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|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                        | <p>A business meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, May 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Roll Call              | <p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby Hopewell<br/>Vice Mayor Don Cooney<br/>David Anderson<br/>Erin Knott<br/>Matt Milcarek<br/>Shannon Sykes<br/>Jack Urban</p> <p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None</p> <p>Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Invocation/Pledge      | <p>The invocation, given by Vice Mayor Cooney, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Proclamation           | <p>Commissioner Sykes read a proclamation declaring Kalamazoo a <i>Purple Heart City</i>. Bill Roush, Amercianism Officer for the American Legion, received the proclamation and presented a plaque to the City to mark the occasion.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Adoption of the Agenda | <p>By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda with the following change:</p> <p>Commissioner Urban requested that Item F-1, contract for disposal of belt press solids, be moved to the Regular Agenda.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Consent Agenda         | <p>Consent Agenda items were presented as follows with a recommendation to approve the items and authorize for the City Manager to sign on behalf of the City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- approval of amendments to the FY2016 Budget in the amount of \$521,398 to carry forward certain expenditures that were included in the FY2015 Budget but not completed in FY2015.</li> <li>- first reading of an ordinance to rezone 21 parcels located at and near the intersection of Parkview Avenue and Oakland Drive from Zone CC (Commercial, Community District) and Zone CO (Commercial, Office District) to Zone CN-1 (Commercial, Neighborhood District); and schedule a public hearing for May 16, 2016.</li> </ul> |
| Resolution 16-18       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- adoption of a <b>RESOLUTION</b> indicating the City has met the requirements to receive federal Transportation Alternatives Program funding for the Kilgore Road sidewalk installation project.</li> <li>- approval of a Transit Services Agreement between Texas Township, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, the City of Kalamazoo, and the Central County Transportation Authority.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

- approval of a special permit for a miniature pig to be kept at 1315 Fraternity Village Drive, subject to compliance with applicable statutes, ordinances and health codes.
- approval of an easement for Consumers Energy to place a power pole guy wire on City owned property at 1129 E. Michigan Avenue.
- approval of the Mayor's term extensions, appointments, and reappointments to the Downtown Development Authority:
  - the extension of **Jim Escamilla's** term until March 31, 2017.
  - the reappointment of **Grant Fletcher** for a term expiring on March 31, 2019.
  - the appointment of **Stephanie Hinman** for a term expiring on March 31, 2020.
  - the appointment of **Susan Lindemann** for a term expiring on March 31, 2020.
  - the appointment of **Patti Owens** for a term expiring on March 31, 2020.
  - the extension of **Derek Wissner's** term until March 31, 2018.
- approval of the minutes from the City Commission meeting on April 4, 2016.

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Milcarek, moved to approve the consent agenda requests and authorize the City Manager to sign all documents on behalf of the City.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban, Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

Commissioner Urban stated he asked for discussion about the belt press solids hauling and disposal contract so the public would know why it cost so much to dispose of waste.

Acting Public Services Director James Baker explained the major costs to operate the water reclamation plant were labor, solids disposal, carbon, and utilities. Acting Director Baker reviewed the history of the solids handling process and stated staff were exploring new technologies to reduce this cost. Acting Director Baker indicated the City had evaluated a process that involved more extensive drying of the solids to reduce the

Consent Agenda  
(cont'd)

Regular Agenda

Contract for Hauling/  
Disposal of Belt  
Press Solids

Contract for Hauling/  
Disposal of Belt  
Press Solids (cont'd)

weight, and therefore disposal costs, but the cost of the energy needed for the drying process made this option not feasible.

When an opportunity was given for citizens to comment on a two-year contract with Waste Management for loading, hauling, and disposal of belt press solids, the following people addressed the City Commission:

George Magas, City resident, suggested using strainers to remove water from the solids.

Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Knott, moved to approve a two-year contract with Waste Management for loading, hauling, and disposal of belt press solids in the amount of \$6,929,162.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban,  
Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

Proposal and Grant  
for a Group Violence  
Intervention Program

Deputy Public Safety Chief Donald Webster and Community Outreach and Problem Solving (COPS) Division Captain David Boysen provided an overview of the Group Violence Intervention (GVI) Program that had been developed by David Kennedy and John Jay College.

Vice Mayor Cooney thanked Deputy Chief Webster and Captain Boysen for persevering in their efforts to bring this program to Kalamazoo.

