

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

January 26, 2010

## CHECK REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of January 26, 2010, as presented.

## PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Received the letter in opposition from Craig L. Butler, 2012 Eckener Drive, to the Resolution of Intent for the City of Portage to join the Public Media Network for the provision of Cable Access Public, Education and Government programming services within the community adopted by City Council on December 15, 2009.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Referred the Resolution Permitting Protest of Assessed Valuation to the Board of Review by Letter to the City Council Assessing Issues Task Force Committee.
- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 2 for the West Lake Management Program Special Assessment District No. 011-Q, setting a public hearing of necessity on February 9, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard.
- ◆ Adopted the Resolution for Charitable Gaming License recognizing Cole Community Solutions, Inc., as a nonprofit organization in the City of Portage.
- ◆ Approved a budget amendment authorizing the City Manager to transfer \$17,000 from Fund 226 Fund Balance to Fund 226 Leaf Pickup Overtime.
- ◆ Postponed any action on the recommendation from the City Manager to direct the City Administration and the City Attorney to develop an ordinance that would ban the use of hand-held devices while driving and that would make any violation a primary offense until such time as the Michigan Legislature has fully considered and passed or rejected legislation on that topic.
- ◆ Approved a policy that burial plots may be reserved for six (6) months following a written request submitted to the Office of the City Clerk, with the reservation to be released at the expiration of the reservation period if payment is not made in full within six (6) months of receipt of reservation request.
- ◆ Accepted the order of the Construction Board of Appeals to demolish the house located at 4130 Branch Avenue; and authorized the City Administration to take the necessary action to demolish the house at 4130 Branch Avenue, place a lien and assess the property to recover the costs associated with demolition consistent with the ordinance.
- ◆ Set a meeting to consider the disposition of legal matters on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, City Hall Conference Room #1, beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the Kalamazoo County Local Housing Assistance Fund as information only and a presentation of statistical data from David Artley of the Kalamazoo County Public Housing Commission.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the December 2009 Summary Environmental Activity Report as information only.
- ◆ Received the Department Monthly Reports from the various city departments.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ Received the communication from Portage Park Board Chairperson Mark Anthony Martin regarding the Spraypark initiative.
- ◆ Received the letter of support from Environmental Board Chairperson William Schwartz for the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds to serve as the host location for the 2010 Michigan Energy Fair.

## AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

- ◆ Affirmed that the City Council Assessing Issues Task Force continue to address issues one through four (whether the Board of Review dates were appropriate; whether to increase the membership on the Board of Review or not; whether an Alternate Term Member is feasible; and to determine the best method for providing education to Board of Review Members) as presented in the City Council Assessing Issues Task Force Report dated January 26, 2010, address the Resolution Permitting Protest of Assessed Valuation to the Board of Review by Letter and assign the Board of Review topic to the City Council Advisory Board Review Committee.

## BID TABULATION

- ◆ Awarded a construction contract for the Ohio Avenue Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Renovations to Balkema Excavating, Incorporated, at a total bid price of \$209,088.75 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.

## STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL

- ◆ Councilmember Reid provided local contact information for the Census Bureau: Miguel Rodriguez, Community Action Agency Census Committee, 269/532-7210, and announced that those wishing to work for the Census Bureau should bring two (2) pieces of identification and attend an informational meeting at Cooper Township Hall, at 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. on the Wednesdays in February for an interview and testing.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas concurred with Mayor Pro Tem Sackley on the importance of an accurate census in the County of Kalamazoo, indicated that he would not be at the February 9, 2010 City Council Meeting and announced that Mayor and City Council for the Day would take place on February 23, 2010.

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**COMPLETE MINUTES OF EACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND ALL CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS  
ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT PORTAGEM.I.GOV, IN CITY HALL AND IN THE DISTRICT  
LIBRARY.**