

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
166th 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, June 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Kermit Williams.

Roll Call

Members Present: Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and Williams.

Members Absent: Carter and Miller.

Mayor Waterman was present.

Clerk announced a quorum.

Excuse Councilmembers

20-247 **Excuse Councilperson Randy Carter and Gloria Miller for personal reasons.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Pietila.

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

No: None

Motion Carried.

President Pro-Tem Randy Carter joined the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Amendments to the Agenda

20-248 **Motion to add resolution for City of Pontiac Racism is a Public Health Crisis to the agenda.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

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

No: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of the Agenda

20-249 **Approval of the agenda as amended.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Pietila.

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

No: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of the Minutes

20-250 **Approve special meeting minutes on the Budget for May 28, 2020.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Pietila.

June 9, 2020 Approved Minutes

Ayes: Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams, Carter, Pietila and Shramski
No: None
Motion Carried.

20-251 **Approve special meeting minutes for Closed Session on May 29, 2020.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Waterman.

Ayes: Waterman, Williams, Carter, Pietila, Shramski and Taylor-Burks
No: None
Motion Carried.

20-252 **Approve study session meeting minutes for June 2, 2020.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Shramski.

Ayes: Williams, Carter, Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks and Waterman
No: None
Motion Carried.

20-253 **Approve special meeting minutes on the Budget for June 3, 2020.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Carter, Pietila, Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Waterman and Williams
No: None
Motion Carried.

20-254 **Approve special meeting minutes on the Budget for June 4, 2020.** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Ayes: Pietila, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams and Carter
No: None
Abstain: Shramski
Motion Carried.

**Resolution
City Council**

20-255 **Resolution for the City of Pontiac Racism is a Public Health Crisis. (Agenda Add-on)** Moved by Councilperson Pietila and second by Councilperson Shramski.

WHEREAS, race is a social construct with no biological basis; and,
WHEREAS, racism is a social system with multiple dimensions: individual racism is internalized or interpersonal; and systemic racism is institutional or structural, and is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks, that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, unfairly advantages other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources; and,

WHEREAS, racism causes persistent racial discrimination in housing, education, employment and criminal justice; and emerging body of research demonstrates that racism is a social determinant of health; and,

WHEREAS, more than 100 research studies have linked racism to worse health outcomes; and, WHEREAS, the United Nations declared a decade (2015-2024) focused on the people of African descent for recognition, justice and development to ensure human rights and fight against structural racism; and, WHEREAS, the Michigan Health Equity Roadmap states that, “Racial and ethnic minority populations experience poorer health outcomes than the general population for almost every health and social condition;” and,

WHEREAS, in Michigan, the highest excess death rates exist for African Americans for infant mortality, maternal mortality, and pediatric asthma; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities formed by Executive Order No. 2020-55 to address the “disproportionately impacted communities of color” as African Americans represent 13.6% of Michigan’s population, but 40% of deaths from COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, public health’s responsibilities to address racism include reshaping our discourse and agenda so that we all actively engage in racial justice work; and,

WHEREAS, while there is no epidemiologic definition of “crisis,” the health impact of racism clearly rises to the definition proposed by Galea: “The problem must affect large numbers of people, it must threaten health over the long-term, and it must require the adoption of large-scale solutions;” and, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pontiac City Council and members of this great community hereby:

- Assert that racism is a public health crisis affecting our entire society; and,
- Conduct an assessment of internal policy and procedures to ensure racial equity is a core element of the organization, led by a Board in collaboration with other relevant parties, communicates results of assessment, and determines appropriate interval for reassessment, and,
 - Work to create an equity and justice oriented organization, with the Board and Committees identifying specific activities to increase diversity and to incorporate anti-racism principles across membership, leadership, staffing and contracting; and,
 - Incorporate into the organizational workplan educational efforts to address and dismantle racism, expand members’ understanding of racism, and how racism affects individual and population health and provide tools to assist members to engage actively and authentically with communities of color; and,
 - Advocate for relevant policies that improve health in communities of color, and supports local, state, and federal initiatives that advance social justice, while also encouraging individual member advocacy to dismantle systemic racism; and,
 - Work to build alliances and partnerships with other organizations that are confronting racism and encourages other local, state and national entities to recognize racism as a public health crisis.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed.

Discussion

Housing Commission Pilot and Title Transfer for Carriage Circle

Presenters: Ahmad Taylor, Executive Director, Pontiac Housings Commission and Oakland County Commissioner Emeritus Mattie Hatchett.

Special Presentations (Presentation are limited to 10 minutes.)

City Clerk Elections 2020 Advisory Committee

Presentation Presenter: Garland Doyle, Interim City Clerk

Black Lives Matter: Update on Review/Relations with Sheriff Department and the Justice Movement.

