

LOCAL OFFICERS COMPENSATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 3, 2013

The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Brown at 5:34 p.m.

Chairperson Gary Brown called the roll with the following members present: Frances Denny, Joshua Hill, Secretary Betty Ongley and Gary Brown. Mike Stoddard, James Graham and Norm Terry were unable to attend. Also in attendance was Deputy City Clerk Adam Herringa.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the June 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes: Motion by Ongley, seconded by Denny, to approve the June 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes as presented. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4 to 0.

STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

There were no statements offered by citizens.

NEW BUSINESS – REVIEW OF CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR SALARIES

Chairperson Brown inquired if there were any thoughts and comments related to the 2011 Report of the Local Officers Compensation Commission (LOCC). There being none, Mr. Brown then moved the discussion on to whether members believed, in light of recent budget cuts to a variety of programs, salaries for City Council should increase, decrease or stay the same. He offered his opinion that the most prudent decision would be to keep salaries at their current levels. He then shared that, given the time he spent on city business when he was Mayor, he recognizes that City Council more than earn their salaries.

Ms. Ongley shared that, in reviewing the salaries of city councils of similar cities, Portage is “on the low end” and emphasized her belief that the Portage City Council is not overpaid. Mr. Brown asked others for their thoughts and Deputy City Clerk Herringa shared a communication he received from former Mayor and current LOCC member, James Graham. Mr. Graham expressed regret that he could not attend the meeting, but that he was in favor of leaving compensation at current levels.

Ms. Denny disclosed that she is Executive Director for Catholic Charities and that Councilmember Randall is on the Board of Directors for that organization. She then indicated that she does not feel as though there is a conflict, but wanted to make sure that she disclosed the information.

Mr. Hill expressed his support, given the most recent budget passed by City Council, for maintaining current salary levels.

Motion by Denny, seconded by Hill, that there be no change to the salaries of members of the City Council and Mayor. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4 to 0.

Ms. Ongley expressed her opinion that the next time the LOCC meets, in 2015, strong consideration be given to increasing the salary levels for City Council and the Mayor.

The LOCC members then finalized a report to City Council. Motion by Hill, seconded by Ongley, to approve the LOCC report and submit it to City Council for review. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4 to 0.

Chairperson Brown excused himself to attend a commitment at 5:45 p.m.

ADJOURMENT: There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned by Secretary Ongley at 5:46 p.m.

Adam Herringa, Deputy City Clerk