

	A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 7:04 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.
Roll Call	COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor David Anderson Vice Mayor Drew Duncan Jeanne Hess Stephanie Hoffman Chris Praedel Jacqueline Slaby Alonzo Wilson COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None Also present were City Manager Malcolm Hankins, City Attorney Aaron Leal, and City Clerk Scott Borling. <u>Opening Ceremony</u>
Invocation/Pledge	The invocation, given by Pastor Bret Laird from Calvary Bible Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
Proclamations 2026-16-01	Commissioner Slaby read a proclamation for <i>National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 20-24, 2026</i>. Public Services Director James Baker received the proclamation.
2026-16-02	Commissioner Wilson read a proclamation for <i>Arbor Day, April 24, 2026</i>. Sustainability Planner Justin Gish received the proclamation.
2026-16-03	Vice Mayor Duncan read a proclamation for <i>Earth Day, April 22, 2026</i>. Sustainability Planner Gish received the proclamation.
2026-16-04	Commissioner Hess read a proclamation for <i>International Compost Awareness Week, May 3 – May 9, 2026</i>. Sustainability Planner Justin Gish and Patricia Byrne from the Parkview Hills Neighborhood received the proclamation.
2026-16-05	Commissioner Praedel read a proclamation entitled <i>April as Kalamazoo Valley Community College Month</i>. Dannie Alexander, Vice President for Campus Planning and Operations at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, received the proclamation.
	<u>Formal Adoption of the Agenda</u>
Adoption of the Agenda	By consensus the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda as presented.
	<u>Communications</u>
Communications	City Manager Hankins described the work of City staff to support property owners affected by flooding after the recent rainstorms.
	<u>Public Comments</u>
Public Comments	Next, when an opportunity was given for general public comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

The following people expressed support for the City's use of the Flock Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) system, with limits on data sharing and support for additional community education:

Wendy Fields, City resident and President of the Kalamazoo Metropolitan Branch of the NAACP
Daniel Cunningham, non-resident, with Pastors on Patrol
Pastor Greg Jennings, with Pastors on Patrol
Mattie Jordan-Woods, City resident
Pastor Addis Moore from Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Ashante Collins, Community Chair for ALPACT Kalamazoo
Jonathan Yarbrough, City resident and Executive Director of the Northside Association for Community Development (NACD)
Alejandro Rodriguez, City resident
Esteven Juarez, City resident

The following people expressed opposition to the City's use of the Flock ALPR system:

Lexie Jones
An anonymous non-resident
Kyle Patenaude, City resident
Trevor, non-resident
Matt Griffith, City resident
Audrey Dando, non-resident
Euan Simpson, non-resident
Morgan Zapata, City resident

Tina McClinton, City resident, regarding Director Baker's recent meeting with residents about flooding and the need for an online map that shows which rivers/creeks are likely to flood and the areas that will be impacted.

K, non-resident, regarding the unhoused, the pro-police attitude of the black and brown community, and reforms at the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety.

Laura Livingstone-McNelis, City resident, regarding traffic issues in the West Main Hill Neighborhood.

Jen DeWaele, from Peace House, regarding the need for more information about the recent fire at Kalamazoo Metal Recycling.

Amy Kuritzky, from Peace House, regarding the City's response to the fire at Kalamazoo Metal Recycling.

Charlae Davis, City resident, regarding the City Manager's visibility at community events, federal actions that threaten the community, and unauthorized access to the Flock ALPR system.

Kaleb Beiter, City resident, regarding a proof-of-concept design for new board and commission webpages he had sent to City Commissioners.

Public Comments
(cont'd)

Public Comments
(cont'd)

Jonathan Yarbrough, City resident and Executive Director of NACD, regarding flooding in the Northside Neighborhood and the Northside Days event in August.

Bill Cartmill, City resident, regarding the closure of Peak Street.

Maureen Cartmill, City resident, regarding the closure of Peak Street.

Edward Nickerson, City resident, regarding Kalamazoo Metal Recycling and the need for more pedestrian refuge islands in the City.

