

## Roll Call

A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, July 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

## COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor David Anderson  
Vice Mayor Jeanne Hess  
Qianna Decker  
Stephanie Hoffman  
Chris Praedel  
Alonzo Wilson

## COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Don Cooney

Also present were Chief Operating Officer Laura Lam, City Attorney Aaron Leal, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

## Commissioner Excused

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Cooney. With a voice vote the motion passed.

## Invocation

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

Proclamation  
**2025-30-01**

Commissioner Hoffman proclaimed July 17<sup>th</sup> the *2025 National Day of Summer Learning*. Brynn Rohde from the Kalamazoo Youth Development Network (KYDNet) received the proclamation.

## Adoption of the Agenda

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

## Communications

COO Lam announced the rescheduling of the June 27<sup>th</sup> Summer Cinema event and street closures related to the Arcadia Creek project. COO Lam introduced Dave Marquardt, the new Deputy City Manager.

## Public Comments

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

Tina McClinton, City resident, regarding flooding in her neighborhood and increased crime in the City.

Lena Shorlin, regarding her non-profit organization LEAN On Healing with Healing On Purpose.

Alisa Watkins, regarding her non-profit organization LEAN On Healing with Healing On Purpose.

Jody Dozeman, City resident, regarding the condition of City streets.

Jonathan Yarbrough, City resident, introducing himself as the new Executive Director for the Northside Association for Community Development (NACD).

Maggie Adams, City resident and member of ISAAC, regarding the City Manager search process.

Charlae Davis, City resident and member of ISAAC, regarding people who were suffering and the need to center the equitable wellbeing of others.

K, City resident, regarding parking signage at the Farmers' Market, the impact of Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK) and the Foundation for Excellence (FFE), and the need for City Commissioners to stand up for the people in light of changing federal policies and funding decisions.

Shona Espinoza, City resident, regarding the need for City leaders who were willing to work to meet the needs of the community.

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:

- approval of a contract with Eco Patcher Inc for spray patching in the amount of \$130,000.
- approval of a contract supplemental and change order with Hurley & Stewart, LLC for professional design engineering services related to the Burdick Street improvement project (Emerson to Lovell), in the amount of \$184,640.
- approval of a 10-year contract extension with Emphasys Software for the SymPro investment management program in the amount \$245,902.
- approval of a contract extension with Consumers Concrete Corporation for readymix concrete in the amount of \$586,050.
- approval of a contract supplemental and change order with Wightman and Associates Inc for additional scope of services design work in support of the Water Reclamation Plant Secondary Clarifier No. 5 through No. 8 Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$669,430.
- approval of the transfer of a Remotec F6 Explosives Ordinance Disposal (EOD) robot from the Grand Rapids Police Department bomb squad to the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving the appointments of Public Safety Chief of Staff Ryan Tibbets and City Manager Jim Ritsema to the Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority Governing Board of Directors and associated committees.
- approval of the minutes from the City Commission meetings on May 12, May 19, June 2, June 16, and June 23, 2025.

Commissioner Hoffman, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, 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 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

Public Comments  
(cont'd)

Consent Agenda

2025-30-02

2025-30-03

2025-30-04

2025-30-05

2025-30-06

2025-30-07

2025-30-08  
Resolution 25-36

2025-30-09

## Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

**2025-30-10**

Agreement for DWSRF  
Contract 1 Construction  
Engineering

Commissioner Questions: none

Public Comments: none

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, moved to approve a professional services agreement with Tetra Tech for construction engineering for the Contract 1: Pump Station 5 & 14 Water & Transmission Mains Project in the amount of \$1,297,639.

With a roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

**2025-30-11**

Contract for Utility Work  
on Newton Ct, Fellows  
Ave, and John St

Commissioner Questions: none

Public comments: none

Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Vice Mayor Hess, moved to approve a contract with Peter's Construction Company for utility improvements on Newton Court, Fellows Avenue, and John Street in the amount of \$2,488,541.77.

With a roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

**2025-30-12**

Agreement for DWSRF  
Contract 2 Construction  
Engineering

Commissioner Questions: none

Public comments: none

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, moved to approve a professional services agreement with Tetra Tech for construction engineering for the Contract 2: Pump Station 5 & 14 Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$3,724,152.

With a roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

**2025-30-13**

Ordinance 2102 re:  
Water Supply System  
Revenue Bonds

At the request of Vice Mayor Hess, Management Services Director and Chief Financial Officer Steve Vicenzi provided an overview of the proposed issuance of Water Supply System Bonds in the amount of \$101,180,000.

Commissioner Questions: none

Public comments: none

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Hoffman, moved to adopt an **ORDINANCE** authorizing Water Supply System Revenue Bonds, Series 2025B in an amount not to exceed \$101,180,000.

With a roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

Commissioner Questions:

Jane Ghosh, President and CEO of Discover! Kalamazoo, responded to Commissioners' questions regarding the City/County partnership and the plan for addressing operating revenue deficits in the first years the youth sports facility was open.

Public comments: none

Commissioner Decker, seconded by Vice Mayor Hess, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** to participate in negotiations to create the Kalamazoo County Event Center Assessment District Authority.

With a roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

Public Safety Chief Dave Boysen provided a report on gun violence over the holiday weekend and the response of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety.

Chief Operating Officer Lam responded to public comments by providing information on ways to report poor road conditions, an online tool for seeing the uses of FFE funding, and the creation of a transparency page for the City Manager search process.

Commissioner Wilson read the names of the people who were victims of gun violence over the weekend, offered his condolences to their family and friends, and encouraged people to step forward and help KDPS with the investigation of these shootings.

Vice Mayor Hess offered comments on gun violence, the most recent Water Quality Report, the next steps in the City Manager search process, and Mayor Anderson's work in the community.

Commissioner Praedel spoke about gun violence and the City Manager search process.

#### 2025-30-13

Ordinance 2102 re:  
Water Supply System  
Revenue Bonds (cont'd)

#### 2025-30-14

Resolution 25-37  
Authorizing Negotiations  
re: the Kalamazoo  
County Event Center  
Assessment District  
Authority

City Manager's  
Report

Commissioner  
Comments

Commissioner  
Comments (cont'd)

Mayor Anderson thanked Commissioner Wilson for his remarks and welcomed Mr. Yarborough to NACD.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Scott A. Borling  
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: \_\_\_\_\_

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