

Roll Call

A business meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

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 City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and Deputy City Clerk Shelby Moss.

Invocation/Pledge

A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2022-00

Presentation of the
Social Justice Youth
Awards

Mayor Anderson introduced the presenters of the 2022 Social Justice Youth Awards.

Patsy Moore, President of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Iota Sigma Omega Sons, presented the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Iota Sigma Omega Social Justice Youth Award to Brooke Edwards.

Derek Nofz, Community Affairs Manager for Consumers Energy, presented the Consumers Energy Social Justice Youth Awards to Devin Porter.

Ron Foor, Community Executive of Fifth Third Bank, presented the Fifth Third Bank Social Justice Youth Award to Cameron Moore.

Ineke Way presented the Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War (KNOW) Social Justice Youth Award to Justine Barnard.

John Pinkster, Director of South Operation for Life EMS, presented the Life EMS Social Justice Youth Award to Brittany Wright.

Dr. and Mr. Tony Dennis presented the Lodge-Dennis Social Justice Youth Award to Jackson Bergan.

Judy Woolsey, Executive Assistant to the CEO of Schupan and Sons, presented the Schupan & Sons Social Justice Youth Award to Jaydon Kelley.

Dr. Lewis Walker of the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations presented the Dr. Lewis Walker Social Justice Youth Award to Morgan Scott.

Larry F. Tolbert, the Third Vice President of the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the NAACP congratulated the recipients and presented each youth recipient with a one year paid membership to the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the NAACP.

A transcript of the remarks made by Mayor Anderson and the presenters was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Commissioner Hess read a proclamation entitled *Irene Sterns Day – January 30, 2022*. Ms. Sterns' family received the proclamation.

2022-00
Proclamation

By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda with the following changes:

Adoption of the
Agenda

City Manager Ritsema requested that Item G-2 (a PILOT resolution for the Kalamazoo Creamery) be removed from the agenda and stated Item G-4 (a social district/commons area local approval resolution for Roca) needed additional language added to the motion.

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

Public Comments

In Person Comments

Jeff Messer, City resident, invited anyone interested in giving the invocation before a City Commission meeting to contact the City Clerk's Office. Mr. Messer noted two City Commissioners were not participating in the Pledge of Allegiance, and he requested that Mayor Anderson use the gavel during meetings.

Alphonso Harris, City resident, remarked on the National Day of Racial Healing and stated racism was not only a person-of-color issue.

Call-In Comments

Jeff Wiseman, City resident, thanked Right-of-Way Coordinator Joe Stark for repairing streetlights in the downtown area and expressed concerns regarding the long-term parking of vehicles on City streets.

Consent Agenda items were presented as follows with a recommendation to approve the items and authorize for the City Manager to sign on behalf of the City:

Consent Agenda

- approval of a professional services agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD for the Kalamazoo Water Reclamation Plant's Tertiary Disc Filtration Process Facility construction engineering services in the amount of \$967,000.
- approval and acceptance of a utility easement agreement from Johnathan Kelsey for a water service installed across 935 East Vine Street for 933 East Vine Street.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** to allow Clear Haze, LLC doing business as Roca, to operate as part of the Social District and Commons Area.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** recognizing Young Kings and Queens, Inc. as a non-profit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license.
- approval of the Mayor's reappointments to the following boards and commissions:

2022-00

2022-00

2022-00
Resolution 22-01

2022-00
Resolution 22-02

2022-00

2022-00

- the reappointment of **Daniel Kastner** to the Kalamazoo Historic District Commission for a term expiring on January 1, 2025.
- the reappointment of **Marilyn Pulley** to the Northside Cultural Business District Authority Board for a term expiring on March 31, 2023.
- the reappointment of **Chad Dodd** to the Northside Cultural Business District Authority Board for a term expiring on March 32, 2024.

Commissioner Praedel, seconded by Commissioner Hoffman, moved to approve the consent agenda requests and authorize the City Manager to sign all 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

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

Adoption of the
FY2022 Budget

Chief Financial Officer Steve Vicenzi presented budget highlights and changes. CFO Vicenzi stated the proposed emergency management vehicle had been removed from the budget and \$600,000 had been added for affordable housing projects. CFO Vicenzi noted the date in the last paragraph of the budget resolution would be corrected from the year "2021" to "2022." CFO Vicenzi thanked the City Commission, Deputy Director of Management Services Melissa Fuller, Accounting & Budget Division Manager Jennifer Clark, Budget & Accounting Specialist Jacquelyn DeWaters, and City staff for their hard work during the budget process.

