

Roll Call

The Kalamazoo City Commission met as a Committee of the Whole on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 5:01 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor David Anderson
Vice Mayor Don Cooney
Qianna Decker
Jeanne Hess
Chris Praedel

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Stephanie Hoffman
Esteven Juarez

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

Commissioners Excused

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Vice Mayor Cooney, moved to excuse the absences of Commissioners Hoffman and Juarez. With a voice vote the motion passed.

Public Comments

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

In-Person

None

Call-In

Jim Ratliff, City resident, stated he was a cyclist and thanked the City for its efforts to make the streets safer. Mr. Ratliff expressed support for bike lanes on Bronson Boulevard.

2022-52-01

Presentation: IK 2025
Year 5 Review

Assistant City Manager Rebekah Kik and Community Planning and Economic Development Deputy Director Christina Anderson delivered a presentation entitled *Kalamazoo Imagines, Kalamazoo Acts: Celebrating Five Years of Progress*. A copy of the slides from this presentation was filed with the papers for the meeting. After the presentation, Assistant City Manager Kik and Deputy Director Anderson played a video entitled *A Look Back at 2022*.

In response to questions and comments from Commissioners, Assistant City Manager Kik and Deputy Director Anderson provided the following information:

- the City is trying to expand its network of bike lanes, but it will take time. When New York City expanded its bike lanes, it took 10 years for ridership to double. The City will continue to work to make people feel safe in bike lanes. For decades cities planned for just cars; now we're planning for bikes and pedestrians too. There is a lot of work to be done around education and advocacy to change the culture and behavior around driving, to make drivers more aware of cyclists and pedestrians.
- things that stood out from the past year or that were exciting to see coming: two-way street conversion, changing zoning to allow for in-fill housing, and promoting in-fill housing.

- although past performance has set a high standard, staff will be able to meet or exceed expectations in 2023. IK 2025 was the first time all staff were involved in creating the Master Plan and Strategic Vision. The City organization is working differently now; there is a lot of teamwork. IK 2035 will build on IK 2025.

Commissioner Decker suggested the City connect with the organization Access for All, which trained developers.

Mayor Anderson stated the lookback video perfectly encapsulated the work of the City, and he suggested the video be put on Tik Tok.

City Manager Ritsema thanked Assistant City Manager Kik, Deputy Director Anderson, and their team. City Manager Ritsema stated IK 2025 and the Foundation for Excellence had put the City in a position to impact lives.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: _____

2022-52-01

Presentation: IK 2025
Year 5 Review (cont'd)

Commissioner
Comments

Adjournment