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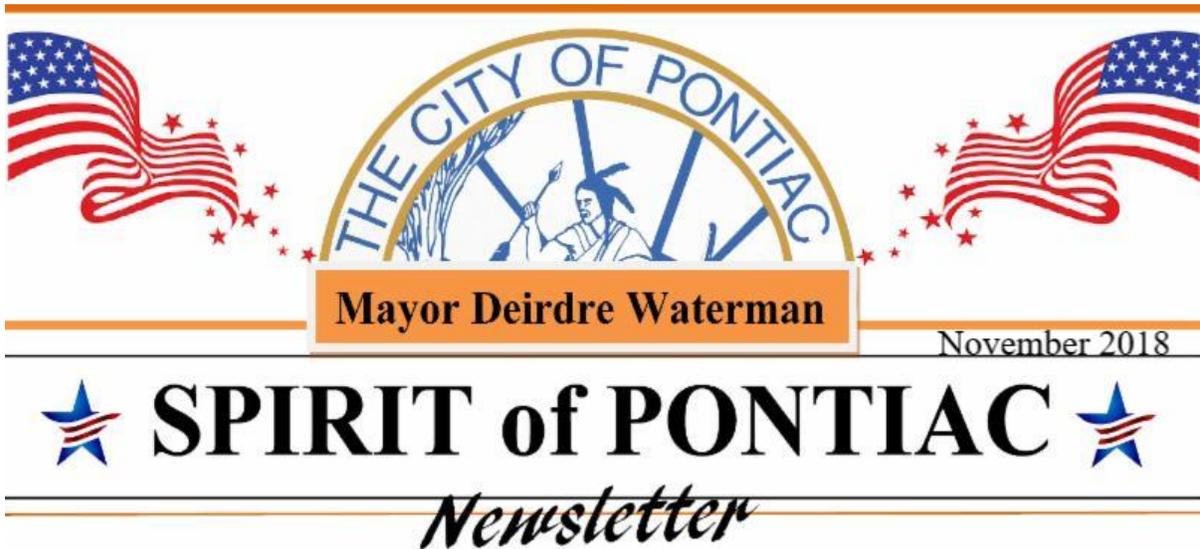
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Mayor Deirdre Waterman's Spirit of Pontiac Update!



Dr. Deirdre Waterman has been Mayor of Pontiac since 2014. She holds the distinction of being the city's first woman to serve as Mayor in a strong mayoral form of government city and to be elected to two consecutive terms.

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City of Pontiac, Ottawa Towers
Reach Settlement In Phoenix Center Lawsuit



After more than six years of contentious litigation that included four court-ordered facilitations, the Pontiac City Council approved a global settlement October. 30 with the owners of the Ottawa Towers on all outstanding issues and claims.

Under the settlement, the city retains ownership of the Phoenix Center and rooftop plaza and will make \$6 million in improvements to the facility over the next decade. The agreement requires the city to pay a \$4.2 million lump sum to Ottawa Towers once the settlement receives final court approval as well as \$2.8 million over the next four years.

Once the repairs and improvements are complete, Pontiac will have a state-of-the-art parking facility that will generate revenue and provide parking for the city's rejuvenated downtown.

Mayor Deirdre Waterman, who was instrumental in bringing this lengthy legal battle to a successful conclusion, said the settlement represents a positive outcome after years in court.

"While my administration was in no way involved with the initial decision to demolish the Phoenix Center which started the litigation, I am pleased I could contribute the necessary time and energy to bring a close to this final chapter of emergency manager control to the City of Pontiac. I am most pleased with the fact that the city will retain ownership of the Phoenix Center and in the coming months will oversee the necessary repairs and improvements that the city has neglected to perform for at least a decade."

City attorney John Clark, who served as lead counsel in the case, said the settlement is in Pontiac's best interest.

"The settlement is a win for the City of Pontiac, its residents and the business community. The city avoids further costly litigation, as well as a potential for a multi million-dollar judgment which could only be paid through the issuance of a judgment levy."

Pontiac Set To Wipe Out Dangerous Buildings List In 2019



Of the more than 900 blighted properties identified when Pontiac kicked off a public-private partnership to wipe out eyesore structures in 2014, only 99 will remain by the end of this year, Mayor Waterman, Blight Authority Founder Bill Pulte, Gov. Rick Snyder and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson announced Friday.

The demolitions have the effect of improving Pontiac's real estate values, making walks to school safer for children, reducing arson and crime and beautifying neighborhoods. The eyesore

structures cost approximately \$12,000 per home to tear down, paid for with federal and state funds. The remaining 99 structures are expected to be demolished by Dec. 2019.

"As a result of our private-public blight partnership, Pontiac is forever changed, and we are seeing more activity every day in Pontiac and increased safety of our neighborhoods," Mayor Waterman said in the announcement.

Pontiac's property parcels were documented and photographed using technology from Detroit-based Loveland Technologies when *the city kicked off the blight-fighting effort four years ago.*

"People around the country are aware of what has happened in Pontiac. It's become a model," Pulte said at Friday's press conference, *as reported by The Detroit News.*

Pontiac Holds Medical Marihuana Town Hall: 'We Want To Do It Right The First Time'



The City of Pontiac held a Town Hall with a standing room-only audience at the Bowens Center on the medical marihuana ballot proposal. The October 18 event was held to discuss Proposal 1 which was approved by voters in the August primary election. The town hall was sponsored by Mayor Deirdre Waterman and the Pontiac City Council who have been included in the marihuana ordinance process through district



and subcommittee meetings.. Council members in attendance included; Council President Kermit Williams, Patrice Waterman, Mary Pietila.

The town hall gave residents, business owners and visitors an opportunity to ask questions of city officials and attorneys and, most importantly, to provide feedback that is being used to shape the City's medical marihuana zoning ordinance and application process.

Mayor Waterman told the gathering that the process was being approached from a perspective of integrity, fairness

and attempting to retain some of the investments that are expected to be made in Pontiac for the community's benefit.

"We want to do it right the first time," the Mayor said.

The proposal directs the city to adopt an ordinance allowing up to 20 medical marihuana provisioning centers and an unlimited number of growers, processors, secured transporters and safety compliance facilities. The proposal was determined in a recount to have passed by one vote.

Work is underway on a regulatory framework for Proposal 1, including a Planning Commission approval process for medical marihuana facilities that must be in place 60 days from the date of the recount.

City Council President Kermit Williams abruptly ended an October 30 council meeting without taking a vote on the zoning ordinance amendment for the medical marihuana. The city faces a November 12 deadline to make applications available for medical marihuana businesses with options rapidly dwindling as the deadline looms.

The town hall meeting had seven breakout sessions, one for each Pontiac City Council district. so that each council person could address citizens from there specific districts. Only Council Woman Mary Pietila stayed to address the many concerns of her district residents.

Pontiac Donates Clean Drinking Water For Flint



In a trip inspired by a promise made to the late Aretha Franklin, Judge Greg Mathis took a caravan to Flint with bottled water donations for the city's residents — including a Nov. 1 Pontiac stop at UAW Local 653:

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