

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PRE-MEETING
OF THE PORTAGE CITY COUNCIL
OF FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

Mayor Strazdas called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Councilmember Jim Pearson, Councilmember Claudette Reid via the conference phone line and Mayor Peter Strazdas. Those not present were: Councilmembers Nasim Ansari, Richard Ford, Patricia Randall and Terry Urban. Councilmember Patricia Randall arrived at 9:14 a.m. Also in attendance were Deputy City Manager Rob Boulis and City Clerk James Hudson.

There being no quorum, Mayor Strazdas explained that the purpose of the meeting was to hear any questions of Council regarding the Agenda of the Regular City Council Meeting of February 9, 2016, and proceeded with questions from those present.

Mayor Strazdas asked for an update on the questions received by Councilmember Reid earlier via e-mail regarding Item F.7, Acquisition of 6033 Oakland Drive, and Deputy City Manager Rob Boulis indicated that the answers are being researched with a projected time of this afternoon for an answer, or at least by first thing tomorrow morning. He noted that the documents that were requested are in hand as of five or ten minutes ago.

Using the information provided in the Agenda Packet, Councilmember Reid indicated that Fire Station No. 2 appeared to be in pretty bad condition and asked whether it is anticipated that it would be totally rebuilt or will the current building be retained and expanded. Mayor Strazdas responded with a summary of the question as it relates to her question regarding the purchase of the property received earlier via e-mail.

Mayor Strazdas reviewed the Agenda Outline, and Councilmember Pearson read the definition included in Item F.1, Amendment to Code of Ordinances – Discharge of Firearms, Sec. 50-81. – Discharge of firearms and pneumatic guns, Subsection (b) (5). He asked that the definition of “pneumatic” be reviewed as this can include a children’s toy that is spring-loaded and shoots a projectile 15 feet which then drops to the ground. He indicated that “pneumatic” needs to be defined using physics. He cited Newton’s Second Law and indicated a need for the definition to include “force times mass” or “foot, pounds, seconds.” He summed up saying that a more specific definition of “pneumatic” should include the speed of the projectile, and explained that the definition should disclose what a “pneumatic” device is (with more specificity). He restated that he does not want a plastic toy that shoots a little plastic pellet twenty feet, then drops to the ground, to be included as a pneumatic gun. Mayor Strazdas concurred with Councilmember Pearson and asked that the City Attorney check State Law to make sure that no conflict results with any proposed changes or additions.

Mayor Strazdas continued to review the Agenda Outline and asked that, even though there are no upfront costs under Item F.5, Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Reconstruction

Project #998-R, the documentation include that there would be ongoing maintenance costs for the General Fund in the future.

Councilmember Patricia Randall arrived at 9:14 a.m. and Mayor Strazdas opened the meeting with a quorum of City Council.

Mayor Strazdas continued to review the Agenda Outline, and revealed that no writing was provided for Item G.1, Legislative Update from State Representative Brandt Iden, as it was understood that it would be verbal only.

In answer to Councilmember Randall, Mayor Strazdas pinpointed the specific location of the land in question in Item F.7, and explained an experience he had as a Planning Commissioner regarding a proposed development before the recession.

Councilmember Pearson indicated that there was once an offer to purchase the two properties on the Southeast corner of Oakland Drive and Milham Avenue. In answer to Councilmember Pearson, Deputy City Manager Boulis indicated that there are no plans to change the boundaries, sell or develop this property if City Council approves the acquisition. He explained that the property is necessary for the proposed improvements in the Capital Improvement Project Profile included in the Agenda Packet. Also, he indicated that the purchase of this property does not affect the other two lots owned by the City on the Southeast corner of Oakland Drive and Milham Avenue.

Mayor Strazdas and Councilmember Pearson reviewed the earlier discussion regarding Item F.1, Amendment to Code of Ordinances – Discharge of Firearms, Sec. 50-81. – Discharge of firearms and pneumatic guns, Subsection (b) (5) for Councilmember Randall.

ADJOURN: Mayor Strazdas adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

James Hudson, City Clerk