

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 6, 2022

Mayor Patricia Randall called the Regular Meeting to order at 07:01 PM in the Council Chambers at Portage City Hall.

ROLL CALL: Councilmembers Lisa Brayton, Chris Burns, Lori Knapp, Victor Ledbetter, Terry Urban, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson, and Mayor Patricia Randall were present.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Pat McGinnis, Deputy City Manager Adam Herringa, Deputy City Manager Michael Carroll, City Attorney Catherine Kaufman, and City Clerk Erica Eklov.

At the request of Mayor Randall, the audience observed a moment of silence to reflect as the community enters the holiday season, that everyone is generous with treasures and inclusive with actions. Following the moment of silence, the City Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2022. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Accounts Payable Register: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the Accounts Payable Register of December 6, 2022, as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Purchase of Property: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve the purchase of property addressed as 321 East Osterhout Avenue in the amount of \$148,000 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

All Kids Bike Program: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to approve a fiscal year 2022-2023 budget amendment for the introduction of All Kids Bike in four elementary schools at a cost of \$24,000. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Resolution of Support for MDNR Spark Grant Application: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to adopt the Resolution of Support for Local Match for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Spark Grant for the Ramona Park Accessible ADA Playscape renovation and enhancement project 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.

Preliminary Condominium Plan for Copperleaf Planned Development Phase 6, 3800 West Milham Avenue: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to grant tentative approval of the Preliminary Condominium Plan for Copperleaf Planned Development Phase 6, 3800 West Milham Avenue, subject to the condition that a letter or document from the school board or school board superintendent indicating awareness of the proposal shall be submitted, per Sec. 42-883(3)i. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

BRA Policy Finalization: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to adopt the final Brownfield Redevelopment Policy update. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Environmental Board Request Response: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to receive the report from City Administration responding to the Environmental Board request. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Annual Industrial Project Reporting/Monitoring: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to receive the Annual Tax Abatements Status Report as information only. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Minutes of Boards & Commissions: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to receive the minutes of the Planning Commission of October 6, 2022; Human Services Board of October 6, 2022; Environmental Board of October 12, 2022, and Planning Commission of November 17, 2022. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Materials Transmitted: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Ledbetter, to receive the Materials Transmitted of November 30, 2022. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 7 to 0.

Calendar of Meetings: Motion by Knapp, 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: Dr. Monifa Jumanne (610 Mall Drive) spoke regarding the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park, the new Zhang Portage Community Senior Center, and efforts for inclusion in the community, both short and long-term. She commended the City Council and encouraged them to continue their efforts.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS: None.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER: Councilmember Brayton noted a ribbon cutting for Celesta Spa, as well as the annual Tree Lighting event. She thanked the staff for coordinating the great event and highlighted the two "I Love Portage" essay contest winners. Councilmember Brayton then recognized a Food Drive event and commended the bike program from the Consent Agenda as an offering for local youth to learn healthy options and bike safety.

Councilmember Burns thanked the City Manager, Community Development Director Kelly Peterson, and Deputy Director Jon Hallberg for the updated Brownfield Redevelopment Policy approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Urban apologized for a family conflict that prevented his attendance at the Tree Lighting event but has historically enjoyed the event as part of the community. He then commended the All Kids Bike Program approved by the City Council on the agenda.

Councilmember Ledbetter highlighted the All Kids Bike Program and recommended an effort by the city to also rehabilitate returned bikes for children. He then thanked Dr. Jumanne for her comments on the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and inclusion efforts in Portage.

Councilmember Knapp had no comment.

City Manager McGinnis highlighted the receipt of the Government Finance Officers Association for finance excellence awards, as well as the American Public Works Association awards for South Westnedge Avenue micro-surfacing and the Zhang Portage Community Senior Center project. He closed by thanking Dr. Jumanne for her comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson began by recognizing the Pfizer Corporation for its recent announcement of the expansion, despite historical concerns of community relocation and job reduction. He recalled the COVID-19 vaccine production changing Pfizer's business focus, reinforcing its Portage location.

Mayor Randall expounded on Mayor Pro Tem Pearson's comments, speaking in detail regarding the recent Pfizer expansion announcement and contribution to both the local economy and the job market. She then noted the various expansions and improvements the Pfizer Corporation has invested in Portage over the past several years. Mayor Randall also thanked Councilmember Brayton for her efforts on the All Kids Bike Program with the local elementary schools. She then commended City Manager McGinnis and Public Works Director Rod Russell for successfully completing the Fall Leaf Collection program.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 07:33 PM.

Erica L. Eklov, City Clerk