

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

January 12, 2010

CHECK REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of January 12, 2010, as presented.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Representative Larry DeShazor from the Michigan State House provided a summary of the Revenue Estimating Conference held in January (and May) and announced that he renewed his call for monthly State Revenue Estimating Conferences because of the need for estimates on a more frequent basis in order to more accurately balance the budget and ensure full funding without having to raise taxes because of a hunch. He discussed school aid, the overall deficit, unfunded mandates, inflation and the National per capita ranking of Michigan. He also compared the current, past and projected unemployment rates for Michigan with the National level of unemployment. He asked that City Council submit the top three (or more) unfunded state and/or federal mandates imposed upon the city.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Accepted Ordinance Amendment #09-A for first reading and established a public hearing on February 9, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to consider approval of Ordinance Amendment #09-A; adoption of Appendix G of the 2006 State of Michigan Construction Code, 2009 Flood Insurance Study and 2009 Flood Insurance Rate Maps, which updates Section 42-991 and inserts Section 42-995, Floodplain Management Regulations, designating the city as the enforcing agency; the repeal of Zoning Code Sections 42-320 to 42-330, Flood Hazard Areas; and the repeal of Zoning Code Sections 42-162(D)(1)(2), Flood Boundaries.
- ◆ Adopted the Refunding Bond Resolution authorizing the sale of Limited Tax General Obligation City Share Refunding Bonds, Series 2010, in an amount not-to-exceed \$2,750,000; and adopted the Resolution approving the Undertaking to Provide Continuing Disclosure by the City of Portage for the Limited Tax General Obligation City Share Refunding Bonds, Series 2010.
- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 1, accepted the City Manager Report and requested preparation of Resolution No. 2 for the West Lake Management Program Special Assessment District No. 011-Q.
- ◆ Altered production of the city newsletter, the *Portager*, from monthly to six times per year, commencing with the March 2010 issue.
- ◆ Approved the Final Plan for Oakland Hills Condominium (Phase II), 8716 Oakland Drive.
- ◆ Approved a one-year labor agreement between the City of Portage and the Portage Police Officers Association and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute all documents on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Approved one-year contract renewals for employee health insurance with Blue Care Network (HMO), Priority Health (HMO), and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (PPO and Traditional), and a two-year contract renewal with Vision Services Plan, and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Approved a two-year pricing agreement with ADP, Incorporated, to perform payroll services on behalf of the City of Portage at a first-year cost of \$32,258 and a second-year cost of \$32,850 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Appointed Jay Olweean with term ending January 31, 2013, to the Board of Review; appointed Jason Koscinski with unfulfilled term ending October 1, 2010, to the Park Board; and reappointed Robert Linenger and Betty Schimmel with terms ending February 28, 2013, and appointed Donald Mordas with unfulfilled term ending February 28, 2012, and appointed Daniel Rhodus with unfulfilled alternate term ending February 28, 2012, to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ Adopted the proposed amendment to the City of Portage Code of Ordinances by adding Article 7, Indiana & Michigan Power Company Electric Franchise, to Chapter 14, Businesses, Sections 14-192 through 14-202.

BID TABULATION

- ◆ Approved a one-year contract in the not-to-exceed amount of \$24,859 with State Systems Radio, Inc., for radio maintenance, with the option to renew for three additional one-year periods, and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmember Reid indicated that the report on the bus routes in Kalamazoo County and recommendations for utilization was presented at the Kalamazoo Area Transit Authority Meeting. She said that the three Portage bus routes had the lowest

ridership, so a proposal to have four fifteen minute legs in and out of Crossroads Mall that would have three points of transferability to the Kalamazoo downtown area was recommended.

- ◆ City Manager Evans offered to research and report back on the request from Councilmember Randall that City Council adopt a resolution or ordinance allowing a resident taxpayer to file a protest before the Portage Board of Review by letter without a personal appearance by the taxpayer or an agent in accordance with MCL 211.30(7), and the request from Councilmember O'Brien for an e-mail option.
- ◆ Councilmember O'Brien indicated that at an informal wastewater meeting, the area townships expressed concern about rate increases and requested a release of the Rate Model from Kalamazoo and echoed unfunded mandate concern expressed by Representative DeShazor and a concern about revenue sharing cuts and a lack of accountability and adherence to the Hedley Amendment
- ◆ City Manager Evans extolled the virtues and quality of the recent Customer Service session conducted for staff and City Council by Phil Hedgepeth of SkillQuest, International, Portage.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Sackley indicated that the Environmental Protection Agency issued new ozone attainment standards at an annual cost of \$90 billion per year by the year 2020.

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.