

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 22, 2010

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Strazdas at 7:30 p.m.

At the request of Mayor Strazdas, Pastor Phillip Kok of Prairie Edge Christian Reformed Church of Portage gave the invocation and the City Council and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The City Clerk called the roll with the following members present: Councilmembers Elizabeth A. Campbell, Margaret E. O'Brien, Patricia M. Randall, Claudette S. Reid, Terry R. Urban and Mayor Pro Tem Edward J. Sackley and Mayor Peter J. Strazdas. Also in attendance were City Manager Maurice S. Evans, City Attorney Randall Brown and City Clerk James R. Hudson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Sackley, to approve the June 8, 2010 Regular and Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **CONSENT AGENDA:** Mayor Strazdas asked Councilmember Reid to read the Consent Agenda. Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to approve the Consent Agenda motions as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER OF JUNE 22, 2010:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to approve the Check Register of June 22, 2010. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS:

PRESENTATION BY THE KALAMAZOO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

AUTHORITY: KCTA Board Vice Chairman Greg Rosine, 2526 Pine Ridge Road, Kalamazoo, provided a Presentation on behalf of the Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority.

JAMES CHAMNESS, 5701 EAST CORK STREET, KALAMAZOO: James Chamness presented City Council with a letter of retraction of his remarks made in his letter dated March 3, 2009, and his statements to the Portage City Council at the March 10 and March 24, 2009 Regular City Council Meetings.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

* **FY 2010-11 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND GENERAL FUND CONTRACTS:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to approve the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Community Development Block Grant Fund contracts and General Fund human/public services contracts and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **CONTINUING SERVICES OF ASSESSING CONSULTANT:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to approve a contract in the not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000 for the continued consulting services of Joyce Foondle, Southwest Michigan Government Consultants, for assistance in the Office of the City Assessor and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this contract on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **MMRMA RISK AVOIDANCE PROGRAM GRANT:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to award a contract to the sole source provider, Road Safety International, Inc., of Thousand Oaks, California, in the amount of \$16,500 for the purchase of the Safe Force Driving System and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this contract on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

PERMIT TO CONDUCT A FIREWORKS DISPLAY: City Manager Evans indicated that the Portage Rotary Club submitted an application for a permit to conduct a public fireworks display on July 3, 2010, at McCamley Field. Mr. Evans indicated that the fireworks display will be conducted by Night Magic, Incorporated, a professional pyrotechnic company that has been used in the past, and has a long record of conducting public fireworks displays. Councilmember Campbell indicated that she submitted the application on behalf of the Portage Rotary Club and felt the need to recuse herself from discussion and the vote. City Attorney Brown concurred. Motion by Sackley, seconded by O'Brien, to approve a permit for a proposed fireworks display on July 3, 2010, sponsored by the Portage Rotary Club. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0 with Councilmember Campbell abstaining.

* **CLOSED SESSION:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to go into closed session immediately following the regularly scheduled meeting of Tuesday, June 22, 2010, to discuss a personnel matter. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **MAY 2010 SUMMARY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITY REPORT – INFORMATION ONLY:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to receive the communication from the City Manager regarding the May 2010 Summary Environmental Activity Report as information only. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **MONTHLY REPORTS:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to receive the Department Monthly Reports from the various city departments. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

MINUTES OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: City Council received the minutes of the following Boards and Commissions:

Portage Zoning Board of Appeals of May 10, 2010.
Portage Historic District Commission of May 12, 2010.
Portage Planning Commission of May 20, 2010.

BID TABULATIONS:

* **TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to award a contract for maintenance of the city traffic signal system from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2013, to Windemuller Electric, Incorporated, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$125,700 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **CONSOLIDATED STORAGE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to approve the purchase of Hewlett-Packard consolidated storage equipment from SARCOM, Incorporated, at a total cost of \$42,310 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

* **WESTFIELD WELL #2 PUMP AND MOTOR REHABILITATION:** Motion by Urban, seconded by Reid, to award a contract for the Westfield Well #2 Pump and Motor Rehabilitation to Peerless-Midwest, Incorporated, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$15,600 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

ADJOURNED TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION: 7:55 p.m.
RECONVENED: 9:03 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

CLOSED SESSION: Mayor Strazdas deferred to Councilmember Urban, who indicated that the committee used the same evaluation instrument that was used in the past and, because of the financial difficulties of the State, County and City of Portage, City Manager Maurice Evans asked that the committee not consider a salary increase or a meritorious bonus, so the committee did not discuss this option, but would have considered an increase and a bonus under normal economic conditions. Councilmember Urban said that City Council feels Mr. Evans again achieved an overall rating of Exceeds Expectations.

OTHER CITY MATTERS:

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER: Councilmember O'Brien reminded everyone of the parades and fireworks forthcoming to celebrate July 4.

City Manager Evans expressed his appreciation for the City of Portage when he indicated that, even with the current challenging economic times, there is nowhere else he would rather be than in this community.

Mayor Pro Tem Sackley indicated that City Manager Evans is the right person at the right time and pointed out that he brings out the best in everyone - City Council, staff and volunteers.

Mayor Strazdas concurred with Mayor Pro Tem Sackley and stated that it was difficult to work through tough times and still maintain quality departments and thanked Mr. Evans for his efforts. Mayor Strazdas also thanked the Salvation Army for the Food for Haiti campaign at the old Sam's Club location on Mall Drive and congratulated area residents for producing more bags of food for Haiti than the City of Chicago.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Strazdas adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

James R. Hudson, City Clerk

***Indicates items included on the Consent Agenda.**