

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

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March 10, 2009

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Accepted Ordinance Amendment #08-B, Land Development Regulations, for first reading and set a public hearing on April 14, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard.
- ◆ Approved a one-year agreement for comprehensive liability, property and auto fleet insurance through the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority at a total not-to-exceed cost of \$547,063 for the period of March 1, 2009, to February 28, 2010, and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the action on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Appointed Councilmembers Campbell and O'Brien, Mayor Pro Tem Sackley, Mr. Richard Anderson and Mr. Jeff Breneman to the 2009 Utility Rate Committee and reactivated the Utility Rate Committee.
- ◆ Accepted the draft Sustainability Covenant for review and comment.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the Amberly Elementary School neighborhood as information only.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ Referred the communication from James Chamness of Terry's Road Service dated March 3, 2009, to the City Administration for review and report.
- ◆ Referred the second communication from James Chamness of Terry's Road Service dated March 3, 2009, to the City Administration for review and report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ Amended the Code of Ordinances of the City of Portage by amending Section 1-7 of Chapter 1, General Provisions, Section 2-111, Article 4 of Chapter 2, Administration, Articles 3, 4 and 6 of Chapter 34, Fire Prevention and Protection, to reflect the changes in the 2006 edition of the International Fire Code and to address the regulation of outdoor solid fuel-fired furnaces.

BID TABULATION

- ◆ Awarded a contract for the Vanderbilt Avenue Culvert Replacement to Robert Bailey Contractors, Incorporated, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$90,013 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmembers O'Brien and Campbell and Mayor Pro Tem Sackley shared some of their recent Junior Achievement experiences. Councilmember Campbell stressed the importance of being open-minded with regards to the McDonald's Towing Contract audit.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid thanked those citizens who participated in the 2009 Walk for Warmth and indicated that over \$5,000 was donated. She also pointed out that three of the five Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Plans discussed at their recent meeting were for Portage: Kilgore Road, Centre Avenue and the I-94/South Westnedge Avenue interchange; and, that the I-94/South Westnedge Avenue interchange was chosen by the State of Michigan to be submitted to the Whitehouse from Michigan, and Michigan was one of five states in all of the United States chosen to have its project submitted to the Whitehouse.
- ◆ Councilmember Urban and Mayor Pro Tem Sackley asked that the streetlighting portion of the Amberly Elementary School Neighborhood Report be reviewed with consideration given to other similar areas around the city and be submitted by the Administration for action.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Sackley announced that former Mayor Betty Ongley is to receive the Athena Award, 6 p.m., at the Kalamazoo Art Institute on Wednesday.
- ◆ City Manager Maurice Evans indicated that the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) was distributed to City Council and reminded City Council that staff is addressing the Amberly sidewalk effort through the SR2S Program. Mr. Evans commended Transportation & Utilities Director Dallas Williams and City Engineer Chris Barnes for their work with the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Program to help with good working relations to provide the valuable assistance necessary to have transportation projects go forward.

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.

