

**MINUTES FROM THE PRE-MEETING
OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

Mayor Patricia Randall called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Councilmembers Chris Burns, Lori Knapp and Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson joined via the conference phone line. Councilmembers Richard Ford, Claudette Reid and Terry Urban were absent with excuse. Also in attendance were City Manager Joseph La Margo, Deputy City Manager Mike Carroll, Deputy City Manager Adam Herringa and City Clerk Erica Eklov.

Mayor Randall began by reviewing the agenda and asked if anyone would be present to read the Global Love Day Proclamation. City Clerk Eklov responded that it was a national request and no one would be present.

With regard to Item A.2, Mayor Pro Tem Pearson questioned check numbers 12682(A) and 12708 (A) to OnStaff totaling over \$31,000 and inquired what the payments entail. Mayor Randall additionally inquired how many contract employees the city had in total. City Manager La Margo stated he would research and respond.

With regard to Item A. 6, Mayor Pro Tem Pearson asked for further justification as to the expense in replacing the Grain Elevator roof and why there was only a single vendor. He further asked for the square footage of the building in relation to the size of the roof. City Clerk Eklov relayed the historic aspects of the Grain Elevator, the need for matching the existing roofing and review of the Historic District Commission. City Manager La Margo stated he would further research Mayor Pro Tem Pearson's inquires and respond.

Mayor Randall reminded Council of the Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting on Tuesday regarding Recreational Marihuana. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson asked for an update as to why Council is being asked to review the topic at this time. City Manager La Margo responded that staff has been working on a draft ordinance with the assistance of an attorney specializing in the legal aspects of marihuana and the draft is currently ready for Council review. City Manager La Margo relayed that Councilmember Ford had expressed concerns regarding a potential sunset clause but found that the clause only involved the City of Flint. Mr. La Margo stated that the Committee of the Whole Meeting was scheduled to address additional concerns from Councilmembers Reid and Urban, but otherwise, any additional swiftness in the process originated with the City Manager.

ADJOURNMENT: Following a summary of the meeting, Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:10 a.m.

Erica L. Eklov, City Clerk