

CITY COUNCIL

January 29, 2009

A special-session meeting of the City of Petoskey City Council was held in the City Hall City Council Chambers at Petoskey, Michigan, on Thursday, January 29, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.; then, after a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, a roll call determined that the following were

Present: H. Ted Pall, Jr., M.D., Mayor
James Dittmar, City Councilmember
William Fraser, City Councilmember
Robert Johnson, City Councilmember
Ronald C. Marshall, Ph.D., City Councilmember

Absent: None

Also in attendance was Acting City Manager Alan Terry.

Resolution No. 18266
Retain Consultant for City
Manager Position Search

The Acting City Manager reported that, at its meeting of January 5, 2009, the City Council had requested presentations for executive-search services to assist in filling the City Manager position by the Michigan Municipal League, Ann Arbor, and The Mercer Group, Inc., Estes Park, Colorado; that Paul Preston, Mt. Pleasant, representing the Michigan Municipal League, would be the first presenter; that Thomas Dority, Estes Park, Colorado, representing The Mercer Group, Inc., would make the second presentation; and that these presentations were expected to last no more than 20 minutes and would be followed by a question-and-answer period.

The Acting City Manager also reported that, at the City Council's request, information concerning advertisements, resumes, candidate analysis/recommendations, employer brochures, and actual timetables had been emailed to both presenters; that included with January 29 meeting-agenda materials had been materials from the Michigan Municipal League that included a candidate report with confidential information that had been blackened out; that actual resumes were deemed confidential and may or may not be made available at this City Council meeting along with other presenter materials; that a Michigan Municipal League employer brochure for the City of Harbor Springs had been mailed previously to City Councilmembers; and that actual timelines for other job searches were not available.

The City Manager also reported that The Mercer Group, Inc. had provided employer brochures from Boulder, Colorado; Troy, Michigan; and Dublin, Ohio; that the City Council had been provided an outline of Mr. Dority's presentation; that a "Report of Leading Candidates" and "Final Report" would be provided to the City Council at this January 29 meeting; that Mr. Dority advised that the best way to obtain actual timelines on filling a position would be for the City Council to check Mr. Dority's references; and that Mr. Dority believed that his previous clients could better explain the length of time to complete the process when taking into account individual situations.

The Acting City Manager also reported that the City Council, upon hearing presentations from the Michigan Municipal League and The Mercer Group, Inc., could discuss the presentations and possible options on how to proceed; could possibly select a consultant at this January 29 meeting or defer this matter to a future meeting; and that, if the City Council found that neither consultant was acceptable, a presentation could be scheduled for the remaining two firms: The Par Group, Lake Bluff, Illinois, and Slavin Management Consultants, Norcross, Georgia.

The City Council then heard presentations by Mr. Preston representing the Michigan Municipal League, and by Mr. Dority representing The Mercer Group, Inc. Following the individual presentations, the presenters then responded to questions from the City Council.

Following discussion, City Councilmember Dittmar moved that, seconded by City Councilmember Fraser, the following resolution be approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does and hereby retains The Mercer Group, Inc., Estes, Colorado, for executive-search services for the City Manager position, for maximum fees and expenses not to exceed \$21,500.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Dittmar, Fraser, Johnson, Marshall, Pall (5)

NAYS: None (0)

There being no further business included on the meeting agenda, this special-session meeting then was adjourned at 9:11 P.M.

H. Ted Pall, Jr., M.D., Mayor

Alan Terry, City Clerk -Treasurer