

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, July 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall, 241 West South Street.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell
Vice Mayor Erin Knott
David Anderson
Eric Cunningham
Don Cooney
Shannon Sykes
Jack Urban

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

None

Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Invocation

The invocation, given by Pastor Dave Zomer, Bethany Reformed Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

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

Commissioner Urban requested that Item F-2, a professional services agreement with CSM Group for the Comprehensive Harrison Facility Program assessment, be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda.

Consent Agenda

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

- approval of a one-year contract with Ferguson Waterworks for the purchase of miscellaneous water parts inventory in the amount of \$166,422.
- approval of a contract with Hoffman Bros. Inc. for the construction of the Station 22 Water Main Project in the amount of \$1,186,906.
- approval of a contract with Wightman & Associates, Inc. for professional engineering services related to the Portage Street Improvements between Stockbridge Avenue and Lovell Street in the amount of \$141,800.00.
- approval of a contract with Hoffman Brothers, Inc. for the Dutton Place Public Utility Improvements project in the amount of \$210,000.
- first reading of an ordinance to rezone 37 parcels in the E. Cork Street area from Zone M-1 (Manufacturing, Limited District) to Zone CC (Commercial, Community District); and schedule a public hearing for July 16, 2018.

- adoption of a RESOLUTION of Intent to create a Downtown Corridor Improvement Authority, hereafter referred to as the Downtown Kalamazoo Economic Growth Authority (DEGA); and set a public hearing on the matter for August 6, 2018.	Resolution 18-41
- adoption of a corrected RESOLUTION vacating the public alley between N. Park Street and Cooley Street and rescinding Resolution 18-11.	Resolution 18-42
- adoption of a RESOLUTION to accept a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant authorized by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) equal to thirty-three (33%) percent of \$919,000.00 and in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for improvements to Bronson Park; appropriating a match to the grant of \$616,000 (67%); accepting terms of the agreement as received from the DNR; and authorizing the City Manager to sign all necessary documents.	Resolution 18-43
- approval of an addendum to the Traffic Signal Maintenance and Utility Locating Services Agreement between the City of Kalamazoo and the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County to add a second Traffic Signal Maintenance Technician.	
- approval of an agreement granting an easement to Consumers Energy for an underground pipeline in Emerald Park; and authorize the City Manager to sign all related and necessary documents to grant the easement.	
- approval of a recommendation to hold until July 16, 2018 the adoption of a resolution vacating the northern 105 feet of Foresman Avenue.	
- approval of a recommendation to hold until July 16, 2018 authorization for the sale of 5 parking spaces on the alley behind the premises at 250 N. Kalamazoo Mall.	
Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, 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.	
AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Cunningham, Sykes, Urban, Vice Mayor Knott, Mayor Hopewell	
NAYS: None	
Regular Agenda items were considered next.	
Commissioner Urban requested an explanation of the Comprehensive Harrison Facility Program assessment for the sake of the general public.	Regular Agenda Agreement for the Comprehensive Harrison Facility Program Assessment
Public Service Director James Baker explained the City's Stockbridge facility was old and overutilized, which resulted in less-than-desirable	

Agreement for the
Comprehensive
Harrison Facility
Program Assessment
(cont'd)

situations like equipment sitting outside in the elements and staff not having adequate locker facilities. Director Baker stated the proposed study would assess the space needs of the Public Services Department, determine the feasibility of consolidating staff and equipment at the Harrison Facility, and provide a cost estimate for the consolidation.

In response to a question from Commissioner Urban, Director Baker indicated the Comprehensive Harrison Facility Program was for the Public Services Department only and did not include the Community Planning and Economic Development Department.

An opportunity was given for citizens to comment on a professional services agreement with CSM Group in the amount of \$251,653 for the Comprehensive Harrison Facility Program assessment, but no comments were offered.

Vice Mayor Knott, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, moved to approve a professional services agreement with CSM Group for the Comprehensive Harrison Facility Program assessment for the consolidation of the Stockbridge and Harrison Facilities into one campus in the amount of \$251,653.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Cunningham, Sykes, Urban, Vice Mayor Knott, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

Citizen Comments

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

Nehemiah Scudder, City resident, reported he had interviewed Mayor Hopewell earlier in the day. Mr. Scudder read the text of the interview.

The following people expressed support for the Kalamazoo County Senior Millage and requested that the City Commission endorse the millage:

Dale Hein, City resident and Co-Chair of the Say Yes to Seniors campaign

Tracy Hall, City resident and Kalamazoo County Commissioner
David Benac, City resident

Lucinda Stinson, non-resident and Co-Chair of the Say Yes to Seniors campaign

Jodi Dozeman, City resident, spoke about various matters.

City Commissioner
Comments

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments and concerns of City Commissioners.

Commissioner Sykes expressed support for the Senior Millage and requested that the City Commission adopt a resolution of support on July

16th. Commissioner Sykes asked that the City Commission consider adopting a resolution being developed for the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners that would object to the separation of families that was taking place at the U.S./Mexican border. Commissioner Sykes asked the City to look into an allegation that a 72 year-old man was arrested because the grass in his yard was too tall. Commissioner Sykes stated she had been feeling anxious about the state of the country and announced she would be collecting love letters that would be posted publicly at www.lovelettersforpeace.com. Commissioner Sykes asked people to write love letters as a way to counteract the anger, distrust, and divisiveness that seemed to dominate the public forum. Commissioner Sykes stated letters should be sent to lovelettersforpeace@gmail.com.

Commissioner Cooney stated Independence Day was a good time for Americans to reflect on the state of the country and what kind of country the United States should become.

Commissioner Urban noted the Senior Millage appeared on the back of the ballot. Commissioner Urban remarked on the relationship between Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who were good friends despite being ideological opposites. Commissioner Urban stated Capitalism needed to be tempered with justice.

Commissioner Cunningham expressed support for the Senior Millage and encouraged people to look at the Michigan Voter Information Center for important election information. Commissioner Cunningham noted fireworks were permitted only on national holidays and the days immediately before and after national holidays.

Vice Mayor Knott questioned whether the Say Yes to Seniors campaign had made a formal request for support to the City. Vice Mayor Knott requested updates on the Graphic Packaging odor issue and the Climate Action Plan.

In response to a request from Mayor Hopewell, Public Safety Chief Karianne Thomas stated the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety would respond to calls regarding fireworks, but in most cases they would be low priority calls. Chief Thomas explained that it was difficult to catch offenders because officers were not able to issue tickets or citations unless they witnessed the person actually shooting off the fireworks.

Mayor Hopewell stated the enforcement of fireworks laws required pro-active policing, intelligence gathering, and relationship building between both the police and the community and between neighbors. Mayor Hopewell encouraged people to report the illegal discharge of fireworks even if catching the offenders was unlikely, as the call-for-service data would enable pro-active policing in the future. Mayor Hopewell urged people to lobby their state legislators for changes to the fireworks laws.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

City Commissioner
Comments (cont'd)

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on August 20, 2018

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: August 20, 2018

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