

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

May 12, 2015

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Accounts Payable Register of May 12, 2015, as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARING

- ◆ Held a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 proposed Budget and the tax rate of 10.9256 mills required to support the proposed budget and set May 26, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to make the final decision on the adoption of the Budget and the tax rate of 10.9256 mills required to support the proposed budget.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Approved a professional services contract with All City Management Services, Inc., for school crossing guards for a two-year period in the amount of \$56,084.40 annually and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract.
- ◆ Approved the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for services to outfit three Chevrolet Caprice vehicles as police patrol vehicles by Emergency Vehicle Products, a sole source vendor.
- ◆ Renewed a contract to lease space on radio towers from State Systems Radio, Inc., for a period of five years with a monthly lease payment of \$1,420 for the first year and a three percent annual increase thereafter, and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract.
- ◆ Approved the three-year pricing agreement with ADP, Incorporated, for electronic time and attendance software and hosting on behalf of the City of Portage at a cost of \$54,772 for the first year, \$34,095 for the second year and \$34,776 for the third year and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Approved the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program FY 2015-16 Annual Action Plan element of the Consolidated Plan and authorized the City Manager to submit the application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- ◆ Set a Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room No. 1 to discuss aging infrastructure and long term financial stability.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ City Council received a Central County Transportation Authority (CCTA) report from Councilmember Urban.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Appointed Sami Ahmad, Jawad Aqeel, Aiyla Arif, Ali Arif, Ben Behrens, Grace Beverage, Amanda Boelman, Eli Cartier, Cortney Chow, Joseph Flanagan, Anna Heystek, Tanvi Khurmi, Sameen Khurshid, Lily Kitagawa, Blue Koffron, Anjana Krishnan, Ashwin Kumar, Sachin Kumar, Mary Kuras, Benjamin Miller, Sophie Morin, Lindy Nebiolo, Molly Ryan, Daniel Saba, Nicholas Schumacher, Arya Shembekar, Tanvi Shembekar, Simran Singh, Omar Thaj, and Ali Thomas, Jr. to the Youth Advisory Committee, Daniel Saba as Youth Participant to the Environmental Board, Sameen Khurshid as Youth Participant to the Human Services Board, Molly Ryan as Youth Participant to the Park Board and Ali Arif as Youth Participant and Blue Koffron as Alternate Participant to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board with terms ending June 30, 2016; reappointed Betty Lee Ongley with term ending October 1, 2021, James Graham with term ending October 1, 2020, Mike Stoddard with term ending October 1, 2018, Norm Terry with term ending October 1, 2017, and Joshua Hill with term ending October 1, 2016, and appointed Larry DeShazor with term ending October 1, 2019, and Paul Summers with term ending October 1, 2015, to the Local Officers Compensation Commission; reappointed Ed Sackley with term ending May 31, 2018, to the Public Media Network Board; reappointed Richard Bosch, David Felicijan and Wayne Stoffer with terms ending May 31, 2018, to the Planning Commission; reappointed Peter Carlson and Gary Gilchrist with terms ending June 1, 2018, to the Construction Board of Appeals; appointed Chadwick Learned with unfulfilled term ending February 28, 2017, and John Byrnes with unfulfilled Alternate term ending February 28, 2017, to the Zoning Board of Appeals; appointed Jessie Duniphin with unfulfilled term ending December 31, 2017, to the Historic District Commission.

## STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL

- ◆ Councilmember Ansari said he attended the Senior Expo in Mattawan and a Heritage Month Recognition in Lansing, and indicated State Senator Margaret O'Brien was at both gatherings.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid indicated that the Council of Governments (COG) Meeting is at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, 2015, at the Kalamazoo Road Commission, and David Artley will do a presentation on State and Federal Grants and how to get them; and the Chamber of Commerce and COG are sponsoring a Listening Post from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m., Friday, May 15, 2015, at the Hampton Inn to discuss the topics of interest, especially, "State Roads, What do we do now?"
- ◆ Councilmember Ford shared his experience with his Bike Week activities, including a ride with the Mayors and a flat tire.

- ◆ Councilmember Randall reminded everyone that Kalamazoo Bike Week is still ongoing with a bike planning session and how to build the biking infrastructure, bike friendly laws, etc. at the KRESA main office on Milham Avenue on Saturday, May 16, 2015, and the Ride of Silence at 6 p.m., tomorrow, as a tribute to honor cyclists who have been injured or killed while cycling which begins at Millennium Park.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Pearson highlighted the Special Meeting held earlier to interview applicants for the Youth Advisory Committee and Youth representation on the City Council Boards and Commissions. He mentioned that Portage is very fortunate to have youth and adults who volunteer their time, talent and energies in service to the City through participation on Boards and Commissions.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas concurred with Mayor Pro Tem Pearson and indicated that Portage actually has an increase in interest from citizens to provide input and serve unlike some cities in Michigan. He referred to the Mayor's Bike Ride as being fun despite the weather. He also thanked Councilmember Ford for attending the Southwest Michigan caucus where representatives from multiple counties had community dialogue regarding future policies and future things that can be done with the community. He credited Southwest Michigan First for their efforts and said he is looking forward to a product coming out of that discussion as a broader community. He recalled the feedback he has gotten from citizens regarding Portage roads and the "tone zone" and noted that he can tell there is progress with or without the passage of the Proposition 1 question that was on the May 5, 2015 Election ballot. He mentioned some of the challenges with the road reconstruction in Portage and the renewed focus on neighborhood streets. He expressed kudos to City Council and the Administration for their response to what is being talked about around town because citizens are saying they want better roads.

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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.**