

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

April 14, 2015

PROCLAMATIONS

- ◆ Mayor Strazdas issued a Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation, a National Arbor Day Proclamation and a Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month Proclamation.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Accounts Payable Register of April 14, 2015, as presented.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Gary Wagner and Mary Torres, 5936 Concord Street, expressed a concern for pedestrians owing to semi-trucks and through traffic traversing Concord Street in violation of posted signs, "No Thru Traffic" and "No Trucks" and a lack of enforcement of the speeding on Milham Avenue; plus, they requested a "right-in and right-out" for Concord Street on to Milham Avenue.
- ◆ Jim Lutton, 2295 Woddy Noll Drive, indicated that in late February, he found a blue slip on his door that read he had excessive water use owing to water running through the water softener where he had used 122,000 gallons of water. He suggested a grievance procedure, and explained that there are situations where mitigation may be in order. Mr. Shaffer offered to draft a grievance procedure.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Received the Presentation of Proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget.
- ◆ Adopted the Resolution Authorizing Refunding of the City of Portage Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2008 and Series 2008B and the Resolution Approving the Undertaking to Provide Continuing Disclosure by the City of Portage for the Capital Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2015A.
- ◆ Authorized the city acquisition of 203 East Centre Avenue and 208 Brown Avenue, owned by Marian Meyer et al., for the amount of \$180,000.
- ◆ Confirmed the appointment of Kendall Klingelsmith as the Director of Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizen Services, effective April 15, 2015.
- ◆ Adopted a resolution accepting all new streets constructed within residential plats approved by City Council during calendar years 2008, 2013 and 2014 as public streets.
- ◆ Set a Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting for Tuesday, April 28, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room No. 1 to discuss the topic of audit and enhance aging infrastructure.
- ◆ Set a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, beginning at 5:15 p.m., to interview Board and Commission applicants.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ Received the Annual update of the Human Services Board Chairperson Sandra Sheppard.
- ◆ Received the Annual update of the Park Board Chairperson Kathleen Hoyle.
- ◆ Received the communication from Tim Rogowski, 8083 Glenwynd Drive, Kalamazoo, regarding the rough condition of the private road known as Martin Luther King Drive, and received the communication from the City Manager in response.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ Approved the revisions to the Brownfield Redevelopment Incentive Policy.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ Council received the report on the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Advisory Board Report from Councilmember Ford.
- ◆ Council received the report on the Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority Report from Councilmember Reid.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmember Ford expressed his enthusiasm to be able to discuss Social media at the next Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid announced the Inclusion Conference 2015, Transitioning & Inclusive Employment Options, at the Fetzer Center, WMU, April 20, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. where Lt. Governor Brian Calley will be the keynote speaker. She also mentioned the Hidden Talent Tour led by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and Justice Richard Bernstein with Southwest Michigan First providing assistance locally. This tour will highlight untapped skills, local hiring resources and will highlight the opportunities for hiring Michiganders with disabilities across the state. The Hidden Talent tour aims to showcase the skills of Michiganders with disabilities that are often overlooked. The effort will encourage businesses to develop disability hiring policies while connecting businesses with resources to fulfill workforce needs. She indicated that a meeting will take place at 9:30 a.m. at the KVCC Groves Campus. She stated that April is National Occupational Month and, as an occupational Therapist, she let everyone know she is looking forward to attending her national conference in Nashville, Tennessee, this week. Discussion followed.
- ◆ Councilmember Ford announced the Youth Advisory Committee Greenathon on Saturday, April 25, 2015, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Celery Flats.
- ◆ Councilmember Randall welcomed Kendall Klingelsmith as the Director of Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizen Services, and expressed her appreciation to Mr. Shaffer for his selection saying he is doing a fine job of hiring.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Pearson said, "Spring is here" and asked everyone to enjoy the lakes and the sun, but to also remember to wear sun screen.

COMPLETE MINUTES OF EACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT PORTAGEM.I.GOV, IN CITY HALL AND IN THE DISTRICT LIBRARY. MINUTES OF CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.