

# City Council Meeting Summary

April 23, 2013

## PROCLAMATIONS

- ◆ Mayor Strazdas issued a National Arbor Day and a National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Proclamation.

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTER

- ◆ Approved the Accounts Payable Register of April 23, 2013, as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

- ◆ Adopted the 2013 sewer and water rate Resolutions establishing sewer and water utility rates, sewer and water franchise area fees, service fees and charges as outlined in the 2013 Utility Rate Financial Study as recommended by the City Administration and the City Council Water and Sewer Rate Study Committee and eliminated the current Senior Citizen Discount Program, effective October 1, 2013.
- ◆ Approved an ordinance amendment to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Portage to modify an existing Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for the Spring Manor Apartments located at 610 Mall Drive.

## STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

- ◆ Phil Stinchcomb, 1607 Bellaire Avenue, spoke in his capacity as Kalamazoo County Commissioner in opposition to a proposal set forth regarding the contract among the City of Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County and the City of Portage for housing the Kalamazoo County 8<sup>th</sup> District Court within the Portage Police Building and indicated that he will vote "No" when the matter comes before the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners because he "does not want to continue to collect taxes for services we're not getting." Councilmember Sackley pointed out that the funds used to satisfy this contract are not derived from taxes, but from fines.

## REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

- ◆ Adopted the Resolution setting a public hearing on May 14, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard, for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 proposed city budget and the proposed 2013 tax levy.
- ◆ Approved a budget amendment to transfer \$200,000 from the Fiscal Year 2012-13 General Fund budget to the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Capital Improvement Fund budget; a change order in the not to exceed amount of \$191,601 for additional street reconstruction at extended unit pricing with Michigan Paving & Materials Company to expand the 2012 Local Street Reconstruction Program; a contract amendment with Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD, for construction administration and material testing for the streets added to the 2012 Local Street Reconstruction Program at no increase in hourly rate in the not to exceed amount of \$27,350; and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Adopted a Resolution to grant an access easement to Consumers Energy over a portion of city-owned property addressed as 6301 Newport Road, place the Resolution on file with the City Clerk for 28 days, take final action on May 28, 2013, and authorized the City Manager to execute the access easement on behalf of the city.
- ◆ Adopted the resolution granting the request for a New Hotel B Liquor License to C.Y. of Portage for 400 Trade Centre Way, Portage, MI 49002.
- ◆ Approved the request for a transfer of ownership and location of an Escrowed 2012 Resort Class C Liquor License issued under MCL 436.1531(2), Minimum Seating: 100, to Celebration Banquets, L.L.C., 6600 Ring Road, Portage, MI 49024, Kalamazoo County; and resolved to continue future consideration of liquor license transfer requests.
- ◆ Affirmed the plan to recognize Advisory Board and Commission members as part of the City of Portage 50th Anniversary, approve the expenditure of up to \$2,500 for the event and commit to assisting with event activities.
- ◆ Received the communication from the City Manager regarding the March 2013 Summary Environmental Activity Report as information only.
- ◆ Received the Department Monthly Reports.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- ◆ Received the Annual Presentation by Park Board Chairperson Susan Williams.
- ◆ Received the Annual Presentation by Human Services Board Chairperson Sandra Sheppard.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ Adopted a resolution to relinquish 89.15 feet of an existing water main easement located on the west side of the existing Mueller Refrigeration building, replaced with a new water main easement for the portion of the vacated water main.

## AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ Received a communication from Mayor Peter J. Strazdas and Ted Vlieg, Sr., Former Mayor Pro Tem, and approved the expenditure of up to \$2,000 for printing of the City of Portage history book update and directed the Administration to enlist the services of David Massey.
- ◆ Received a report from Mayor Strazdas regarding the Banner Committee.
- ◆ Received a report from Mayor Pro Tem Reid, Councilmember Pearson and Councilmember Sackley regarding the Lake Center Business District Committee.

## BID TABULATION

- ◆ Approved the low bid for a two-year contract with Hurst Mechanical in the amount of \$76,166.27 for Heat, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) maintenance of city owned facilities, with an option for two one-year contract extensions and authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- ◆ Formed an Assessment Options Committee of the Whole that will outline the issue of staff analysis for further consideration with a pre-report from the City Attorney.

### **STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL**

- ◆ Councilmembers Campbell, Sackley, Urban and Pearson and Mayor Strazdas expressed sorrow for the passing of Former Councilmember Lewis Bashaw and expressed their condolences to the family. Councilmember Campbell invited everyone to the sponsored by the Portage Rotary Club Annual Scholarship Luncheon at the Senior Center.
- ◆ Councilmember Randall expressed her concern for the people of Boston, who suffered losses from the bombing at the Boston Marathon and Mayor Pro Tem Reid and Mayor Strazdas concurred. She also invited everyone to attend the Angling RoadRunner 5k Walk at Angling Road Elementary School, 5340 Angling Road, Friday, April 26, 2013, at 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Mayor Strazdas indicated that his parents live five blocks away from where the second “bomber” was identified. He requested that Public Safety Director Richard White come before City Council to inform City Council and the public what the Public Safety Department is doing to keep us safe. He cited the unsafe conditions in and around Grand Rapids because of excess flooding from the excessive rainfall recently. He also mentioned that he attended “Scrabble© Fest” at Portage Northern High School where he discovered that there are 25,000 adults in Kalamazoo County who can not read.

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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.**