

Common Council Proceedings
City of Portage

Regular Meeting
Council Chambers
City Municipal Building

July 28, 2016
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dodd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Ald. Charles, Havlovic, Hamburg, Klapper, Kutzke, Maass, Monfort, Nachreiner

Excused: Ald. Hahn

Also Present: Mayor Dodd, City Administrator Murphy, Deputy Clerk Ness, City Attorney Spankowski, Director of Public Works/Utilities Manager Jahncke, Police Chief Manthey, Fire Chief Simonson

Media Present: Jonathan Stefonek from Portage Daily Register, Bill Welsh from Cable TV

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Approval of Agenda

No changes.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Klapper, second by Charles to approve minutes of the following meetings: July 14, 2016 Public Hearing; July 14, 2016 Common Council meeting. Motion carried 7 to 1 on call of roll with Nachreiner abstaining.

6. Department Report – Director of Public Works and Utilities

Director Jahncke reported on department projects completed since he started December 21, 2015, 150 working days; River Street- finalized the design, bid it out, finished asphalt and landscape restoration will be complete next week; 800 sanitary sewer manhole inspections for inventory; water department building-finalized design, bid out, started construction, end date early December; screw pump project- GEC designed, bid out, started construction, will complete in October; alley project- rewrote city specifications, bid out, construction will begin August to be complete in mid-September; 150 building permits to date-last year there were 100 at this time with a total of 193 for the year; wastewater

treatment plant processed and treated 3.7 million gallons of canal water; worked cooperatively with park dept. to deliver fill to the soccer fields utilizing city crews and our contractor and brought fill and topsoil to skate park to save parks dept. money; working with Bureau of Aeronautics to complete the airport plan. Director Jahncke thanked his staff for the hard work they have put in for his first seven months and seven days.

7. Consent Agenda

Reports of Sub-Committees, Boards, and Commissions

Park and Recreation Board, July 5, 2016

Finance/Administration Committee, July 11, 2016

Library Board, July 12, 2016

Human Resources Committee, July 12, 2016

Business Improvement District Board of Directors, July 13, 2016

Economic Development Loan Fund Committee, July 18, 2016

Motion by Maass, second by Charles to accept the reports on the consent agenda. Maass inquired regarding Park and Recreation minutes with regard to the Veteran Memorial Field Master Plan and sequence and no action taken. Maass stated she has fielded many calls from citizens regarding the softball fields and lack of this summer. Charles stated ideas were talked about regarding the next phase and will be brought to the next meeting. Murphy stated a conference call had been completed today regarding initial proposal from Rettler for design phase of next project. Some changes will be made to the initial proposal and brought back to committee. Klapper inquired which properties need to be purchased yet and Murphy stated the west side of Superior Street as on the master plan. Charles stated the softball fields are on the next project to get them going. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

License Applications

Operator license applications for Jeorgia R. Gray, Kathryn L. Haug, James C. Kerrigan, Evan S.G. Malone, Aaron M. Smith, Jane JS Steinhaus, Garrett D. Thiede. Taxi operator license applications for Maria S. Adams and Carla L. Holliday.

Motion by Maass, second by Monfort to approve the license applications as presented. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

8. Unfinished Business

Ordinances

Ordinance No. 15-007 relative to Miscellaneous Offenses (Regulation of Smoking, E-Cigarettes) Tabled 05/14/15 until such time the State Legislature takes action on the proposed legislation. No action taken.

Murphy stated there looked to be no action on the proposed legislation so the city will be reviewing what Columbia County did regarding this item and presenting it to the council.

9. New Business

Consideration of First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Development Agreement with Portage Community School District

Motion by Charles, second by Hamburg to approve First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Development Agreement with Portage Community School District with Memorandum of Understanding completed with General Engineering. Nachreiner stated he had concern with setting a precedent for not charging the building permit fees. He stated if General Engineering wants to waive the fee, that's their issue. City hasn't waived the fee for Columbia County or other projects. If we want to give a donation that's also an option. Kutzke questioned if this program was to be profitable for the school, Margaret Rudolph, Portage School District Business Operations Director, stated in five years they hope to have enough money from the five houses being built to be able to buy another lot to keep the program going. Discussion ensued with Dodd stating the city receives 20% of total fee collected from General Engineering as administrative fee, and 0% of 0 is still 0. Motion carried 5-3 on call of roll with Havlovic, Maass and Nachreiner voting no.

Resignations

Fred Langbecker – Airport Commission

Motion by Maass, second by Klapper to approve resignation of Fred Langbecker-Airport Commission. Kutzke stated he was sorry to see Langbecker go as he was a great asset to the commission, he wished him well. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

Ken Jahn – Economic Development Fund Committee

Motion by Charles, second by Klapper to approve resignation of Ken Jahn-Economic Development Fund Committee. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

Mayor's Comments

Listening Session held Monday, July 25 was well received. 12-14 people attended which was good for the first one. The session was constructive and the newspaper gave a favorable write up. The plan is to have another one in 2-3 months, probably last week of September. This is a place for negative items as well as positive items to be discussed.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Murphy stated the majority of city employees attend training to stay current on issues pertaining to their position. With legislation

changing sometimes weekly, training is very important to make sure the city stays within regulations. Training is an important part of many jobs and the city tries to provide employees with this opportunity.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Charles, second by Nachreiner to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll at 7:46 p.m.

Rebecca C. Ness
Deputy Clerk

Date Approved: August 11, 2016