

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, November 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall, 241 West South Street.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell
David Anderson
Don Cooney
Shannon Sykes
Jack Urban

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Vice Mayor Erin Knott
Eric Cunningham

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

Commissioner
Excused

Commission Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Sykes, moved to excuse the absences of Vice Mayor Knott and Commissioner Cunningham. With a voice vote the motion passed.

Invocation

The invocation, given by Bret Laird, Senior Pastor at Calvary Bible Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation on the
2018 Summer Youth
Employment Program

Eric Stewart, Director of Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) and Paige Farrell, YOU Project Manager, distributed copies of the *myCITY Kalamazoo 2018 Final Report*, showed a video about the myCITY program, and delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled *2018 Summer Youth Employment Program*. Copies of the report and PowerPoint slides were filed with the papers for this meeting.

In response to questions from Commissioner Cooney, Mr. Stewart stated the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) would be connected to All Things Possible in future years, and he confirmed that students would continue to have SYEP opportunities through the Van Buren Technology Center in Lawrence. Mr. Stewart stated YOU was connecting students with jobs at the end of the summer, especially students who were age 18 and over.

Proclamation

Commissioner Anderson proclaimed the month of November *Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Awareness Month* in the City of Kalamazoo. Matt Rutledge received the proclamation.

Adoption of the
Agenda

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

City Attorney Robinson requested a closed session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss pending litigation. City Attorney Robinson noted the second paragraph of the notice in section 6 of the resolution setting a public hearing regarding the Downtown Economic Growth Authority Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan (Item F-12 on the agenda) contained a reference to the "TIP Plan." City Attorney Robinson indicated this language should be corrected to read "TIF Plan."

Commissioner Sykes requested that Item F-16, acceptance of the 2018 Justice Assistance Grant award, be moved to the Regular Agenda.

Adoption of the
Agenda (cont'd)

At 7:26 p.m. Mayor Hopewell opened a public hearing to receive comments on a **RESOLUTION** amending the boundaries of Industrial Development District No. 95 to include additional property owned by Schupan & Sons at 4200 & 4233 Davis Creek Court.

Public Hearing re: a
Resolution Amending
IDD No. 95

John Barry, non-resident and President of Shupan Aluminum and Plastic Sales, provided an overview of the company and its operations and described planned development projects. Mr. Barry expressed support for the resolution.

At 7:29 p.m. Mayor Hopewell closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** amending the boundaries of Industrial Development District No. 95 to include additional property owned by Schupan & Sons at 4200 & 4233 Davis Creek Court.

Resolution 18-71
Amending IDD No. 95

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Anderson remarked on the ways Shupan & Sons was a great corporate partner with the City.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Sykes, Urban, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hopewell opened a public hearing to receive comments on a resolution establishing an Industrial Development District around the perimeter of the parcels owned by Schupan & Sons, LLC at 2730 Millcork Street, 3100 Miller Road and 2900 Miller Road.

Public Hearing re: a
Resolution Creating
IDD No. 130 at 2730
Millcork

Corey Psycher, non-resident and Vice President of Electronics Recycling at Shupan & Sons, described the operations and proposed development project at the Electronics Recycling Division.

At 7:33 p.m. Mayor Hopewell closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Urban, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** establishing an Industrial Development District around the perimeter of the parcels owned by Schupan & Sons, LLC at 2730 Millcork Street, 3100 Miller Road and 2900 Miller Road.