Tobi Hanah-Davies, City resident, regarding the Kalrecovery House groundbreaking and the need to expedite the City's development process.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 8:54 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 9:06 p.m.

Public Hearing

2026-16-06
Public Hearing re: the
PY 2026 HUD Action
Plan

At 9:07 p.m. Mayor Anderson opened a public hearing to receive comments on the Program Year 2026 Action Plan required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Compliance Specialist Julie Johnston delivered a presentation entitled Program Year 2026 Action Plan Public Hearing. A copy of the slides from this presentation were filed with the papers for the meeting.

Commissioner Questions: None

Public Comments:

Eric Herman, Program Manager at Housing Resources Incorporated, expressed support.

Tricia Kelly, Director of Housing at CARES Sexual Wellness Services, expressed support.

TreAnna Martinez, Director of Housing Initiatives at the YWCA, expressed support.

Michael Evans, Executive Director of the Kalamazoo Literacy Council, expressed support.

Sherria VanSparrentak, Executive Director at KC Ready 4's, expressed support.

Jennifer Dobbins, with Catholic Charities of Kalamazoo, expressed support.

Jonathan Yarbrough, Executive Director of NACD, expressed support.

Beth McCann, Executive Director of Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services, expressed support.

Hannah Clark and Drew Duncan from Community Homeworks, expressed support. Tobi Hanah-Davies, ISAAC Housing Force, expressed support and asked that City inspectors inspect every unit in multi-unit housing complexes. At 9:39 p.m. Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing. Commissioner Hoffman, seconded by Commissioner Hess, moved to approve the Program Year 2026 Action Plan, the Action Plan Budget, and a budget amendment. Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Praedel, Commissioner Slaby, and Mayor Anderson announced they would be abstaining from voting on this motion due to conflicts of interest. With a roll call vote this motion passed 4-0 with 3 abstentions. AYES: Commissioners Hess, Wilson, Hoffman, Vice Mayor Duncan NAYS: None ABSTAIN: Commissioners Praedel and Slaby and Mayor Anderson <u>Consent Agenda</u> 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 extension with Eco-Patcher, Inc. for 2026 spray patching in the amount of \$129,600. - approval of a contract with L&T Painting for the Beech Water Storage Tank rehab project in the amount of \$222,000. - approval of a two-year professional service agreement with Stantec for water rate and water financial consulting services in the amount of \$229,158. - approval of a professional service agreement with Niswander Environmental, LLC for the Spring Valley Dam improvements project in the amount of \$355,000. - approval of professional service agreement with Prein & Newhof for construction engineering services related to the 2026 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund non-copper service replacement project in the amount of \$400,000. - approval of a contract supplemental and change order with Tetra Tech, Inc. for phase 2 of the pump stations, phosphate, and electrical and instrumentation upgrades project in the amount of \$542,505.	2026-16-06 Public Hearing re: the PY 2026 HUD Action Plan (cont'd) 2026-16-06 Approval of the PY 2026 HUD Action Plan Consent Agenda 2026-16-07 2026-16-08 2026-16-09 2026-16-10 2026-16-11 2026-16-012
--	--

2026-16-13
Resolution 26-20

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** authorizing the Community Planning and Economic Development Director as the City's official representative and certifying officer for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant documentation.

2026-16-14

- approval of the following appointment and term extensions for boards and commissions:
 - the appointment of **Seth Chapman** to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a term expiring on January 1, 2028.
 - the extension of **Melissa Paduk's** term on the Historic Preservation Commission for six months, to expire on September 31, 2026 or when a successor is appointed, whichever comes first.
 - the extension of **Fred Edison's** term on the Historic Preservation Commission for six months, to expire on September 31, 2026 or when a successor is appointed, whichever comes first.

2026-16-15

- approval of a utility easement agreement with KSRR, LLC for sanitary sewer installed as part of the Kalamazoo Event Center project.

