A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor David Anderson
Vice Mayor Don Cooney
Qianna Decker
Jeanne Hess
Stephanie Hoffman
Esteven Juarez
Chris Praedel

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

Also present were Deputy City Manager Jeff Chamberlain, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Invocation

The invocation, given by Reverend Rachel Lonberg from People's Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Proclamation
**2022-00**

Commissioner Hess read a proclamation *Celebrating the 33rd Anniversary of The Gilmore*. Pierre van der Westhuizen, Oliver Howell, and Alisa Carrel from The Gilmore accepted the proclamation.

Adoption of the Agenda

By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda as presented.

Public Comments

Next, when an opportunity was given for general public comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

In Person Comments

An anonymous speaker spoke about his interests and experiences with music and science. The speaker expressed hope that people would be able to embrace things the City Commission had been talking about.

Bo Snyder, City resident and a representative of Voters Not Politicians, described the Promote the Vote 2022 ballot proposal and announced there was a petition drive to put this constitutional amendment on the November 2022 ballot.

Denise Anderson and Emma Baidy, City residents, expressed concerns about crime and violence in the Edison Neighborhood and reported on specific houses that had too many residents and issues with parking and trash in the yards. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Baidy asked the City to enforce ordinances and hold the homeowners accountable.

Becket Jones, non-resident, presented himself as a candidate for the 8th District Court.

Jeff Messer, City resident, requested that Items G10 and G11, contracts for non-copper service line replacement in the Northside Neighborhood, be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda. Mr. Messer remarked on the citywide Earth Day cleanup event on April 22nd and encouraged people to pick up trash.

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| Call-In Comments<br><br>Tina McClinton, City resident, asked if the City was going to recognize the Southtown Neighborhood and if they were going to fix the storm sewers. | Public Comments (cont'd) |
| Consent Agenda items were presented as follows with a recommendation to approve the items and authorize the City Manager to sign all documents on behalf of the city: | Consent Agenda |
| - approval of a supplemental change order for traffic signal maintenance supplies in the amount of $146,000, bringing the new contract total to $226,000. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of a supplemental and change order to a Professional Services Agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD for documents related to the rebidding of the interceptor biofiltration odor control & mitigation construction project in the amount of $125,000. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of a three-year contract in the amount of $151,404 with iParametrics, LLC for consulting services related to the City's use of Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of a one-year contract extension with Alexander Chemical Corporation for the purchase of liquid chlorine cylinders in the amount of $216,975. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of the purchase of an Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper from Bell Equipment through the MiDeal Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of $238,981. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of a professional service agreement with Prein & Newhof for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Drinking Water Revolving Fund water system improvements in the amount of $264,350; and amend the Water Capital Improvement Plan for anticipated DWRF funding by the same. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of a three-year contract with Best Way Disposal, Inc. to perform monthly residential brush collection during the months of April through October in the amount of $395,010. | **2022-00** |
| - authorization for the City Manager to enter into contracts with ice control salt suppliers as awarded by the State of Michigan for the 2022-2023 winter season requirements in an amount not to exceed $500,000. | **2022-00** |
| - approval of a contract with Balkema Excavating, Inc. for the Angling Road Culvert Replacement project in the amount of $814,500.90. | **2022-00** |
| - adoption of a **RESOLUTION** setting forth the salaries of the City Commission appointees (City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, and the Internal Auditor), effective April 4, 2022. | **2022-00**<br>Resolution 22-18 |
| - adoption of a **RESOLUTION** setting a public hearing for May 2, 2022, to adopt the Program Year 2022 Action Plan as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. | **2022-00**<br>Resolution 22-19 |

**2022-00**
Resolution 22-20

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** of support for Local Bridge Program Funds for Gull Road Bridge.

**2022-00**

- approval of the following reappointments to boards and commissions:

  - the reappointment of Ian Magnuson to the Environmental Concerns Committee for a term expiring on January 1, 2025.

  - the reappointment of Robb Liekis to the Environmental Concerns Committee for a term expiring on January 1, 2025.

  - the reappointment of Sharon Dever to the Environmental Concerns Committee for a term expiring on January 1, 2025.

**2022-00**

- approval of the minutes from the City Commission meetings on March 7 and March 21, 2022.

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Hess, moved to approve the consent agenda requests and authorize the City Manager to sign all related documents on behalf of the City.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Commissioners Decker, Hess, Hoffman, Juarez, Praedel*, Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

*At the time of the vote, Commissioner Praedel abstained from voting on Item G-13, a resolution setting a public hearing for the Program Year 2022 Action Plan as required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, due to a conflict of interest. Commissioner Praedel explained his employer, Community Homeworks, had been a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) funds for years.

