

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

October 6, 2015

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Accounts Payable Register of October 6, 2015, as presented.

## PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Carol Voss, 1104 Rainbow Court, expressed frustration with a parking situation that has been ongoing for several months. She shared that she has been in contact with multiple city officials on several occasions but the situation persists. Ms. Voss expressed concern that officials in one department were providing information which ran counter to what she was hearing from other city staff.
- ◆ Mr. Tim Earl, 6862 Shallowford Way, expressed concern with a statement made by a Councilmember at the last meeting about a possible shuttle between Portage and airports in Detroit and Grand Rapids. He stated that such a shuttle could be detrimental to the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport and shared the many benefits of using this airport.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Approved Change Order No. 1 to the West Osterhout Reconstruction Project to include the Portage Road Sidewalk Addition with Michigan Paving & Materials, Incorporated, in the amount not to exceed \$44,390 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Accepted Rezoning Application #15/16-1 for first reading and set a public hearing for November 3, 2015; and subsequent to the public hearing, approved Rezoning Application #15/16-1 and rezone 710 and 732 East Centre Avenue from B-1, local business, to OS-1, office service, with the exception of the west five feet of 710 East Centre Avenue, which is to remain zoned R-1A, one family residential.
- ◆ Accepted the FY 2014-2015 Analysis of Zoning Consistency Update.

## COMMUNICATION

- ◆ Set a Committee of the Whole meeting on October 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room #1 to discuss appropriation of excess funds in the General Fund.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ Received an update from the Mayor on the City Manager Salary/Evaluation Committee.
- ◆ Received an update from the Mayor Pro Tem on the Central County Transit Authority.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Reappointed William Beck and Martha Dahlinger and appointed Jerry Kroehn with terms ending October 1, 2018, and appointed Mike Sergeant with term ending October 1, 2017 to the Environmental Board; reappointed Suzanne Nemeth and Katie vanLonkhuizen and appointed Collin Forrest with terms ending December 31, 2018, and appointed Martha Deming Maynier with term ending December 31, 2017, to the Historic District Commission; reappointed Diane Durian, Raymond LaPoint and Sandra Sheppard with terms ending October 1, 2018, and appointed Fiorella Spalvieri with term ending October 1, 2016, to the Human Services Board; reappointed Tim Earl and Charles Thomas and appointed Marshall Cammack with terms ending October 1, 2018, to the Park Board; reappointed Ann Perkins and Trudy Riker and appointed William Wierenga with terms ending October 1, 2018, appointed Arthur Roberts with term ending October 1, 2017, appointed Jean Wenz with term ending October 1, 2016, and appointed Kathleen Mishler and Sharon White as Alternate Members with terms ending October 1, 2016, to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board; and reappointed Keith Lewandowski with term ending December 31, 2021, to the Economic Development Corporation/Tax Increment Finance Authority/Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

## BID TABULATIONS

- ◆ Approved the purchase of a 2016 Ford F-550 crew cab chassis with a KSS Ford stylized service body from Don Seelye Ford, Inc. of Kalamazoo, Michigan in the amount of \$57,375 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this matter on behalf of the city.

## STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmember Ansari congratulated the International Baccalaureate (IB) students and shared that his son was among the first group of IB students.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid thanked all of the residents who had applied and interviewed for a spot on one of the Boards and Commissions. She continued and stated that City Council was faced with the wonderful dilemma of having more volunteers than vacancies on the boards and commissions.
- ◆ Councilmember Ford shared that he was pleased with the recent Capital Improvement Program. He then reviewed the Portage 2025 Visioning exercise and shared some of the thoughts from the "Neighborhoods" group. Mr. Ford shared that he went to the new Portage Farmer's Market and that he is the new president of the Kzoo Spartans.
- ◆ Councilmember Randall shared that she found the Portage 2025 Visioning event to be extremely worthwhile and that it will help provide direction for the City and staff in the years to come. She expressed her support for the Farmer's Market and shared that the annual Portage Cross Country Invitational is this coming weekend and continued by stating that this is a tremendous event for the community.
- ◆ City Manager Shaffer acknowledged staff for their work on Portage 2025 and congratulated all the citizens who participated in the event. Mr. Shaffer then discussed the CIP Open House, expressed his support for involving the public in determining the course of the city and the value of asking citizens for their input. Mr. Shaffer continued by stating his support for the Farmer's Market and implored the public to come out and support it. Finally, Mr. Shaffer shared that the City had recently refinanced some bonds and that the action will save the City \$1.6 million over the course of ten years.

- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Pearson offered his support of the Farmer's Market and was also complimentary of the Portage 2025 Visioning event. He continued by sharing that one participant brought his son to the event and shared that this individual had also participated in the annual Mayor and City Council for the Day program. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson expressed optimism that our schools are providing leaders of the future.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas shared that, with Portage 2025, the City of Portage recognizes that the community must continue to look ahead and plan for the future. Mayor Strazdas asked the community to hold City Council and City Administration accountable for the direction that is set and in how we get there. Mayor Strazdas reminded residents that snow will be falling soon and to please recognize the importance of following winter parking regulations.

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**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.**