

	A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, June 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.
Roll Call	COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor David Anderson Vice Mayor Jeanne Hess Don Cooney Stephanie Hoffman Chris Praedel Alonzo Wilson COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Qianna Decker Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Aaron Leal, and City Clerk Scott Borling.
Commissioner Excused	Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Vice Mayor Hess, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Decker. With a voice vote the motion passed.
Invocation	The invocation, given by Pastor Joshua Kibezi, African Community Fellowship, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
Proclamations 2024-25-01	Commissioner Hoffman read a proclamation entitled <i>Recognizing and Honoring the Over 1,500 Volunteers Who Went to Mississippi in 1964 and the Eight Kalamazoo Residents Who Joined Them in the Struggle for Civil Rights, June 17, 2024</i> . Lee Kirk and Wendy Fields, President of the Kalamazoo Metropolitan Branch of the NAACP, received the proclamation.
2024-25-02	Commissioner Praedel read a proclamation entitled <i>Support of House Bill 5430, June 17, 2024</i> . Pam O'Connor from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network and Luis Pena, Historic Preservation Coordinator, received the proclamation.
2024-25-03	Vice Mayor Hess read a proclamation <i>Recognizing Kalamazoo Central High School Men's Track & Field Team, June 17, 2024</i> . Head Coach Tyler Germain and members of the team received the proclamation.
Adoption of the Agenda	By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda as presented.
Communications	City Manager Ritsema announced that City offices would be closed on Wednesday, June 19 th in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.
Public Comments	Next, when an opportunity was given for general public comments, the following people addressed the City Commission: David Elias, City resident, expressed support for electric scooter rentals downtown. Mr. Elias offered remarks about the condition of a property at the corner of Westnedge Avenue and Ransom Street. Mr. Elias questioned whether the City could take enforcement action against damaged vehicles.
2024-25-04	Dale Hein, City resident, expressed support for senior millage renewal question on the August 6 th ballot. Information provided by Mr. Hein was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Tina McClinton, City resident, spoke about flooding in her neighborhood and asked the City to fix the storm drains. Ms. McClinton asked the City to not take away the greenspace in her neighborhood.

Joshua Kibezi, non-resident, spoke about his organization, African Community Fellowship, and he asked the City for help with small business start-up grants.

Jeff Messer, City resident, announced Wednesday, June 19th was Free Park Day in Kalamazoo County, and he highlighted the various parks that would have free admission.

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 related documents on behalf of the city:

Consent Agenda

- approval of a professional service agreement with Peerless-Midwest for well rehabilitation in the amount of \$236,300.
- approval of a contract with Balkema Site Work & Development for the Springfield Avenue water main replacement project in the amount of \$603,346.
- approval of a three-year contract with CDWG through the MiDeal cooperative purchasing program for the purchase of Microsoft licenses in the amount of \$859,766.76.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving an Act 381 Brownfield Plan for the redevelopment project at 5135 and 5147 Portage Road.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving a 5% Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for Standard Caddis 4 Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership for the River's Edge project located at 508 Harrison Street (Parcel No. 06-15-295-101) and 660 Gull Road (Parcel No. 06-15-287-030).
- approval of a housing development loan agreement with River Caddis Development, LLC for the creation of 228 housing and live/work units at 508 Harrison Street and 660 Gull Road for \$420,000.
- acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$483,000 from the Michigan State Police, Grants and Community Service Division, for crisis intervention training and behavioral health co-response services with Integrated Service of Kalamazoo.

2024-25-05

2024-25-06

2024-25-07

2024-25-08
Resolution 24-38

2024-25-09
Resolution 24-39

2024-25-10

2024-25-11

Commissioner Hoffman, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, 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.

AYES: Commissioners Cooney, Hoffman, Praedel, Wilson, Vice Mayor Hess, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

2024-25-12

Substantial Amendments
to the 2019 and 2023
HUD Action Plans

An opportunity was given for Commissioner questions and public comments about Substantial Amendments to the 2019 and 2023 Annual Action Plans for the allocation of Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership funds, but no questions or comments were offered.

Vice Mayor Hess, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, moved to approve Substantial Amendments to the 2019 and 2023 Annual Action Plans for the allocation of Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership funds.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Cooney, Hoffman, Praedel, Wilson, Vice Mayor Hess, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

City Manager's Report

City Manager Ritsema provided the following reports and updates:

- the following facilities will be open as cooling centers over the next week: Ministry with Community, Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, Kalamazoo Central Library, the Portage Senior Center, and the Comstock Community Center.
- Chief Information Officer Tim Dubois had presented at two conferences recently.
- the City had joined the GovAI Coalition, whose purpose was to explore the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for good purposes.

City Manager Ritsema acknowledged and thanked staff in the Public Services and Public Safety Departments for working outside in the intense heat.

Public Services Director James Baker reported on the impacts of severe storms the previous night. Director Baker thanked City staff and outside partners for their work to address storm damage.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Hess, Director Baker stated the loss of power at two pumping stations had not impacted service to any water customers. Director Baker explained there were redundancies in the system, but there could be impacts if the stations remained offline.

Commissioner Praedel thanked Director Baker and his team for their hard work and professionalism.

Commissioner
Comments

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

Commissioner Cooney reviewed the history of the black experience in America. Commissioner Cooney highlighted a book on white poverty by the Reverend William Barber and spoke about the need for everyone to come together to solve poverty.

Commissioner Praedel highlighted Item G-7 on the Consent Agenda, a grant in the amount of \$483,000 from the Michigan State Police for crisis intervention training and behavioral health co-response services. Commissioner Praedel thanked staff for pursuing this training and grant funding.

Vice Mayor Hess expressed sympathy to Commissioner Decker on the loss of her father. Vice Mayor Hess offered remarks on change and the need to build for future generations.

Mayor Anderson referenced remarks made by Coach Germain, and he agreed that people needed to focus on the elements of their lives they could control, like how they treated and expressed care for each other.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.



Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: _____

Commissioner
Comments (cont'd)

Adjournment