Resolution 18-72
Creating IDD No. 130
at 2730 Millcork

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Sykes, Urban, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

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 sole source purchase with Ferguson Waterworks for the Neptune AMI Gateway and Software package in the amount of \$187,766.34.
- approval of a two-year contract with Phoenix Outfitters, LLC for Public Safety uniforms in the amount of \$254,823.08.
- approval of a two-year term contract with Water Solutions Unlimited for the purchase of sodium hexametaphosphate in the amount of \$269,280.00.
- agreement with the United States Geological Survey for hydraulic modeling and flood inundation mapping for the Kalamazoo River, Portage Creek, and Axtell Creek in the amount of \$307,000.
- 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 \$334,110.
- approval of a one-year contract extension with Constellation New Energy – Gas Division, LLC for natural gas to be used to heat selected City facilities in the amount of \$500,000.
- first reading of an ordinance to add *Chapter 50: Zoning* to City's Code of Ordinances and Repeal Section 6.1 of Appendix A Off-Street Parking and Loading; and schedule a public hearing on November 19, 2018.
- first reading of an ordinance to rezone properties in the Northside Neighborhood as a step to implement the Northside Neighborhood Plan; and schedule a public hearing for November 19, 2018.

Resolution 18-73

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** authorizing the City Manager to sign a three-party Agreement for Services between the City of Kalamazoo, Foundation for Excellence, and Kalamazoo Community Foundation for a period of three years.

Resolution 18-74

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** scheduling a public hearing for November 19, 2018 regarding an application from Schupan & Sons, LLC for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate.

Resolution 18-75

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** accepting a grant from the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Certified Local Governments (CLG) Grant Program in the amount of \$11,150 to be used to plan and implement a historic district commission training workshop for local and regional historic district commissions.

Resolution 18-76

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** setting a public hearing for December 3, 2018 regarding the Downtown Economic Growth

Authority's proposed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Development Plans; and scheduling November 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. as an opportunity for taxing authorities levying taxes subject to capture under the TIF Plan to meet with the City Commission and provide comment and recommendations on the plan.

Resolution 18-76
(cont'd)

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** recognizing Drive for Life Foundation as a non-profit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license.
- approval of a Service Agreement with BG West, LLC regarding the tax-exempt property on Alcott Street that will be occupied by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.
- approval of a two-year agreement with the Central County Transportation Authority to provide Public Safety services at the Kalamazoo Transportation Center and Metro Transit campus.
- approval and acceptance of easements from Circle K for water main installed as part of the Circle K Construction Project at 4851 and 4921 South Sprinkle Road.
- approval and acceptance of an easement from Parkway Flats, LLC for water main & sanitary sewer installed as part of the Parkway Flats Project.
- approval of the Mayor's appointment and reappointment to boards and commissions:
 - the reappointment of Carl Brown to the Downtown Development Authority for a term expiring on March 31, 2022.
 - the appointment of Nicole Sabel to the Historic Preservation Commission for a term expiring on March 31, 2021.
- approval of the minutes from the City Commission meetings on October 1 and October 15, 2018.
- approval of a recommendation to hold until November 19, 2018 consideration of the sale of 1109 N. Park Street to Jesus Rodriguez-Reyes and Leticia Rodriguez-Medina for \$120.00.

Resolution 18-77

Commissioner Cooney, 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, Sykes, Urban, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

Acceptance of a 2018
Justice Assistance
Grant (JAG) Award

Commissioner Sykes referenced a memo from City Attorney Robinson regarding potential conflicts between the City's family separation (immigration enforcement) policy adopted on July 16th and conditions for the City's acceptance of the 2018 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice. Commissioner Sykes requested a more detailed explanation of why the City Attorney thought there were no conflicts between the City's policy and the grant conditions, and specifically Condition #46 regarding notice of release of undocumented detainees.

In response to Commissioner Sykes, City Attorney Robinson stated the release of detainees would be the responsibility of the County Sheriff, so the County Sheriff's Department would be the law enforcement agency responsible for providing the notice of release. City Attorney Robinson remarked that providing notice of release was not related to separating children from families, which was the central idea of the Family Separation Policy. City Attorney Robinson explained federal law prohibited local governments from interfering with immigration enforcement, but the federal government was not able to force state and local governments to actively enforce immigration law. City Attorney Robinson stated he did not see a conflict between the Family Separation Policy and acceptance of the JAG funds.