When an opportunity was given for citizens to comment on a proposal and grant for a Group Violence Intervention Program, the following people addressed the City Commission:

George Magas, City resident, suggested that anger management be a component of this program.

Wendy Flora, City resident, spoke on behalf of the Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy and Action in the Community (ISAAC) and expressed support for the GVI Program.

Gwendolyn Hooker, City resident, asked for a description of the strategic action steps associated with this program.

Thelma Fry, City resident, expressed concern about the Group Violence Intervention Program and stated there was no trust between the Northside Neighborhood and the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS).

Vice Mayor Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, moved to take the following actions regarding a Group Violence Intervention Program:

- approval of a proposal for a Group Violence Intervention Program through the National Network for Safe Communities – John Jay College of Criminal Justice in the amount of \$316,753.75.
- acceptance of a grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation to support the Group Violence Intervention Program in the amount of \$50,000.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Sykes thanked members of the community for working on a solution to the problem of violence. Commissioner Sykes suggested the City look at systemic problems and pressures as causes of violence, and she explained that violence was sometimes about survival and not about morality. Commissioner Sykes stated she wanted to have a discussion about the community leaders who would be involved in the GVI Program.

Commissioner Urban stated he understood why people were skeptical, but he questioned where City leaders and residents would get the energy to address the citywide problem of violence in the community, if not from this program. Commissioner Urban expressed support for the GVI program.

Commissioner Milcarek stated the City needed to identify new people in the community – the informal leaders – to involve in the GVI program.

Vice Mayor Cooney expressed support for the GVI program.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban,  
Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

An opportunity was given for citizens to comment on an ordinance repealing Chapter 23, Article II of the Code of Ordinances regarding the Friends of Recreation Board, but no comments were offered.

Vice Mayor Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, moved to adopt an **ORDINANCE** repealing Chapter 23, Article II of the Code of Ordinances regarding the Friends of Recreation Board.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban,  
Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

When an opportunity was given for citizens to comment on the *Downtown Kalamazoo Five Year Transportation, Parking and Mobility Plan, 2016-2020* and an ordinance to amend Section 36-185 of the Kalamazoo Code of Ordinances to raise the fines and late fees for parking violations within

Proposal and Grant  
for a Group Violence  
Intervention Program  
(cont'd)

Ordinance 1938  
Dissolving the  
Friends of  
Recreation Board

Ordinance 1939 re:  
Fines for Parking  
Violations and  
Endorsement of the  
Downtown Five Year  
Transportation,  
Parking and Mobility  
Plan

the City of Kalamazoo, the following people addressed the City Commission:

George Magas, City resident, expressed agreement with some parts of the parking plan but disagreement with other parts. Mr. Magas requested better signage for the Arcadia parking ramp.

Kris Mbah, City resident, expressed concern that the expansion of parking meter enforcement to evenings and weekends would keep people from coming to Commission meetings. Mr. Mbah expressed support for the idea of making the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) a working board like the Community Development Act Advisory Committee (CDAAC) and getting rid of Downtown Kalamazoo Inc.

Tammy Hibner, City resident, stated Commissioners were not dialoging with citizens on issues. Ms. Hibner expressed agreement with raising fines for handicapped parking violations but disagreement with expanding enforcement to evenings and weekends.

Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, moved to take the following actions related to the City's parking system:

- endorsement of the *Downtown Kalamazoo Five Year Transportation, Parking and Mobility Plan, 2016-2020*.
- adoption of an **ORDINANCE** to amend Section 36-185 of the Kalamazoo Code of Ordinances to raise the fines and late fees for parking violations within the City of Kalamazoo.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Sykes noted there was an agreement between the City and DKI for no parking enforcement around City Hall. Commissioner Sykes stated that giving out misinformation was not a public service.

Commissioner Milcarek noted the 5-year parking plan was a living document based on assumptions and projections, and it could be modified as needs changed.

Commissioner Urban remarked that the parking plan was developed by experts who utilized a public process that lasted over a year. Commissioner Urban stated the City was counting on the plan being a living document.

In response to questions from Mayor Hopewell, Mr. Deisler explained the process for developing the plan started with a condition appraisal of downtown parking and the development of a very rough draft of a plan, so that people would be able to respond to something. Mr. Deisler reported there were approximately 21 meetings on the plan, and most of them were open to the public. Mr. Deisler indicated the cost to operate the parking system had increased a bit of the past five year, but the main change had been a move away from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenues as a funding source. Mr. Deisler stated people could connect

with the downtown organizations through social media, and he noted the DDA board meetings were open to the public.

