

City Council Meeting Summary

January 22, 2013

PROCLAMATION

- ◆ City Council issued a Resolution honoring Christine Berro, Director of the Portage District Library.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of January 22, 2013, as presented.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ State Representative Margaret O'Brien provided a review of the State of the State Address given by Governor Snyder and indicated that she was working on streamlining the property assessment process in Michigan. She also answered questions about the Rainy Day Fund, Legacy Costs and Personal Property Tax Guidelines.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 3-13 setting a public hearing on the issuance of the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the Stryker Corporation for real and personal property in the estimated amount of \$5.64 million at 4100 East Milham Avenue, Industrial District No. 63, for February 12, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard.
- ◆ Resolved to adopt the 2013 Recreation and Open Space Plan Update and authorized the City Manager to submit the approved plan to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to comply with applicable grant requirement guidelines.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the December 2012 Summary Environmental Activity Report as information only.
- ◆ Moved to hold a closed session immediately following the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting of January 22, 2013, to discuss a City Attorney communication.
- ◆ Received the Department Monthly Reports.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ Received the Annual presentation by the Portage Youth Advisory Committee.
- ◆ Received the communication from the Environmental Board regarding the 2012 Purple Loosestrife program and the annual presentation from Environmental Board Member Martin Sapanik.
- ◆ Appointed Pat Maye as the City of Portage Human Services Board representative to the Kalamazoo Transit Authority Local Advisory Committee.

BID TABULATIONS

- ◆ Approved a three-year contract with the low bidders: Irish Ayres Enterprises, LLC, in the annual amount of \$116,026 for mowing, trimming and landscape maintenance of city roadsides/boulevards, City Centre and outlots; and J&J Lawn Service, Incorporated, in the annual amount of \$12,445 for mowing, trimming and landscape maintenance of Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) properties within the city, both with an option for three, one-year renewals, and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Approved the low bid for a three-year contract with Stap Brothers in the yearly amount of \$32,054 for landscape bed maintenance, with an option for three annual contract extensions and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ In light of public discussion of the Portage Public School proposal to partner with private business to erect and lease electronic billboards on school properties, Mayor Strazdas asked for a consensus of City Council to have the Administration and the City Attorney present information regarding this matter and encouraged each Councilmember to provide any questions that might need to be answered to the City Manager. Mayor Pro Tem Reid concurred and encouraged the Administration to reach out to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to discuss the MDOT approval process.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas reflected upon his recent experience in Washington, D.C., with the inauguration and expressed his appreciation for the smooth transition of power in the United States after a Presidential Election.

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.