

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

Mayor Patricia Randall, via the WebEx meeting platform, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Councilmembers Lori Knapp, Vic Ledbetter, and Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson also joined via the WebEx meeting platform. Councilmember Chris Burns, 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.

With regard to Item A.2, Councilmember Knapp inquired about Check #314335 regarding a \$1,050 payment to Margaret Smith for an inconvenience fee relating to a retention basin. City Manager La Margo stated he would research and respond.

With regard to Item A.3, Mayor Pro Tem Pearson inquired whether a lead counsel would be present at each meeting. City Manager La Margo responded that one would be present and after review of the new firm the anticipated primary attorney would be Catherin Kaufman. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson further inquired whether this included Planning Commission meetings in addition to City Council meetings, stressing consistency. City Manager La Margo and Deputy City Manager Carroll confirmed and noted the Zoning Board of Appeals would also be included.

With regard to Item A.4, Mayor Randall asked the City Manager to provide City Council with the list of pending grant applications, as well as notify the Council when the City Administration receives decisions regarding the outcomes for the new Community Senior Center project. City Manager La Margo affirmed he would provide to Council. Mayor Randall further requested the City Manager to advise City Council regarding the date of the groundbreaking.

With regard to Item A.6, Councilmember Ledbetter inquired how Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests were handled specifically for the Police Division. Mayor Randall responded that the Police Division handles its FOIA requests. City Manager La Margo confirmed and noted the proposed FOIA Coordinator reassignment pertained to general city requests.

With regard to Item A.7, Mayor Randall inquired about the status of the property adjacent to 217 East Centre Avenue. City Manager La Margo responded that 217 East Centre is currently before Council for a decision while the City Administration continues to actively pursue the second, adjacent property. Deputy City Manager Carroll confirmed the pending status of the second property will not delay the groundbreaking for the new Community Senior Center.

With regard to Item A.8, Mayor Pro Tem Pearson asked for clarification regarding the potential for Eminent Domain. Deputy City Manager Herringa responded that the Resolution solely pertained to easements for 10711 and 10313 East Shore Drive. He further stated that the City Administration would need to come back before City Council regarding any additional adjacent properties. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson further inquired whether there had been any

rebuff from the property owners. Deputy City Manager Herringa responded that both property owners on East Shore Drive were willing to approve the proposed easements.

ADJOURNMENT: Following a summary of the meeting, Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:13 a.m.

Erica L. Eklov, City Clerk