2026-16-16

- approval of a non-motorized path easement agreement with CD Arena, LLC for non-motorized path installed as part of the Kalamazoo Event Center project.

2026-16-17

- approval of the minutes from the City Commission meetings on April 6, 2026.

Commissioner Slaby, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, 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 7-0.

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

NAYS: None

*At the time of the vote Commissioner Wilson indicated he was abstaining from voting on Items G-9 and G-10, easements related to the Kalamazoo Event Center project, due to a conflict of interest.

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda

2026-16-18
Sale of 808 Simpson
to Kalamazoo
Neighborhood
Housing Services

City Manager Hankins introduced for consideration the sale of 808 Simpson Street to Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services.

Commissioner Questions: none

Public Comments: none

Commissioner Slaby, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, moved to approve the sale of 808 Simpson Street to Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services for the sale price of \$500; and an amendment to the Housing Programs budget in the amount of \$970.

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

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

NAYS: None

City Manager Hankins introduced for consideration a Brownfield Redevelopment Grant from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy in support of the Kalrecovery Housing Project in the amount of \$1,000,000 and an associated budget amendment.

Commissioner Questions: none

Public Comments: none

Commissioner Slaby, seconded by Vice Mayor Duncan, moved to authorize the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to accept a Brownfield Redevelopment Grant from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy in support of the Kalrecovery Housing Project in the amount of \$1,000,000; and approve a budget amendment for the same amount.

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

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

NAYS: None

Reports and Legislation

City Manager Hankins reported staff had completed assessments of flooded homes after the recent storms. City Manager Hankins reviewed and highlighted items in the written City Manager's Report.

City Clerk Borling reported the City Commission had received two communications from the Environmental Concerns Commission with recommendations regarding the governance of the Asylum Lake Preserve and the recent fire at Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Slaby offered remarks on the City Manager's visibility in the community, the recent shooting at Davis Street Park, the playstreet in the West Main Hill Neighborhood, the Flock ALPR system, and the need for improvements to the board and commission web pages.

Commissioner Hess offered comments on the City's website, the Davis Street Park shooting, misleading voter forms sent through the mail, Cultivate 269, upcoming

2026-16-18

Sale of 808 Simpson
to Kalamazoo
Neighborhood
Housing Services
(cont'd)

2026-16-19

Brownfield
Redevelopment Grant
for the Kalrecovery
Housing Project

Reports and Legislation

2026-16-20

City Manager's Report

2026-16-21

City Clerk's Report

Commissioner
Comments

Commissioner
Comments (cont'd)

Imagine Kalamazoo 2035 Design It! events focused on downtown, a recycling event on April 25th, and the recognition of Chief Operating Officer Laura Lam by the Kalamazoo YWCA as a Woman of Achievement. Commissioner Hess requested that City Manager Hankins and the Public Services Department respond to the request from the Environmental Concerns Committee for information on the fire at Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers.

Mayor Anderson spoke about the Kalrecovery housing project and the multiple ways the City had provided support for the project.

Closed Session

Commissioner Slaby, seconded by Commissioner Hess, moved that the City Commission go into closed session to discuss labor negotiations.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Mayor Anderson announced the City Commission would return 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 City Commission went into closed session at 10:09 p.m.

The City Commission returned to open session at 10:44 p.m.

2026-16-22
KMEA Collective
Bargaining Agreement

Commissioner Hoffman, seconded by Commissioner Hess, moved to approve a collective bargaining agreement with the Kalamazoo Municipal Employees Association for the period January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028.

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

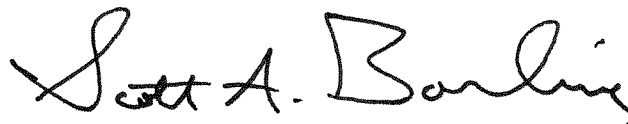
AYES: Commissioners Hess, Hoffman, Praedel, Slaby, Wilson, Vice Mayor Duncan, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

Adjournment

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:46 p.m.



Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the City Commission on:

5/11/2026

This page was left blank intentionally.