A business meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, January 6, 2025 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 Qianna Decker Stephanie Hoffman Chris Praedel Alonzo Wilson
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:	None

Also present were Chief Operating Officer (COO) Laura Lam, City Attorney Aaron Leal, and Deputy City Clerk Shelby Moss.

Invocation/Pledge

The invocation, given by Reverend David Zomer from Bethany Reformed Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda as presented.

Public Comments

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

2025-02-01

Tina McClinton, City resident, shared pictures of a sewer backup in her basement, requested the City preserve the greenspace in her neighborhood, and address flooding issues in the area. Pictures provided by Ms. McClinton were filed with the papers for this meeting.

Pastor Zomer, City resident, thanked the Commission for opportunities to work with the community and connect with the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS).

Consent Agenda

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:

2025-02-02

- approval of a 2025 Support Services Agreement with the Foundation for Excellence (FFE) in the amount of $51,500.

2025-02-03

- approval of a one-year contract extension with Dale W Hubbard Inc. for the disposal of vactor spoils for the Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater departments in the amount of $168,500.

2025-02-04

- approval of the 2025 renewal with ASU Group for excess workers' compensation premium in the total amount of $217,107.

2025-02-05
Resolution 25-01

- approval of a **RESOLUTION** authorizing the submission of a Certified Local Government FY2025 Grant Program application to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office to support the completion of a Condition Assessment Report for the exterior of City Hall.

- adoption of a Michigan Liquor Control Commission **RESOLUTION** to recommend approval of an application from 5135 Portage Road, LLC for a B-Hotel (Class C) Resort Liquor License to be located at 5155 Portage Road.

2025-02-06
Resolution 25-02

- approval of a public utility easement with Bella Meade Condominium Association for the installation and operation of an auto flusher as part of the Belle Meade Condominium Association in Texas Township.

2025-02-07

- approval of the following reappointments to boards, commissions and committees and waive City Commission Rules 12e and 12k regarding term limits and dual board memberships:

2025-02-08

  - the reappointment of **Michael Anderson** to the Board of Review for Assessments for a term expiring on January 31, 2028.
  - the reappointment of **William Gladstone III** to the Board of Review for Assessments for a term expiring on January 31, 2028.
  - the reappointment of **H Charles Kiplinger** to the Board of Review for Assessments for a term expiring on January 31, 2028.
  - the reappointment of **Linda Servis** to the Board of Review for Assessments for a term expiring on January 31, 2028.
  - the reappointment of **Dr. Randy Eberts** to the Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees for a term expiring on March 31, 2027.

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Vice Mayor Hess, 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 Cooney, Decker, Hoffman, Praedel, Wilson, Vice Mayor Hess, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

Regular Agenda

2025-02-09
Contract Extension with Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority for Property and Casualty Insurance

Chief Financial Officer Steve Vicenzi gave a brief overview of the contract with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority for property and casualty insurance.

An opportunity was given for public comments on the contract, but no comments were offered.

Commissioner Hoffman, seconded by Commissioner Pradel, moved to approve a one-year extension of the contract with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority though Ibex Insurance Agency for property & casualty insurance annual premium in an amount not to exceed $1,067,599.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

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

NAYS: None

2025-02-10
Purchase of Water Meters

James Baker, Director of Public Services, gave a brief overview of the purchase of Neptune Water Meters from Ferguson Water Works. In response to questions from Commissioners, Director Baker reported this purchase would replace between 1,500-2,000 meters and the price of the meters had stayed consistent over the last few years. Director Baker stated most of the meters would be installed in the Edison Neighborhood, targeted areas west of US 131, and in conjunction with lead service line replacements.

An opportunity was given for public comments on the purchase, but no comments were offered.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Praedel stated he appreciated the ability of Public Services to coordinate meter replacement with other upgrades and replacements.

Commissioner Praedel, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved to approve a sole source purchased with Ferguson to provide 2025 Neptune Water Meters in the amount of $2,000,000.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

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

NAYS: None

2025-02-11
Contract Supplemental/ Change Order with Republic Services for Single Stream Recycling

An opportunity was given for Commissioner questions regarding the approval of a contract supplemental/change order with Republic Waste Services for single stream recycling services, but no questions were asked.

