

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

April 28, 2015

## PROCLAMATIONS

- ◆ Mayor Strazdas issued a National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Proclamation and a Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month Proclamation.

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of April 28, 2015, as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

- ◆ Adopted the 2015 sewer and water rate resolutions establishing sewer and water utility rates, sewer and water franchise area fees, service fees and charges outlined in the 2015 Utility Rate Financial Study as recommended by the City Administration and the City Council Water and Sewer Rate Study Committee, with rates to be effective October 1, 2015.
- ◆ Approved Ordinance Amendment #14/15-A, Auto Repair and Vehicle Fueling Station Regulations with the deletion of Sec. 42-262 (C)(4)(b) general business district and any reference to Sec. 42-262 (C)(4)(b) in Sec. 42-262 (C)(4)(d) and the deletion of the words, "used tires" in Sec. 42-262 (B)(4)(c) and replace them with "excluding used tires."
- ◆ Deeded the easement rights located in Lexington Green, Lexington Green No.1 and Lexington Green No. 3 plats, to the Lexington Green Drain #319 Drainage District; granted an easement to the Lexington Green Drain #319 Drainage District on city-owned property for the construction, operation and maintenance of storm drainage facilities located at 6775 Quality Way, 6401 Corporate Avenue and 4550 Quality Court; approved a license agreement to perform drainage work in Lexington Green Park; transferred jurisdiction and ongoing maintenance of the storm drainage systems in Commercial Avenue, Environmental Drive, Quality Way, Quality Court as well as drain crossings at Meredith Street and Bishop Avenue to the Kalamazoo County Drain Commission; and authorized the Mayor to execute all documents related to the above action on behalf of the city.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Received the proposed amendment to Section 38-35 of Chapter 38, Historical Preservation, of the City of Portage Code of Ordinances with final action to approve the amendment to take place on May 26, 2015.
- ◆ Approved the contract with Kalamazoo County for household hazardous waste collection for the period of January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015, in the amount not to exceed \$26,000 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.
- ◆ City Council decided to forego setting a Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2015.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the March 2015 Summary Environmental Activity Report as information only.
- ◆ Received the Department Monthly Reports.
- ◆ Adopted a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign all documents with the Michigan Department of Transportation related to Contract No. 2014-0194 on behalf of the City.
- ◆ Adopted the Resolution setting a public hearing on May 12, 2015 for the fiscal year 2015-2016 proposed city budget and proposed 2015 tax levy.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

- ◆ Received the report from Councilmember Reid regarding the Public Media Network.

## STATEMENTS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

- ◆ Councilmember Ford said he received an invitation to the Governor's Office to attend Urban and Metro Initiatives, a research presentation on Kalamazoo "walk-up" that compares the walkability of cities as it relates to higher real estate values and higher GDP of these walkable areas and expressed his appreciation for the interest in growing the walkable area in Kalamazoo. On April 17<sup>th</sup> he said he volunteered to work on the Pretty Lake Farm as a part of the Spartans.WILL Day of Service. He said he attended the Senior Center Volunteer Breakfast with Councilmember Ansari, Councilmember Randall, City Manager Larry Shaffer and Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Services Director Kendall Klingelsmith to honor the volunteers and he expressed his appreciation that the Treasury Office is accepting credit cards.
- ◆ Councilmember Randall expressed her appreciation for the fantastic food provided by Michelle's Restaurant to thank over one hundred volunteers. She said that Bike Week is May 9 – May 16, the local website is [kalamazoobikeweek.com](http://kalamazoobikeweek.com) for information regarding Bike Week events.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid said she attended the Greenathon where she received a lot of great information from a lot of good-spirited individuals, despite the weather, including the Council Youth Advisory Committee Members.

- ◆ City Manager Shaffer indicated that he attended the Portage District Library Board Meeting last evening where he offered collaboration on a host of issues. He said he also learned of the penetration of electronic books and extolled the e-services provided by the Library. He said they also discussed the implication that the Portage 2025 Study and the City Center Concept might have with the Library in terms of how the Library would contribute to and support that vision.
- ◆ Urban apologized for not being able to make it to the earlier meeting with the students and expressed his appreciation for the students, their efforts and the importance of public service.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas reiterated the opportunity to get out and bike as mentioned by Councilmember Randall, that he was honored to be a judge for the 2015 Kalamazoo Starr Awards and humbled by the amount of time a number of volunteers and their extraordinary contributions each year to the community. He said he had just returned from San Antonio, Texas, and spoke favorably about the present condition of Portage Roads and optimistically about the future of Portage Roads when compared to other cities. He mentioned that next week he would be in Baltimore, Maryland, and expressed his appreciation for one of the best Public Safety Offices in the State of Michigan, which received CALEA reaccreditation, and for the level of civility in Portage.

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