Chris Shook, City resident and Chair of the Transportation, Parking, and Mobility Committee, stated the parking plan was designed to be flexible, and he remarked that a few years prior enforcement was more strict and enforcement revenue was almost double the current amount. Mr. Shook indicated enforcement had been relaxed to make the downtown experience friendlier for visitors, but that approach resulted in revenue loss.

Mayor Hopewell suggested the DDA measure the performance of the vendor servicing the parking system and make sure the vendor understands the City's expectations.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban,  
Vice Mayor Cooney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

Next, an opportunity was given for general citizen comments.

Kris Mbah, City resident, spoke about Commissioners' response to him and the five year parking plan.

George Magas, City resident, expressed disappointment with the DDA and stated the Kalamazoo Mall received all the benefits of the downtown organizations while other parts of the downtown languished.

Zadie Jackson, City resident, asked Commissioners to be judges for new kids events at the Kalamazoo County Fair. Information provided by Ms. Jackson was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Kendall Campbell, City resident, spoke in favor of a Fair Chance for All policy.

Michael Wilder, City resident and co-founder of a program called Peace During War, expressed support for the GVI.

Birletta Bean-Hardiman, City resident, spoke about the needs to stop violence in the community.

Alfonso Harris, City resident, stated May 6-12 was National Nurses Week and noted Florence Nightengale was a lesbian.

Edward Nickerson, City resident, spoke about his concerns with KDPS.

Frank Warren, City resident, stated he was going to Washington DC on June 4<sup>th</sup> with the Honor Flight.

Ordinance 1939 re:  
Fines for Parking  
Violations and  
Endorsement of the  
Downtown Five Year  
Transportation,  
Parking and Mobility  
Plan (cont'd)

Citizen Comments

Citizen Comments  
(cont'd)

Zachary Lassiter, City resident, expressed concern about the relatively low fines for handicapped parking violations.

Jerrin Yarbrough, non-resident, stated he had never attended a City Commission meeting until recently, and he remarked that most people did not know what the City was responsible for.

Commissioner  
Comments

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments and concerns of City Commissioners.

Commissioner Milcarek expressed support for the ideas of more downtown parking education and special curb striping for handicapped parking spaces. Commissioner Milcarek noted parking enforcement would not be expanded until July of 2017.

Commissioner Urban announced the City Commission would meet on May 4<sup>th</sup> in special session to discuss a vision for the City.

Commissioner Knott requested information on the ability of Consumers Energy to trim trees and leave the mess for property owners to clean up. Commissioner Knott asked City Attorney Robinson to provide an update on the development of a Fair Chance for All policy. Commissioner Knott told the Fair Chance for All supporters that they would be getting what they wanted from the City of Kalamazoo – a Fair Chance for All Policy – but she asked what they were doing to affect the same change in the City of Portage and surrounding townships.

City Attorney Robinson reported the Fair Chance policies were on track for presentation to the Commission on May 16<sup>th</sup>, and he stated remarks on the draft policies from Fair Chance supporters had been positive.

Commissioner Sykes stated Commissioner Milcarek had done a great job of engaging citizens on social media about various issues. Commissioner Sykes expressed support for efforts of Peace During War. Commissioner Sykes thanked the City Attorney for working hard on a Fair Chance for All policy to meet the self-imposed deadline.

Commissioner Anderson recognized City staff for their work to fix a water main break on April 28<sup>th</sup>, and he remarked that activities like this and waste disposal were foundational but largely invisible and unnoticed.

Vice Mayor Cooney recognized Michael Wilder of Peace During War. Vice Mayor Cooney reported he was working with a group called Men of Change to help ex-offenders, and he noted President Barak Obama had recently issued a memorandum “banning the box” for approximately half of all federal government jobs.

Mayor Hopewell announced he would not be at the City Commission meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Hopewell asked the Fair Chance for All supporters why they had disrupted the meeting when City staff were working on the Fair Chance policies and the City Commission had expressed its support. Mayor Hopewell announced he would turn the podium microphone off for any speaker who used profanity.

City Manager Ritsema stated the City Commission meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> would include a reporting on some early results from Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 and a visioning session with Commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling  
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on June 20, 2016

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor  
Dated: June 20, 2016

Adjournment