

**MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL PRE-MEETING
OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF JULY 24, 2017**

Mayor Pro Tem Ansari called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Mayor Pro Tem Ansari was present and called the roll with the following members of City Council present via the conference phone line: Councilmembers Jim Pearson, Patricia M. Randall and Claudette Reid. Councilmembers Richard Ford and Terry Urban and Mayor Peter Strazdas were absent with notice and excuse. Also in attendance were City Manager Larry Shaffer, Deputy City Manager Rob Boulis and City Clerk James Hudson.

Under Item F.1, Stryker Way/Portage Road Traffic Signal Intersection Project – Engineering Services, Councilmember Reid made reference to paragraph #1 and the statement that Stryker is paying all of the cost. She asked why the Administration is asking for money (\$47,875) if Stryker is paying for the cost of the intersection. She cited “other costs not covered by the grant will be funded by Stryker” in the last sentence of the first paragraph of the City Manager Report in the Agenda packet on page 19. City Manager Larry Shaffer responded that the City will execute the contract; that the City as the Grantee of the grant from MDOT has the relationship with the State which will fund most of the project; and that the funds flow through the City from the State. He also indicated that even though Stryker will make up the difference between what the City will receive from the grant and the actual cost of this contract, and the ultimate work that has to be done on the intersection, that cost will get rolled up into the TIFA, so the City will pay its portion with TIFA funding. Also, in answer to Councilmember Reid, Mr. Shaffer responded that even though this will be a part of TIFA, and the City will pay with TIFA funds, Stryker did not give the “okay” with using Wightman Associates; and, because Stryker wants speed and quality, he does not see where Stryker will have an issue with this at all. Mr. Shaffer said that Wightman and Associates will provide speed, quality and the interface with the State. Mr. Shaffer also indicated that Stryker hired Rockford Construction Company, 601 First St NW, Grand Rapids, as the Construction Manager for the project, and answered he would find out who is doing the engineering.

Under Item F.2, Amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Councilmember Pearson asked Mr. Shaffer for a printout of Section 105.6.32 found on page 27 of the City Council Agenda packet and for an explanation of the exception. Councilmember Reid also asked him for a printout of Section 307, Open Burning, found on page 27 in order to have a bigger context for reference purposes.

Councilmember Pearson pointed out a typo on the signature line which reads “Acting City Manager” in both the Twelve Baskets Contract and the Goodwill Contract which are a part of Item F.3, FY 2017-18 Community Development Block Grant and General Fund contracts.

Under F.5, Closed Session, Councilmember Randall asked if Council would be returning to open session to make a public statement and Mr. Shaffer indicated that there is no requirement, but that it is always an option. When she asked whether Attorney Glen Smith would be present at the Regular Council Meeting, Mr. Shaffer assured her that he would contact City Attorney Randy Brown to call Mr. Smith. Councilmember Pearson asked that if any new information is provided for the Closed Session that Council be given time to read them before the discussion and Mr. Shaffer agreed.

ADJOURN: Mayor Pro Tem Ansari adjourned the meeting at 8:12 a.m.

James Hudson, City Clerk