

City of Portage Common Council
Regular Meeting
September 3, 2019

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

Councilperson Clem led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Councilpersons Elizabeth Modesto, Pat Clem, Scott Williams, William Fekete, Collin Czilli, Mark Oprisko and Sue Lynch, and Mayor John Cannon and Clerk-Treasurer Christopher Stidham.

Councilperson Lynch announced the veto of the weight restriction ordinance would be removed from the agenda.

Minutes: Councilperson Oprisko made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Councilperson Lynch seconded the motion. Mayor Cannon requested input from the Council. Mayor Cannon requested a roll call vote.
7 yes-0 nays.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Cannon announced the ribbon cutting for the Lakefront Pavilion on September 4 at 2PM.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report:

Clerk-Treasurer Stidham provided an update on the status of the city finances.

Correspondence & Reports: None.

Reception of Petitions & Memorials: None.

Reports of City Officials:

Street Department Superintendent Steve Nelson reported on department activities.

Fire Chief Tim Sosby reported on department activities.

Parks Superintendent Jenny Orsburn reported on department activities.

Harbormaster Barb Lusco reported on department activities.

Police Chief Troy Williams reported on department activities.

Redevelopment Director Colin Highlands reported on department activities.

Director of Planning and Economic Development John Harrison reported on department activities.

Plant Superintendent Don Slawnikowski provided an update on the ArcelorMittal spill into Burns Waterway.

Reports From Standing Committees:

Councilperson Williams gave a report on the Budget Committee's work.

New Business:

Introduction of Ordinances:

Vetoed Ordinances

Councilperson Lynch directed the weight restrictions ordinance (ORD 19-13) back to the Traffic Commission for review. The veto is sustained.

1st Reading

Councilperson Williams read an ordinance affixing the budget of the City of Portage for 2020. Mayor Cannon opened a public hearing. Mayor Cannon requested input from the audience. Resident Brian Gulley spoke. Mayor Cannon closed the public hearing.

Introduction of Resolutions: None.

Unfinished Business:

Councilperson Clem requested a streetlight at pole 333/347 and Councilperson Modesto requested a streetlight at 2400 Locust St. Councilperson Clem made a motion to approve the requests. Councilperson Modesto seconded the motion. Mayor Cannon requested input from the Council. Mayor Cannon requested a voice vote.
7 yes-0 nays.

Mayor Cannon presented the collective bargaining agreement with Firefighters Local 3151 for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022. Councilperson Modesto made a motion to approve

the contract. Councilperson Oprisko seconded the motion. Mayor Cannon requested input from the Council. Councilperson Lynch asked why the Mayor violated City ordinance by not having a Council member present at negotiating sessions. Mayor Cannon indicated time did not allow for it. Councilperson Czilli objected to the ordinance being violated and the Council being ignored. Councilperson Williams requested the Mayor engage in a cooperative effort in future negotiating sessions and abide by the ordinance. Mayor Cannon requested a roll call vote.
7 yes-0 nays.

Notice to Taxpayers:

Councilperson Modesto made a motion to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to advertise additional appropriation #3 and various transfers #4. Councilperson Czilli seconded the motion. Mayor Cannon requested input from the Council. Mayor Cannon requested a voice vote.
7 yes-0 nays.

Reception of Remonstrances or Any Other Business:

Tom Genovese, Marcus Lyons, Michael Cooper, Robert Hallmen, Susan Lain, Yolanda Sims and Patricia Bresheter addressed the Council.

Councilperson Lynch made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Czilli seconded the motion. Mayor Cannon requested input from the Council. Mayor Cannon requested a voice vote.
7 yes-0 nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

ATTEST:

Christopher D. Stidham
Clerk-Treasurer

John Cannon
Mayor