An opportunity was given for public comments on the contract, but no comments were offered.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Vice Mayor Hess remarked on the importance of educating residents and neighbors about the importance of recycling and what can and cannot be recycled.

Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Vice Mayor Hess, moved to approve a contract supplemental/change order with Republic Waste Services for single stream recycling services in the amount of $2,663,514.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

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

NAYS: None

2025-02-12
Adoption of the FY2025 Budget

Chief Financial Officer Steve Vicenzi gave a brief overview of the City's 2025 budget process. In response to questions from Commissioner Praedel, CFO Vicenzi reported the ARPA Funds were allocated by the December 2024 deadline, but if funds were not spent by mid-2026 they could be reallocated to projects in the same category that could be finished by the end of 2026.

An opportunity was given for public comments on the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY2025) Budget, but no comments were offered.

Commissioner Praedel, seconded by Commissioner Decker, moved to adopt the annual appropriation resolution, component unit budgets, and fee schedules as follows:

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving and adopting the annual appropriation for the year 2025, setting forth the number of mills to be levied, approving an interim appropriation for the year 2026, and establishing policies for the administration of the budget. Resolution 25-03

- approval of the proposed FY2025 Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) budget.

- approval of the FY2025 Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Operating Budget, and the existing two-mill DDA Tax Levy.

- approval of the proposed FY2025 Downtown Economic Growth Authority Operating Budget.

- approval of the proposed FY2025 Economic Development Corporation (EDC) budget as submitted by the EDC Board.

- approval of the FY2025 Northside Cultural Business District Authority Operating Budget.

- approval of the proposed 2025 fee schedule for the Kalamazoo Municipal Golf Association.

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving the 2025 fees for various permits, hearings, etc. within the Community Planning & Economic Development department. Resolution 25-04

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** to establish the Department of Parks and Recreation fees and charges for 2025. Resolution 25-05

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** to establish the City of Kalamazoo Cemetery fees and changes for 2025. Resolution 25-06

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioners highlighted the investments the City was making in capital purchases for the community and the increased level of services for residents while providing lower taxes because of the Foundation for Excellence.

2025-02-12
Adoption of the FY2025 Budget (cont'd)

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

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

NAYS: None

2025-02-13
Annual Agreement between the City and the Foundation for Excellence

COO Lam introduced for consideration the annual agreement between the City and the Foundation for Excellence.

At the request of Commissioner Praedel, COO Lam provided a brief update on the success of the Home Share Program, and she thanked community members and the Commission for their support of the program.

An opportunity was given for public comments on the agreement, but no comments were offered.

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Vice Mayor Cooney, moved to approve the annual agreement between the Kalamazoo Foundation for Excellence (FFE) and the City of Kalamazoo.

With a roll call vote this motion passed 6-0 with one abstention.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Praedel*

*At the time of the vote, Commissioner Praedel indicated he was abstaining due to his employment.

City Manager's Report

COO Lam thanked CFO Vicenzi, Budget Manager Stephanie Radant, Department Directors and staff for their hard work to present a balance budget for FY2025. COO Lam announced the National Community Survey would be starting, and she encouraged community member who received the survey to participate as the survey would help shape the plan for Imagine Kalamazoo 2035.

Commissioner Comments

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

Vice Mayor Hess highlighted the importance of teamwork and the power of education. Vice Mayor Hess commented on her experience with the new parking system and thanked the parking staff.

Commissioner Decker thanked the budget staff for presenting the budget to the Commissioners earlier than prior years. Commissioner Decker thanked KDPS Chief Dave Boysen and the officers from the Station 7 for their service. Commissioner Decker remarked on her experience volunteering at a local coat drive and the importance of exposing youth to community service.

Commissioner Cooney thanked KDPS for their efforts to reduce homicides and crime in the City.

Commissioner Comments (cont'd)

Commissioner Pradel reminded the community to check the batteries in their carbon monoxide and fire detectors and thanked KDPS for their service over the holidays.

Mayor Anderson thanked Commissioners for their work on the budget process and encouraged those who receive the Community Survey to complete and return the survey. Mayor Anderson thanked neurosurgeon Dr. Fabi and the team at Bronson Hospital for their work.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Shelby Moss
Deputy City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: March 3, 2025