CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Mayor Patricia Randall called the Regular Meeting to order at 07:00 PM in the Council Chambers at Portage City Hall.

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Terry Urban.

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

At the request of Mayor Randall, the audience observed a moment of silence to reflect on the gun violence event on Michigan State University's East Lansing campus with those students injured and killed. 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. Seeing no one, motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Accounts Payable Register: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to approve the Accounts Payable Register of February 21, 2023, as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Comprehensive Liability, Property and Auto Fleet Insurance: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to approve a one-year agreement for comprehensive liability, property, and auto fleet insurance through the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) at a total cost not to exceed $547,680 for the period March 1, 2023, to March 1, 2024, 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 6 to 0.

Lakeview Park Renovation Project: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to award a contract in the total maximum amount of $468,150 to O'Boyle, Cowell, Blalock & Associates Inc. (OCBA) of Kalamazoo, MI, for Professional Engineering Services for the Lakeview Park Renovation Project; authorize the City Manager to proceed with Phase One of the overall project in the amount of $120,750; and require the City Manager to receive City Council approval for engineering of successive project phases. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Austin Lake Trail Project: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to approve the purchase of 10.65 acres located at 10313 East Shore Drive for the Austin Lake Trail project in the amount of $84,432 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 6 to 0.

MDOT Contract #22-5575 (Portage Road, East Centre Avenue to Romence Road Parkway): Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to approve Contract #22-5575 between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the City of Portage for the reconstruction of Portage Road from East Centre Avenue to Romence Road Parkway and adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign all documents related to the contract on behalf of the city. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Austin Lake Aquatic Plant Management Special Assessment - Resolution No. 4: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to adopt Resolution No. 4, for the Austin Lake Aquatic Plant Management Special Assessment District No. 023-A, setting a public hearing on the Assessment Roll for March 7, 2023. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Minutes of Boards & Commissions: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to receive the minutes of the Environmental Board from September 14, 2022, as well as December 14, 2022, and January 11, 2023, and the Human Services Board from December 1, 2022. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Materials Transmitted: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to receive the Materials Transmitted of February 7, 2023. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

Calendar of Meetings: Motion by Knapp, seconded by Burns, to receive the Calendar of Meetings as presented. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Presentation by Discover Kalamazoo: Jane Ghosh, CEO of Discover Kalamazoo, provided a presentation regarding new information on tourism statistics in Kalamazoo County, as well as promotions for the City of Portage. She noted a new geolocation data provider and upcoming events.

Motion by Burns, seconded by Knapp, to receive the tourism update presentation from Discover Kalamazoo. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilmember Brayton provided an update concerning the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Advisory Council (EHAC). She highlighted the EHAC's discussions on the KL Landfill brownfield site, incident mapping services, January as Radon Action Month, the Household Hazardous Waste Center, and the City of Kalamazoo's Odor Mitigation Task Force.

Motion by Burns, seconded by Pearson, to receive the Council Committee Reports as presented. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 6 to 0.

STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS: None.

STATEMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER: Councilmember Ledbetter had no comment. Councilmember Knapp also had no comment.

Councilmember Brayton recognized Lt. Col. Harry Stewart for his prior service with the Tuskegee Airmen in honor of Black History Month.

Councilmember Burns had no comment.

City Manager McGinnis highlighted the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Association (MMRMA) approval from the Consent Agenda and was thankful for the coverage.

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson noted the forecasted winter weather storm and a recent article in the Michigan Municipal League magazine featuring the city's PlowTraxx app. He issued a reminder to use the app to track the progress of the snow plows.

Mayor Randall highlighted Mayor Pro Tem Pearson's PlowTraxx mention. She noted the city receives royalties from other municipalities using the app and earned $2,500 in the last year. The Mayor then spoke regarding a recent WoodTV8 interview she and the City Manager participated in as

part of a leadership series. Mayor Randall closed with a statement of sympathy regarding those involved in the Michigan State University shooting.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Randall adjourned the meeting at 07:28 PM.

Erica L. Eklov, City Clerk