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

**2022-00**
Contract Supplemental for the Northside Non-Copper Service Replacement Project

When an opportunity was given for public comments on a contract supplemental with Five Star Energy Services, LLC for the 2022 Northside #1 Non-Copper Water Service Replacement Project in the amount of $1,466,072, the following people addressed the City Commission:

> An anonymous speaker asked about the relationship between items G10 and G11. The speaker indicated one of his Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests had been denied and stated nobody with City knew about the FOIA request process. The speaker expressed frustration with not being able to move these items from the Consent Agenda because he ran out of speaking time.

Public Services Director James Baker stated this contract with the supplemental comprised the first phase of a multiphase project to replace approximately 2,000 service lines in the Northside area, with a total project cost of $20 million. Director Baker indicated this contract and supplemental would replace 600 lead service lines. Director Baker explained there was a contract and supplemental because the

**2022-00**
Contract Supplemental for the Northside Non-Copper Service Replacement Project (cont'd)

initial bids came in under budget, which prompted staff to go back to the contractor with a supplemental to use all of the $5 million budget to get more work done.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Cooney, Director Baker indicated the City received funds from the state to do this work.

Vice Mayor Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, moved to approve a contract supplemental with Five Star Energy Services, LLC for the 2022 Northside #1 Non-Copper Water Service Replacement Project in the amount of $1,466,072.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Commissioners Decker, Hess, Hoffman, Juarez, Praedel, Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

**2022-00**
Contract for the Northside Non-Copper Service Replacement Project

When an opportunity was given for public comments on a contract with Five Star Energy Services, LLC for the 2022 Northside #1 Non-Copper Water Service Replacement Project, in the amount of $3,145,445, the following people addressed the City Commission:

An anonymous speaker spoke about multiple issues, including a FOIA request about who was the head of the City and laws related to abuse.

Emma Baidy, City resident, asked if lead service line replacements would be done in the southern portion of the City.

In response to Ms. Baidy, Mayor Anderson stated the goal was to replace lead service lines across the entire City; this particular project was focused on the Northside.

Commissioner Hess, seconded by Commissioner Juarez, moved to approve a contract with Five Star Energy Services, LLC for the 2022 Northside #1 Non-Copper Water Service Replacement Project, in the amount of $3,145,445.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Commissioners Decker, Hess, Hoffman, Juarez, Praedel, Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

City Manager's Report

Deputy City Manager Chamberlain noted the City Commission was asked to approve $7.5 million in contracts and thanked the Commission for supporting the work done by staff every day. Deputy City Manager Chamberlain thanked Commissioner Hoffman for arranging the Cradle Kalamazoo presentation, and he thanked Dorla Bonner, Tinessa Patterson, and Victor Green for their work on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Commissioner Comments

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments from City Commissioners.

**Commissioner Comments (cont'd)**

Commissioner Decker thanked the Committee of the Whole presenters. Commissioner Decker reported she went on tour of Wastewater Treatment Plant, remarked on the impressive work done there, and encouraged people to go on a tour of the plant themselves. Commissioner Decker stated the City Commission's work was done for the City of Kalamazoo and its residents.

Commissioner Juarez invited people to a listening session with Commissioners on April 30th at the Edison Neighborhood Association. Commissioner Juarez expressed excitement about the work being done by the Youth Development and Gun Violence Prevention Subcommittees. Commissioner Juarez expressed appreciation to community organizations that were also doing this work.

Commissioner Praedel commented on the need for transformation rather than transactions, and he stated the refinancing of $72,000,000 in bonds to save millions in interest was transformational. Commissioner Praedel noted items like this did not make headlines, but they enabled more investment in areas like gun violence prevention and youth development.

Commissioner Hess noted she had received her absentee ballot for the May 3rd election and stated the ballot included a Kalamazoo Public Schools millage question and a countywide law enforcement millage question. Commissioner Hess spoke about the We Talk and One Small Step projects. Commissioner Hess reported she had attended the grand opening of the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries facilities expansion, and she encouraged people interested in the April 22nd Earth Day cleanup event to go to kalamazooearthday.com

Vice Mayor Cooney spoke about the Gilmore Festival as a gift to the community, with free events and student tickets available for $7. Vice Mayor Cooney remarked on the life of Brenda Stubbs. Vice Mayor Cooney stated the United Way had recently reported on a study entitled *ALICE in Focus*, which looked at people who were working yet living below the poverty line. Vice Mayor Cooney indicated 59% of all children, 76% of children under 2, 85% of black children under 2, and 89% of Hispanic children under two in the Kalamazoo/Portage area fell into this category.

Mayor Anderson commented on the hours of work Commissioners did for the City outside of regular business meetings, and he thanked them for that work.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: ______________________________

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