

ZOOM INFORMATION:

The City Council will conduct this meeting from Council Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall. Public comments may only be submitted in person or in writing.

To watch this meeting remotely, please visit <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/81504581945?pwd=OHNsQ2xVd2xFdkpaVjZtUkUvRmhKdz09..>

Remote participation is not available for this meeting, only viewing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Dion led all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Dion called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

City Councilors Present: Councilor Fournier, Councilor Rodriguez, Councilor Sykes, Councilor Ali, Councilor Bullett, Councilor Trevorrow, Councilor Pelletier, Councilor Phillips, Mayor Dion

*Councilor Trevorrow arrived at 5:04pm

5:00 P.M. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:

Steven Scharff (Brackett Street), Ed Suslovic (46 Kenwood Street), Nancy Walker (53 Sheridan Street), Kristen Koraras (44 Park Street), Steve French (44 Park Street), Keegan Duffie (West End)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Regarding the Barron Center's rating of "5 out of 5" and "High Performing" by the U.S. News & World Report's 2023-2024 "Best Nursing Homes Ratings" - Mark Dion, Mayor

Mayor Dion recognized the Barron Center's rating of "5 out of 5" and "High Performing" by the U.S. News & World Report's 2023-2024 "Best Nursing Homes Ratings"

RECOGNITIONS:

Recognizing Portland Police Officer David Shertz, Fire Lieutenant Michael Casey, firefighters Jacob Garrison, Ronald Giroux and Dan Verrill, fire boat members Lieutenant David Crowley and firefighters Torin Hultz and Patrick Hourihane, and civilian Manny Kourinos - Mark Dion, Mayor

*Item taken out of order. Read before Public Comment

Mayor Dion recognized Portland Police Officer David Shertz, Fire Lieutenant Michael Casey, Firefighters Jacob Garrion, Ronald Giroux and Dan Verrill, Fire Boat Members Lieutenant David Crowley and Firefighters Torin Hultz and Patrick Hourihane, and Civilian Manny Kourinos

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

City Council Meeting Minutes - December 18, 2023

Motion was made by Councilor Ali and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage.

Passage 9-0

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 14-23/24 Recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Mayor Dion read Proclamation 14-23/24 Recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day into the record

LICENSES:

Order 88-23/24 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of P and P Ramen LLC, dba Pai Men Miyake. Application for Class I FSE with Outdoor Dining on Public Property at 188 State Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Rodriguez and seconded by Councilor Ali for passage.

Passage 9-0

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

***Clerical Error, Item mis-numbered on Agenda. Should be Order 96-23/24**

Order 89-23/24 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of P and P Sushi LLC, dba Miyake. Application for Class I FSE at 468 Fore Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez for passage. Passage 9-0

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

***Clerical Error, Item mis-numbered on Agenda. Should be Order 97-23/24**

Order 90-23/24 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Thai Tree LLC, dba Thai Tree Restaurant. Application for Class I FSE at 571 Congress Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez for passage. Passage 9-0

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

Order 91-23/24 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Deering Memorial Post 6859 VFW INC, dba Deering Memorial Post 6859 VFW. Application for Class I FSE at 687 Forest Avenue - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Rodriguez and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage. Passage 9-0

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

Order 92-23/24 Waiving the Beano/Bingo Licence Fee for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6859 - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Fournier.

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:

Dave Aceto (District 2), Steven Scharff (Brackett Street), Councilor Fournier, Councilor

Rodriguez, Councilor Bullett, Danielle West (City Manager), Jessica Hanscome (Director of Permitting and Code), Councilor Ali

Motion to refer Order 92-23/24 to the Housing & Economic Development Committee moved by Councilor Sykes and Seconded by Councilor Ali. Passed 9-0

***Item referred to the Housing & Economic Development Committee**

Order 93-23/24 Waiving the Class III & IV with Indoor Entertainment Application Fees for the Maine Irish Heritage Center - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Motion was made by Councilor Ali and seconded by Mayor Dion.

