

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PRE-MEETING
OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF MARCH 21, 2016**

Mayor Strazdas called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Councilmember Patricia Randall, Mayor Pro Tem Nasim Ansari and Mayor Strazdas. Councilmembers Claudette Reid and Jim Pearson along with City Clerk James Hudson participated via conference call. Those not present were: Councilmembers Richard Ford and Terry Urban. Also in attendance were City Manager Larry Shaffer, Deputy City Manager Rob Boulis and Deputy City Clerk Adam Herringa.

Mayor Strazdas explained that the purpose of the meeting was to hear any questions of Council regarding the Agenda of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 22, 2016, and proceeded with questions from those present.

With regard to item F.2, Councilmember Reid questioned if the City was planning to match the \$291,500 included in the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant application regarding Phase 2 of the Eliason Nature Reserve. City Manager Shaffer replied that \$200,000 has been included in the Capital Improvement Program for this project.

Councilmember Randall inquired, with regard to Item G.1, a presentation by representatives of the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department and the Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste program, whether a visual presentation was to have been included in the agenda packet. Deputy City Clerk Herringa stated that there no attachment with this item and Councilmember Pearson responded that a presentation was being finalized and it would be approximately ten slides and ten minutes in length.

Councilmember Pearson stated that he had a couple of questions related to the report by the Department of Transportation and Utilities included in the "Monthly Reports" section of Item N. Councilmember Pearson referenced the traffic counts and speed study for the Lake Center area of Portage Road and Centre Avenue and asked if City Council could receive a copy of the completed study. City Manager Shaffer responded in the affirmative. Councilmember Pearson next inquired about the road and design work for the intersection of Portage Road and Lakeview Road and if City Council could receive additional information, such as what type of intersection is being planned, related to this project. City Manager Shaffer responded in the affirmative.

Councilmember Pearson next stated that City Council has yet to vote or formally address the policy regarding Pre-Council Meetings as proposed by City Attorney Brown. He continued by stating that he had a question for City Administration on a topic that was not on the agenda but is being actively discussed in the community. Councilmember Pearson shared that he has been receiving questions regarding the "Deer Study" and Councilmember Randall shared that there was an article about the topic in yesterday's *Kalamazoo Gazette* and noted that she learned in the article that

Kalamazoo Christian High School students had conducted a deer survey. City Manager Shaffer indicated that this was new information to him as well. Mayor Strazdas added he had read the article and that this survey appears to be separate from the work the Environmental Board is doing on the topic. Councilmember Pearson inquired if the Environmental Board had been provided with the results of the Kalamazoo Christian High School survey. City Manager Shaffer stated that he was uncertain if the results have been shared with the Environmental Board and gave an update on the status, as he knows it, of the work of the Environmental Board on this topic.

Mayor Strazdas summarized that Councilmember Pearson is looking for information related to the Deer Study, speed study for the Lake Center area of Portage Road and Centre Avenue, the planned road improvements for Portage Road and action on the proposed Pre-Council Meeting policy. Councilmember Pearson concurred.

ADJOURN: Mayor Strazdas adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Adam Herringa, Deputy City Clerk