Commissioner Sykes read the Family Separation Policy and stated she interpreted "separating children from their families" in the City's policy to mean when a separation happened in Kalamazoo. Commissioner Sykes remarked that the grant conditions seemed to equate failure to provide information on immigration status with interference, which meant the City could not prohibit employees from contacting Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Commissioner Sykes questioned whether City staff would be violating the condition regarding "public disclosure of certain law enforcement sensitive information" if they communicated with the public for personal reasons regarding ICE activities in the community. Commissioner Sykes noted the County Sheriff's Department was a co-grantee or sub-grantee, and she questioned whether the City would be assisting "other government agencies" if the County Sheriff provided notice of release in accordance with the grant conditions. Commissioner Sykes stated she was deeply concerned with the grant conditions and she also questioned whether enforcement of the City's anti-discrimination ordinance would conflict with the prohibitions against religious discrimination in Condition #20.

City Attorney Robinson observed that Commissioner Sykes' questions and concerns were very detailed, and he stated he would have addressed those issues in his memo if he had known about them. City Attorney Robinson explained that each year the Mayor and City Attorney were required to sign a certification and disclosure affidavit under penalty of perjury as part of the grant process. City Attorney Robinson noted this document had become longer and more involved under the administration of President Donald Trump, to the point where he had begun looking up the law citations in these documents prior to signing to ensure he knew what was being required and whether the City was compliant. City

Acceptance of a 2018
JAG Award (cont'd)

Attorney Robinson indicated he would not be able to answer Commissioner Sykes' questions during the meeting, as he needed time to carefully study the grant conditions and legal references. City Attorney Robinson stated he had reviewed the grant conditions generally and was comfortable that the City could accept the grant funds, but Commissioner Sykes' pointed questions would require focused research.

Commissioner Sykes acknowledged that she had submitted her questions in a general way through the City Manager. Commissioner Sykes stated she would like all City Commissioners to review the certifications and disclosures document prior to the Mayor and City Attorney signing the affidavit. Commissioner Sykes reported the Corporate Counsel for Kalamazoo County had concerns that a proposed County policy, similar to the City's Family Separation Policy, would be in conflict with the JAG conditions. Commissioner Sykes indicated the County moved forward with that policy because they felt the City, as the grantee, would be responsible for any conflicts.

City Attorney Robinson noted the certifications and disclosures affidavits had never been brought to the City Commission because the Commission had accepted the grants prior to the City receiving the affidavits. City Attorney Robinson stated he had no objections to Commissioners reviewing the affidavits, and he remarked the City Commission was under no obligation to accept the JAG funds.

Commissioner Cooney thanked Commissioner Sykes for her questions and asked about the Sheriff's policy for notifying ICE about undocumented detainees. Commissioner Cooney stated it was his understanding the Sheriff provided this notification only when the offense was serious.

In response to questions from Commissioner Anderson, Public Safety Chief Karianne Thomas indicated the signed grant agreement was due by November 16th, and the City risked losing the funding if there was a delay. Chief Thomas explained the grant funds would be used to replace video recording equipment in the City's interview rooms and to purchase a microscope for the City/County joint crime lab. Chief Thomas stated the microscope would allow the City and Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department to test for certain types of narcotics. Chief Thomas stated the City did not have funds budgeted for these items.

In response to questions from Commissioner Sykes, Chief Thomas clarified the grant funds would be used to upgrade existing, outdated video equipment in the City's interview rooms, and the new microscope would allow the City and Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department to test evidence in-house rather than sending it to the state crime lab, where there were backlogs and processing delays.

When an opportunity was given for citizens to comment on Acceptance of a 2018 Justice Assistance Grant award in the amount of \$92,200 from the U.S. Department of Justice, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Acceptance of a 2018
JAG Award (cont'd)

Zach Lassiter, City resident, stated the City Attorney should know the Sheriff's policy regarding ICE notifications. Mr. Lassiter played audio clips of City Commissioner's comments on federal immigration policy, the Welcoming City proclamation and family separation resolution.

