

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

January 6, 2015

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of January 6, 2015, as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 3 for the West Osterhout Avenue Sanitary Sewer Project #414-S (Lloy Street to South Westledge Avenue), directing the preparation of the special assessment roll.
- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 3 for the Pine View Drive Sanitary Sewer Project #415-S (Bacon Avenue to Chaucer Street), directing the preparation of the special assessment roll.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Adopted the Resolution setting the dates and times for the 2015 March Board of Review sessions.
- ◆ Approved a professional engineering design services contract with O'Boyle, Cowell, Blaylock & Associates, Incorporated, in the amount of \$41,500 for the South Central Portage Trail development and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Approved the License to Locate Parking in a City Right-Of-Way for Poulsen Properties, LLC, 2375 East Centre Avenue, and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Accepted the order of the Construction Board of Appeals to remove all debris from the house at 5523 Monticello Avenue; and authorized the City Administration to take the necessary action to remove all debris from the house, place a lien and assess the property to recover the costs associated with abatement, consistent with city ordinance.
- ◆ Adopted the Resolution for the use of city credit cards, and adopted a credit card policy for issuance of a credit card for the Portage Senior Center Travel Program in accordance with Public Act 266 of 1996.
- ◆ Accepted the recommendation from the City Manager to have a January 20, 2015 Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting at 6:00 p.m., Conference Room #1, to address the top priority identified at the Council Retreat to enhance economic development; balance economic development with the city's natural environment; plan to develop large, undeveloped tracts of land; and consider pre-approved sites with Southwest Michigan First (SWMF).

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the December 10, 2014 Investment Committee Activity Update.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Council City Manager Manual Committee Report as read into the record by Councilmember Ford.
- ◆ Received the verbal report of the Central County Transit Authority and Kalamazoo County Transit Authority Joint Meeting from Councilmember Urban and Mayor Pro Tem Pearson.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Determined the size of the 2015 Board of Review to be six members; appointed William Brandt, Keith Hearit, Wes Mazurek, Lori Knapp, Michael Quinn and Jay Woodhams with terms ending January 31, 2016, to the Board of Review; reappointed Lowell Seyburn and appointed Randall Schau with terms ending February 28, 2018, and appointed Alexander Philipp as an Alternate Member with term ending February 28, 2018, to the Zoning Board of Appeals; appointed William Wieringa as an Alternate Member with term ending October 1, 2016, to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board; and appointed Larry Ahleman and Fred Grunert with terms ending December 31, 2017, to the Historic District Commission.

## STATEMENT OF A CITIZEN

- ◆ Kay Ensfield, 1818 Forest Drive, asked for an update regarding the traffic issue at the intersection of Lakeview Drive and Portage Road that was discussed at the December 16, 2014 Regular City Council Meeting. Mayor Strazdas deferred to City Manager Shaffer, who indicated that City Engineer Chris Barnes identified and explained a number of options to address speeding and safety concerns on Portage Road that were forwarded to City Council. He said the next step is to determine the cost of the options and to make a recommendation to City Council. Mr. Shaffer also revealed that there has been an increase in police patrol and that the City will install the speed sign board to let drivers know the speed of their vehicles as soon as possible. Mayor Strazdas pointed out that another aspect of this is the redesign of the roadway based on the Engineering Report from the findings of the road diet study, as well as a careful decision of which approach is the right approach, plus the consideration of a large expenditure of funds.

## STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmember Ford expressed a hope for a Happy New Year and asked everyone to be careful to keep warm.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid encouraged everyone to drive carefully and encouraged everyone to have the energy to have a Happy New Year.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Pearson expressed his support for the Big Ten as the reason for his rare support for Ohio State in the College Football Championship Bowl game.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas thanked returning and newly appointed Board and Commission Members for their volunteerism, expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the snow plows, and asked everyone to be patient during this very cold weather.

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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.**