilperson Parker and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, the inherently inhumane and immoral institution of slavery was legally practiced in the United States since before its inception in 1776 and was a significant driver of our nations' cultural and economic success; and

Whereas, President Abraham Lincoln first issued the Emancipation Proclamation effective January 1, 1863, freeing the slaves in the South, however, southern slave owners ignored that order; and

Whereas, the news that slavery had officially ended and that the slaves were free throughout the land now known as the United States was neither announced nor enforced in the western former Confederate states such as Mississippi, Louisiana, and in particular Texas until two and a half years after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation due to a low presence of the Union Army in those areas; and

Whereas, when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to establish the union Army's command over Texas and enforce the President's orders, he announced to the people of Texas on June 19, 1865, two and a half years after it was first decreed, the end of chattel slavery and the freedom of the slaves; and

Whereas, the formerly enslaved people in Texas celebrated their freedom on June 19, 1865, and such celebrations gradually evolved into the official commemorative holiday which has become known as "Juneteenth", which continues to be celebrated throughout the United States today through festivities, ceremonies, food, and other traditions; and

Whereas, through other systems of oppression, such as sharecropping, Jim Crow, redlining, and mass incarceration, the plunder of blacks bodies and black wealth continued past slavery and persists to this day, affecting the physical and mental health, safety, and education of African Americans; and

Whereas, liberation from these systems of oppression must include systemic, socioeconomic liberation; and

Whereas, Juneteenth serves as an extremely significant day of remembrance and acknowledgment of the history, freedom, culture, strength, pain, perseverance, and achievement of the past, present, and future generations of the Black and African American community; and

Whereas, Juneteenth holds an important place not only in African American history, but in United States history for all Americans to reflect on, learn about, and appreciate the struggles, triumphs, and continued growth of our nation as a whole; and

Whereas, local communities throughout the United States support the significance of Juneteenth and all that it symbolizes in the history, memory, and culture of African American people; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council, in partnership with Mayor Tim Greimel, hereby recognizes Juneteenth and declares Juneteenth a holiday in the city for celebration, recognition and reflection to honor the physical freedom of enslaved people in United States from chattel slavery and encourages residents to celebrate our nation's second Independence Day; and further

Resolved, the City Council welcomes the expanding number of local celebrations, ceremonies, and education efforts regarding Juneteenth in our community.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

22-173 **Council Resolution Inquiring about the Status of Oakland County Offices Moving to Downtown Pontiac.** Moved by Councilperson Nicholson and second by Councilperson Carrington.

Whereas, Pontiac has been the county seat of Oakland County in the State of Michigan since the county's establishment in 1820; and

Whereas, from 1820 through 1960s there were Oakland County governmental offices located in downtown Pontiac, which was a substantial contributing factor to the strong commercial success to the downtown Pontiac vicinity; and

Whereas, while the Oakland County Courthouse and many – though not all – county departmental offices have remained within the city limits of Pontiac, which remains the county seat, there have been little to no Oakland County offices and Oakland County employees housed within the downtown Pontiac vicinity; and

Whereas, and the departure from Oakland County operations from our downtown is a prominent factor in the decline in visitors and commercial activity during weekdays; and

Whereas, Oakland County Executive David Coulter has spoken publicly about his commitment to supporting the City of Pontiac and the growth of downtown Pontiac, specifically, and has proposed moving some Oakland County governmental operations and employees back to downtown Pontiac; and

Whereas, though there have been some limited discussions and some limited steps to return some of those county operations to downtown, it has yet to materialize or be announced in detail; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council formally requests an update from the Office of Oakland County Executive David Coulter on when, and to what degree, Pontiac residents can expect to see substantial Oakland County operations and county employees relocated to downtown Pontiac.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

22-174 **Council Resolution Welcoming United States Senator Gary Peters Opening Offices in Downtown Pontiac.** Moved by Councilperson Carrington and second by Councilperson Goodman.

Whereas, Pontiac has been the county seat of Oakland County in the State of Michigan since the county's establishment in 1820, Oakland County is the second most populous county in the State of Michigan, and downtown Pontiac has been an important cultural, commercial, transportation, and civic destination for centuries; and

Whereas, Pontiac and the State of Michigan are represented by two United States Senators, each of whom have federal offices located throughout the state, in addition to their offices at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, Pontiac has not been a location of any offices of either United States Senator in recent decades and, perhaps, even further back than recent decades; and

Whereas, at the swearing-in ceremony for incoming Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel and the new Pontiac City Councilmembers in January 2022, United State Senator Gary Peters delivered remarks to the audience and publicly announced that he will be moving one of his federal offices to downtown Pontiac; and

Whereas, it has been shared that Senator Peters and his staff are proceeding forward with fulfilling that commitment; now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Pontiac City Council formally acknowledges the excellent decision by United States Senator Gary Peters in relocating one of his federal offices to the City of Pontiac, expanding our citizens' access to his staff and their services; and further

Resolved, the City encourages Senator Peters and his staff to broadly communicate the new location and contact information for their forthcoming Pontiac offices, and identify opportunities for Pontiac residents to access the office and its services.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Mayor's Office

~~22-175~~ **Resolution to approve entering into a Municipal and Community Credit Contract for Fiscal Year 2023 between the City of Pontiac and SMART.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac is entitled to community and municipal credits through SMART and;

WHEREAS, the City has not actively directed use of those credits and;

WHEREAS, a contract between SMART and the CITY is required in order for the City to actively direct use of those credits and;

WHEREAS, the value of those credits is estimated to be \$57,665 in Municipal and \$112,251 in Community;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council approves the attached Municipal Credit and community Credit Contract for FY2023 between the City of Pontiac and SMART;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is approved to do all things necessary to enter into contracts with vendors to facilitate use of the credits.

Discussion on the motion.

Motion to amend and add language at the end of the resolution to approve entering into a Municipal and Community Credit Contract for Fiscal Year 2023 between the City of Pontiac and SMART. Moved by Councilperson McGuinness and second by Councilperson Goodman.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor's office shall present to the Council no later than September 30, 2022 to report on how the credit shall be utilized for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

Goodman, James, McGuinness, Nicholson, Parker and Carrington

No: None

Motion Carried

22-175 **Amended Resolution to approve entering into a Municipal and Community Credit Contract for Fiscal Year 2023 between the City of Pontiac and SMART.** Moved by Councilperson Goodman and second by Councilperson Nicholson.

WHEREAS, the City of Pontiac is entitled to community and municipal credits through SMART and;
WHEREAS, the City has not actively directed use of those credits and;
WHEREAS, a contract between SMART and the CITY is required in order for the City to actively direct use of those credits and;
WHEREAS, the value of those credits is estimated to be \$57,665 in Municipal and \$112,251 in Community;
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council approves the attached Municipal Credit and community Credit Contract for FY2023 between the City of Pontiac and SMART;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is approved to do all things necessary to enter into contracts with vendors to facilitate use of the credits.
FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor's office shall present to the Council no later than September 30, 2022 to report on how the credit shall be utilized for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed

Communications

City Council and Mayor's Office

Public Comment

1. Carol Wilkins
2. Carrie Miller
3. Claude Vinegar
4. Renee Beckley
5. Darlene Clark
6. Gloria Miller
7. Larry Jasper

Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments

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

Adjournment

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

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

No: None

Motion Carried

Council President Mike McGuinness adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Garland S. Doyle
City Clerk