

RESOLUTION No. 37248

Recognize City emergency responders for heroic efforts in responding to significant rain October 13-15, 2016 and an explosion in NW Portland on October 19, 2016 (Resolution)

WHEREAS, City employees exemplified extraordinary effort during extensive rains and flooding between Oct. 13-15th and during a major explosion in NW Portland; and

WHEREAS, City employees worked long hours and under arduous conditions to keep the residents of Portland safe, moving, and informed; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Emergency Communications responsibly handled significantly more calls than usual; and

WHEREAS, 120 Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) volunteers deployed during high wind and heavy rain events from October 13 to October 15. Volunteers cleared storm drains and helped Portland Fire & Rescue maintain a perimeter around downed power lines so that nearby residents would not be harmed. Many volunteers worked into the night, some not returning home until 2:00 am; and

WHEREAS, Portland Fire & Rescue's highly trained, highly skilled, and highly competent firefighters serve over 600,000 residents and protect over 150 square miles with both emergency response, community education and life-saving prevention; and

WHEREAS, Portland Fire & Rescue has 30 stations situated strategically throughout Portland to respond quickly to all types of rescue calls including (but not limited to) medical, natural gas leaks, hazardous materials incidents, motor vehicle accidents, and is the lead responder to any natural or human-caused disaster, including earthquake, extreme weather, and terrorism; and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, October 19th, Portland Fire & Rescue responded to a reported gas leak in NW Portland that quickly escalated into an explosion resulting in a 4 alarm fire, our firefighters evacuated the surrounding buildings before the explosion and took brave and courageous steps that saved lives; and

WHEREAS, officers from the Portland Police Bureau, who routinely run toward danger rather than away, worked to close streets and secure the surrounding area, ensuring the safety of Portland's citizens who were nearest to the explosion; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Emergency Management worked quickly to deploy NET to areas in need; and

WHEREAS, 40 NET volunteers responded to the gas explosion in NW Portland. Volunteers helped police officers and firefighters maintain a perimeter around the incident from 2:00 pm until 10:00 pm; and

WHEREAS, in both incidents, PBEM had an overwhelming response from volunteers, with many hundreds canceling plans and remaining on standby to help out as needed, with 326 NET volunteers on October 15, and 197 NETs on October 19;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council declares City of Portland employees to be the best city employees in the world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council, on behalf of the residents of Portland, shares its gratitude and appreciation to all employees and volunteers who assisted in responding to both the storm efforts and the explosion.

Adopted by the Council: NOV 03 2016

Mayor Hales

Prepared by: Rachael Wiggins

Date Prepared: 10/25/2016

Mary Hull Caballero

Auditor of the City of Portland

By

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan Parsons", is written over the printed name "Susan Parsons".

Deputy

1225

Agenda No.
RESOLUTION NO. 37248

Title

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<p style="text-align: center;">INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Portland City Council</p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>OCT 25 2016</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</p> <p>Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Novick <i>[Signature]</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Deputy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BUREAU APPROVAL</p> <p>Bureau: Mayor's Office</p>	<p>ACTION TAKEN:</p>
<p>Prepared by: Rachael Wiggins Date Prepared: 10/25/2016</p>	
<p>Financial Impact Statement & Public Involvement Statement</p> <p>Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan</p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date Nov 3, 2016</p>	

AGENDA
<p>TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start time: <u>2:30 pm</u></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: 30 min (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>
<p>CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Novick	4. Novick	✓	
Hales	Hales	✓	