

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

March 9, 2010

CHECK REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Check Register of March 9, 2010, as presented.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- ◆ Adopted Resolution No. 5, confirming the Special Assessment Roll for the West Lake Management Program Special Assessment District No. 011-Q.
- ◆ Denied the proposed Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Portage by amending Section 42-112, Definitions, and 42-129, Home Occupations, of Chapter 42, Land Development Regulations and asked the Neighborhood Revitalization/Engagement Committee to either amend the Home Occupation Ordinance or refer it to the Planning Commission and to recommend the next step to be taken in the process.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Accepted Ordinance Amendment #09-B, sign regulations, for first reading and established a public hearing on April 13, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard and, subsequent to the public hearing, consider approval of Ordinance Amendment #09-B.
- ◆ Approved a local-only tax increment financing incentive for the Treystar Holdings, LLC, CentrePort Commons brownfield project, 8019 Portage Road, without a Michigan Business Tax credit and without State of Michigan tax increment participation as specified in the City of Portage Brownfield Redevelopment Incentive Policy.
- ◆ Appointed Mayor Pro Tem Sackley, Councilmember Campbell and Councilmember O'Brien as the three Council representatives and Jeff Breneman and Ted W. Vliek, Sr. as the two citizen-at-large representatives to the 2010 Utility Rate Committee and reconvened the committee.
- ◆ Received the State Tax Commission Review of Local Unit Assessment Administration Practices, Procedures and Records (14-Point Review); an Interpretation Report prepared by Joyce Foondle, Southwest Michigan Governmental Consultants; and referred both items to the City Council Assessing Issues Task Force for review and report to the City Council.

BID TABULATIONS

- ◆ Awarded a contract to the low bidder, Robert Bailey Contractors, Incorporated, for the construction of the Oakland Drive Park Stormwater Basin Improvements in the not-to-exceed amount of \$123,058.58; amended a construction engineering services contract with Paradigm Design, Incorporated, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$14,500; and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Awarded a service contract for the Westfield Well #1 Pump and Motor Rehabilitation to Peerless-Midwest, Incorporated, at a total price of \$24,820 and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Tim Keck, 7551 Montego Bay, spoke in support of the Shamrock that was painted on the roof of the Montessori School on Oakland Drive; expressed his disapproval of the Zoning Board of Appeals decision, Monday, March 10, 2010; asked that City Council override them; and, expressed concern over the attitude of the Board and their treatment of the petitioners.
- ◆ Larry Provancher, 7414 Starbrook Street, concurred with Mr. Keck.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER

- ◆ Councilmember Randall thanked Zoning Board of Appeals Member Doug Rhodes for his request to place all City Council Special and Committee Meetings on the website to complement the legal posting on the City of Portage Bulletin Board.
- ◆ Councilmember O'Brien encouraged everyone to contribute to the YMCA fundraiser for programs for at-risk youth.
- ◆ Councilmember Campbell announced that the 35th annual Kalamazoo Living History Show will take place March 21 and 22, 2010, at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds and will focus on and explore the rich and varied cultural traditions of the Great Lakes region from earliest European contact up to the late 19th century.
- ◆ Councilmember Reid indicated that the Assessor's Office passed the State Tax Commission 14-Point Review with 173 out of 200 possible points and 35% of the municipalities in the state do not pass the review.
- ◆ City Manager Evans announced that the Michigan Department of Transportation will be closing South Westnedge Avenue from April 24 at 10 p.m. until April 25 at 11 a.m. and from June 20 at 10 p.m. until 11 a.m. on June 21 to allow for construction of the I-94 bridge improvements.
- ◆ Mayor Pro Tem Sackley thanked Councilmember Campbell for getting him involved in Junior Achievement.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas invited everyone to attend the Home Expo, March 17 through March 20 at the former Sam's Club building, 665 Mall Drive. Mayor Strazdas expressed his respect for his fellow City Councilmembers for their ability to discuss matters in a respectful way and their diversity of ideas.

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.