

**MINUTES FROM THE PRE-MEETING
OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF APRIL 8, 2019**

Mayor Patricia Randall called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Councilmembers Chris Burns, Richard Ford, Lori Knapp, Claudette Reid and Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson joined via the conference phone line. Councilmember Terry Urban was absent with excuse. Also in attendance were City Manager Larry Shaffer, Deputy City Manager Rob Boulis and City Clerk Adam Herringa.

Mayor Randall inquired if someone would be present to receive the proclamation. City Manager Shaffer responded in the affirmative.

With regard to Item A.2, Accounts Payable, Mayor Pro Tem Pearson inquired if Check No. 309277 to Pfizer was for trailway easements. City Manager Shaffer confirmed that the payment was for easements. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson asked the City Manager to, in the near future, prepare and provide City Council with an update on efforts regarding expansion of the trail system and easement acquisition.

With regard to Item A.3, Public Hearing on Water and Sewer Rates, Councilmember Reid shared that she received a question from a resident who lives in Portage but receives water service from the City of Kalamazoo. She shared that the resident asked about the senior citizen discount. Councilmember Reid speculated that it would be up to the City of Kalamazoo as to whether a discount can or should be provided. Mr. Shaffer stated that he also believes that it would be up to the City of Kalamazoo as to whether a discount can be provided but would research and respond. Mayor Randall asked that the response include a comparison between water rates for the City of Kalamazoo and the City of Portage. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson asked that the total number of residents getting water service from the City of Kalamazoo be included in the response.

With regard to Item A.5, Idaho Avenue Reconstruction, Mayor Randall inquired if Portage Public Schools was consulted regarding the project. City Manager Shaffer stated that City Administration worked closely with Portage Public Schools on planning the reconstruction of Idaho Avenue and West Milham Avenue. He continued by sharing that the goal of the reconstruction projects are to have them complete before the next school year begins.

With regard to Item A.6, Waterproofing at the Public Safety Police Annex, Mayor Randall inquired if this was a temporary fix. Mr. Shaffer stated that the hope is this will be a permanent solution. He stated that city staff has been advised that this will work to alleviate the water problems. If not, Mr. Shaffer continued, alternatives will have to be explored such as moving staff and facilities to other locations within the police building. Councilmember Reid inquired if the work came with a guarantee. Deputy City Manager Boulis confirmed that the work is guaranteed by Ayers Waterproofing.

With regard to Item A.9, Liquor License for Mixology Class, Mayor Randall inquired if this was a new event at the Senior Center and whether it will be open to the public. City Manager

Shaffer confirmed that this is a new activity and speculated as to whether it would be open to non-members.

With regard to Item E.1, Presentation of the Proposed Budget, Mayor Randall inquired as to when City Council would receive copies of the proposed budget and when it would be available online. Mr. Shaffer stated that hard copies of the budget would be provided to City Council Tuesday evening and he would research and respond to the question about online availability.

ADJOURNMENT: Following a summary of the meeting, Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:11 a.m.

Adam Herringa, City Clerk