Commissioner Hess, seconded by Commissioner Decker, moved to adopt the budget resolution, component unit budgets, and fee schedules as follows:

Resolution 22-03

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving and adopting the annual appropriation for the year 2022, setting forth the number of mills to be levied, approving an interim appropriation for the year 2022, and establishing policies for the administration of the budget.
- approval of the proposed FY2022 Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) budget.
- approval of the FY2022 Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Operating Budget, and the existing two-mill DDA Tax Levy.
- approval of the proposed FY2022 Economic Development Corporation (EDC) budget as submitted by the EDC Board.
- approval of the FY2022 Downtown Economic Growth Authority (DEGA) Operating Budget.

- approval of the proposed 2022 fee schedule for the Kalamazoo Municipal Golf Association.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving the 2022 fees for various permits, hearings, etc. within the Community Planning & Economic Development Department. Resolution 22-04
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** to establish the Department of Parks and Recreation fees and charges for 2022. Resolution 22-05
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** to establish the City of Kalamazoo Cemetery fees and changes for 2022. Resolution 22-06

Prior to a vote on the motion, Mayor Anderson remarked on the budget process and reminded the community this was not the end of the budget discussions.

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 Ritsema thanked CFO Vicenzi, Department Directors and staff for their hard work to present a balance budget for FY2022. City Manager Ritsema recognized the presence of Grant Fletcher, Chair of the DDA/DEGA Boards. City Manager Ritsema read a statement regarding the City's continued commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). City Manager Ritsema's statement has been filed with the paperwork for this meeting.

2022-00

City Manager's Report

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director Dorla Bonner presented DEI updates and the next steps for the DEI assessment. Director Bonner thanked the City Commission for approving the budget for the DEI Department. Director Bonner recognized DEI Coordinator Tinessa Patterson and Assistant Public Safety Chief Victor Green for their roles in the DEI Department. Director Bonner stated the City was following best practices and was a trail blazer in the DEI movement.

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

Commissioner
Comments

Commissioner Juarez stated he was excited to be part of a Commission working towards a transformational community and thanked young people for being involved in their community.

Commissioner Praedel echoed Commissioner Juarez's comments and congratulated the City of Kalamazoo on a balanced FY2022 budget. Commissioner Praedel asked the community to stay vigilant regarding COVID-19 safety practices and thanked healthcare workers for their continued service.

Commissioner Hess stated she was inspired by the youth and the elderly in the community. Commissioner Hess remarked on the power of education and the opportunities education provided. Commissioner Hess requested increased funding for the Shop with a Cop Program and that the program be expanded. Commissioner Hess thanked Director Bonner for her passion and commitment to

Commissioner
Comments (cont'd)

the DEI work for the City of Kalamazoo. Commissioner Hess expressed support for spending budget dollars on additional DEI projects.

Commissioner Decker congratulated the Social Justice Youth Award recipients and the award sponsors. Commissioner Decker expressed support for expanding the Shop with a Cop Program and stated she would be attending the March 24th DEI Assessment Report feedback session for Boards and Commissions.

Commissioner Hoffman highlighted the free COVID-19 at home testing kits available from the Federal Government. Commissioner Hoffman thanked City Manager Ritsema for his DEI statement and express support for the City's commitment to DEI.

Vice Mayor Cooney thanked City Manager Ritsema for his DEI statement and congratulated the recipients of the Social Justice Youth Awards. Vice Mayor Cooney recognized his interns Makayla and Timisha in the audience. Vice Mayor Cooney offered remarks on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mayor Anderson thanked Western Michigan University President Edward Montgomery, Kalamazoo Valley Community College President Dr. L. Marshall Washington, Dr. Michael Thomas Scott, Sr., Chief Servant and Senior Pastor for The Galilee Baptist Church, and Director Dorla Bonner for making comments during the Martin Luther King Jr. laying of the wreath ceremony. Mayor Anderson wished Clerk Scott Borling a speedy recovery from a recent illness. Mayor Anderson highlighted the redirection of downtown Kalamazoo and invited the public to attend the grand opening of the new Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries shelter space. Mayor Anderson provided an update on the LODGE project by the LIFT Foundation and announced applications were now being accepted for the studio apartment spaces. Mayor Anderson indicated COVID emergency rental assistance was still available to renters to prevent evictions, but he asked landlords to be patient with the process.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Shelby Moss
Deputy City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: _____

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