Iman Freeman, City resident, spoke about the City's non-discrimination ordinance and Section 43 of the grant agreement and noted the ordinance did not define religious discrimination. Mr. Freeman stated religious views were subjective and could be used as a cover for personal opinions.

Michael Rizor, City resident, stated the City should not accept any federal funds until the federal government stopped hunting "illegal immigrants."

Rhonda, City resident, spoke about how she had been helped by undocumented people.

Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, moved to accept the 2018 Justice Assistance Grant award in the amount of \$92,200 from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Urban indicated he did not have any issues with accepting the JAG award and suggested the City accept the grant and wait to see if the Justice Department raised concerns about the City's compliance with the grant conditions.

Commissioner Cooney stated he would not support the motion if the grant agreement required the City to notify ICE prior to the release of undocumented individuals.

In response to Commissioner Cooney, City Attorney Robinson stated the grant agreement contained a notification requirement.

Commissioner Anderson noted the City had received JAG awards for a long time, and he questioned whether it was possible for the City Commission to get more information before making a decision.

Mayor Hopewell remarked a special meeting would be necessary for the Commission to take action prior to the November 16th deadline.

In response to a question from Commissioner Cooney, Chief Thomas stated she could request an extension from the Justice Department, but she did not have experience in this area to be able to predict the likelihood of success with that request.

Commissioner Sykes reviewed language in Conditions 26, 30, 32, 40, 42, and 44-46 of the grant agreement that would possibly prevent the City from implementing the Commission's Family Separation Policy. Commissioner Sykes stated she was not comfortable with the conditions and would not support the motion. Commissioner Sykes noted City Commission review of the certifications and disclosures affidavit would come too late, as the Commission would need to approve the grant

agreement prior to getting the affidavit document. Commissioner Sykes reminded Commissioners that after the 2016 election they had talked about the possibility of losing federal funding or having to reject funding because of the conditions attached to receiving those funds. Commissioner Sykes stated that time had come.

Commissioner Cooney indicated he was not prepared to vote on the JAG award and requested a special meeting.

Mayor Hopewell recommended that the motion be withdrawn, that the City Attorney be given time to do research, and that the Mayor call a special meeting to consider this item.

Commissioner Urban questioned whether anything new would be learned in the next two weeks, and he remarked on the irony of the City rejecting these federal funds when it was worried about losing other federal funds. Commissioner Urban suggested the City Commission consider all the implications of this decision.

City Manager Ritsema noted Conditions 44-46 in the grant agreement only applied to the use of the grant funds, not to the City in general.

Mayor Hopewell questioned whether there was immovable opposition to accepting the grant, which would eliminate the need for calling a special meeting.

Commissioner Urban withdrew his motion, with the understanding that a special meeting would be called for the Commission to either accept the grant or not accept the grant prior to the deadline, with every effort made to ensure the presence of all Commissioners and the availability of the requested information.

Commissioner Anderson withdrew his second of the motion.

Commissioner Sykes thanked City Manager Ritsema for his observations but stated the City could not take a chance with the Department of Justice's interpretation of the agreement and its conditions. Commissioner Sykes indicated she would never be complicit with the requirements of the grant agreement, and she stated the Sheriff's current policy was to notify ICE prior to the release of undocumented detainees. Commissioner Sykes stated the City had reached a point where it needed to say, "no."

Mayor Hopewell remarked that a special meeting was not needed if the City Attorney determined the conditions in the JAG contract violated the Family Separation Policy.

Commissioner Urban urged Commissioners who wanted answers to specific questions to forward those questions to the City Attorney so he could provide specific answers.

