A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, April 7, 2025 at 7:01 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

Roll Call

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| COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: | Mayor David Anderson<br>Vice Mayor Jeanne Hess<br>Don Cooney<br>Stephanie Hoffman<br>Chris Praedel<br>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 Commissioner Cooney, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Decker. With a voice vote the motion passed.

Invocation

The invocation, given by Reverend Dr. Sanchita Kisku, First Baptist 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

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

**2025-16-01**

Tina McClinton, City resident, regarding flooding in her neighborhood, crime, homelessness, and high rents. (document filed)

Michael Cleggs-Arnott, City resident, regarding flooding at his home on Miller Road after recent storms.

Cathy Phason, non-resident and Chair of the Civil Rights Board (CRB), regarding the Mayor's refusal to appoint Lewis Smith to the CRB.

Maggie Adams, City resident, regarding the Mayor's refusal to appoint Lewis Smith to the CRB.

Charlae Davis, City resident and Executive Director of ISAAC, regarding the Hands Off protests and the Mayor's refusal to appoint Lewis Smith to the CRB.

Rochelle Habeck, City resident, regarding the City's progress in the areas of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Wyatt, regarding his medical condition and his struggles to find a home due to the specialized care he needed.

K, a City resident, regarding police brutality, the housing crisis, DEI, and recently enacted federal policies.

Shona Espinoza, City resident, regarding the CRB, favoritism on the part of City leaders, and the unhoused.

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| Drew Duncan, City resident, regarding the no-barrier shelter in South Bend, Indiana and the Mayor's refusal to appoint Lewis Smith to the CRB. | Public Comments (cont'd) |
| Lee Prince, regarding growing up in Chicago and the mistreatment of people by the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS). | |
| Mark Krinock, City resident, regarding the overpopulation of deer in the City. | |
| 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 contract with Enterprise Fleet Management for the lease of two vehicles for Public Safety in the amount of $107,167.55 over 60 months. | **2025-16-02** |
| - approval of a contract supplemental and extension with Fisher Scientific for laboratory supplies in the amount of $281,250 and approval of a budget amendment for $21,875. | **2025-16-03** |
| - approval of an agreement with Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority to install smart water meters in Richland Township and Richland Village in the amount of $350,000. | **2025-16-04** |
| - approval of a contract supplemental and change order with Graphic Packaging International for the Kalamazoo/GPI effluent sewer realignment project in the amount of $443,566.10. | **2025-16-05** |
| - approval of a contract extension with Republic Services to perform quarterly bulk trash removal in the amount of $915,966.42; and approval of a budget amendment in the amount of $22,000. | **2025-16-06** |
| - approval of a contract with Ferguson Waterworks for 2025 miscellaneous water inventory in the amount of $943,652. | **2025-16-07** |
| - adoption of a **RESOLUTION** to petition the Kalamazoo County Drain Commission for maintenance and improvement of the State Ditch Drain. | **2025-16-08** Resolution 25-18 |
| - adoption of a **RESOLUTION** approving contract 24-5514 with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for preventative maintenance work on the bridge structure that carries Gull Road over the Kalamazoo River in the amount of $350,450, with the City's contribution being $17,523. | **2025-16-09** Resolution 25-19 |
| - adoption of a **RESOLUTION** setting a public hearing for April 21, 2025 to adopt the draft 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Program Year 2025 Action Plan as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). | **2025-16-10** Resolution 25-20 |
| - approval of a revenue contract with Northwest Hardwood, Inc. for a second timber harvest on City-owned property in Ross Township near the intersection of 37th Street and Greer Avenue, for a total revenue amount of $127,332. | **2025-16-11** |

**2025-16-12**

- approval of an Economic Initiative Fund Loan for Kalamazoo Candle Company in the amount of $86,000 as recommended by the Economic Development Corporation.

**2025-16-13**

- approval of the following reappointments to boards and commissions:
  - the reappointment of Nathan Browning to the Community Development Act Advisory Committee as an at-large member for a term expiring March 31, 2028.
  - the reappointment of Stephanie Vallar to the Community Development Act Advisory Committee as Northside Neighborhood Representative for a term expiring March 31, 2028.

**2025-16-14**

- approval of a public utility easement with DT3 Properties, LLC for water main that is being installed as part of the Kalamazoo Airport Water Main Loop Project.

**2025-16-15**

- approval of the minutes from the City Commission business meetings on January 27, February 3, March 3, March 17, and March 31, 2025.

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

NAYS: None

*At the time of the vote, Commissioner Praedel abstained from voting on Item G-9, a resolution setting a public hearing for the HUD Consolidated Plan and 2025 Action Plan, because of his employer.

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

**2025-16-16**
Contract Extension for the Purchase of Gasoline, Diesel, and Biodiesel

Public Services Director James Baker provided an overview of a proposed contract extension for the purchase of gasoline, diesel, and biodiesel fuel. Director Baker reported a 10% reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases as the result of the City's use of biodiesel.

Commissioner Questions: none

Public Comments: none

Commissioner Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, moved to approve a contract extension with J & H Oil Inc. for gasoline, diesel, and biodiesel fuel in the amount of $1,200,000.

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

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

NAYS: None

City Manager's Report

City Manager Ritsema reported on the Respecting Differences event; the last Imagine Kalamazoo 2035 (IK 2035) Plan It! event; spring pick-ups for yard waste, brush, and bulk trash; and the annual easter egg hunt on April 19$^{th}$.

Commissioner Comments

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

Commissioner Cooney offered comments on the Hands Off protests.

Commissioner Hoffman spoke about the appointment of Mr. Smith to the CRB and dangerous bump-outs on East Michigan Avenue.

City Manager Ritsema conveyed remarks from Commissioner Decker, who commended Public Safety Officers (PSO's) for their response to a medical emergency at the Speedway gas station on Westnedge Avenue.

Mayor Anderson recognized the response and performance of PSO's to a recent officer involved shooting at the Kalamazoo Public Schools Administration Building. Mayor Anderson thanked people for their interest in the CRB, and he offered to meet with anyone to discuss the issue.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: ____________________________