

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF JANUARY 6, 2015 - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPLICANTS**

Mayor Peter Strazdas called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present at this meeting: Councilmembers Richard Ford, Patricia M. Randall, Claudette Reid and Terry Urban, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson and Mayor Peter Strazdas. Councilmember Nasim Ansari was absent with notice. Also present were City Manager Laurence Shaffer and City Clerk James Hudson.

At the request of Mayor Strazdas, Councilmember Ford discussed some of the requirements for serving on the Board of Review, and emphasized the time commitment involved, including attendance at the training sessions. Mayor Strazdas asked each applicant if he or she can commit to the time required and all answered in the affirmative. City Council interviewed the following applicants:

* From 5:34 p.m. to 5:58 p.m., City Council interviewed Michael Quinn, William Brandt, Keith Hearit and Lori Knapp for the Board of Review. Jay Woodhams advised Council that he would be running late as he was working in Livonia and the bad weather would prohibit his arriving on time. City Council interviewed Mr. Woodhams when he arrived at 6:41 p.m. Devin Loker and Wesley Mazurek had been interviewed in the past, did not attend the meeting, but expressed an interest in serving on the Board of Review. Discussion followed with regard to training and there was a consensus that the Michigan Township Association Board of Review training was good, and that David Rice was very helpful as a trainer, but needed to train more extensively with regard to commercial appeals before the Board. Discussion followed.

* From 6:00 p.m. to 6:14 p.m., City Council interviewed Lowell Seyburn and Alexander Philipp for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Discussion followed.

* From 6:15 p.m. to 6:31 p.m., City Council interviewed Gayle Ahleman and Bill Wierenga for the Senior Citizens Advisory Board. Senior Citizens Advisory Board Chair Ann Perkins was present for questions and discussion followed regarding the absences incurred by Alternate Member Mike Martin. Ms. Perkins indicated that she would follow up with City Clerk Jim Hudson regarding the status of Mr. Martin. Discussion followed.

* From 6:32 p.m. to 6:40 p.m., City Council interviewed Larry Ahleman and Fred Grunert for the Historic District Commission. Discussion followed.

ADJOURN: Mayor Strazdas adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

James R. Hudson, City Clerk