

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

May 12, 2009

## PROCLAMATION

- ◆ Mayor Strazdas issued a Saint Monica School Day Proclamation.

## PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Linda Teeter, 902 Whites Road, Kalamazoo, accompanied by Charlotte Sumney, 4200 West U Avenue, Schoolcraft, representing the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority, thanked City Council (especially Councilmember Reid) for their support for the Transportation Millage ballot issue on the Consolidated School Election, May 5, 2009, and announced that the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority adopted a resolution to place 0.4 mills on the July 1, 2009 tax bill.

## PUBLIC HEARING

- ◆ Adopted the Resolution to establish a millage rate equal to the base tax rate as defined by the State of Michigan Public Act 5 of 1982, and incorporated Scenario B in the City of Portage Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10 as outlined in the communication received from the City Manager regarding Human / Public Service Funding: Additional Scenarios as information only.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Received a Presentation by the Kalamazoo County Substance Abuse Task Force.
- ◆ Accepted for first reading the proposed amendment to the City of Portage Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14, Businesses, Section 14-72, and will consider final adoption on May 26, 2009.
- ◆ Approved the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program FY 2009-10 Annual Action Plan element of the Consolidated Plan and authorized the Administration to submit the application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- ◆ Accepted the offer from Mr. Scott Carter, owner of Cross Creek Self Storage, to purchase a 6,750 square foot area of the Newport/Gladys Street right-of-way for \$6,750; and placed the purchase offer on file for 28 days and plan to take final action on June 9, 2009.
- ◆ Approved the purchase of the SunGard H.T.E. NaviLine software application at a cost of \$43,419.50 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ Approved the Southwest Michigan Regional Sustainability Covenant.
- ◆ Referred the request from Lynn Elliott, 9724 East Shore Drive, that City Council establish a standard operating procedure for determining which Austin Lake improvement requests should be directed to the Statutory Governmental Austin Lake Board to the Administration and City Attorney for review and report.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Appointed Diane Durian with the unfulfilled term ending October 1, 2009, to the Human Services Board; waived the term limitation and reappointed Bill Miller and reappointed Thomas Wilkinson with terms ending June 1, 2010, to the Construction Board of Appeals; reappointed James Pearson and appointed Wayne Stoffer and Rick Bosch with terms ending May 31, 2012, and appointed Bill Patterson with unfulfilled term ending May 31, 2011, to the Planning Commission; appointed Marianna Singer to the unfulfilled term ending February 28, 2011, appointed Tim Bunch as alternate with the unfulfilled term ending February 28, 2011, and appointed Don Mordas as alternate with the unfulfilled term ending February 28, 2012, to the Zoning Board of Appeals; appointed Ruth Michelhaugh as alternate with the unfulfilled term ending October 1, 2010, to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board; and appointed Josh Hill with the unfulfilled term ending October 1, 2014, to the Local Officers Compensation Commission.

## STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ David Artley, 4471 Hemingway Drive, Kalamazoo, thanked City Council and staff for their assistance and for the City of Portage contribution to the Local Housing Assistance Fund.

## STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmember O'Brien reminded citizens of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure (of Breast Cancer) that takes place Saturday morning, May 16, 2009, at the Arcadia Creek Festival Place in downtown Kalamazoo.
- ◆ Councilmember Vliek expressed his appreciation to City Manager Evans, the City Administration and his fellow Councilmembers for their work on the budget.
- ◆ City Manager Evans indicated that the Administration has worked very diligently on the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget, that no cuts were needed, but if cuts become necessary, that the city is ready to make the hard decisions and make those cuts.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Sackley conveyed that the "Spray Park" concept had been revitalized owing to the efforts of Scott Grinder, a new Portage resident only two years ago, with construction planned for the Spring of 2010; he also thanked the Kalamazoo County Drug Task Force saying we should all have a "Smart Summer." Mayor Strazdas concurred.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas cited Kentwood, the State of Michigan and Muskegon Heights as having budget issues that are nonexistent in Portage because Portage listens to its citizens by conducting a survey of Portage citizens through the Kercher Center, plus an analysis and discussion of that survey every year.

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**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.**