

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 19, 2021

Mayor Patricia Randall called the Regular Meeting to order at 07:00 PM. The regular meeting was held in a partially virtual format as permitted by PA 228, in accordance with the December 2020 Kalamazoo County Emergency Declaration. Mayor Patricia M. Randall, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson (virtual - Portage, MI), and Councilmembers Chris Burns, Lori Knapp (virtual - Cognashene, Georgian Bay, Canada), Vic Ledbetter (virtual - Portage, MI), Claudette Reid (virtual - Portage, MI), and Terry Urban (virtual - Portage, MI) were present. Also in attendance were Acting City Manager Adam Herringa, City Attorney Catherine Kaufman, Deputy City Manager Mike Carroll, and City Clerk Erica Eklov.

At the request of Mayor Randall, the audience observed a moment of silence to reflect on uniting with families and school districts to support a healthy and drug-free community. Following the moment of silence, the City Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS: Human Services Board members Brooke Kolodzieczyk and Jihan Young introduced several Portage Public Schools students who read the proclamation in support of Red Ribbon Week.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Randall shared where the public can access the meeting agenda and asked if any Councilmember or anyone in the audience would like an item removed from the Consent Agenda. Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

City Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the City Council Minutes for the Board & Commission Interviews of October 5, 2021; Regular Meeting of October 5, 2021; and Pre-Council Meeting of October 18, 2021. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Accounts Payable Register: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the Accounts Payable Register of October 19, 2021, as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Portage Community Senior Center Interior Furnishings: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve Michigan Office Environments (MOE) for procurement and installation services for the Portage Community Senior Center interior building furniture under multiple cooperative purchasing group agreements in the total amount of \$310,511.30 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

School Crossing Guard Services Contract: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve a one-year contract in the amount of \$70,178 per year, with the option of four one-year renewals, with All City Management Services, Inc. to provide school crossing guard services and authorize the Acting City Manager to execute all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

2022 City Council Meeting Schedule: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the 2022 schedule of regular City Council meetings and 2022 schedule of Pre-Council meetings. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Materials Transmitted: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to receive the Materials Transmitted of October 5, 2021. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Calendar of Meetings: Motion by Burns, seconded by Ledbetter, to receive the Calendar of Meetings as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MIP Ordinance Amendment: At the request of Mayor Randall, Acting City Manager Herringa explained the proposed ordinance amendment. He noted the update was necessary for housekeeping as a result of a recent State of Michigan compiled laws amendment to MCL 436.1703 for a minor in possession of alcohol, changing the first violation penalty from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction.

Motion by Burns, seconded by Reid, to adopt the amendment to Section 50-193, Offenses Involving Underage Persons, (Chapter 50 Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions) of the Code of Ordinances. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilmember Burns provided an update on the October 11th Central County Transportation Authority meeting. He stated that the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office had terminated the agreement with the Transit Authority to provide public safety at the downtown Kalamazoo Transit Center in light of staffing issues. Councilmember Burns relayed that the Transit Authority had hired Security Plus, a private security firm with which the Authority had prior experience. He also stated that the Transit Authority was beginning the process of updating bus stops and shelters, to which he would continue advocating for winter snow removal.

Motion by Knapp, seconded by Reid, to receive the Council Committee Reports as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS: None.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER:

Councilmember Burns issued a reminder about supporting the Portage Community Center holiday programs in light of the pending holiday season. He relayed the Thanksgiving and Christmas food basket programs, as well as the family adoption gift campaign, and encouraged citizens to contact the Community Center.

Councilmember Reid expressed condolences to the family of former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and noted recent conversations surrounding his death due to complications of COVID-19. She encouraged continued precautions with the ongoing pandemic. Councilmember Reid then recognized Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency's recent announcements for its new career and technical education center location, alongside a recent anonymous donation. She closed by noting the upcoming city election and Halloween holiday.

Councilmember Ledbetter acknowledged the City Clerk's participation with the online agenda vendor's development team and congratulated the students who spoke for Red Ribbon Week.

Councilmember Knapp did not comment.

Councilmember Urban did not comment.

Acting City Manager Herringa thanked the City Council for its support during his recent bout with COVID-19. He then highlighted Public Works Department employee Wade Westcomb for winning the American Public Works Association's Innovation Award for inventing a single-person plow blade attachment.

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson did not comment.

Mayor Randall recognized the attendance of Boy Scout Troop 244 and encouraged their

involvement in continued public service. She then thanked the youth and their families who attended in recognition of Red Ribbon Week, noting the leadership of the recently appointed Human Services Board member Jihan Young. Mayor Randall issued a reminder that the city does not regulate the Halloween holiday and encouraged both drivers and Trick 'or' Treaters to be safe during the celebrations.

ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 07:24 PM.

Erica L. Eklov, City Clerk