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:

Jean Hanly (Maine Irish Heritage Center)

Motion to refer Order 93-23/24 to the Housing & Economic Development Committee moved by Councilor Sykes and Seconded by Councilor Rodriguez. Passed 9-0

***Item referred to the Housing & Economic Development Committee**

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communication 25-23/24 Regarding the State of Maine Legislative Process - Danielle P. West, City Manager

Danielle West (City Manager) gave a communication regarding the State of Maine Legislative Process

*As a communication this item requires no public comment or formal Council action

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 5-23/24 Calling for an Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza and Israel - Sponsored by Pious Ali, Councilor

Motion was made by Councilor Ali and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez for passage as amended. Passage 9-0

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:

No name given (Palestine Rights Advocate), Tyler Redsky (Restorative Justice Coordinator in Portland), Anthony Abdala (Casco Street), Cora Couture (Vesper Street), Leo Hilton (Salem Street),

Lisa Siciliano (Portland House of Prayer Pastor), Elizabeth Akerson (Portland Resident), Dave Aceto (District 2), Anna (Portland Resident), Ethan Schechter (43 Hanson Road), Noreen (316 Congress Street), Jade (District 2), Maple Resa (24 Hanover Street), Mahal Alrez-Bauchum (Medical Student in Portland), Bobby Cope (Portland Resident), Elaine Krasnic Kahar (Cape Elizabeth Resident), Madeline Prior (108 Upper A Street), Dara (Hansen Street), Jeffrey Hodegkis (Woodford Street), Henry (Portland Resident), Buddy Moore (Boise Street), Sara Regero (District 2), Sampson (Eastern Promenade), Al Cleveland (Bailey Ave), John Westcoff (Morning Street), Olivia Pettington (District 5), Alan Lewis (Portland Resident), Kat Duval (Portland Resident), Paul Corara (Madison Street), Zoey Gradski (District 1),

No name given (District 2 Resident), Leo (Portland Teacher), Ashley Schumalker (Freeport Resident/Healthcare Workers for Palestine), Grace Stine (District 1), Jensen Cooke (Portland Resident), Adaline (Sheridan Street), Jessie Dawn (Caregiver in Portland), Sam Zigger (Prospect Street), Janet Drew (York County Resident), Jessica Saunders (Portland Resident), Max (105 Rowe Ave)

Motion to amend as it is presented in the backup material moved by Councilor Ali and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez. Passed 9-0.

Mayor Dion opened it up for Council Discussion. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Fournier, Councilor Rodriguez, Councilor Pelletier, Councilor Trevorow, Councilor Ali, Mayor Dion * Amendment Passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 87-23/24 Amendment to Zoning Map Re: R-5 Residential for 921 Ocean Avenue, 410, 422 & 426 Presumpscot Street - Sponsored by the Planning Board, Brandon Mazer, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Ali and seconded by Councilor Phillips for passage. Passage 9-0

Brandon Mazer (Planning Board Chair) gave an overview of the item.

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Bullett

Order 45-23/24 Amendment to the Portland City Code Chapter 2 Re: Qualification for Land Bank Commission Members - Sponsored by Ashley Rand, City Clerk

Motion was made by Councilor Trevorow and seconded by Councilor Ali for passage. Passage 9-0

Ashley Rand (City Clerk) gave an overview of the item.

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

ORDERS:

Order 94-23/24 Accepting and Appropriating a \$3,533.70 Grant from the Maine Bureau of Public Safety for Drug Recognition Expert Training - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This is first reading.

Order 95-23/24 Approving the One-Year Extension of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Portland Police Benevolent Association – Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This is first reading.

AMENDMENTS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Councilor Ali and seconded by Councilor Bullett to adjourn. Passage 9-0 at 8:07pm.

A TRUE RECORD

Ashley Rand, City Clerk