City Attorney Robinson commented that the certifications and disclosures affidavit would be the most important element of this grant transaction, and based purely on his instinct for self-preservation he would

Acceptance of a 2018
JAG Award (cont'd)

Acceptance of a 2018
JAG Award (cont'd)

recommend rejecting the funds if there was any chance the City's policies and practices were in violation of the grant conditions. City Attorney Robinson stated he would do the work to research answers to Commissioners' questions if the Commission wanted to continue pursuing the JAG funds. City Attorney Robinson asked Commissioners for an indication of intent and the level of desire to have the City receive these funds.

Commissioner Anderson suggested the need for a close reading of the grant conditions might be limited, as some language in the agreement appeared to be boilerplate language; some language probably captured current practices that would continue regardless of the City's acceptance or rejection of the grant; and the remaining language, a relatively small percentage, would require interpretation.

City Attorney Robinson explained that determining the meaning of the conditions would be straightforward, but there would be nuances regarding the intersection of the grant conditions and the Family Separation Policy and how the policy should be interpreted. City Attorney Robinson indicated, for example, that it would be difficult to determine whether an action by a City employee in the present moment would lead to the separation of children from their families sometime in the future. City Attorney Robinson also pointed out there was a question of whether sharing information with ICE, in and of itself, was assisting other governmental agencies as prohibited in the policy. And finally, City Attorney Robinson noted it was a 1996 federal law that prohibited local governments from restricting information sharing with ICE, and he read a portion of that law. City Attorney Robinson expressed doubt that the City Commission intended to adopt an unlawful position regarding federal law when it adopted the Family Separation Policy. City Attorney Robinson asked Commissioners for feedback on this question.

In response to a request from Commission Sykes, City Attorney Robinson re-read the section of federal law he had referenced:

Notwithstanding any other provision of federal, state, or local law, no person or agency may prohibit or in any way restrict a federal, state or local government entity from doing any of the following with respect to information regarding the immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual:

1. Sending information to, or requesting or receiving information from, Immigration and Naturalization Service;
2. Maintaining such information;
3. Exchanging such information with any federal, state, or local governmental entity.

Commissioner Cooney stated he was not willing to cooperate with the deportation of innocent people. Commissioner Cooney remarked that the JAG funds represented tax dollars paid by Kalamazoo residents that should come back to the community, and he suggested the City reject the grant conditions as conditions for the City to receive funds it deserved.

Commissioner Sykes expressed agreement with Commissioner Cooney and suggested the City communicate to the Department of Justice both its request for the JAG funds and its rejection of the grant conditions. Commissioner Sykes asked if KDPS policies violated federal law.

In response to Commissioner Sykes, City Attorney Robinson stated KDPS was not actively notifying federal agencies about undocumented individuals, but ICE had ways to discover this information.

Commissioner Sykes stated she had no desire to break federal law, but when considering policies that had been put forward by the current President and his administration there might come a time when the City Commission, as a public body, needed to engage in civil disobedience.

City Planner Christina Anderson and Mattie Jordan-Woods, Executive Director of the Northside Association for Community Development, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled, *Northside Cultural Business District Authority*. A copy of the presentation slides was filed with the papers for this meeting.

In response to questions from Commissioner Anderson, City Planner Anderson stated the immediate next steps would be the selection of board members, the creation of bylaws, the establishment of priorities and action items, and the development of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) plan.

When an opportunity was given for citizens to comment on a resolution creating the Northside Cultural Business District Authority (NCBDA) the following people addressed the City Commission and expressed support for the NCBDA:

Rhonda, City resident
Noah Krzan, City resident
Gwendolyn Hooker, City resident

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Urban, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** creating the Northside Cultural Business District Authority.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Sykes, Urban, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

An opportunity was given for citizens to comment on a resolution approving the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 and the United States Department of Justice regarding that portion of the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site located in the City, but no comments were offered.

Acceptance of a 2018
JAG Award (cont'd)

Resolution 18-78
Creating the Northside
Cultural Business
District Authority

Resolution 18-79
Approving an
Administrative
Settlement Agreement
and Order on Consent
for the Acquisition of
the Panelyte Property

Resolution 18-79
Approving an
Administrative
Settlement Agreement
and Order on Consent
for the Acquisition of
the Panelyte Property
(cont'd)

Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Urban, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** approving the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 and the United States Department of Justice regarding that portion of the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site located in the City; and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to sign the Agreement and any further documents associated with the Agreement and the City's responsibilities under it.

