

January 31, 2013

**Official Proceedings
Pontiac City Council
190th Session of the Eighth Council**

A regular meeting of the City Council of Pontiac, Michigan was called to order in City Hall, Thursday, January 31, 2013 at 6:05 P.M. by Councilperson Lee Jones.

Invocation by Councilperson Kermit Williams

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Members Present: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, G. Williams and K. Williams

Also Present: Mayor Jukowski

Also Absent: Watkins

Clerk announced a quorum.

13-20 **Excuse Members.** Moved by Councilperson G. Williams, and supported by Councilperson Pietila to excuse Councilperson Watkins.

Ayes: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, G. Williams, and K. Williams.

No: None

Motion Carried

13-21 **Journal.** Moved by Councilperson G. Williams and supported by Councilperson Pietila to approve the Journal of January 24, 2013.

Ayes: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, G. Williams, and K. Williams.

No: None

Motion carried.

Councilperson Watkins arrived at 6:11 p.m.

There were 8 individuals who addressed the body during public comments.

13-22 **Suspend the Rules.** Moved by Councilperson G. Williams, and supported by Councilperson Pietila to suspend the rules to add two Resolutions to the Agenda.

January 31, 2013

Ayes: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, Watkins, G. Williams and K. Williams.
No: None
Motion carried.

13-23 **Resolution was received regarding February as Black History Month.** Moved by Councilperson Waterman, and supported by Councilperson Carter.

WHEREAS, the Pontiac City Council recognizing February 2013 as Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who worked in Kentucky coal mines as a child and was the son of former slaves, enrolled in high school at the age of 20 and went on to graduate from Berea College with bachelor's degree, received his master's degree from the University of Chicago, and earned a Ph.D. from Harvard University where he was one of the first scholars to study African-American history; and,

WHEREAS, in 1926, Dr. Woodson proposed and launched a week-long celebration of the individuals and occasions having a significant impact on African-American history in America, and has since been known as the "Father of Black History"; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson chose the month of February to conduct this commemoration because the birthdays of two men whose actions have significantly affected African-American in this country are in February, namely Frederick Douglas, the gifted orator, writer, and statesman who was a tireless advocate of the anti-slavery movement, and Abraham Lincoln, a native son of Kentucky who signed the Emancipation Proclamation and is considered to be one of America's greatest presidents; and,

WHEREAS, in 1976, the commemoration was extended from a week-long event to the entire month of February; and,

WHEREAS, during the month of February 2013, across the United States of America and this great Commonwealth, observances are held to increase public awareness of the importance of black history and the contributions that African-Americans have made toward their country; and,

WHEREAS, not only during the month of February 2013, but throughout the remainder of the year, it is important that we, as brethren, reach out to one another in seeking to understand our fellow man in a peaceful and loving way; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of the great Commonwealth should recommit themselves to an ideal America where equality and justice will always prevail, and to the principles of love, wisdom, and compassion toward one another the respect that fellow citizens have for one another determines the value of any country.

DATED: Thursday, January 31, 2013

Ayes: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, Watkins, G. Williams, and K. Williams.
No: None
Motion carried.

January 31, 2013

13-24 **Resolution was received regarding Rosa Parks.** Moved by Councilperson Carter, and supported by Councilperson Waterman.

WHEREAS, in recognition of this special event the member of the Pontiac City Council and Mayor Leon Jukowski will give honor to Civil Rights Activist Rosa Parks who would have been 100 years old on Monday, February 4th; and,

WHEREAS, Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama, the first child of James and Leona (Edwards) McCauley; and,

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man; and,

WHEREAS, the arrest of Rosa Parks resulted in African-American boycotting Montgomery buses for over one year until the bus segregation law was changed December 1956; and,

WHEREAS, Rosa is the first woman and only the second non-government official to be buried at the Capitol Rotunda; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks received many awards, including the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest civilian honor in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks and her husband Raymond Parks moved to Michigan in 1957, and remained in Michigan until the death of Rosa Parks on October 24, 2005; and,

WHEREAS, in 1987, Rosa Parks and her close associate Elaine Steele cofounded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service will issue the "Rosa Parks" stamp this very rare stamp will be post marked February 4, 2013 at 7:30 AM in the Detroit, Michigan at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and at 9:30 AM at Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn the stamp will be post marked in Dearborn, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the bus on which Rosa Parks started our civil right movement is on permanent display in the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks became the first African-American woman to have her own full sized statue in the Capitol's Statuary Hall, this was authorized by a special act of Congress it represents the first commission for a full size statue since 1870s.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Pontiac City Council and Mayor Leon Jukowski in Observance of Rosa Parks 100th birthday, the civil rights and the struggle as well as the commemorations of the United State Postal Services producing the Rosa Parks stamp will give honor on this day Thursday, January 31, 2013.

Ayes: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, Watkins, G. Williams, and K. Williams.

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor Jukowski, Acting City Clerk, Councilperson G. Williams, Councilperson R. Carter, Councilperson Pietila, Councilperson K. Williams, Councilperson D. Watkins,

January 31, 2013

Council President Pro-tem Waterman and Council President Jones made closing comments.

13-25 **Adjournment.** Moved by Councilperson G. Williams and supported by Councilperson Waterman.

Ayes: Carter, Jones, Pietila, Waterman, Watkins, G. Williams, and K. Williams.
No: None
Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

MYRA K. ALLEN
ACTING CITY CLERK