

City of Portage Common Council
Regular Meeting
REMOTE MEETING
January 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lynch at 6:30 PM.

Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Councilpersons Debbie Podgorski, Gina Giese-Hurst, Scott Williams, Brian Gulley, Councilperson Czilli, and Mayor Sue Lynch. Also present was Clerk-Treasurer Nina Rivas and Attorney Dan Whitten.

Minutes: Councilperson Podgorski made a motion to approve the November 2, 2021, minutes and included in her motion the approval of the memoranda of record; Councilperson Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch asked if there was any discussion. Councilperson Alvarez asked what he memoranda of minutes entailed. Attorney Whitten stated that the statue allows for either minutes or a memorandum of the meeting which includes who was in attendance, when it occurred, and what was discussed. He further stated, that since the 2022 budget session was complete, he thought it was important as a matter of transparency for the Council to approve a memorandum for each Budget Committee Meeting that was held so that the public knows there was a meeting and when they occurred. He stated there was a lot of time spent in the meetings and he felt it was appropriate to create a record of all the committee meetings that were held. Councilperson Alvarez asked what the policy would be moving forward, whether minutes or a memorandum of the meeting would be taken. Attorney Whitten stated that was up to the Committee Chair. Mayor Lynch asked if there was any further discussion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed.

4 yes – 0 nays

Communication, Correspondence and Announcements from the Mayor:

Mayor Lynch acknowledged and congratulated long time employees Doug Sweeny, Don Slawnikowski, and Lynn Reed on their upcoming retirement. There will be a retirement party Wednesday, January 5th from 11am-2pm at Sycamore Hall. Masks will be required.

Appointments

Councilperson Williams nominated Councilperson Czilli as President of the Council; Councilperson Podgorski seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed.

4 yes – 0 nays

Councilperson Czilli nominated Councilperson Williams as Vice-President of the Council; Councilperson Giese-Hurst seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed.

4 yes – 0 nays

Councilperson Czilli made a motion to approve the Council appointments; Councilperson Giese-Hurst seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed.

4 yes – 0 nays

(List of Appointments Attached)

Clerk-Treasurer's Report:

Reports from Standing Committees:

Councilperson Williams reported that the Ordinance Committee did not meet in January due to the remote Council meeting. The hope is that they will be able to meet again in February prior to the Council meeting at 5pm.

Councilperson Podgorski, Budget Chair, asked Clerk-Treasurer Rivas if the city had received anything back from the state (DLGF) yet about the budget. Clerk-Treasurer Rivas stated she had emailed that information out.

Councilperson Czilli asked Attorney Whitten to confirm if the Ordinance Committee meeting monthly, as stated in the meeting serves as Notice of Meeting. Attorney Whitten stated that was fine and to include that in the minutes.

Reports of City Officials:

Chief Wilkening and Chief Candiano reported on departmental activities.

Councilperson Alvarez commended the Police and Fire Department for their work, in all weather conditions.

Attorney Whitten stated he met with union representatives at the end of December regarding upcoming collective bargaining agreements. He said a multi-year contract will be negotiated. The first sit down "wish-list" meeting will be in January with hard bargaining beginning in February. He stated that he will request an executive session with the Council once a tentative contract is available.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

City of Portage Covid-19 Policy

Councilperson Williams made a motion to adopt the policy; Councilperson Podgorski seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch asked if there was any further discussion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed. 4-yes – 0-nays

2021 Encumbrances

Clerk-Treasurer Rivas stated there were two invoices to encumber for 2021 totaling \$65,954.98 that are to be paid for out of the ARP Fund. The Lexipol invoice totals \$47,879.65 and the Proven IT invoice totals \$18,075.33.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve the encumbrances; Councilperson Czilli seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch asked if there was any further discussion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed. 4-yes – 0-nays

Introduction of Ordinances:

Councilperson Williams read Ordinance #22-01, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 90, Article V of Municipal Code Entitled Zoning Map in its entirety.

Reception of Petitions, Remonstrances and Public Input:

Any Matters not Already Considered by the Council:

None.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lynch entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Czilli made a motion to adjourn; Councilperson Gulley seconded the motion. Mayor Lynch requested a roll call vote. Motion passed.

4-yes – 0-nays

Mayor Lynch adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

ATTEST:

Nina Rivas
Clerk-Treasurer

Sue Lynch
Mayor