

**MINUTES FROM THE PRE-MEETING
OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

Mayor Patricia Randall, via the WebEx meeting platform, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Councilmembers Chris Burns, Lori Knapp, Vic Ledbetter, Claudette Reid, and Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson also joined via the WebEx meeting platform. Councilmember Terry Urban was absent with excuse. Also in attendance were City Manager Joseph La Margo, Deputy City Manager Mike Carroll, Deputy City Manager Adam Herringa, Deputy City Clerk Tammy Durian, and City Clerk Erica Eklov.

Mayor Randall inquired who would be reading the proclamations. City Clerk Eklov responded and Mayor Randall asked Councilmember Ledbetter to read the COVID-19 Memorial Day Proclamation.

With regard to Item A.2, Councilmember Knapp inquired about Check No. 13773(a). City Manager La Margo responded that it was the payment to the city's lobbyist. Councilmember Knapp further asked whether it was a one-time payment. City Manager La Margo replied it was a monthly payment under a yearly contract. Councilmember Reid inquired as to why Council had not been advised in light of the total contract amount of \$60,000.

With regard to Item A.3, Councilmember Reid inquired whether there were additional costs related to the three snowplow dump truck purchases and requested a cost breakdown. Deputy City Manager Herringa highlighted the quotes attached to the agenda item, noting each should be inclusive of the vehicle cost, as well as outfitting. Councilmember Reid expressed concern that the amounts provided did not equate to the total \$643,168 expenditure. City Manager La Margo stated he would further research and respond.

With regard to Item A.4, Councilmember Reid whether the reconstruction of Lovers Lane included a change to the layout of the roadway. City Manager La Margo stated he would research and respond.

With regard to Item A.5, Councilmember Reid inquired about the length of the Panasonic Toughbook warranty, noting that the proposed computers would be replacing six-year-old models. She further asked what was the expected length of service for the new Toughbooks would be and if there was an additional charge to have a warranty for the entire hardware service life. Councilmember Reid also inquired how many units were planned to remain on reserve as backup as compared to how many would be in active patrols. City Manager La Margo stated he would research and respond.

With regard to Item A.6, Councilmember Knapp asked about the applicant's plan for the property in light of the awkward location on Sprinkle Road and wet landscape. City Manager La Margo confirmed that the Community Development Department evaluates each rezoning proposal before proceeding. Deputy City Manager Carroll responded that the petitioner plans to revert the noted property to residential, but the extent of the development has yet to be finalized. Councilmember Reid inquired whether residential was the optimal zoning and use for the location. Deputy City Manager Carroll responded that Community Development Director Chris Forth had confirmed it was. Councilmember Reid noted the citizen concern expressed

during the Planning Commission review regarding the feasibility of developing the wet areas of the property. Mayor Randall inquired regarding the number of driveways planned. City Manager La Margo stated he would research and respond.

With regard to Item A.7, Mayor Randall requested clarification regarding the noted food allowance in the new International Association of Firefighters contract agreement. Deputy City Manager Carroll responded that the food budget was per firefighter on an annual basis.

With regard to Item A.8, Mayor Pro Tem Pearson noted that eminent domain was an important issue and he had several questions regarding the proposal, as well as September 14, 2020 letter addressed to Council included with the agenda item. He stated he planned to make a motion for a closed session to inquire about the property-related matters in depth at the meeting. Councilmembers Reid and Knapp agreed. Mayor Randall then inquired about the property's assessed value, taxes and Homestead status. City Manager La Margo stated he would research and respond to Mayor Randall's inquiries.

With regard to Item A.10, Mayor Randall inquired whether a new vacancy on the Planning Commission would be added to the Board and Commission Interviews. City Clerk Eklov responded that any vacancies occurring between the setting of the interviews and the actual date would be added.

With regard to Item C.1(a), Councilmember Reid inquired whether the City Administration desired City Council to simply received the letter or follow-up with action. City Manager La Margo confirmed that Council only needed to receive the letter from Mr. and Mrs. Corstange.

Deputy City Manager Herringa noted that the owner of Paver Pet Supply might attend the Regular Meeting regarding a late tax payment. Mayor Randall asked Mr. Herringa to provide City Council with additional background information on the matter. Deputy City Manager Herringa stated he would research and respond.

ADJOURNMENT: Following a summary of the meeting, Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

Erica L. Eklov, City Clerk