Prior to a vote on the motion and in response to a question from Commissioner Anderson, City Attorney Robinson explained the settlement agreement would give the Panelyte property to the City and would protect the City from liability regarding contaminants on the site.

Commissioner Urban stated the acquisition of the Panelyte property was good for the City, as it would allow for consistent development of the land between Cork and Alcott Streets.

*At 9:31 p.m. Commissioner Sykes left the meeting.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Urban, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Borling encouraged people to vote in the statewide General Election on November 6th and urged voters still in possession of absentee ballots to return those ballots by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

*At 9:34 p.m. Commissioner Anderson left the meeting.

*At 9:34 p.m. Commissioner Sykes returned to the meeting.

Citizen Comments

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

Hany Dwidar, City resident, offered to build small houses for people who were homeless to stay in temporarily while they were trying to find permanent housing. Mr. Dwidar asked the City for a vacant lot where he could build these houses.

*Commissioner Anderson returned to the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

Alan Loveridge, non-resident, spoke about reducing the cost of prisons, addressing homelessness, and improving the quality of substitute teaching. A copy of Mr. Loveridge's written remarks was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Ed Tarkowski thanked the City for replacing lead pipes, requested that the City remove the stumps left from trees it had cut down, suggested the Sisters of St. Joseph facility on Gull Road as a place to house people who were homeless, and stated the City should help undocumented people become documented.

Alice Wright, City resident, described problems with groups of young people walking in the streets and people parking on the street after 2:00 a.m. near her home on North Westnedge Avenue. Ms. Wright stated KDPS was not responding to her calls and enforcing laws.

Mark Shupan, City resident, thanked the City for its support over the years.

Michael Rizer, City resident, asked people to remember the homeless during the holidays.

Zach Lassiter, City resident, commented on the Mayor's call to KDPS after the last City Commission meeting alleging that people were smoking marihuana on the steps of City Hall.

Keith, a City resident, talked about being homeless during the holidays.

Mattie Jordan-Woods, City resident, thanked City Commissioners for their service, urged the City to use economic development to eliminate homelessness, and asked the City to address Ms. Wright's concerns.

Iman Freeman, City resident, stated there seemed to be a lack of conversation about what could be done in various situations and observed that people did not know what the City Commission was and was not empowered to do.

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

Commissioner Sykes thanked people for supporting the homeless community and stated the people most impacted by homelessness needed to be allowed to develop solutions. Commissioner Sykes noted Ms. Hooker's group had a program called Tiny Houses of H.O.P.E. that built tiny homes for people who needed housing. Commissioner Sykes commented on the difficulty involved with getting undocumented people documented so they could be in the United States legally. Commissioner Sykes observed that many young people who were engaged in undesirable behaviors were experiencing a lot of trauma in their lives, and she stated the community needed to both correct the behavior and address the trauma.

Commissioner Cooney urged people to vote on November 6th.

Commissioner Urban expressed concern that patients at the state psychiatric hospital near the Western Michigan University (WMU) campus were not being allowed to go outside for their normal exercise time on days when there were WMU football games because people were allowed to tailgate on or near the hospital grounds.

Citizen Comments
(cont'd)

City Commissioner
Comments

Commissioner
Comments (cont'd)

Mayor Hopewell encouraged Mr. Dwidar to speak with Community Planning and Economic Development Director Rebekah Kik. Mayor Hopewell urged people to vote on November 6th.

Closed Session

Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved that the City Commission go into closed session.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Mayor Hopewell announced the Commission would not be returning to open session.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Sykes, Urban, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on January 7, 2019

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: January 7, 2019

*This page was left
blank intentionally.*