

City Council Meeting Summary

November 20, 2012

CHECK REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of November 20, 2012, as presented.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Jan Sackley, 10314 Archwood Drive, indicated as a courtesy and respect for City Council's time, that she would be making comment on Item H.1, 10323 Archwood Drive.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 1-12 setting a public hearing on the expansion of Industrial Development District No. 53 for December 4, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard; and adopted Resolution No. 3-12 setting a public hearing on the issuance of the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Bowers Manufacturing Company for real and personal property in the estimated amount of \$2.81 million for December 4, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard.
- ◆ Granted an extension to November 1, 2014, for the completion of sidewalk and street tree installation, subject to submittal of a revised irrevocable bank letter of credit or other surety acceptable to the City Attorney, for the following residential plats: Avalon Forest/Avalon Woods No. 1 and 2 (T.A. Scott Construction); Austin Shores Condominium Subdivision (BEX Farms, Inc.); Holiday Village East No. 3 and South No. 3 (WTM, Incorporated); and Stateland Park Subdivision (Granite Development Properties).
- ◆ Authorized the purchase and installation of City of Portage flags along South Westnedge Avenue for the duration of the 2013 calendar year; and referred the pursuit of the production of a City of Portage historical documentary to the Portage members of the Public Media Network Board to identify volunteers who could follow through on such a production.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the 2012 Tax Rate Survey as information only.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the Holiday Tree Lighting/Traditional Holiday Celebration as information only.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the October 2012 Summary Environmental Activity Report as information only.
- ◆ Received the Department Monthly Reports.
- ◆ Receive the Board of Canvassers Report with the results of the November 6, 2012 General Presidential Election.

COMMUNICATION

- ◆ Approved the 2013 calendar year appointments to City Council Committees with the one change of replacing Councilmember Campbell with Mayor Strazdas.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ Received the presentation/recommendation from the City Council Ad Hoc Property Committee regarding the property at 10323 Archwood Drive, accepted the tax reverted property addressed as 10323 Archwood Drive, authorized the City Manager to advise the Kalamazoo County Treasurer of this action by November 30, 2012, and directed the Administration to provide an appraisal of the property, present it to the City Council Property Committee to determine the next step for the marketing of the parcel and the price of the parcel itself.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

- ◆ Received the presentation by Councilmember Ed Sackley regarding an update on the recent activity of the Sign Committee and adopted the three action items contained in the Committee report.

BID TABULATIONS

- ◆ Approved Contract 12-5505 between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the City of Portage concerning funding for street improvements on Romence Road East, from Portage Road to Sprinkle Road; approved an engineering services contract with Wightman & Associates, Incorporated, for construction inspection and administration for street improvements on Romence Road East, Portage Road to Sprinkle Road, in the not to exceed amount of \$46,800; adopted a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign Contract 12-5505; and authorized the City Manager to sign all other documents related to the Michigan Department of Transportation and consultant contracts for this project on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Reaffirmed the emergency action taken by the City Administration in accepting the quotation by Peters Construction Company in the not to exceed amount of \$39,381.68 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this matter on behalf of the city.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Adopted the global Council goals as discussed at the November 16, 2012 City Council Retreat, adopted the specific topics agreed upon at the Retreat various Topic Committees and adopted the respective task assignments agreed upon at the Retreat.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Mayor and Council wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.
- ◆ Councilmember Randall reminded everyone of the 2012 Kalamazoo Area Runners Turkey Trot 5K Time Prediction Run that will be held on the cross country course at Portage West Middle School, 7145 Moorsbridge Road, Portage, at 9:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22, 2012. She indicated that participants are asked to consider bringing socks (men's, women's and children's sizes) for the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission and a toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner or a small toy for a child for the Portage Community Center. She also reminded everyone of the annual Tree Lighting and Traditional Holiday Celebration that begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, December 1, 2012.
- ◆ Councilmember Sackley highlighted the task of the Lake Center Business District Committee to investigate the applicability of the Michigan Urban Core Initiative to the Lake Center Business District corridor.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Reid indicated that she and Councilmembers Sackley and Urban would be enjoying the special task of reading the "I Love Portage" contest essays from local students.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas indicated that he will be in Washington, D.C., during the annual Tree Lighting and Traditional Holiday Celebration, but would very much prefer to be in Portage. He cautioned everyone to lock up their homes when they leave town. He also praised City Council for their hard work at the Annual Retreat as it was the healthiest retreat in years citing that City Council focused on growth in our community and "rallied around it."

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.