

Roll Call

The Kalamazoo City Commission met as a Committee of the Whole on Monday, March 2, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor David Anderson
Vice Mayor Drew Duncan
Jeanne Hess
Stephanie Hoffman
Jacqueline Slaby
Alonzo Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Chris Praedel*

Also present were City Manager Malcolm Hankins, City Attorney Aaron Leal, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Commissioner Excused

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

*Commissioner Praedel arrived at 5:02 p.m.

Public Comments

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

Edward Nickerson, City resident, regarding parking enforcement.

2026-08-01Economic Development
Division 2025 Report

Economic Development Supervisor Bobby Boyd and Rebecca Colette with The Social Equity Cannabis Chamber delivered a presentation entitled *Economic Development Division 2025 Report: Economic Development Strategy Update*. A copy of the slides from this presentation was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Commissioner Questions:

Following the presentation, Economic Development Supervisor Boyd and Ms. Colette responded to Commissioner questions regarding programs for people from marginalized communities who wanted to start their own businesses, and specifically, cannabis businesses; Economic Initiative Fund (EIF) loans; White Box Grants; Façade Grants; the Rx Kids program; support for businesses impacted by the City's construction projects; the recent consolidation of large cannabis businesses and the resulting opportunities for smaller businesses; the spike in KMEG grants to the Northside Neighborhood in 2024; cooperative efforts with Discover! Kalamazoo; the City's efforts to help BIPOC (black, indigenous, persons-of-color) businesses; options for containing and/or reducing the number of liquor stores in the Northside Neighborhood; and the City's initiative to invest in home-based day care businesses in SPK (Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo) neighborhoods.

Closed Session

Commissioner Praedel, seconded by Commissioner Hoffman, moved that the City Commission go into closed session to discuss an attorney-client privileged communication.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Mayor Anderson indicated the City Commission would not be returning to open session following the closed session.

With a roll call vote this motion passed 7-0.

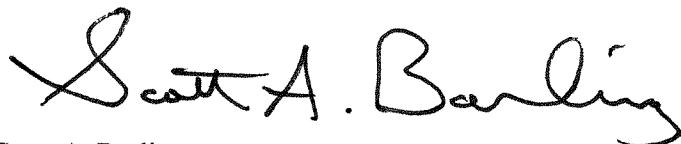
AYES: Commissioners Hess, Hoffman Praedel, Slaby, Wilson, Vice Mayor
Duncan, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Closed Session (cont'd)

Adjournment

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott A. Borling". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on: 3/16/2026