Presentation Presenter: Mayor Waterman

Partial Release of Work for Phoenix Center

Presentation Presenters: Matt Gibb, Economic Development and Vince DeLeonardis, CEO/President AUCH. Councilwoman Shramski requested a list of all repairs made to the Phoenix Center.

Recognition of Elected Officials – Mattie Hatchett, Pontiac Library Board

Resolutions Continued

City Clerk

20-256 **Resolution to approve title change for the position of Assistant City Clerk to Assistant City Clerk/Elections Administrator.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Whereas, the Home Rule Charter of the City of Pontiac Section 3.120 gives the City Council Control of the City Payroll.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the City Council for the City of Pontiac approves the title change for the position of Assistant City Clerk to Assistant City Clerk/Elections Administrator. The salary will remain up to \$65,000.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed.

Economic/Community Development

20-257 **Resolution proposed by the Administration for the City Council to pledge to citizens that they will decide on Funding Mechanism for the Phoenix Center Settlement Agreement that will not cause the City to default on this obligation.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

Whereas City Council signed the Settlement agreement for resolution of Phoenix Center Litigation

Whereas City Council understands its obligations to act financially prudently;

Whereas the city has suffered through a period of economic downtown resulting in 3 emergency managers and wants to protect its citizens from another such fiscal crisis;
Where the city lost valuable assets due to failure to act in a timely manner.
The loss of the Silverdome to a private owner is one such asset loss to the city

Where the City Council has obligations to the city to find a solution for their responsibility to fiscally enable the terms of Settlement agreement.

Now therefore, the Pontiac City Council Pledges to Citizens that they will decide on Funding Mechanism for the Phoenix Center Settlement Agreement that will not Cause the city to Default on this Obligation.

Ayes: Pietila

No: Shramski, Taylor-Burks, Waterman, Williams and Carter

Resolution Failed.

Mayor's Office

20-258 **Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the School District for 2020 Police School Liaison Program.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Pietila.

Whereas, the School District of the City of Pontiac desires to have an law enforcement presence within the District and as approved an agreement with the City of Pontiac; and

Whereas, the City of Pontiac sees a benefit in having an official law enforcement presence in the District; and

Whereas, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office finds the school liaison officer program as a benefits to all parties involved; and

Whereas, the City Attorney has reviewed and approved agreement as to form.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Pontiac City Council approves the Police School Liaison Officer Program Agreement between the Pontiac School District and the City of Pontiac and authorizes the Mayor to sign agreement as presented.

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

No: None

Resolution Passed.

Planning

20-259 **Resolution to approve the Redevelopment "Bistro" Liquor License, for Marimar, LLC 31 N. Saginaw doing business as the Alley Cat and recommend that the Michigan Liquor Control Commission grant a Class C license issued under MCL 436.1521a (1) (b) and outdoor service area on the city sidewalk. (The City Council approved a resolution for the Alley Cat on March 24, 2020 but another resolution needs to be approved with their correct legal name.)** Moved by Councilperson Waterman and second by Councilperson Taylor-Burks.

WHEREAS, Marimar, LLC, Parcel 64-14-29-433-015, 31 N. Saginaw St., has made petition for a Class C license issued under MCL 436.1521 a (1)(b) and outdoor service area on city sidewalk. The petitioner meets the eligibility requirements for licensure issuance under the MCL 436.1521a(1)(b), and;

WHEREAS, The City of Pontiac Planning Commission unanimously approved a Special Exception Permit at the March 4, 2020 meeting, that the Bistro Liquor License for The Alley Cat Cafe, at 31 N. Saginaw, be approved for license issuance, and;

WHEREAS, Marimar, LLC, 31 N Saginaw St, shall comply with the City of Pontiac Ordinance 2366 to Allow for Redevelopment Liquor Licenses and Conditions for Issuance and Operations of the petitioned Class C 'Bistro' License and Specially Designated Merchant (SDM) and the MCL 436.1521a (1) (b)and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Pontiac City Council approves the recommendation for Marimar, LLC request for a Class C license issued under MCL 436.1521 a (1)(b) and outdoor service area on city sidewalk and Specially Designated Merchant (SDM) 'Bistro' License for Parcel No. 64-14-29-433-015 and further recommends their application be considered for approval by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the petitioner, Marimar, LLC d/b/a The Alley Cat Café, located at 31 N Saginaw, Pontiac is located in the City of Pontiac Redevelopment District.

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

No: Carter

Resolution Passed.

Public Comment

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

Mayor, Clerk and Council Closing Comments

Mayor Waterman, Clerk Garland Doyle, Councilwoman Shramski, Councilwoman Taylor-Burks, Councilwoman Pietila, Councilwoman Waterman, Council President Pro-Tem Randy Carter and Council President Kermit Williams made closing comments.

Adjournment

Council President Kermit Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

GARLAND S DOYLE
INTERIM CITY CLERK