

Roll Call

The Kalamazoo City Commission met as a Committee of the Whole on Monday, August 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

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 Hoffman, seconded by Vice Mayor Hess, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Decker. With a voice vote the motion passed.

Public Comments

An opportunity was given for general public comments, but no comments were offered.

2025-36-01

Presentation by Can-Do Kalamazoo

Lucy Dilley, Founder & Executive Director of Can-Do Kalamazoo, delivered a presentation entitled *Can-Do Kalamazoo Annual Impact*. A copy of the slides from this presentation was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Commissioner Questions:

Following the presentation, Executive Director Dilley responded to Commissioner questions regarding the hours of the Small Business Support Hub, the referral pipeline for program participants, whether interest in the Can-Do programs exceeded program capacity, the timeline for completion of the new facility, and details of the capital campaign.

2025-36-02

Presentation re: Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services

Lindsay Merling, Health Education Supervisor with Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services, delivered a presentation entitled *KCHCS Program Overview*. A copy of the slides from this presentation was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Commissioner Questions:

Following the presentation, Supervisor Merling responded to Commissioner questions regarding collaborations between KCHCS and organizations offering maternal/child health services, whether KCHCS was partnering with Rx Kids, whether the KCHCS budget would be reduced as a result of federal budget cuts, resources available to households dealing with hoarding, educational opportunities and health services related to Lyme Disease, gaps in community health education, gun violence as a public health issue, current data on tick- and mosquito-borne illnesses, the number of employees at KCHCS and the location of the health department facility, the planned expansion of the Household Hazardous Waste facility, community partners that offered mental health support, the timeframe for renewal of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) millage, partnerships with organizations doing work to support fathers, and collaborations with organizations doing lead abatement work.

Finally, an opportunity was given for general comments by City Commissioners.

Commissioner
Comments

Vice Mayor Hess offered remarks on the Golden Apple Scholars Program.

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Adjournment

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: _____