

Roll Call

The Kalamazoo City Commission met as a Committee of the Whole on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor David Anderson
Vice Mayor Don Cooney
Qianna Decker
Stephanie Hoffman
Esteven Juarez
Chris Praedel

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Jeanne Hess

Also present were Deputy City Manager Laura Lam, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Commissioner Excused

Commissioner Praedel, seconded by Commissioner Hoffman, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Hess. With a voice vote the motion passed.

Public Comments

Next, an opportunity was given for general public comments.

In Person Comments

Joanna asked the City Commission to add to the agenda a discussion of the sweeps of homeless encampments conducted by the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS) and asked that the City drop charges against activists protesting the sweeps. Joanna stated KDPS needed to be held accountable, and the City's actions were not building trust with the community.

Julie Jensen presented herself as a judicial candidate for the 9th Circuit Court and discussed her credentials.

Call-In Comments

None

2022-00

Presentation: Allied
Paper Site Remediation

Sustainable Development Coordinator Jamie McCarthy and Public Services Director James Baker delivered a presentation entitled *Allied Landfill Remediation Update, May 16, 2022*. A copy of the slides from this presentation was filed with the papers for this meeting.

In response to questions from Commissioners, Sustainability Development Coordinator McCarthy and Director Baker provided the following information:

- the Allied Landfill remediation project would be completed by the end of 2024.
- the project cost (approximately \$50 million) was being funded through a trust created by the responsible parties. No City funds were being used for the remediation.
- the City was working on a long-term maintenance plan for the site. The City would be responsible for the upkeep of the monitoring infrastructure. A portion of the funds in the trust were allocated to the City for the costs of this upkeep.

- the remediation project would be very good for the health of Portage Creek and the Kalamazoo River.
- the only material being consolidated on the site was material already on the site; no new material was being brought to the site.
- potential future uses for this property included recreational areas and renewable energy infrastructure. There might be opportunities to build on and develop the north end of the site.
- currently there was a lot of water on the site, so dust was not an issue. Monitoring infrastructure was in place on site; staff would need to look into the air quality data that was available.

Mayor Anderson provided context and historical information about the paper industry in Kalamazoo. Mayor Anderson stated this project was a victory for what was an abandoned, contaminated site, and he indicated the City would control the site after the remediation, which was unusual. Mayor Anderson clarified the City was not directing the remediation work.

Next, an opportunity was given for comments from City Commissioners, but no comments were offered.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: _____

2022-00

Presentation: Allied
Paper Site Remediation
(cont'd)

Commissioner
Comments

Adjournment